



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

Club Garibaldi News

November / Novembre

Club Garibaldi
118 Tory Street, Te Aro, Wellington 6011
clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com

Note from the President

Over sixty-four Members and family from Wellington descended on the city of Nelson over Labour Weekend to take part in the 25th Anniversary game celebrations to vie for the Aldo Cuccurullo Trophy between Club Italia and Club Garibaldi.

The weekend consisted of a great game of Football followed by a wonderful social evening where we remembered Aldo Cuccurullo, shared experiences of past games, rekindled with old friends and made new friends – And what a phenomenal weekend it turned out to be!

We always knew it was going to be a good weekend – but I don't think anyone expected what lay ahead, and I can only say "Congratulations and a big thanks again to John Esposito, Francis Miccio and the committee of Club Italia for putting on a weekend that will never be forgotten!" Congratulations to the players of Club Garibaldi who won 2-0 – well done on a fine win.



Presidents Linda DeGregorio (Garibaldi) and Francis Miccio (Club Italia)

The curtain raiser began at 2pm, where the junior members played a game of Football organised by Johnny Persico. It was good to see the young generation showing their skill – and this can only be a good sign for this annual fixture going forward.

Just before 3pm the Match of the Day brought out the players – players of the past, players of the present and new generation players making their first debut. David Da Vanzo will elaborate more on the game itself later in this newsletter.

The after-match function on Saturday night was the usual fantastic get together, with great food, pizzas and the vibe was warm and friendly. Two stalwart players – Francis Miccio from Club Italia (who has been instrumental in organizing the games over the past 25 years and has played in every single game; and Paul Muollo from Club Garibaldi – who has played 24 out of 25 games, were presented with a gift each from both Clubs, thanking them both for their commitment and dedication to this annual event over the past 25 years.

But for me, it was the Sunday event that was the “icing on the cake”. The doors at Club Italia opened at 6.15pm and the venue looked like it was set up for a Wedding. Four long rows of tables and chairs. A live band played background music in the corner while everyone arrived. A large cake stood at the entrance with a photo of Aldo Cucurullo decorated with a beautiful bouquet of flowers. Above the cake was a huge banner/photo of both club teams.



Over one hundred and forty people were then seated at the tables. The Italian National Anthem was played by a lone Trumpeter and everyone stood up in respect. We were welcomed by our MC for the evening, Aldo Miccio, who ran through the programme, of events for the evening.

Mixed Antipasto was served to each table and this was meal in itself and fine wine followed. The second course consisted of cannelloni and salad (all made by members of Club Italia). We then had a break and the Presidents of both Clubs said a few words which acknowledged the success of this tradition and expressed their desire for this event to carry on for many years to come. Following their speeches Antonio Cacace got up and gave a brief description of how this event came to fruition all those years ago.

After hearing all that - the third course was served - Homemade Italian Sausage (again made by members of Club Italia), potatoes and vegetables, for those who had room in their stomach to fit this course.

The four captains (two of the very first game, and the two current captains) were invited up to cut the Anniversary cake and say a few words. Then George Molnar Club Italia, gave an emotional tribute to Aldo Cucurullo, (the man this Trophy is named after) about who he was, and the legacy he has left behind.

More music followed, and while people mingled and chatted, dessert of tiramisu (also made by members



of Club Italia) was served – and then the anniversary cake was passed around.

The atmosphere was electric, warm and friendly and everyone mingled really well, sharing memories of the past 25 years and catching up with old familiar faces – it was so nice to be part of it all. We look forward to hosting Club Italia here in Wellington next year, where we will continue to be entertained by a wonderful game of Football, remember Aldo Cuccurullo, catch up with old friends and forge new friendships between both communities.

On another note, our AGM will be held on Sunday 8 November at the Clubrooms – make sure you attend. This is a very important meeting and we need to make important decisions.

Ciao for now

Linda

Hi Linda,

Antony and I just wanted to say a big thank you to Club Italia and Club Garibaldi for a fantastic weekend. Wow it sure makes us proud to be Italian! We thoroughly enjoyed the whole weekend, the amazing food, thrilling football, fantastic entertainment and catching up with all the wonderful Italians in Nelson. The children loved it too and can't wait for next year. So thank you all for all your fantastic organising.

- Krissy and Antony Volpicelli-Muollo.



Annual General Meeting – Sunday 8 November 2020

Our AGM will be held on Sunday 8 November at the Clubrooms. Commencing 7pm. Please note there will be a lot to discuss at this meeting, and we'd appreciate you all make the effort to be there.

Help! – WE REQUIRE A SECRETARY!!!

Sadly our Secretary Caterina Costa has resigned her position. Caterina has been an integral part of the Executive Committee for over 20 years and has done a fabulous job in keeping the day-to-day admin of the Club up-to-date. Thanks Caterina for all your great efforts – we really will miss you on the Committee.

We are now asking if anyone would like to step up to the challenge and volunteer their services on the Executive Committee as Secretary. Without a Secretary we will find it hard to send out emails/newsletters to our members. So please think about it, and register your interest to us via the club email clubgaribaldi1882@gmail.com

Children's Christmas Party (at the club rooms)

Santa has booked the date to visit our younger members – Sunday 22 November starting at 11am. Arts, crafts and a magic show followed by lunch and a visit from Santa will set the scene for what should be a few hours of fun for our young members.

This year we invite Nonni's to bring along their grandchildren (even if their parents are not members).

Please reply to Josephine 9348 720 if you can make it. We need to know before 17 November please.

Senior's Christmas Party

Xmas lunch on Sunday 29 November at 12.00 Noon. As usual a 3-course meal will be served. To book your seat at the table, please contact Josephine on 934 8720 ASAP – we need to know numbers for catering purposes.



Baby News

Congratulations to Tony and Rosina Basile of Oriental Bay on becoming first-time Grandparents. Their daughter Diana Hornal (nee Basile) gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, Oscar Antonino earlier this week.

Congratulations also go out to Dianna and Todd Hornal on their first child. We wish you all the best at this very special time.



Dates for your Diary



Sunday 8 November

Annual General Meeting

Sunday 22 November

Children's Christmas Party

Saturday 29 November

Seniors Christmas Party

The Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy 25th Anniversary Match

A Tale of Two Penalties - by David Da Vanzo

The 25th anniversary game for the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy kicked off in typically fine and warm Nelson conditions. In such conditions managing fatigue was going to be imperative, and both sides started off in measured fashion, maintaining their shape and letting the ball do the work.

Club Italia dominated the early play, and it almost led to an early goal, but for a latch-ditch tackle from the Club Garibaldi defence. Club Garibaldi came into the game as the half went on, but could not create any clear chances, and the game continued on in a tense deadlock.

Half an hour into the half, calamity struck Club Italia, when their evergreen captain, George Molnar, had to leave the field with a muscle strain. George's departure forced their speedy striker, Vinnie Whittington, to drop back into midfield, which gave Club Garibaldi's defence some respite from the pressure Whittington had been exerting.

Halftime arrived with the game still goal-less, with the result of the game still hanging in the balance. In the second half, Club Garibaldi started to gain some ascendancy, as the midfield looked to send the ball forward for the wide midfielders to run onto. This tactic paid dividends, when a ball in behind the Club Italia defence was pounced on by Garibaldi's Matene Da Vanzo, and Club Italia were forced to bring him down from behind. A penalty kick resulted, and fittingly, Paul Muollo, who had played in the inaugural Aldo Cuccurullo game in 1995, put Club Garibaldi ahead from the spot.

Club Italia were forced to push forward in an attempt to even up the game, and this led to an increasingly open game, which made things more exciting for the spectators, and more taxing for the players in the heat. Club Italia almost created an open break on goal with a through ball, but Garibaldi midfielder, Tom Kelly, had other ideas as he sprinted back impressively to defuse the danger.

The result was put beyond doubt with around 10 minutes to go, when a second penalty kick was awarded to Club Garibaldi, when a cross struck a Club Italia defender's hand in the Club Italia penalty area. Appropriately, another veteran from the inaugural Aldo Cuccurullo game, Michael Gaeta, duly converted the resulting penalty, making it 2-0 to Club Garibaldi, which ended up being the final score.

Club Italia put on a lovely meal in their clubrooms on the Saturday night, and a wonderful dinner to mark the 25th anniversary of the fixture on the Sunday night.

A big thank you to Francis Miccio, John Esposito and the Committee at Club Italia for making this such a memorable occasion, and to Linda De Gregorio and Club Garibaldi for all the support in bringing things together.

