



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

# Club Garibaldi News

## OCTOBER 2014

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### **IMPORTANT NOTICE – Special General Meeting**

A special general meeting of the club is to be held on **Sunday November 9** at 7pm (followed by supper) and all members are urged to attend.

The meeting has been called for two specific reasons.

First, ahead of the annual general meeting on September 28 there had been no nominations for the position of President of the club. At the meeting a member asked to make a nomination for the vacancy. The meeting was suspended so that members could discuss the nomination which, under normal circumstances, would have proceeded to a vote. There was concern about the fact that the person nominated was out of the country and members did not have an opportunity to hear from him on why he wanted to be President and what his plans for the club would be and to question him. A motion was moved which was passed that the election of President be deferred until a special general meeting was held which was to be within four weeks of the next executive committee meeting.

Please note that for the sake of fairness only members of the club who were financial and eligible to vote at the annual meeting will be permitted to vote on the presidency at the special general meeting.

A nomination form for the presidency can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Second, the club executive committee, concerned at the process by which the President nomination was undertaken this year, considered and has decided on changes to the club's constitution which will be put for member approval at the special general meeting.

The Executive Committee will move the following alterations to the Club's Constitution:

(a) Clause 6p – Add the following;

"The nomination forms must be received by the Secretary of the Club not less than fourteen (14) days before the date of an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. The names of all nominees and positions shall be put on the notice board seven (7) days before an Annual General Meeting or Special General Meeting. Members shall be notified by email, post or newsletter, as appropriate, within the same timeframe."

(b) Clause 6q, to be amended as follows;

"a nomination for any positions other than President and Vice-President may be accepted,"

## Important Dates

The September newsletter provided advance notification of dates for several important end of year functions but the dates were wrong. Please note that the correct dates are as follows:

Children's Christmas Party – Sunday November 16, 11am to 2pm

Senior members' Christmas lunch – Sunday November 30, midday.

Please contact Josephine Van Der Donk or Maria Colucci to advise you are coming for catering purposes.

## Annual General Meeting

The annual meeting was attended by about 30 members. Unfortunately the new Italian Ambassador, His Excellency Carmelo Barbarello, was delayed by his flight from Auckland to Wellington but arrived to meet members after the meeting.

Members received the annual accounts and balance sheet, received the executive committee's annual report, trustees' report and building report. The executive annual report is to be found at the end of this newsletter.

The following were elected:

Vice-president	Alfonso Basile
Secretary	Caterina Costa
Treasurer	Maryrose Basile
Executive	Rex Da Vanzo, Larry Greco, Catherine Monastra, Maria Colucci, Mattio Amitrano
Trustees	Robin Page, Vic Criscillo

## Italian Mass & Shared Lunch



At 11.30am on the first Sunday of every month Mass is celebrated in the Italian language at St Francis de Sales Church, 173 Clyde Street, Island Bay.

**The next Mass is on Sunday November 2.**

The bi-monthly shared lunch will be held at the clubrooms on Sunday November 2 at 1pm, immediately following Mass. Please bring a generous plate of food to share with others.

## Football Game

A large squad of players, ranging from veterans to teenagers, has been in training for several weeks for the annual game against Club Italia in Nelson for the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy. The game will be played on **Saturday November 1**. We wish the team all the best for their challenge to bring back the trophy to its rightful home.

Thanks to all those who supported the fundraising quiz night held in Miramar in September. Funds raised will help reduce the cost of the trip to Nelson for the players.

## ANGELA (LINA) PANETTIERI – 100 YEARS AND 10 DAYS!



*Lina Panettieri at her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with guest Ginette Toscano Page.*

Our condolences go out to the family of Angela (Lina) Panettieri (nee Cincotta), Guglielmo, Maria, Peter and their families, who passed away on Tuesday, 14 October 2014

Surrounded by beautiful flowers, her family and close friends, Lina became a centenarian when she celebrated her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on Saturday, 4 October 2014, at her home in Kilbirnie.

Celebrations began with lunch for the immediate family, followed by afternoon tea, which included her close friends. A beautifully decorated cake was served with champagne during the afternoon.

Lina received a mountain of birthday cards which she read without the aid of glasses! She was delighted to receive a Papal Blessing which the family had framed and a signed card from the Queen. She made us all laugh when she said "How did she know it was my birthday?" Cards were also received from the Governor-General, the Prime Minister, and Members of Parliament.

When asked what the secret to living to be 100 years old, Lina replied: "I don't know! I guess God doesn't want me yet!"

Sadly, He changed His mind 10 days later. **Cav Ginette Toscano Page**

### Further Condolences



The club offers its sincere sympathies to Caterina, Brigida and Vince on the recent death of their mother, grandmother and great grandmother, Maria Costa of Island Bay.

Also condolences to Rosina Basile on the passing of her mother, Maria Muollo of Kilbirnie.

***Riposa in pace***

## **A Night at the Garibaldi**

Advance notice is given of the next in the continuing series of benefit evenings to be held at the clubrooms on Friday 6 and Saturday 7 March, 2015. Ticket price of \$35 includes a light, Italian-style supper.

Preferential booking to benefit series regulars until 31 October.  
Phone reservations to Rex Da Vanzo (evenings).

## **Italian Representation – Comites**

Member Vito Lo Iacano writes:

A very proactive Italian Embassy has started a process for establishing official representation of Italian citizens (holders of Italian passports and enrolled at AIRE – the Registry of Italian Abroad) called COMITES. The establishment of COMITES is required in a country where there are more than 3000 Italians. Each COMITES will consist of 12 elected representatives. The role of COMITES is to represent the Italian community for all official liaisons with local and national governments, promote all social, cultural, educational/academic, professional growth and recreational activities in the interest of the community. Their role is also to liaise with other Italian cultural and business groups with the same aims.

Following a mailout by the Italian Embassy in Wellington, we understand that there are three lists. The great news is that we have our very own list in Wellington, which also comprises members from Nelson. Club Garibaldi members who are Italian citizens (registered with AIRE) will have the chance to endorse our very own list before October 19 at the Italian Embassy office, 34 Grant Road, Thorndon. Once the list is endorsed, the Embassy will send out voting papers in November, which will need to be returned by mail soon after.

Please ensure you go to the Embassy as soon as practicable to endorse the Wellington list. You may have the chance to meet our new Ambassador, His Excellency, Carmelo Barbarello. This is a fantastic opportunity to further expand and promote the activities of Club Garibaldi.

This is our Wellington COMITES list:

- 1 Vito Lo Iacono
- 2 Domenico Aiello
- 3 Aldo Miccio
- 4 Giuliano Serrao
- 5 Beatrice Serrao
- 6 Mariapia De Razza
- 7 Michele Domaneschi
- 8 Kim Bikila
- 9 Alfio Leotta
- 10 Federica Vaino
- 11 Antonio Loiacono
- 12 Daniela Burlando
- 13 Marco Guidetti
- 14 Carolina Izzo
- 15 Samuele de Stefani

## **Annual Club Bus Trip**



The club annual bus trip for members will take place in the first week in February and will take the holidaymakers to Hamilton. We would like an early indication of numbers so please contact Maria Colucci to advise whether you will be joining the fun.

## Club Carparks

New Jamieson's Tow Services Ltd signs have been fixed to the club's building.  
The car parks around the building will now be more strictly monitored.  
If you are illegally parked then you risk being **towed away**.

The only car parks available for club members are in the Vivian St car park, numbered 1 to 13 only, all day Saturdays and Sundays, and only after 5.30pm Monday to Friday.

A current car park label must be attached visibly to the vehicles rear window.  
The other car parks on the Vivian St and Tory St footpaths are leased to the Club's tenants or private clients at other times.

## Dates for your Diary



Saturday, 1 November	Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy Match
Sunday, 2 November (11.30am)	Club Garibaldi v Club Italia (Nelson)
Sunday, 9 November (7pm)	Italian Mass (St Francis de Sales, Island Bay)
Sunday, 16 November (11am-2pm)	Shared Family Lunch (1pm – Clubrooms)
Sunday, 30 November (12 Midday)	Special General Club Meeting (Clubrooms)
Friday 6 & Saturday & March, 2015	Children's Christmas Party
	Senior Citizens Lunch
	A Night at the Garibaldi Concert Series

## **NOMINATION FORM**

**Special General Meeting to be held on Sunday 9 November 2014 at 7pm.**

**Please ensure that the person nominated for President has agreed to stand, is a financial member and has been a member of the Club continuously for a minimum of three years.**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Nomination for 2014-15</b>
President:	

**Name of member making the nomination (please print):**

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**Signature of member making the nomination:**

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Please send the completed nomination form to:

The Secretary, Club Garibaldi  
PO Box 6451  
Wellington 6141

**Notes:**

- *The nomination form must be received by the Secretary not less than 14 days before the date of the Special General Meeting.*
- *No nominations will be accepted at the Special General Meeting.*
- *Only those members who were financial at the date of the Annual General Meeting on 28 September 2014 are eligible to vote for the President.*

## EXECUTIVE REPORT TO AGM

**The annual report to the Club Garibaldi annual general meeting is usually written and presented by the club President. However for the first time in 134 years no one offered themselves for the position and so there was no one elected or appointed for the 2013-14 year. The following report is from the executive committee:**

The absence of a president was one of the low points for the club's year but there were a number of highlights as well. The club's year started with the annual meeting last September which was well attended. The members present endorsed the appointment of Vic Criscillo and Paul Elenio as life members for their many years of work for the club. The members also heard of a plan by the Government's transport agency to take land off the club on the Vivian Street side for road-widening purposes for which the club was to be compensated.

Business considered at the meeting included the future of the club. This covered both the future of the club's building which has been assessed as earthquake prone and the viability of the club continuing with a lack of support evident in recent club functions. It was suggested that a special group could look at how the club could better engage with members and how it could attract more members.

A few weeks later the club met Club Italia (Nelson) in the annual game for the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy, the game played at Wellington College. Garibaldi, which has not held the trophy since 2011, played with determination but the younger and quicker Nelson players ensured a comprehensive win for the visitors. We hope for a better result when the teams meet again in the 2014 game at Nelson on November 1.

Shortly before Christmas the club hosted three important functions, the seniors' lunch, the children's party and the breakup function for children studying the Italian language at the club. Numbers at the first two events were down on previous years, with absentees from the lunch for ill health and from the children's party because the date clashed with other commitments. Needless to say those that attended those events still enjoyed their day. It is always cheering to see the proud students who spent one evening each week learning to write, read and speak Italian with their tutor Eloisa Ascoli. Our thanks to her and to Linda Muollo who took the organisational reins.

The new year events included the family picnic and barbecue at Eastbourne. Numbers were not high but, again, those who attended enjoyed the food, games and, eventually, some sunshine. The club had a background involvement in the annual blessing of the fishing fleet at Island Bay, an event that is growing in popularity and stature. The usual bus trip holiday to a northern destination was cancelled but is expected to resume in 2015.

For the first time in several years the club did not organise a festival. The reasons for this included cost (the 2013 festival had been subsidised by sales of a raffle) and the fact that club members were being pressed to support other events such as the Island Bay Festival and the St Francis de Sales Church's fundraising fair.

The concerns about the future of the club discussed at the annual meeting led to the executive committee asking for a small group to look at whether the club was "hitting the mark" with its activities, whether it still had value to people and how people of Italian heritage currently not members could be attracted to the club. The group, chaired by Vito Lo Iacano, came up with some honest feedback and there were clear directions towards engaging more with both members and Italians who had settled in Wellington but had never heard of or chose not to belong to the club.

One of the results of their recommendations was that the National Day function held at the club on June 1 was thrown open to all Italians, members and non-members. As a result there was an excellent turnout of both and everyone enjoyed a great night of wonderful food, drink and entertainment.

Regrettably the Italian Ambassador, Dr Alessandro Levi-Sandri, was absent due to illness which also prevented him from officiating at the embassy's own national day function a few days later. Unfortunately that meant there was no opportunity for the club to express its thanks to His Excellency before his return to Italy at the end of his term. However on the club's behalf past president Cav Ginette Toscano-Page presented him with a farewell gift as a sign of our appreciation for his support and interest over the last three years.

We are confident that the new ambassador will continue his predecessor's interest and involvement in the club.

At the same time as wondering out loud about the club's future there was also consideration of the future of the club's building which has been yellow stickered by the Wellington City Council as an earthquake risk. While the club has about 18 years to demolish or strengthen the building consideration cannot be left for long. With the departure of the tenants of the ground floor, a bar, the executive decided to spend money upgrading that floor which had had virtually no work done on it since the club purchased the building in the late 1980s. The renovations will enhance the club's ability to draw tenants with a good track record.

A major challenge for the club was the construction of the Il Casino apartment block next door in Tory Street, the works causing adverse impacts on our building. Much of the remedial work and keeping the site's project managers honest to pay for repairs has been addressed by the building manager who has been kept very busy, along with members of the building sub-committee.

The club is indebted to club solicitor Rex Da Vanzo for his professional guidance and support, advising the executive and the building committee which has included Vic Criscillo (chair), Robin Page and David Monastra. We are also indebted to club executive members who provided the working bee that demolished parts of the ground floor in preparation for the refurbishment.

We look forward to the new social committee developing events for the future. It certainly excelled in running a wonderful National Day function.

During the year the club lost three long-standing members. We particularly mourned the death of Armando Gilmoni who for years was club secretary, later trustee and bar manager, as well as playing the piano accordion at many festivals and other events. Regrettably just a few weeks after Armando's passing his wife, Elsa, also died. The third member was Janie Di Mattina who had served on the club executive and the social committee. A beautiful chandelier that now hangs in the entrance to the club was a special memento that Janie left to the club. May they and all deceased members of the club rest in peace.

The Melhop Trust award was given to a third year engineering student from Auckland, Theo A Thompson.

The club again hosted another round of the hugely popular Night at the Garibaldi entertainment events, organised by Rex. Regular events were the shared family lunches after the Mass in Italian at St Francis de Sales but the bus trip took a break and is rescheduled for early in 2015.

At the annual meeting we say farewell to retiring members – secretary Catherine Monastra, executive committee member Martin Van Der Donk and trustee Paul Elenio and thank them for their work. We also thank the rest of the executive, other club members who have provided a helping hand in so many different ways, including Melanie Federico, Giorgio Canderle and David Dacol.

We also acknowledge the continuing strong relationship between the club and Circolo Italiano, particularly with its president, Elizabeth Peek.

The club is only as strong as the number of willing voluntary workers prepared to give of their time and skills to keep the club in good health. The new executive will work hard to keep the honour and record of the club intact and to drive further improvements to enhance the club for its members.

**Club executive**  
**September 2014**