



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

# Club Garibaldi News

APRIL 2013

## THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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*The spirit of Easter is all about Hope, Love, Faith and Love.  
Buona Pasqua a tutti – Happy Easter to all!*

Club Garibaldi sincerely thank the contributors of the fantastic raffle prizes, especially Harvey World Travel, Miramar. The profit from the sale of the tickets was used to cover some of the costs for the Festa Italiana.

For those who are not aware, the Club receives many enquiries from people in New Zealand and Italy asking for assistance in tracing their family links. Sometimes we are able to help and at other times, not so. Featured in this month's newsletter under the caption "Hands across the oceans", is one such example. It is great that we have the newsletter that goes out to so many people who might be able to help.

Ciao a presto  
Ginette Toscano Page  
President

## SINCERE THANKS

Our sincere thanks to H.E. Alessandro Levi Sandri, Italian Ambassador to New Zealand, for his very generous personal gift to the members of Club Garibaldi. On behalf of the club's members, a letter of thanks and appreciation has been sent to His Excellency. May the good relationship between Club Garibaldi and the Italian Embassy long continue.

Copy of letter from the Ambassador:

*Wellington, 22 marzo 2013  
Cara Presidente,  
La trasmetto una piccola personale partecipazione alla vita del vostra Club Garibaldi.  
Un caro saluto affettuoso,*

*(Signed) Alessandro Levi Sandri*

## **FESTA ITALIANA**

What a day it was! Once again, we were blessed with a fine, sunny day! Club Garibaldi's 18<sup>th</sup> Festa Italiana gave us the opportunity to share our Italian heritage with all Wellingtonians – it was a huge success! Events such as this would not happen without the small, hard working, dedicated core of club members and helpers; this year was no exception. However, the four members who made up the Festa Organising Committee: Vic Criscillo, Robin Page, Paul Elenio and Catherine Monastra, were absolutely outstanding. As a team they worked tirelessly for months, planning/organising everything. In fact, the week leading up to the event, all our telephones and computers literally ran 'hot' day and night!

Many thanks to everyone, including those who are not club members, for their tremendous support in baking for the club's dolce stand. The dolce stand is always very popular and attracts a lot of regulars who know exactly which cake or biscotti they want! Our thanks to those members who spread the word to family and friends about the Festa. Many thanks also to the Italian Ambassador, H.E. Alessandro Levi Sandri, and Wellington's Mayor, Celia Wade Brown, who found time in their busy schedules to call into the Festa.

**Saturday morning helpers:** Catherine Monastra, Rex and Avril Da Vanzo, Marie Barnao Loughnan, Adriana and John Wholey, Vince Basile, Vince Costa, Vincenzo and Marco Costa, Ginette and Robin Page, Matt Amitrano, Lynda and Jim Marson, Peter Amitrano, Paul and Maria Elenio, Josephine van der Donk, Armando Gilmoni, David and Catherine Monastra and Maryanne Pointer.

**Cake stall:** Josephine van der Donk (team leader), Alfonso Basile, Lynda Marson, Maria Colucci, Linda De Gregorio, Anna Quinn, Juliana Quinn, Carmela Morrison, Maryrose Basile, Anna Maria Di Leva, Teresa Mollo, Josephine Volpicelli and Ida Basile.

**Cultural stall:** Maryanne Pointer (team leader) Giorgio Canderle, Caterina Cuccurullo, Tina Zino, Maria Elenio, Avril Da Vanzo, Merlyn Criscillo, Nina Cuccurullo (pre-festa organiser).

**Gate Entry helpers:** John Cao (team leader), Sean Keaney, Rosina van der Aa, Patrick Uriot, Jim Marson, Lib Mollo, John De Gregorio, Antonino De Gregorio.

**Emcee:** Paul Elenio.

**Tarantella Dancers:** Maria Elenio and Matt Amitrano for organising and training the girls – Grace and Rebekah Amitrano, Sophia and Charlotte Basile, Anna Cacace and Nicola Di Leva.

**Eftpos/Finance:** Joe and Maryrose Basile, Martin van der Donk, Josephine Volpicelli and Vince Costa.

**Children's Activities:** Catherine Monastra, Robyn Monastra, Nathalie Uriot, Lucia Roncaglia and daughter Bianca, Marie Barnao Loughnan, Jenny Powell.

**Opera Singers and other entertainment:** Rex Da Vanzo and Robin Page.

**Musica Italiana musicians:** Robin Page, Armando Gilmoni, Adam Costa, Simon Waddington, Mario Leonti and Alan Jenkins.

**Car Parking:** David Monastra and his great band of friends.

**Take-down and clean up:** Matt Amitrano, Vincenzo and Marco Costa, Patrick Uriot and Robin Page. Sound and music gear loaded onto truck, decorations removed, table and chairs stacked, vehicles loaded, rubbish removed and a final floor sweep: it was all over in no time! To Ginette Toscano Page, Josephine and Martin van der Donk, Josephine Volpicelli, Vic Criscillo and Simon Waddington for packing up and returning all the items/gear back to the club.

**Many thanks to:** Lora and Raoul Barghiacchi for the loan of their wonderful ancient Italian objects.

## MORE THANKS!

Club Garibaldi wish to sincerely thank the Mayor of Wellington, Celia Wade Brown, the Deputy Mayor, Ian McKinnon, and officers from the Wellington City Council, for their support, professional advice and willingness to assist in so many ways. Our grateful thanks also to the Wellington City Council for the financial grant which will help off-set our festa expenses – this was very much appreciated.

## FESTA RAFFLE RESULTS

The following results were published in The Dominion Post on Saturday, 30 March 2013.

First prize: Return flights for two to Rome: Stacey Glendinning, Johnsonville.

Second Prize: Bed & Breakfast for two at Intercontinental Hotel: Susan Superville, Newtown.

Third prize: Dinner for two at Fratelli's: David Monastra, Strathmore.

Copy of email received from 1<sup>st</sup> prize winner:

*Wellington, 1 April 2013*

*I am completely over the moon to have won this amazing prize! It doesn't seem real, because this sort of thing doesn't ever happen to me. I'm sure if my husband had been with me when I bought the raffle ticket, he would've talked me out of it, "because you won't win and it's a waste of money".*

*I am 30 years old and have always had a passion for travel, ever since my parents took me overseas at a very young age. My husband and I visited Italy for the first time in 2011 and have wanted to go back ever since! We went to the Festa in 2011, after returning from Italy and really enjoyed it then, so when a friend mentioned that they had seen the poster for it again this year, I made sure I could be there again! I heard talk about the raffle for a trip to Italy, while at the Festa and decided to investigate further and purchased my ticket only 20 minutes before the draw was due to take place. We were on our way out at this point, so I wasn't there for the draw, but was so surprised to receive Vic's phone call the next day to say that I had won the trip! We have been planning another trip to Europe, so having the flights taken care of has made that so much easier for us and we can't wait to experience more of bella Italia! Thank you so much!*

*(Signed) Stacey Glendinning*

## FESTA ITALIANA T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

Good quality cotton T-shirts, with round neck. Black or White, with the words 'Festa Italiana' in red on the front and the Club's logo on the left sleeve. Sizes available are Medium, Large & XL. Only 25 for sale at a cost of \$25 each. To Order: Phone or email Vic Criscillo.

Please give the following details; name, address and telephone number, colour and size of T-shirt required.

## CONDOLENCES



Our deepest sympathy to Teresa, Nina, Joe and Yolanda, Gino and Caterina Cuccurullo, all of Island Bay, and their families on the recent passing of their husband, father and grandfather, Antonio Cuccurullo.

## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to the following new members:

Marianne and David Pointer of Whitby, Porirua, Stephan Prock and Elizabeth Hudson of Crofton Downs, and Michael Monastra of Strathmore.

## WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS



*By Linda De Gregorio*

On the weekend of Saturday, 16 March 2013, about 80 Wellingtonians descended on Nelson to celebrate the wedding of Carlo Petagna and Gina Gargiulo. The weather held out nicely, the wine and food flowed beautifully at Seifried Estate Winery, there were lots of laughs and many enjoyable moments...and the bridal couple looked absolutely stunning!

Carlo is the second son of the late Michael Petagna and Josephine Van der Donk of Island Bay, and is part-owner of Fratelli Restaurant. Gina, who has lived in Wellington for the past 7 years and works at the ANZ Bank, is the second daughter of Pasquale and Brigida Gargiulo of Nelson. After many, long months of organising such a great day, the couple honeymooned for a week in Rarotonga, and are now back home in Wellington.

Congratulations to Carlo and Gina on their commitment to one another – Club Garibaldi wishes you both a life of good health and happiness.

## FAMILY NIGHT



A Family Night is planned for **Friday, 3 May**, at 6.30 pm. Once again, this will be along the same lines as previous Family Nights. There will be great raffles and the bar will be open too! For catering purposes please call Alfonso Basile to advise how many members of your family will be attending, no later than **Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May**. Please note that no bookings will be accepted after this date, and that it will be on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Cost: Adults and children  
12 years and over – \$8.00 each  
5 to 11 years \$4.00 each  
4 years and under – free

Come join us! Bring your nonni (grandparents), parents and children, and enjoy a very relaxed family evening together.

## HUMOUR IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

Knock knock  
Who's there  
Venice  
Venice who?  
Venice your mother coming home?

## FROM THE CLUB'S ARCHIVES

*By Ginette Toscano Page*

### **AID BY LOCAL ITALIANS**

***Evening Post – 18 August 1914***

In forwarding a sum of 20 pounds in aid of a Red Cross or nursing fund for the Expeditionary Force, Mr U Basso, secretary of the Garibaldi Club, states that the sum is a first instalment from members of the club and other Italian residents of New Zealand. He adds: 'I am circulating lists among the Italians residing in New Zealand, and within a few days hope to remit a further sum. We believe the establishment of a fund for this object will meet with the approval irrespective of nationality, and should receive the utmost support'.

## A BIT OF TRIVIA

***ANSA – Bologna, 12 March 2013***

***Man snips hair on bus, confesses 'burning desire'. Police cite fetishist who cut locks from female bus passengers.***

A 40-year-old man cited by Bologna police on Tuesday after being caught with hair he had cut from unsuspecting young women's heads on public transportation said he was driven by "a burning desire". The man raised the suspicion of a police unit patrolling for pick-pockets when he was seen getting off and on a bus repeatedly in the area of a cosmetics convention in the city's trade centre. When stopped and searched by police, he was found with hairdresser's scissors and locks he had snipped from several female passengers. The fetishist faces charges of violence and illegal possession of scissors.

## HANDS ACROSS THE OCEANS



*By Dianne Scott*

For the past five years I have been trying to find a link to the Italian family of my maternal grandfather, Antonino Ercolano, who left Massa Lubrense in Italy in 1905. He eventually ended up settling in Nelson.

This has been a difficult journey for me as I do not speak Italian. After lots of emails to hopeful Facebook links and writing to addresses and sending money for certificates which never arrived, I finally came up with the idea of contacting the Nelson and Wellington Italian clubs to see if anyone knew of my grandfather.

As luck would have it, I was contacted by Nina Cuccurullo who advised me that my grandfather's, sister's, daughter-in-law lived next door to her. After several calls it was arranged that I could go down to Wellington from Hamilton and spend a weekend with Dolores Di Leva. I have to say that it was like going home.

My grandfather had visited Dolores and her husband several times. Dolores was able to give me the names of grandad's siblings. Dolores and her daughter Marisa organised calls home to Italy and found the daughter of one of Grandad's sisters. What a find, her husband had worked at the local municipal office and he searched out for me, my grandfather's siblings and their dates of birth. He also located their gravesites and gave me their dates of death. It just goes to show that it is never too late to start tracing your family history.

So thank you to Club Garibaldi, Nina Cuccurullo and Dolores Di Leva for your support. You have no idea what this means to me.

## CHECK OUT THIS MOVIE LINK

Mirina (Leonti) Stone is the daughter of club members Mariano and Patricia Leonti of Waikanae.

Now living in Seattle with her husband, Mirina's first feature film was shot on a micro-budget with crowd funding support in Australia and is currently in post-production. BUNYIP is an action suspense film with rock climbing stunts and an action heroine trying to save her work mates from the jaws of an unknown predator. Their recently released trailer is gaining the attention of horror fan sites around the world and the filmmakers are looking for post-production partners and investment to finish the film. For more information about the film and to view to trailer visit: <http://www.thebunyipmovie.com>

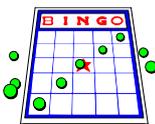
## ITALIAN MASS



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. 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 Mons Jean Sylvain Emien from the Apostolic Nunciature.

The next Mass will be on **Sunday, 5 May 2013.**

## TOMBOLA



The next tombola night for will be held on **Tuesday, 28 May**, at the usual time of 7.30pm. Please come along and feel free to bring a friend. If you have any questions please contact Maria.

## CARTOLINA – ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMME



**8 May and 22 May:** Father and daughter Davide and Chiara-Flora Bassignana, on the phone from Italy, introduce the much loved Italian singer-song writer Fabrizio De Andre. In these two programmes they present his life, and his research in the Italian dialect repertoire. We play De Andre's most famous and less famous songs.

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

## NO SHARED LUNCH ON 5 MAY

Please note: Once again, due to circumstances out of our control, there will be no shared lunch in May. The next lunch will be held on Sunday, 7 July, following Italian Mass at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay.

## CIRCOLO ITALIANO – MAY SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on **Thursday, 2 May**, Ian and Sandra Linning will give us a presentation titled: **Capturing your Italy**. Ian is a professional photographer and he will discuss some of the challenges photographing in Italy and provide tips on how to use your camera more effectively to bring back the images, which become your cherished memories. Sandra and Ian will then show some of their most cherished images from three visits to Italy and offer travel tips from firsthand experiences. Questions welcome!! *If you are having difficulty achieving the results you want from your camera, Ian will be able to advise how you can improve your photos. Please bring along some sample photos to demonstrate the problems you are experiencing.* A \$5.00 charge towards supper will apply.

## CIRCOLO ITALIANO – JUNE SOCIAL

At 7.30pm on **Thursday, 13 June** (**Note** – the change of date from our usual first Thursday of the month arrangement) Mary Nixon will give us a presentation. Mary was the recipient of the 2011 Circolo/Charles Bell Memorial Scholarship and in 2012 she attended the Madrelingua School of Languages, Bologna, for a month. Mary will talk to us about the school and also give us some information about her holiday in Italy. More details in the May Newsletter.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Thursday, 2 May (7.30pm)

Circolo Italiano May Social

Sunday, 5 May (11.30am)

Italian Mass

Tuesday, 28 May (7.30pm)

Tombola

Thursday, 13 June (7.30pm)

Circolo Italiano June Social

## FESTA ITALIANA 2013



*From left: Vic Criscillo, Maryanne Pointer, Avril Da Vanzo, Merlyn Criscillo, Ginette Toscano Page, Amb Alessandro Levi Sandri, Paul Elenio, Rex Da Vanzo*

## FESTA ITALIANA 2013



*Liliane and Angelo Cacciato*



*Robyn and Catherine Monastra*



*Caterina Cuccurullo and Maria Elenio*



*Rachel Priestley*



*From left: Tarantella  
Dancers: Rebekah  
Amitrano, Charlotte  
Basile, Grace Amitrano,  
Nicola Di Leva, Sophia  
Basile, Anna Cacace*

# FESTA ITALIANA 2013



*Some of the Bongusto and Fratelli crew*



*Musica Italiano: Left: Alan Jenkins, Simon Waddington, Armando Gilmoni, Mario Leonti, Adam Costa, Robin Page*



*A typical Tuscan meal*



*All Te Papa's staff members: Janet Purdey, Marketing Manager, Anna Sheffield, Sylvia Gilbert Potts, and Susan Superville, Community Relations Manager.*



*Italian Villa Holidays Stand*



*Enjoying the entertainment*