



ESTABLISHED IN 1882

Club Garibaldi News

MARCH 2013

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



As this newsletter arrives in your letterbox it will only be a few days until our Festa Italiana – our 18th Italian festival. Members of the Organising Group and the Executive Committee have been working very hard for months to ensure that once again, it will be a huge success. Come and share your rich heritage with all Wellingtonians at this special event.

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page

FESTA ITALIANA

Our annual festa is the one day of the year when we promote everything that we are proud of in our Italian heritage. The organising committee has organised a great line-up of stall holders selling food and drink and promoting travel to Italy, there is a wonderful programme of entertainment, a special display to celebrate the region of Tuscany and it promises to be another memorable day. A lot of effort is going into promoting the day through newspaper advertising, publicity in magazines, radio and newspapers, on Facebook and the most eye-catching of all, using the big advertising billboard on the side of the club's building in Vivian Street (see photo below). However, the best promotion is through word of mouth. Please suggest to family, friends, neighbours and workmates that they can spend an enjoyable day lapping up the Italian lifestyle and culture by visiting the festa which is on at St Patrick's College, Kilbirnie, on Sunday, March 24, from 11am to 4pm. Come along and support the club and the festa!

We are still keen to have members volunteer to help with the festa. If you can help us put up signs, blow up balloons, organise a display and many other things please be at the college assembly hall by 9am to 12 noon, on Saturday, March 23, the day before the festa. Remember...many hands make light work! We could also do with help on the festa day – manning the club's stalls, collecting the \$2 admission fee and other tasks. Please contact Robin or Ginette: Email: rpage@xtra.co.nz or Telephone: 3836 300.

A reminder to those baking a cake or biscuits – torte oppure biscotti, for the club's dolci stall. Simply bring them with you on the day, and hand them to the volunteers on the cake stall. Please use disposable containers to save returning these later. See you at the festa!



Billboard on the outside of clubrooms wall, above the car park.

CLUB RAFFLE – RETURN OF BOOKS

A **final and urgent** reminder that the trip to Italy raffle will be drawn at the Festa Italiana. All members who have un-sold raffle books **must return them now** to Catherine Monastra, Club Secretary, PO Box 6451, Wellington 6141, as we will be able to sell these at the festa. Anyone who has sold tickets please return the butts and money to the club, otherwise those tickets will not be in the draw.

SHARED LUNCH

Please note: Due to circumstances out of our control, the shared lunch scheduled for Sunday, 7 April 2013, has been **cancelled**. Please refer to the Clubrooms Closure article.

CLUBROOMS CLOSURE

The Executive Committee regrets to advise that the clubrooms will be **CLOSED** to members on Sundays from 24 March to 28 April inclusive. We have been forced to do this because the development of Il Casino Apartments has impacted on our building which has resulted in essential remedial work. This remedial work can only be done at weekends and will produce an immense amount of intolerable noise, dust, fumes and possibly shaking the building. We know that members will find this too disruptive to their usual games of bowls and cards. There will be **NO** Shared lunch on Sunday, 7 April.

FROM THE CLUB'S ARCHIVES

By Ginette Toscano Page

Action at Island Bay – police act at once – a number interned Evening Post – 12 June 1940

The largest colonies of Italians about Wellington are at Island Bay and Rona Bay, where they largely monopolise the fishing industry, and at Taita, where they have some part in market gardening, but many of these Italians are either many years resident in New Zealand and long naturalised or are New Zealand born, though, at Island Bay particularly, a good many stick to their own language and live largely to themselves.

The Island Bay Italian colony numbers about 300, operating most of the thirty larger launches and a fair sprinkling of the suburban shops. The police knew yesterday for whom to look, but most of the launches had put out before the entry of Italy into the war was known. The Government examination ship 'Janie Seddon' left her post at the Heads and made a round of the launches on the grounds or making them, and ordered them back to the Bay. Police cars were waiting for the men known to be anti-British or wanted at police headquarters for questioning.

The police do not say how many were brought in to Wellington, but 'The Post' was told today that four men did not return to their homes in the evening, and another statement made today was that a considerable number were taken to Somes Island this morning, not necessarily all from Wellington or the Wellington district. No doubt figures will be made known later. At any rate the [police were off the mark at once and made as complete a round-up as regulations, common sense, and a fair balance between caution and justice dictated.

This morning the Rona Bay Italian fishermen, many of whom have been long resident there, mostly took the day off fishing and came to Wellington to fulfil registration requirements. It is unfortunate for those Italians who have no sympathy with the spirit that has been created by Mussolini in the country that once was theirs and their parents' that public disgust will extend to them also, and Italian shopkeepers in particular had a thin time yesterday, but there have been no senseless demonstrations and window smashings in Wellington, nor are any likely.

ARRIVEDERCI ABP. CHARLES BALVO



It was only two months ago that we congratulated Abp. Charles on his recent promotion to 'Dean of the Diplomatic Corps' and now alas, it is time to bid him farewell after nearly 8 years as Apostolic Nuncio in New Zealand to take up his new posting in Kenya. On his arrival in Wellington Abp. Charles extended his hand in friendship to us and since then, he has been a great friend and supporter of Club Garibaldi. He had a great sense of fun, was always very amiable and interested in whatever we were doing – he also attended many club functions and events when his schedule permitted. We will miss him!

On behalf of club members, Ginette presented him with a small gift, and suggested that whenever he looked at our gift he would think of us with affection and his time in New Zealand! The members of Club Garibaldi wish Abp. Charles, God speed and very best wishes for the future.

A HEART WARMING ITEM OF INTEREST

ANSA – Brindisi, 13 February 2013

Dog who honoured his deceased owner dies near Brindisi

(Remember this dog in the January newsletter?)



Messages on the social network Facebook are pouring out condolences for a dog in the southern town of San Donaci, near Brindisi, that moved people around the world for his dedication to his dead owner. Tommy, a 12-year-old German Shepherd-mix that attended the same church services that once drew his mistress, died on Wednesday. Priests at the local parish welcomed the dog who was a regular at every baptism, wedding or funeral, rain or shine, at the church of Santa Maria degli Angeli. A message from Peru read, "I cried at the news".

Tommy was a friend of mankind, gave us a reason to believe in life and the beautiful things that it gives us". The daughter of Tommy's deceased owner Maria Lochi, thanked friends of the dog on Facebook. "I am sure that Maria would be delighted to see so many people around us! In her life she fought with her heart and soul to ensure that all abandoned dogs like Tommy had happy moments. Now I ask you, please, to continue her fight," she wrote.

HUMOUR IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

Knock knock!
Who's there?
Pasta!
Pasta who?
Pasta salt please!

CARTOLINA – ITALIAN RADIO PROGRAMME



27 March: Wine critic and sound artist Jo Burzynska tells of her two projects: the first one, made using noises recorded during the Christchurch February Earthquake in 2011. The second one, realized using noises recorded at a winery in Italy. These were then presented at a festival in Campania. We play extracts from both Bodywaves and Oenosthesia.

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!'.

ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC

One hundred and fifty adults and children enjoyed a great day together at the club's picnic on Sunday, 24 February, at the changed venue – Bishop's Park, Eastbourne. As the day progressed from an overcast morning, we were once again, blessed with a pleasantly warm day with a light breeze. Everyone enjoyed the mountain of steak and sausages barbequed by the three chefs of the day - Alf Basile, Matt Amitrano and Paul Elenio and their assistant, Lib Mollo, who helped to serve the food. Many thanks guys, you did a tremendous job, making sure the crowds were well fed! When everyone had finished their lunch - trays of fresh, sweet, sliced watermelon and rockmelon was passed around. The meat, sausages, bread, tomato sauce and melons were supplied by the club.

As always, the games were popular and a lot of fun! There was lots of laughter watching the toddlers and older children trying hard to smash open the flip-flop sandal, lolly filled 'piñata' which was hanging from a tree branch, with a long stick, then scrambling on the grass to pick them up! We had running races for all ages as well as tugs of war for all age groups, sack races and egg and spoon races! Picnic day is always enjoyable as it gives members and their families the chance to mix and mingle. The atmosphere was very relaxed and it was really wonderful to see so many young families there – just under 50 children and teenagers!

Sincere thanks to Alfonso Basile who purchased the meat and melons on the club's behalf, Maria Colucci for organising the housekeeping side of the picnic, Matt Amitrano and Alfonso for organising the barbeques, Robin Page for the sound system and a dozen or so other tasks, to Paul Elenio who once again, did a fine job as Emcee at races time, Anna Quinn for organising the meat tray raffles and to all the members who helped to make the picnic a great day.



ANNUAL CLUB PICNIC



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

On a very hot, Wellington summer's day, 24 February, club members Pip Loughnan, daughter of Marie Barnao Loughnan, and John McCormick were married on Somes/Matiu Island, in Wellington Harbour. The bridal couple and guests all arrived on the island by ferry, and as Pip said, she and John were ably assisted by their four children – Jack, Maddie, Sally and Lily. Following the ceremony a wonderful reception at the Days Bay Pavilion was enjoyed by the 1200 guests. Congratulations Pip and John, Club Garibaldi wish you both a lifetime of love and happiness.



Above: Pip and her mother, Marie Barnao Loughnan.



Left: John and Pip with their children.

TOMBOLA



The next tombola night for will be held on **Tuesday, 26 March**, at the usual time of 7.30pm. Please come along and feel free to bring a friend. Contact Maria – Tel: 383 8476, 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. 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, Tel: 934 7814. The Mass is celebrated by Mons Jean Sylvain Emien from the Apostolic Nunciature.

The next Mass will be on **Sunday, 7 April 2013**.

CIRCOLO ITALIANO – APRIL SOCIAL

At **7.30pm on Thursday 4 April**, Wendy Bradford will give us a presentation. Wendy has been member of the Circolo for ten years and she was the recipient of our 2012 Charles Bell Memorial Scholarship. In 2012 Wendy lived in Italy for 6 months and she will give us details of many interesting experiences. These will include: studying at the Instituto Dante Alighieri, Roma for 3 months and travelling to other towns and cities in Italy. Wendy's Power Point presentation will contain some stunning photos and we can promise you will enjoy a lovely relaxing evening !! A \$5.00 cover charge towards supper will apply.

ANNUAL BUS TRIP 2013 – DESTINATION: NAPIER

By Martin & Josephine van der Donk

The bus left Island Bay at 7.15am on Monday, 4 February, with a nice buzz of expectation for a good few days holiday in Napier. Stops were made along the way at Paraparaumu and Otaki to pick up a few more people making a total of 29 altogether. We were pleasantly surprised to find out that our driver Kevin, was also of Italian descent, through his mother being a cousin of Lucy Esposito & Eleanor Mitchell.

We travelled straight through to Woodville arriving mid-morning where we had a morning tea stop at a nice cafe. Leaving there, we trundled on to Napier arriving around 1.30pm for lunch at the Pier Cafe. We were treated to a leisurely smorgasbord lunch, which we all enjoyed. From there it was on to the Marineland Motel at Westshore, which was to be our home for the next few days. The rest of the afternoon and evening was left to our own devices. As it was such a hot day, some chose to swim in the indoor pool, others went swimming at the beach while some just relaxed in their rooms.

Day 2:

We awoke to a cold and wet Tuesday morning with a blustery southerly blowing. After enjoying a cooked breakfast altogether at the motel restaurant we were ready for the day's activities. We departed at about 10.00am and headed south of Napier to Havelock North to visit the Arataki Honey factory. We were able to taste the various types of honey available, browse through the shop and purchase any of the products. From there we made an unplanned stop at the Te Mata Fig farm, which was noticed while we were driving through the countryside. However, much to our disappointment there were no fresh figs available for another three weeks, so many of us, after tasting, purchased dried fig products "Yum, very nice!"

Our next stop was The Silky Oak Chocolate factory, where we were given an overview on how the chocolates were made and given samples to taste. Lunch was had at the cafe on site. As the afternoon was quite cold, some chose to return to the motel for an afternoon rest, while others were dropped off in town for some local shopping. At 7.00pm that evening we were treated to a lovely 3 course meal at an Italian restaurant in down town Napier, where we were also entertained by an elderly Italian singer by the name of "Mr G". We had a wonderful sing-a-long, which was also very much appreciated by the proprietor and his family. After a nice night together, we went home feeling happy and tired having enjoyed a great day.

Day 3:

The day dawned clearer, but still cool - after another cooked breakfast, we headed off down the road to visit a sheepskin factory. We were taken on a tour through the factory, which was very interesting, and then able to buy their products afterwards. As we had a bit of spare time before our next activity, we were taken by Kevin on a scenic drive out to Clifton, a place where the tours begin to Cape Kidnappers and the gannet colony. From there we travelled to Pernel Fruit Orchard in Hastings, where we were taken by tractor and trailer through the various fruit sections. A commentary was given while being driven through the orchard on the different types of fruit grown by them (very interesting and well worth doing). A cafe was available for lunch and also a shop selling fresh fruit and ice-cream made with real fruit – very tasty! It was then back to the motel for a bit of free time, before all gathering at the motel's restaurant for our final dinner together. Once again, we were entertained by our singer "Mr G" (Salvi Gaeta) for another wonderful sing-a-long. The day ended on another happy note.

Day 4:

After our last breakfast together, we packed our bags and settled ourselves on the bus for our return trip home with everyone in a happy and friendly mood. The previous three days had brought us closer together and we all felt a bit like family. It was our intention to drive to Palmerston North for lunch and then straight home to Wellington, but little did we know how this day was to turn out! Once again, for the fourth time in as many years, our bus broke down and we needed to have a replacement. Fortunately, and to our good luck, it broke down outside Junction Winery just north of Dannevirke. The owners, being ex All Black John Ashworth and his wife Jo, came to our rescue by taking us from the bus to the winery, while we waited for another bus to come. They were wonderful hosts making us feel very welcome and we were able to taste some of their lovely wines, which some of us later purchased. John gave us a commentary on their wines and also relayed stories about his days of being an All Black – very interesting. We could quite easily have stayed there all afternoon as it was such a lovely, peaceful place.

The new bus duly arrived, we clambered aboard and were farewelled by our lovely new friends, John and Jo. From there we travelled to Woodville where we stopped for a very late lunch before finally heading home to Wellington.

This was another very successful and wonderful trip. Our very special thanks to Salvi and Jo Gaeta for all their time and effort in organising this holiday – it's a big undertaking – well done! Also, big thanks to Maria Colucci for her assistance, and in making sure that everyone was well looked after – great job! On behalf of everyone that went on the trip, we would like to thank Club Garibaldi for their generous financial support towards this trip – much appreciated. We look forward to next year's trip.



Long Table



The Happy Travellers

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sunday, 24 March 2013

Tuesday, 26 March (7.30pm)

Thursday, 4 April (7.30pm)

Sunday, 7 April (11.30am)

Festa Italiana

Tombola

Circolo Italiano Social

Italian Mass