

# **Club Garibaldi News**

## OCTOBER 2012

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**Proverb:** No matter how long the winter, spring is sure to follow.

*Proverbio: Per quanto l'inverno sia lungo, la primavera arriva sempre.* 

It has been a long, cold and wet winter, however now that daylight saving has begun we can look forward to warmer weather and sunshine from now on.

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.

Ciao a presto Ginette Toscano Page

## THE CLUB BUILDING

The Wellington City Council has been making earthquake assessments of all buildings in the CBD, based on the more recent stringent Standards now required. Last week we received a yellow/orange Earthquake Prone Building Notice, which is now displayed in our foyer, and requires the strengthening of our building to be carried out within 20 years. The tenants and other users of the building have been informed. The higher risk buildings are identified with a red sticker. The Executive Committee is considering to establish a separate fund from the current increased rental income to undertake the strengthening work within that time frame.

## ARRIVEDERCI DONATO SCIOSCIOLI



After nearly four years as First Secretary/Deputy Head of Mission, Donato Scioscioli from the Embassy of Italy, recently left New Zealand to take up his new posting at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Rome. During his time in New Zealand Donato attended many club functions and events as the Embassy's representative. Donato was a loyal friend of Club Garibaldi, who was always very amiable, warm and interested in whatever we were doing. We will miss him! On behalf of club members, Ginette presented him with a small gift, and suggested that whenever he looks at our gift he would think of us with affection and his time in New Zealand! Club Garibaldi wishes Donato, his wife Veronica, and their beautiful daughter, Filomena, God speed and very best wishes for the future.

#### CONDOLENCES

Our deepest sympathy to the following members and their families:

Celia and John Barnao and family of Lower Hutt, on the recent passing of Celia's father, James Patrick (Jim) Moriarty, late of Island Bay, Wellington.





## ARRIVEDERCI – FRANCESCO AND ANNA SIMONETTI



Five years have passed since Francesco Simonetti, Attaché – Head of Admin Affairs at the Italian Embassy, his wife Anna, and son Pierfrancesco, first arrived in New Zealand. And now, the time has come to also say goodbye to this lovely family as Francesco takes up his new posting in Tehran. During their time here, Francesco, Anna and Pierfrancesco have endeared themselves to Club Garibaldi and have joined us at many club functions and events, often representing the Italian Embassy.

Francesco and Anna were always incredibly supportive of the club and for all that we stand for. We will also miss them! Club Garibaldi wish them God speed and very best wishes for the future.

## HAPPY 98<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY ANGELA PANETTIERI

Club Garibaldi's most senior, loved and respected member, Angela Panettieri, of Kilbirnie, recently celebrated her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday on 4 October. Tanti auguri di buon compleanno Lina, we all wish you Happy Birthday and many more happy, healthy years to come.

## **'NATURA' ART EXHIBITION — THANK YOU TO THE VOLUNTEERS**

Many thanks to the following people who each spent four hours each day, between 14 to 23 September, as volunteers at the Alessandro Bazan's 'Natura' Art Exhibition, held at the New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, Wellington, as representatives from the Italian community: Valerio Cinque, Franco Pol, Ginette Toscano Page, Caterina Costa, Nic Ballara and Luca Quaglia.



#### THE ROSARY STATUE

By Tony Muollo

On 29th April 1962 the statue of Our Lady of Fatima, which was made in Italy and donated by the Sharpe family of Island Bay, re-commenced moving weekly from home to home. This came about by members of the Legion of Mary taking on the task of transporting the statue every Sunday. One of the original members was Tony Muollo, and the parish priest at that time was Fr Darcy Reader.

2012 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of continuous prayer of the Rosary in Island Bay, a tradition which continues to this day. Needless to say, Italian families having the Rosary statue in their homes was very prominent. However, the whole parish embraced the statue which also included Kiwi, Irish, Polish, and Dutch communities as well as other families. In those early days Island Bay parish was run by Marist priests and every Sunday evening one of the priests would arrive at 7pm to pray the Rosary with the host family and their friends. Fr Reader composed Welcome and Departure prayers which are still prayed to this day.



The original statue, which was enclosed in a large box with a perspex front, was very large and required two people to carry it. At that time no one had transport so Bob Di Mattina would lend his vehicle to do the shifts, and on occasions, Roly Capper's vehicle was also used. The wooden and beautifully carved statue which is in use today was also made in Italy. In spite of being quite old, its light and cannot be damaged, so families with little children should not hesitate to have the statue in their homes.

#### Left: Tony Muollo with the Rosary Statue

Looking back on the lists of families' names during those early years, make impressive reading! You had to be quick to write your name on the list because as soon as it was posted in the church foyer it was quickly filled. During the first few years no family had the statue more than once. The following are some of the names of Italian families. Note that some names are repeated: this was because they were different families.

The Muollo family, Aprea, Mollo, Ruocco, Volpicelli, Persico, Mollo, Costa, Muollo, Toscano, Rando, Barnao, Elenio, Ruocco, Barnao, Serci, Tesoriero, Di Mattina, Basile, Famularo, Famularo, Amitrano, D'Esposito, Greco, Aprea, Saffioti, Barnao, Natoli, Cuccurullo, Tesoriero, Paino, Costa, Barnao, Della Barca, Meo, Della Barca, Barnao, Criscillo and Muollo. This pretty much covers most of the names, however as some lists have been lost, it is incomplete.

The numbers of people who went to homes to pray the Rosary was amazing, especially on the Sunday evening when a priest was present. I remember many of the homes I went to had trouble fitting everyone in the room! The statue always looked a vision as it was decked out with beautiful flowers and candles. One home in particular that I remember was the home of Antonietta and Antonino Basile. The Rosary was often followed by coffee and all sorts of Italian baking, which was very nice, but a trial for the host preparing it, so it was no wonder that in due course, the practice died down which was a shame: although it was very social this was not necessary.



Above: Nunziata Famularo – 1963

Sadly, things have changed in recent years. While a faithful few still have the statue regularly, it is no longer a problem to put your name on the list. As October is traditionally the month of the Holy Rosary, and the Year of Faith began on 11 October, hopefully more Italian names, as well as others, will appear on the list which is posted in St Francis De Sales' church foyer. These days the world certainly needs lots of prayer!

## **ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL**



By Ginette

As President of Club Garibaldi, I was invited by Cav. Tony Lambert, Director of the Italian Film Festival, to say a few words on behalf of the Club and the Italian community in Wellington to an audience of nearly two hundred invited guests at the recent Gala Opening Night screening. Written below is basically my speech.

Buona sera a tutti voi. A nome del Club Garibaldi e della communita italiana, benvenuto. Il mio nome e Ginette Toscano Page e sono il presidente del Club Garibaldi di Wellington. On behalf of Club Garibaldi and the Italian community in Wellington, good evening and welcome to the gala opening of the 17<sup>th</sup> Italian Film Festival.

As mentioned, my name is Ginette Toscano Page, and I am in my 8<sup>th</sup> year as president of Club Garibaldi. For those who do not know, Club Garibaldi was established 130 years ago and is the oldest Italian social/cultural club in the world – outside of Italy. We have much to be proud of. Our club has almost 400 members and originate from 34 different areas of Italy, although possibly most of them from southern areas. I look forward to this evening's film as I believe it relates to the 'friendly banter' between the North and South of Italy. Personally, I believe I have feet in both camps as my surname is Toscano, which means 'someone from Tuscany' - yet I can trace my paternal ancestry back 300 years – all of whom came from Southern Italy ...... so I guess one of my ancestors along the way, for whatever reason, migrated south!

I have encouraged and invited my members to take advantage over the next 18 days to see the splendid variety of films the festival has to offer. I'd also like to encourage you to spread the word to your family, friends and work colleagues to come and enjoy the best of Italian cinema. Choose the films which provide a window into the Italian culture from the perspective of people living there, whether through a romantic comedy or a documentary.

I would like to thank Tony Lambert and the Italian Film Festival partners on behalf of the Italian community for their long term support of this event. Buon divertimento! Let the film festival begin!

## ENGAGEMENT CONGRATULATIONS



The Executive Committee and members of Club Garibaldi wish to congratulate Carlo Petagna, younger son of Josephine Van der Donk and the late Michael Petagna of Island Bay, to Gina Gargiulo, daughter of Pasquale and Brigida Gargiulo of Nelson, on the recent announcement of their engagement.

## **CARTOLINA – ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMME**



#### 7 November 2012:

The Rocket Espresso has been defined as the world's sexiest coffee machine! It's at the top end of the home espresso machines, and the dream of many a coffee aficionados. We talk, on the phone from Milan, with Andrew Meo, a Wellingtonian now living in Italy, who bought the business years ago. We play Domenico Modugno's song '*O caffe*'.

#### 21 November 2012:

Italian journalist and language tutor Barbara Pezzotti, on the phone from Wellington, talks about her just published book: *The Importance of Place in Contemporary Italian Crime Fiction - A Bloody Journey*. We play Fred Buscaglione's song *Eri piccola cosi*', (You were this small), a story of gangster's love, betrayal and, as you'll hear, murder!

All programmes are available via Internet live or in podcast from <u>http://plainsfm.org.nz</u>. Cartolina producers Wilma Laryn and Denis Walker wish you all 'Buon ascolto!'.

## **CHILDREN'S ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES 2013**

Have you tried to learn another language as an adult? It can be a challenge!! Just as well children are very receptive and can absorb a new language much easier! I am thankful to the Garibaldi Club for providing my children with the opportunity to learn the Italian language and to help maintain the Italian culture within my family. If you would like your child to attend Italian language classes in 2013, please contact me, Carmela Massa. The classes are held on Tuesdays during the New Zealand primary school terms.

#### Carmela Massa

Children's Language Class Co-ordinator

#### FROM THE CLUB'S ARCHIVES

By Ginette Toscano Page

#### Italian fishermen washed ashore – Auckland Star – 9 December 1929

During the height of a storm in the early hours of last Wednesday, the 45 ft fishing launch 'Sicilia', with five men, all Italians aboard, was washed ashore in Titahi Bay. The crew struggled ashore like drowned rats and sought shelter at a boarding house. After they had knocked for some time, it is said, the door was opened and slammed in their faces. After further unsuccessful efforts to gain shelter they went across to the Post Office store, and there were given shelter and made comfortable. The 'Sicilia', which is owned by two Italians, is one of the biggest launches of the Island Bay fishing fleet. Efforts are to be made this week to re-float the launch.

## HUMOUR IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

Franco prepared a pasta dish for a dinner party he was giving. In his haste, he forgot to refrigerate the sugo (sauce) and so, it sat on the bench all day. He was worried about spoilage, but it was too late to cook up another batch, so he called the local Poison Control Centre and voiced his concern. They advised Franco to boil the sauce again. That night the telephone rang during dinner, and a guest volunteered to answer it. Franco's face dropped as the guest called out 'Hey Franco, it's the Poison Control Centre. They want to know how the sugo turned out!'.

## **PROFILE OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER – LILIANE BONAFEDE CACCIATO**



Hi there, I'm Liliane Bonafede-Cacciato. I was born of a Sicilian father and French mother but lived in South Africa for many, many years before coming to New Zealand in 2001. I am married to Dr Angelo Cacciato, who is a GP Owner at the Waikanae Health Centre in Kapiti. We have been married for nearly 5 years. I have two children – Nathalie (21) and Patrick who will be 16 in November. Nathalie is studying Psychology and Education at Victoria University, and Patrick is in Year 11 at St Patrick's College in Kilbirnie – he plans to study medicine once he completes his schooling. For the past 7 years I have been working at Compass Health. I worked part-time for nearly 6 years before receiving a promotion and now work full-time. With this position I need to travel as far as Palmerston North regularly. I really like my role at Compass Health but miss working part-time. I enjoy spending time with my family and love cooking like most Italian's do!

A BIT OF TRIVIA ANSA – Macerata. 11 September 2012

A fake blind man in the central Marche town of Caldarola allegedly robbed the State of 20,000 euros in benefits since 2009, police said. Police filmed the 53 year old man playing video-poker 'passionately', walking through the city unaccompanied, parking his car, fishing and window shopping. The man faces charges of aggravated fraud.



## **SHARED LUNCH**

The last shared lunch for this year will be held at the clubrooms on **Sunday**, **4 November 2012**, at 1.15pm. All members and families are very welcome. Please bring a plate.



## **BUS TRIP – FEBRUARY 2013**

To the members who are planning to go on the club's annual bus trip early next year, please pencil in the first week of February on your 2013 calendars. Destination to be advised at a later date.



## **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

This will be held on **Saturday, 8 December,** at the clubrooms, and will be from 11.30am until 2.00 pm. Once again, Father Christmas will be visiting ~ please ensure that your child/children have a wrapped gift with their name on it, for Santa's bag. The value of the gift should be no more than \$15 each. This function is for members' children only. Please confirm attendance by **Tuesday, 3 December,** to Maria Colucci.



## TOMBOLA

The next tombola night will be on **Tuesday, 23 October 2012**, at the usual time of 7.30pm. Please come along and feel free to bring a friend. Contact Maria Colucci if you have any questions.



## **ITALIAN MASS**

On the first Sunday of every month the Mass is celebrated in Italian at the Church of St Francis de Sales, 173 Clyde Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Mass starts at 11.30am. 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 Abp Charles Balvo or Mons Jean Sylvain Emien from the Apostolic Nunciature. The next Mass will be on **Sunday**, **4 November 2012**.



## **CHRISTMAS SENIOR LUNCHEON**

This year's Christmas senior luncheon date has been set for **1 December**, with the meal to be served between 12.15 and 12.30 pm. It would be appreciated if everybody were at the clubrooms and seated by around 11.45am. This invitation is extended to all members aged 60 years or over. If you are a couple, both people must be members. For those who plan to come, it is important you confirm your attendance by **Monday**, **26 November**. Please telephone Maria Colucci.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday, 23 October (7.30pm) Sunday, 4 November (11.30am) Sunday, 4 November (1.15pm) Saturday 1 December (11.45am) Saturday 8 December (11.30am – 2.30pm) First week February 2013 Tombola Italian Mass Shared Lunch Christmas Senior Luncheon Children's Christmas Party Annual Club Bus Trip



## **'NATURA' - CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION**



#### [Copy of] Press Release:

Italian Chamber of Commerce New Zealand, acknowledging Club Garibaldi's involvement and support.

Monday – 6 August 2012, 1.07pm

'Natura' - Contemporary Art Exhibition by Sicilian Artist, Alessandro Bazan, Opens In Wellington on 14 September 2012

An exhibition of contemporary art by renowned Sicilian artist, Alessandro Bazan will open at the Academy Gallery, New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, in Wellington on Friday, 14 September 2012. Liz Maxwell, President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce New Zealand Inc. says, "Alessandro Bazan has become one of Italy's best-known and contemporary artists, a modern Sicilian master, as well as a fascinating character. We are confident that his art will speak to New Zealanders and the Italian community in this country.

Each year, the Sicilian Region, looks to strengthen, through cultural events, the ties between Italy and the Italian communities on all continents and the many international visitors who have spent varying lengths of time in Italy. This year, the focus is on New Zealand through 'Sicilian Art in New Zealand', an exhibition of contemporary works by Alessandro Bazan.

The Bazan exhibition, part of the 150th Anniversary of the Unification of Italy Celebration, aims to raise awareness in New Zealand of the importance of the Sicilian cultural heritage, and encourage dialogue and strengthen relationships between Italy and New Zealand.

This initiative has been realised through the support of Regione Siciliana Assessorato Regionale per la famiglia le politiche, sociali e il lavoro – Dipartimento Lavoro Servizio II Emigrazione ed Immigrazione in collaboration with **Club Garibaldi, established in 1882, the oldest Italian Club in the Southern Hemisphere,** the Centre for International Research and Management in Palermo, Sicily, and the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New Zealand Inc.

"The Italian Chamber of Commerce New Zealand Inc is delighted to have been involved in ensuring this exhibition came to New Zealand and grateful to the support of the Sicilian authorities and **Club Garibaldi** for their support," Liz Maxwell said.



*From left: Donato Scioscioli, Avv. Andrea Benigno and artist Alessandro Bazan from Sicily and members of their families, with invited guests and some members of club's executive committee and partners.*