



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

Club Garibaldi News

JANUARY 2010

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Welcome to the first newsletter for 2010! On behalf of the Executive Committee I would like to wish all club members, their families and loved ones very best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year - may it be a good one for us all!

I do hope you are all enjoying the holiday season, the warmth of the summer sun, relaxing days and long evenings in the company of family and friends.

Our club calendar is already filling up with upcoming events and activities. The Executive Committee are always working on these projects in advance. Members' support is always welcome, so if you have any ideas, or wish to join in on certain projects, please feel free to contact us - even if you live outside the Wellington area.

Read further for information about the forthcoming annual blessing of the boats, club picnic and bus trip.

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page
President

A BIT OF TRIVIA

ANSA - Rome, 18 December 2009

Italy's highest court of appeal said on Friday, that it is illegal to poke your tongue out at someone to insult them. The Cassation Court turned down an appeal by a farmer from the Marche region who claimed his gesture, caught on a camera phone by the neighbour he was arguing with, was 'not offensive' but a mere grimace'. The farmer, Carlo O, was convicted of insulting the other man by a Justice of Peace last year. The Cassation Court said the conviction must stand and Carlo O would have to pay damages to be set in a separate civil trial. Carlo O was ordered to pay his neighbour's court costs of E1300! Insults are taken very seriously in Italy and people are often found guilty of offending someone's honour.

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC



A date has been set for 2010 annual club picnic. A reservation has been made for Sunday, 21 February 2010, from 11am onwards, at Queen Elizabeth Park, Paekakariki, with the reserve/cancellation date of Sunday, 28 February. In the event of wet weather, listen to NewstalkZB cancellation service. So put a big circle on your calendars, to remind yourself of this date. Once again, the club will provide the steaks and sausages for the barbeque. All members and their families are welcome.

TOMBOLA NIGHT

The first Tombola night for 2010 will be **Tuesday, 23 February** at the usual time of 7.30 pm. Please come along and feel free to bring a friend. Contact Maria if you have any questions.

SHARED LUNCH



The next shared lunch will be held at the clubrooms on **Sunday, 7 February 2010** at 1.00 pm, following Italian Mass. All members and families are very welcome. Please bring a plate.

ANNUAL BUS TRIP



A note from the Social Committee with regard to the bus trip to Tauranga on 8, 9, 10 and 11 February 2010.

There are two seats left on the bus. If you are interested in joining the group to Tauranga, please ring Maria as soon as possible.

Please note that the bus will be leaving from The Parade, Island Bay, and will pick up passengers along the way at the following places: Wellington Railway Station, Johnsonville, Paraparaumu and Waikanae. The same route will be in place for the trip home with the final stop being The Parade, Island Bay. For any further queries please contact Salvi Gaeta or Maria Colucci.

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



Dion Page, son of Ginette and Robin Page of Island Bay, Wellington, and Niina Kovanen, daughter of Eeva-Liisa and Martti Kovanen of Finland, were married on Boxing Day, 26 December 2009, on The Chatham Islands.

Following the wedding ceremony, family and friends celebrated the happy occasion with a wonderful outdoor reception held at the historical Holmes Homestead, built in the 1880's and owned by Robin and Ginette's niece, Paula Page and her husband James O'Niel.

Congratulations Dion and Niina, Club Garibaldi wish you a lifetime of love and happiness.

BABY CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Samantha and the late Tony Costa of Palmerston North on the safe arrival of their daughter, Evermore Costa. A granddaughter for Lea Costa of Kilbirnie and Vince Costa of Tawa.

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the following new members: Michele and Joe Elenio of Lower Hutt.

ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BOATS

Island Bay - traditionally a fishing stronghold in Wellington - will once again, host the annual Blessing of the Boats during the Island Bay Festival on **Sunday, 14 February 2010** at 2.30 pm.

The following is a little history of its origins. The blessing of fishing boats is a tradition in Italy that goes back centuries. In southern Italy, the blessing would be undertaken by the local priest at the start of spring. The boats, many of which were named after saints, were decorated with flags and bunting, would file past to have holy water sprinkled on them while the priest recited prayers and made the sign of the cross. The blessing was part of the religious belief that if the boats received the grace of God, they and the fishermen would be protected from the elements and would also reap the bounty of the sea. Many of Island Bay's Italian immigrants came from the fishing villages of Massalubrense and Puolo in the Gulf of Naples, and the island of Stromboli, near Sicily. Today all sea craft and vessels are welcome to take part in this special ceremony.

CHILDREN'S LANGUAGE CLASSES

By Sira Ballara



Italian language classes commence on Tuesday 16 February. If you would like your child to attend the classes in 2010, and your child is not on the waiting list, please contact Sira Ballara by 25 January 2010.

ITALIAN FILMS

Because of Copyright regulations, reluctantly, the members of the Circolo Committee have decided to discontinue the monthly showing of Italian movies at Club Garibaldi. A big thank you to Club Garibaldi Italian movie fans for your past patronage - it was very much appreciated!!

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 and contact the Club if you have any news to share.

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 February 2010.**

PROFILE OF NINA CUCCURULLO, CLUB SECRETARY



I have been a member of Club Garibaldi since 1991 when the constitution was changed to allow women members and prior to this had been a member of the Circolo Italiano of which I am still a member. In 1994 I became the first woman to hold an office bearer's position as the Secretary. This is my 5th year as the Secretary for the Club.

I have been involved in the club through various ways since becoming a member. I worked as the Photographic Researcher and was on the committee for the book 'Alla Fine del Mondo' written by my cousin, Paul Elenio, as well as working with the Petone Settlers Museum for the exhibition on Italian immigrants in the Wellington region.

I have been involved with the Italian Festival since the first one was held at the Petone Settlers Museum in 1994. In 1997 I set up the Language Classes for children at Club Garibaldi and initially helped teach the classes and have just recently stepped down as the coordinator.

I have helped with various research projects on Italian immigrants, and these have included Oral Histories and theses. Over the years I have collected items to begin a Club archive which I hope to develop further with Ginette Toscano Page. From 2003 until 2007 I had the honour of being a member of the Community Advisory Group for Te Papa for the exhibition 'Qui Tutto Bene!'. This was a rich and rewarding experience for me as well as being very hard work!. I continue to have a good working relationship with Te Papa as a result of the exhibition.

I began my career as a teacher, then in 1996 became an Administrator in the Italian and Spanish Programmes at Victoria University, a job which I love as I am constantly surrounded by things Italian and get to meet Italians from all parts of Italy and to learn more about Italy.

In May 2006 I was awarded the *Cavaliere - Stella della Solidarietà Italiana* (Cavaliere - Star of Italian Solidarity) by the Italian Government for services to the Italian community and for promoting the Italian language and culture. This was a great honour for me and my family and I felt proud to receive it on behalf of my parents Antonio and Teresa Cuccurullo and my grandparents, Luigi and Ilma Ruocco, who emigrated to New Zealand from Massalubrense and Capri to make New Zealand their new home.

Being a member of the Club has provided me with lots of rich and rewarding experiences and I hope others will consider being involved with the Club Garibaldi and its various committees.

CARTERTON TAKES ON AN ITALIAN FLAVOUR

Wairarapa - November 2009

Carterton's Richmond Garden was recently transformed into little Italy as thousands of people turned out to get a taste of the Mediterranean. Italian Day – a fundraiser for the Keep Carterton Beautiful Group – seemed to capture people's imaginations and taste buds as the vino flowed freely followed closely by authentic Italian fare. The day was described as a huge success. The Italian Ambassador Dr Gioacchino Trizzino, who was among the dignitaries who attended, was particularly impressed by the event. The Mediterranean Trio, Salvi Gaeta, Armando Gilmoni and Robin Page entertained the crowds by playing Italian music during the day.



'A DAY IN POMPEII' EXHIBITION AT TE PAPA

By Nina Cuccurullo



Enclosed in last month's newsletter was a booklet for the exhibition a Day In Pompeii. The exhibition runs from 19 December 2009 until 25 April 2010. Admission charges apply. I have attended the exhibition and have heard from others how much they have enjoyed it. There is a full events programme organised with lecture series, talks, music and kids events, so lots to choose from and we hope as many of our members can attend. Te Papa also has a late night on Thursdays.

Below are up and coming events that involve our own members!

OUR OWN MEDITERRANEAN TRIO!

Sunday 14 February, 2.30pm–3.30pm, Level 4 Espresso. Free entry.

The members of The Mediterranean Trio are Salvi Gaeta on guitar and vocals, Armando Gilmoni on accordion and vocals, and Robin Page on bass guitar. They have been performing in the Wellington area for more than 5 years and specialise in traditional music and songs from all parts of Italy.

ITALIANO PER BAMBINI – ITALIAN FOR KIDS

Sunday 21 February, Wellington Foyer, Level 2. By club member, Chiara Giovanazzi who will teach a fun beginners Italian lesson especially for kids.

In the last newsletter we asked members if any of them recalled the eruption of Vesuvius in 1944. Here are some members' memories:

Teresa Elenio recalls in Massalubrense the farmers coming out of the lemon groves black with ash looking like pieces of coal!

Bianca Cassino from Moliterno in the region of Basilicata, some 200 kilometres away says the ash on the ground resembled freshly fallen snow. She was a child at that time on her way to school and this image has always remained with her.

Antonio Cuccurullo from Massalubrense recalls that when Vesuvius erupted the wind direction was south-east and this brought the smoke along the coast and to Massalubrense. The ash stayed for a few days as Vesuvius continued to emit smoke. Antonio recalls the big clean up after the ash and having to wear a hat made out of sacking cloth when harvesting the lemons. The lemons all had to be washed. The ash, Antonio says made the soil more fertile.

Please contact Nina Cuccurullo if you have any further memories to add.

MATIU SOMES ISLAND POEM

By Nina Cuccurullo

Last year the Club received a letter from Laura Heath from Wanganui which included a poem written by her and which is published below. Laura, a teacher, had just returned from taking a group of Year 10 students to Matiu (Somes) Island (In the Wellington harbour) as part of a writing workshop. One of the workshops was entitled 'Isolation, Desolation and Regeneration' so she wrote a poem about the Italian internees. She copied down four names from the plaque mounted on a marble bench and dedicated the poem to them. Some of you may recall the trip we made to Somes Island to unveil the plaque. The marble bench was made by club member Felice Benvenuti.

A POEM DEDICATED TO LUPI, SARTORI, VALMASSORI, VOLPICELLI

Lupi, Sartori, Valmassori, Volpicelli,
Your names resonate with life and love,
Yet your heritage damned you.
The sea had always been your touchstone
But it was used to conspire against you,
To keep you hidden, out of the way.

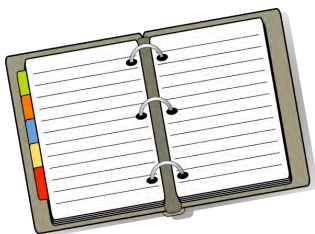
Lupi, Sartori, Valmassori, Volpicelli,
Did you stand at the headland
And search for your loved ones?
Or did you surrender and gently weep
As those before you had done?

Lupi, Sartori, Valmassori, Volpicelli,
The land – hostile, barren, exhausted,
The wind – unforgiving, relentless, ruthless,
But you, with fingers of love and memory,
Planted, nurtured, what you knew,
And now all that's left of you
Is a grove of stunted olive trees.

Lupi, Sartori, Valmassori, Volpicelli,
Return to the island of sadness and betrayal
And discover gentleness, beauty, honesty and truth.

Author: Laura Heath - 26 November 2009

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Annual Bus Trip 8-11 February

Sunday 7 Feb (11.30am) – Italian Mass

Sunday 7 Feb (1pm) – Shared Lunch

Sunday 21 Feb (11am) – Annual Club Picnic

CIRCOLO ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES 2010

In 2010 the Circolo Italiano di Wellington Inc. will offer two class levels for new applicants and there will be 2 Beginners Stage 1 and Stage 2 language classes held on either Monday or Wednesday evenings. The venue for the classes will be Club Garibaldi and the classes commence on 8 and 10 February and finish in October 2010. Check the website: www.circoloitaliano.org.nz for more information.

Before completing an enrolment form please telephone President Elizabeth Peek on (04) 4759781 or email: president@circoloitaliano.org.nz. If there is a place in your preferred class you can then post your application and cheque to Circolo Italiano di Wellington, PO Box 9706, Wellington 6141. To ensure a place in your preferred class it is advisable that enrolments be made by post or through the Internet prior to Friday 22 January 2010.

We cannot guarantee you a place if you leave enrolment until the General evening on Wednesday 27 January (between 5.30 and 7pm).

The Classes Opening Ceremony for **ALL** students will be at 6.30pm on Wednesday 3 February 2010 at Club Garibaldi. It is not necessary for Club Garibaldi members to join the Circolo and course fees are offered at the reduced rate of \$155 for 30 fifty-five minute lessons.

The textbook required is: **Buongiorno Italia (2005)** for Beginners Stage 1 and 2. The textbook is available from Whitcoulls Bookstore, (Information Counter) 312 Lambton Quay, Wellington. A 10% discount is available on proof of enrolment in a Circolo course. It is essential that each student has a copy of the relevant textbook.

CIRCOLO 2010 COURSES ENROLMENT FORM

Full name (Mr,Mrs,Miss,Ms) _____

Postal address and email _____

Telephone No. (home) _____ (work) _____

Subscription to Circolo Italiano:

Single: Couple Student under 18/Superannuitant/Member Club Garibaldi

Classes enrolment: (tick)	Beginners Stage 1	Monday	5.30 – 6.25pm
		Wednesday	5.30 – 6.25pm
	Beginners Stage 2	Monday	6.30 – 7.25pm
		Wednesday	6.30 – 7.25pm

Have you studied Italian before? Yes No

For what reason are you studying the Italian language _____

I enclose cash/cheque for \$ _____ to confirm my enrolment in the course selected.

I understand that my course fee(s) cannot be refunded.

Signature _____

Date _____

BASILE ~ MORENO WEDDING



Antonino Basile and Antonietta Moreno were married at the Church of Santa Maria Della Lobra, Massalubrense, Napoli, Italy in September 1929.