



Club Garibaldi News

MARCH 2008

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As Easter is early this year, and this is the last newsletter before that time, on behalf of the executive committee members, I wish all the members of Club Garibaldi a happy, holy and peaceful Easter.

Reminder: Our annual Italian festival will be held on Sunday, 16 March, at the Overseas Terminal Function Centre, Oriental Bay. The official opening by the Ambassador of Italy, HE Giocchino Trizzino, and the blessing of the venue and its occupancy, by Archbishop Balvo of The Holy See, will take place on the second level, at the top of the escalator, at 9.45 am. See enclosed flier. Please come and support your club and your fellow club members who have been planning and working very hard behind the scene for months, to ensure that everybody who visits the festival will have a truly enjoyable Italian experience.

The festival is the club's major fundraiser of the year. Everybody could help by donating home baked dolci, which will be sold by a group of women members at the club's very popular dolci stand. Please remember that the money made from this stall is used for all club members' benefit.

We need help setting up the club's dolce stand on the Thursday evening around 6pm for an hour or so, at the Overseas Terminal, on Saturday morning to help decorate the venue with balloons etc, and on Sunday, at the end of the festival day. Your help would be very much appreciated.

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page

THANK YOU, GIOVANNI



Many thanks and much appreciation to club member Giovanni Martini of the West Coast, South Island, for translating this newsletter.

ITALIAN STORY-TIME FOR CHILDREN

Newtown and Island Bay libraries are hoping to provide an Italian Story-time providing there is enough interest. This is a great opportunity for our children. Feel free to pass this onto anyone who you think would be interested!

BABY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following on the safe arrival and recent additions to their families:

Tania (nee Benvenuti) and Bryan Treveen on the birth of their daughter Olivia Rose.. A great grand-daughter for Felice and Shirley Benvenuti of Lower Hutt.

Angela and Danny Newell on the birth of their daughter Sophie Marie. A grand-daughter for Dianne and Michael Trlin, and a great grand-daughter for Felice and Shirley Benvenuti of Lower Hutt.

Dion Page and Niina Kovanen on the birth of their son Fionn. A grandson for Ginette and Robin Page of Island Bay, Wellington.

Tony and Meita Gaeta on the birth of their son Rocky Antonino. A grandson for Jo and Salvi Gaeta of Island Bay, Wellington.



NEW BAR PERSON

The position of Bar Person has now been filled. More details in the next newsletter.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the following new members: Nic and Callie Ballara, Northland, Wellington.

PINOCCHIO'S CORNER



Once again at this year's Italian Festival, there will be a corner dedicated to the children ... 'Pinocchio's Corner' ... the most famous wooden puppet in the world.

The games will start at 13.00 till 15.00. All the children are welcome ... and it is free!!!

The games include: how to create the longest nose; Italian 'Ring around the Rosie' for the little ones; learning Italian geography; team games and other activities. At the end of the games there will be prizes for the youngest winners!!!

Participation forms are available until 12.30pm.

You will find them at Pinocchio's Corner entrance, on the top floor.

Ciao
Letizia

IMPORTANT REMINDER – CLUB CAR PARKING

Weekdays during the hours of 7.30 am to 5.30 pm, all the car parks in the area on the side of our building, Vivian Street and Tory Street are rented out. However, during the evenings and weekends, members who display the current green/white/red window stickers are permitted to use some of these parks. The owners of vehicles who do not affix their current window sticker run the risk of being towed away.

All the car parks on the Tory Street side of the building are rented out 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and are not available to any member at any time. The club will not be responsible for illegally parked cars that are towed away.

CLUB KITCHEN PLATTERS

Please return any club platters or plates which have by mistake found their way into your cupboards, after being used to carry food home. No questions asked ... please just leave them on the bench in the kitchen.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ITALIAN MASS

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 6 April 2008 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 6 April 2008 at 1pm. All members and families are very welcome.



Please bring a plate.

ITALIAN FILMS

At 7pm on Thursday 20 March, the film **The Miracle** (2003) will be shown. The Miracle is the story of Tonio who has an accident and while he is recovering in hospital a miracle occurs. Duration: 93 minutes. A \$2 charge towards costs will apply.

At 7pm on Thursday 17 April the film **A Sense of Touch** will be shown. This film is number 7 in the Inspector Montalbano series. The Montalbano films never fail to please!!

CIRCOLO APRIL SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on Thursday 3 April there will be a presentation by Don McLean of Italian Villa Holidays. Don will talk about **Independent**

ITALIAN FILM IN THE WORLD CINEMA SHOWCASE

Film title: Mio fratello è figlio unico

Italy | 2007 | 108 minutes

Censors rating TBC

In Italian with English subtitles

Director: Danielle Luchetti

With: Elio Germano, Riccardo Scamarcio, Diane Fleri, Alba Rohrwacher

"Set in a small town in Italy during the 1960s and '70s, the film depicts the relationship between two brothers, Accio and Manrico, caught up in the political conflicts of Italy's recent past... In its unabashed reference to recent Italian history *My Brother* recalls Marco Tullio Giordana's epic *The Best of Youth*, which also revolved around two ideologically opposed brothers. But this is a glossier, more audience-friendly affair, that is as concerned with Accio's coy crush on the beguiling Francesca as it is with changing political times.... It's in the relationship between the two siblings – warm, poignant, beautifully played by Germano and Scamarcio – which the film impresses.

Sweet and soft as a slice of panetone, My Brother is an Only Child is exemplary family melodrama of the

Travel in Italy and his presentation will be in the same style as his very popular and well-received evenings held previously. The material and visuals will be new and we look forward to being taken on a virtual armchair tour around Italy.

A \$4 cover charge towards supper will apply.

TOMBOLA

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

The next Tombola night is on Tuesday 25 March, at the usual time of 7.30 pm. Please do come along and feel free to bring a friend.

"A Night at the Garibaldi" Jade Steele Benefit Concert

Both performance dates on 16th and 17th May are now sold out.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 16th March - Italian Festival

Thursday 20th March (7pm) - Italian Film

Tuesday 25th March (7:30pm) - Tombola

Thursday 3rd April (7:30pm) - Circolo Social

Sunday 6th April (11:30am) - Italian Mass

Sunday 6th April (1pm) - Shared Lunch

Thursday 17th April (7pm) - Italian Film

Friday – Saturday 16-17th May - A Night at the Garibaldi

kind the Italians do so effortlessly.”
— Ed Lawrenson, *Time Out*

WELLINGTON
Paramount
Fri 21 Mar 6.15 pm
Sun 23 Mar 2.00 pm
Tue 25 Mar, 2.15 pm

WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

Mark Da Vanzo married Heather MacDonald in Windermere, in the Lake District, England, on 25 January 2008. Attending the wedding from New Zealand were Mark's parents, Rex and Avril, his brothers Peter and David and their spouses Maria and Fiona. Club Garibaldi We wish the newly-weds every happiness.

Congratulations Mark and Heather, Club Garibaldi wishes you a lifetime of love and happiness.



ITALIAN YOUTH CONFERENCE – SEPTEMBER 2008 IN QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

In the club's January newsletter an article was printed, inviting Italian youth in New Zealand to join Australian youth at the above event. Since then, further communication has been received from Sandra Pitronaci, one of the organisers of the conference, inviting New Zealand youth to visit their Face Book page. It is called 'Giovani Italiani Australia Face Book'. The text is in both English and Italian.

If you are interested in attending this conference, Sandra would love to hear from you.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

By Ginette Toscano Page

ANSA - Palermo, February 15

Italian archaeologists have begun exploring two Roman ports that have lain hidden for centuries under sand dunes on the coast of Libya. The ports are situated east of Libya's second-largest city, Benghazi, in the region of Cyrenaica, which was once a province of the Roman Empire.

Archaeologists were alerted to the presence of one of the ports near the farming village of Hamama by the re-current appearance of bits of stone buildings poking up through the sand both on the beach and in the sea. Experts have suggested the port may be that of Phykous, mentioned in the writings of Greek geographer Strabo in the first century AD and used by the nearby city of Cyrene for trading in the Mediterranean and contact with the Romans during the time of the Empire.

The Italians are working alongside Libya's Department of Antiquities to survey the areas and decide on a plan of action for the preservation of the two ports.

INTERESTED IN HAVING FUN AND BEING A TEAM MEMBER IN A TEN PIN BOWLING COMPETITION?



The Wellington Filipino Sports Association is organising an inaugural 'Country of Origin' ten pin bowling competition on 14-15 June 2008, at Bowland, Porirua.

Given Wellington's diverse mix of people, the Filipino Sports Association views this as a great way to promote close contact and co-operation amongst the different ethnic communities in the city.

The Mayor of Wellington, Kerry Prendergast is supporting this event and has donated the 'Mayor's Cup', which will be awarded to the winning team.

The tournament is a 4-bowler team format and must have at least one female bowler in the team at any given time.

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

By Ginette Toscano Page

The club's annual picnic, held at Queen Elizabeth Park, Paekakariki on Sunday, 16 February, was a lot of fun and a great success! Following a week of rather dismal weather, we were blessed with a warm, sunny day.

Some hundred members, including their families, comfortably settled themselves under the shade of trees and umbrellas, with picnic baskets alongside, filled to the brim with food, and cool drinks. A short while later, three barbecues were used to cook the steaks and sausages supplied by the club, along with the bread and tomato sauce. Water-melons and rock-melons were also supplied by the club. Many thanks to the four cooks ... chef Alfonso Basile, capably assisted by Matt Amitrano, Jim Marson and Vince Costa, all of whom did a brilliant job!

Following lunch, groups of adults and children walked to the beach for a swim in the sea, while others either relaxed in the warm sun, listening to the Italian music which Robin had set up, via a loud speaker, chatting together or playing with the children.

As always, the games were popular and a lot of fun! We were in fits of laughter watching the toddlers and older children, trying so hard to smash open the butterfly lolly filled 'pinata' which was hanging from a tree branch, with a long stick, then scrambling on the grass looking for them! There were running races for all age groups, including the Mums and Dads, tugs of war, and really funny egg and spoon races!

Many thanks to Alfonso Basile who bought the meat and melons on the club's behalf, to Maria Colucci and Robin Page who helped in so many ways, and to all the members who also helped in some way to make the picnic a great day.

Picnic day is always enjoyable as it gives members and their families the chance to mix and mingle in a relaxed atmosphere.

FUN IN THE SUN





ANNUAL BUS TRIP TO ROTORUA, 12-14 FEBRUARY

By Jim Marson

Lynda and I were up, bright and early and driven to the Wellington Railway Station where we were to be picked up by the bus at 6.30am.

After a few small hiccups the bus finally arrived at 6.50am ... we were on our way! Nearly 11 hours later (a world record from Wellington to Rotorua!), we arrived in Rotorua. It was the longest, but most fun trip I have ever been on!

As we made our way along the motorway to the sound of Salvi's top ten hits, it was decided that we should stop for coffee in Foxton. Believe me, this was not an easy task trying to find a café who could cater for 43 thirsty coffee drinking Italians! We've never known a place to be so dead at nine in the morning! An hour later, the bus was on its way again.

There we sat, listening to 'Elvis Gaeta', enjoying the passing views, and the occasional titbit of information from our bus driver, Tama, who was really interesting. Two hours later we arrived in Taihape where we were pleasantly surprised with a pre-organised lunch at an Italian restaurant. After our meal we set off on our way again, stopping once at Turangi for a pee stop! We finally arrived in Rotorua around 5.00pm, with most people heading straight for the swimming pool.

The group were booked into the 5 star Heritage Hotel, which was excellent. After settling into our rooms, the rest of the evening was 'free time' ... it was up to everybody to entertain themselves. Some chose to play cards, some eating in restaurants, some relaxing around the large, heated swimming pool, and others just having an early night, after such an early morning start that morning.

The next morning after breakfast, Tama took us to the Agrodome to watch the history of 'Sheep in NZ' and a sheep shearing demonstration ... an excellent show! Maria (Colucci), you were pretty good demonstrating to the rest of the world, how to bottle feed a little lamb! This was followed by a drive around the lakes, then making our way back to Rotorua for a bit of free time in the city before returning to the hotel for some relaxation and more swimming.

Our second night spent at the Heritage Hotel started with a Maori cultural show where a few of our very own 'stars' were invited on stage to entertain! Well done, Josephine, Eleanor and Lou ... you did us proud! After a delicious dinner, we were ushered into a private conference room where we had a most enjoyable, old fashioned, Italian sing-along led by Salvi and Armando.

Everyone went to bed around midnight, except Salvi, who continued to serenade people in their hotel rooms!

All packed and after breakfast the following morning, we departed for Wellington. Our first stop was The Honey Hive, where we sampled different honeys. Stop two was ice cream time, before setting off again to see the incredible Huka Falls. Stop three: a fantastic buffet lunch at the Lakeland Hotel Taupo, followed by a short siesta, before the long bus drive back to Wellington, stopping only once for a quick coffee at Bulls.

A great time was had by all. In the short time we were away, the group did so much and we had heaps of fun; it felt as if we had been away for 2 weeks not 3 days!

Special thanks to Maria Colucci and Salvi Gaeta for the hard work of organising such a great trip, and to the ladies who supplied the delicious cakes and cheese for us to eat on the bus.

I will definitely be a starter for next year!!!!

Destination Rotorua 2008



