



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

Club Garibaldi News

Marzo / March 2020

Club Garibaldi
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Note from the President

Last month we held our annual picnic at our usual spot in Eastbourne. The weather started off a bit overcast and cloudy and we weren't sure if the rain was going to come down – however, by 11.30am the skies had cleared and the sun appeared. In fact it got very hot as the day progressed. We had a turnout of about 80 members. It was a lovely day out and everyone mingled really well. Sorry there are no photos – my camera was left at home by accident.

Our Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 15 March at St Francis de Sales Church in Island Bay. Please note the time is 2pm, simply because that's the only time the Apostolic Nunzio was available. **Also note we will be holding an afternoon tea after Mass in the Church Hall and not at the Club as previously advised.** We ask everyone please bring a plate of food to share. We would really love a good turn for this event.



As you know during the WW2, fifty Italian New Zealanders were incarcerated on Somes Island for a number of years. These were men identified by the Police and other authorities as being in category 1 of risk as "enemy aliens".

The story of the men features in the club's historical publication, Alla Fine Del Mondo (To the Ends of the Earth).

In 1995 the club recognised the detention of these men by installing a memorial seat at one of the highest points on Somes Island. The memorial seat, built with the skills of club members, was blessed by Cardinal Tom Williams and a large number of members attended the ceremony.

Club Garibaldi is marking 25 years since that important event and club members are invited to come on the trip to Somes Island for a short memorial service. More in this newsletter.

We've copied an email sent to us from Club Italia President, John Esposito with regards to the Labour weekend football game later this year. We would really appreciate it if you could let us know via the Club email whether you intend to come along to Nelson for the weekend – we need to let Club Italia know numbers so they can decide whether we organize a 2nd day event or not. Refer to email it will all make sense.

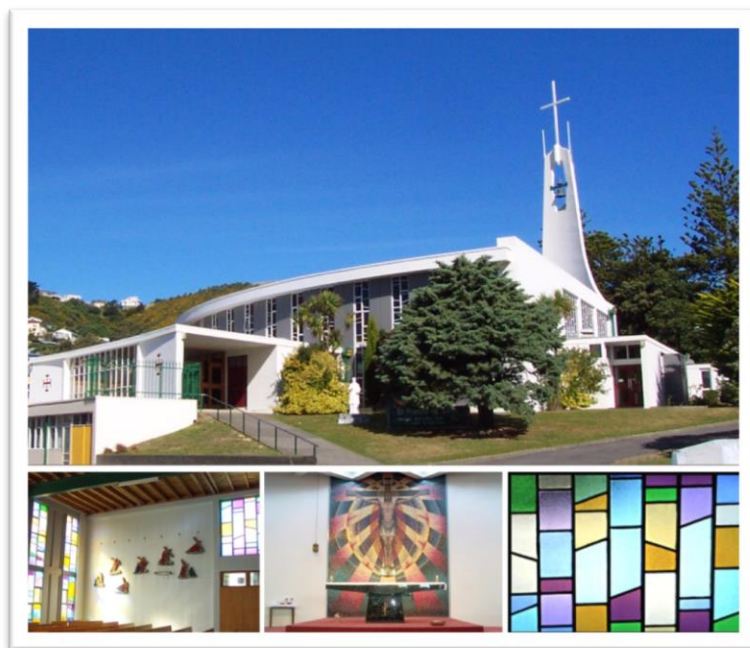
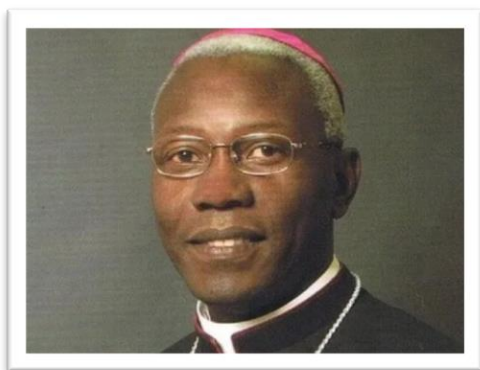
Also, if you plan to fly down to Nelson for that weekend, cheap flights are running out fast and airfares get more expensive closer to the time – so make sure you don't miss out and book NOW!

Ciao for now

Linda

Italian Mass – 15 March 2020

Mass will be celebrated in Italian by Apostolic Nuncio. This will be held at St Francis de Sales Church, Clyde Street, Island Bay on 15 March 2020 at 2pm; followed by afternoon tea at the Church hall. Please bring a plate of food to share - We hope to see a lot of people support this event.



Children's Italian Classes– 2020 (6 years to 11 year olds)

Lessons have begun for Term 1. However, it's not too late to register your child. Very moderate fees apply:

\$8.00 per lesson, per child for members and \$10 per lesson, per child for non-members. Lessons are held every Saturday from 1.30pm – 2.30pm at the Club. At this stage we have only one class from 6-8 year olds. If you're interested in registering your child, please contact the Club via email above



LEARN ITALIAN

Somes Island Visit – Sunday 22 March 2020

The memorial seat on Somes Island marks for future generations the fact that 38 men of Italian origin spent some years incarcerated there as “enemy aliens”.

The island in the middle of Wellington Harbour was “home” for these men selected to be isolated and away from their families because of questions about their allegiances during the Second World War.

In 1995 a group of club members, including family of men held on the island, spent an afternoon on Somes (Matiu) and witnessed the blessing of the memorial seat by Cardinal Tom Williams, the then Archbishop of Wellington.

In a way the seat acts as a memorial to the few Italian migrants who were expert terrazzo layers. Led by long time club member Felice Benvenuti the small group crafted the seat for this special occasion in 1995.

Twenty-five years later we celebrate the talents of Felice and men like Giovanni Gasparini and others who were skilled in terrazzo and marble stonemasonry. Their most prominent work can be seen on the floor of the Wellington Railway Station and at the Settler’s Museum on the Petone waterfront, venue for the Alla Fine Del Mondo exhibition from 1995.

Felice was a former vice-president of the club and a regular when playing indoor bowls and cards was a Sunday afternoon event at the club. He died on 4 August 2019 at the age of 91. He had been married to Shirley for 65 years.



Labour weekend in Nelson – Email from Club Italia

Greetings Linda and all

For some time now we have been talking about our 25th anniversary celebrations and as it's not too far away now we need to be organised.

This is undoubtedly a significant milestone for both clubs and is the only event we have on our calendar that brings our two communities together. That it has been sustained for so long tells you just how important it's been for both clubs.

We have tentatively set aside Labour weekend the 24/25/26 October and the loose plan (at this stage) is to have a football match on Saturday the 24th followed by a Pizza party at the club in the evening.

Sunday would be a day of leisure (with optional activities planned), followed by a formal sit-down dinner and celebration in the evening. I'm thinking an optional activity during Sunday would include a boat ride and walk in the Abel Tasman national park for example (getting members back into town by 6.00pm).

We envisage all historical players, coaches, refs, and even supporters be included in this celebration.

But for this to work, we really need to know if there is support from Wellington to attend a two-day event. Organising the extra day will be a pleasure, but it's subject to members wanting to participate and be involved.

Can you discuss this with your members, plus current and previous players, and give us an indication if a 2-day event would really be supported?

If not, we can still have a fantastic celebration - but save ourselves a lot of unnecessary work.

I'd like to know by the end of March if the two-day event is confirmed, so please come back to me within the next 4 weeks. Once we know where we are headed, we can put together an activity plan for the weekend and work through potential funding. At this stage we're thinking;

- *Fully subsidised pizza night & gelato*
- *Self-funding day activity Sunday (but discounted from suppliers)*
- *Part subsidised dinner Sunday with some wine included plus complimentary player gifts and live music*

I've copied Lisa and Francis who volunteered to organise the weekend together with committee support as necessary.

Many thanks - I welcome any questions. Please come back to me by the end of the month.

Regards

JE

Aldo Cucurullo Memorial Cup Football Games – Saturday 24 October 2020

This will be held over Labour Weekend and will take place in Nelson. This year marks 25 years that the game has been played against the two communities, and we plan to celebrate in style.

The game will take place on the Saturday, and on the Sunday (for those who wish to stay on), both clubs will unite with special celebrations. More details will follow during the year, but we're letting you know the dates now, so if you wish to grab a cheap airfare – now is the time to book. Of course, there is also the Ferry.

We'd love to see a great turnout of past players, Club supporters and friends – this should be a weekend to remember.

Notice from the Italian Embassy

Are you a young descendant of emigrants from Italy with an interest in improving your business skills while expanding your knowledge of the Italian culture? In that case this might be for you.

ITA (Italian Trade Agency) and MIV Trieste School of Management promote and organize ORIGINI ITALIA PROGRAM 2020, an extensive Export Management and Entrepreneurial Development Course, which will last from October 26 2020 to March 27 2021.

Travel expenses (a return flight to Trieste, Italy), accommodation and a guaranteed lunch will be covered to the 20 successful applicants from all over the world. Online application form by 30 April 2020 at www.mib.edu/origini

It is a great opportunity for young descendants of Italian families all over the world. We would be delighted if some of your members would be keen on applying for this extensive business course which will last 6 months. The course will be in English, and most of the expenses covered.

Kind regards,

Beatrice Foschetti

Commercial and Cultural Attaché

Embassy of Italy in New Zealand



Club's Car Parks

The only car parks available for financial members are in the Vivian St Car Park numbered I to 13 only, after 6.00pm Monday to Friday, and all-day Saturday & Sunday. The other car parks on the Vivian and Tory St footpaths are leased to private clients at all times for 24 hours. The car parks are now monitored by the individual car park users, therefore, if you are illegally parked, your car will be towed away at your expense. The Club takes no responsibility.

A current window sticker (2019-2020) must be attached visibly in the rear window of your vehicle.

The Avalon Public Hall Centenary in October 2022

The Avalon Public Hall in Mabey Road, Taita, Lower Hutt will celebrate its centenary in October 2022. It was the heart of the Italian Market Gardening community for many years, with leading members serving on the Society Committee.

If there are any current members of Club Garibaldi who have any memorabilia that could be useful for a proposed Centennial History and/or celebration, any useful information or contact of a former resident, please contact Alan Stevens

Alan Stevens. Tel 5670338 or email: alanstevens36@outlook.com



Dates for your Diary



Sunday 15 March

Italian Mass – 2pm

Sunday 22 March

Somes Island Visit

Saturday 24 October

Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Cup Football