



Club Garibaldi News

DECEMBER 2012

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Another year has gone by! Following a few more sleeps, we will be celebrating Christmas. Enjoy the time you have with your family and friends, and be sure to relax and appreciate the spirit of the season. Time passes so quickly, and it's important to be able to enjoy the present as it happens. My sincere thanks to the executive committee members for helping to make this year another stellar one! It is great to work with such a dedicated, supportive and hardworking team. I'd like to also take this opportunity to thank all club members for the encouragement and support given over this past year – please continue to do so.

As this newsletter is the last one before Christmas, on behalf of the executive I wish you and your loved ones tanti auguri di Buon Natale. Che sia un Natale benedetto, pieno di amore, di pace e buona volontà.

Ciao a presto
Ginette Toscano Page



A GESU' BAMBINO

La notte è scesa
e brilla la cometa
che ha segnato il cammino.
Sono davanti a Te, Santo Bambino!
Tu, Re dell'universo,
ci hai insegnato
che tutte le creature sono uguali,
che le distingue solo la bontà,
tesoro immenso,

dato al povero e al ricco.
Gesù, fa' ch'io sia buono,
che in cuore non abbia che dolcezza.
Fa' che il tuo dono
s'accresca in me ogni giorno
e intorno lo diffonda,

Scritto da: Umberto Saba

CLUB GARIBALDI CONGRATULATE ABP CHARLES BALVO



The executive committee and members of Club Garibaldi congratulate Abp Charles on his recent promotion to 'Dean of the Diplomatic Corps'.

On Saturday, 1 December, together with H.E. the Ambassador of Italy, Mr Alessandro Levi Sandri, and the First Secretary of the Apostolic Nunciature, Msgr Jean-Sylvain Emien, I had the honour and privilege to take part in the annual Christmas Senior Luncheon at Club Garibaldi. In my remarks to the guests, I noted that I too, have become a senior, that is, the senior most of the Heads of Diplomatic Mission (Ambassadors and High Commissioners) resident in Wellington, with the title of Dean of the Diplomatic Corps. The "senior" refers not to age, but to length of service. I began my service on 30 August 2005, when I presented my Letters of Credence from Pope Benedict XVI to the Governor-General of New Zealand, then Dame Sylvia Cartwright. The next in seniority, after me, is the High Commissioner of Papua-New Guinea, who began his mission in September 2009.

The function of Dean adds new responsibilities to my role as Apostolic Nuncio. When new Ambassadors arrive, they make a courtesy visit to me and when they depart, I have the duty to organise the farewell reception, to make the speech in their honour and to present them with the customary gift, which is usually an engraved silver tray.

I represent the Diplomatic Corps at certain functions, such as the Remembrance Day service held on 11 November at the War Memorial. On other occasions, such as ANZAC Day, when all the Heads of Diplomatic Mission are present at the ceremony, I am given the first position. I also have the duty of chairing any meeting of the Diplomatic Corps and I am the main contact person between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the Diplomatic Corps.

This is a function which I will exercise for as long as I remain in New Zealand and I see it as a further service that I can provide to my colleagues and friends in the Diplomatic Corps and, in some way, to the community at large.

Archbishop Charles Balvo
Apostolic Nuncio
Dean of the Diplomatic Corps

'A NIGHT AT THE GARIBALDI'— TRE-BELLE BENEFIT

Both performances featuring the pop-opera group, Tre-Belle, on 12th and 13th April 2013 are now sold out. Waiting list enquiries to Rex Da Vanzo.



WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

Veronica Green, artist daughter of club members, Ralph and Letizia Columbano Green, has recently been working in Switzerland. Check out the following website and enjoy her wonderful work!
www.egogallery.ch/lera-delle-stelle

HUMOUR IS GOOD FOR THE SOUL

Guido tells his mama that he's in love. Just for fun, he brings home three young women and asks his mother which of the three he has chosen to be his bride. After his mother interviews all three, she says "Eh, Guido, your fidanzata is-a the one in-a the middle". Shocked, Guido replies "Ma, that's amazing! How did you know?" Mama replied "Cos I-no like 'er!"

FOUND – EARRING AT SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Oval shaped, older type setting, silver earring with a secure clip. Blue gem in the centre, surrounded by clear stones. If it is yours please contact Ginette.

A BIT OF TRIVIA

ANSA – Bologna. 15 November 2012. Chocolate coin breaks Guinness record in Bologna

Chocolatiers created a record breaking chocolate coin at the Cioccoshow 2012 chocolate fair in Bologna on Thursday to coincide with the Guinness World Records Day 2012. The edible euro, 'coined' on a scale of 1:85, weighed 640kg and had a diameter of a little under two metres and a height of 17cm, earning it the Guinness world record for the largest chocolate coin. The coin was the work of Renato Zoia of the association ChocchinBo', Angelo Soderò, Luigi Derniolo and Domenico Falcone. 80% of the chocolate used in the creation came from the Dominican Republic and 20% from Peru.

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, 6 January 2013.**

BRAND NEW DINGHY FOR SALE



Brand new 3.7M marine-ply dinghy with oars, rollers, on road trailer with winch, new registration and warrant of fitness. A great two man boat. Built for Cook Strait conditions. Any enquiries please contact Giuseppe. The dinghy was built by club member, Giuseppe Greco.

FROM THE CLUB'S ARCHIVES

By Ginette Toscano Page

Fresh fish for all - Evening Post – 29 November 1917

There were large shoals of groper, terakihi and other fish in Cook Strait yesterday. A gathering was arranged by the Italians of Island Bay, who adopted a resolution that the assembly should come ashore to help the Christmas Gift Fund for Wellington soldiers in the trenches. The fish were safely accommodated in cold store. It is estimated that this gift from the Italians of Island Bay is about five (5) tons, and the catch of the Rona Bay Italians has to be added. Therefore every household of Wellington should have a good opportunity to buy fresh fish cheaply tomorrow.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Sunday, 6 January (11.30am)

First week February 2013

Italian Mass

Annual Club Bus Trip

CHILDREN'S ITALIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES END OF YEAR FUNCTION

By Carmela Massa



On Tuesday, 27 November, the children of the Italian language classes had their end-of-year certificate presentations and party. Four groups of children took parents and nonni to share with them, an interactive presentation. The children had blank maps of Italy with the regions marked and the parents/nonni had to tag each region with the right label. It was an interesting and fun exercise where both the adults and children learned the names of each region in Italy! The children also showed the adults how much they have learned this year by matching pictures to words correctly.

Signora Rina Merlino Cardiello from the Italian Embassy presented the children with their certificates. A lovely party followed which was enjoyed with food generously provided by the families.

Thank you to Signora Merlino Cardiello, Ginette Toscano Page and Cav. Elizabeth Peek, President of Circolo Italiano, for attending the evening; also a big thank you to Eloisa Ascoli, class teacher, for all her hard work during the year. All the children are returning next year so I look forward to seeing them all refreshed in February.

If you would like your child to attend classes in 2013 or require any information, please contact Carmela Massa.

SENIOR MEMBERS' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

By Ginette Toscano Page

On Saturday, 30 November, the club held its very successful 13th annual senior members' Christmas luncheon. The Italian Ambassador, H.E. Alessandro Levi Sandri, Archbishop Charles Balvo, Mons Jean Sylvain Emien, and club member and President of the Circolo Italiano, Cav Elizabeth Peek, joined the happy crowd.

The function began with grace said by Ida Basile, then everyone tucked into a sumptuous meal made by Alfonso Basile, which was served individually to each guest and washed down with an endless supply of wine, juice and chilled water. This year's menu was: Frutto del mare, Cannelloni di Massa Lubrense, and Chicken supreme placed on top of vegetable caponata with rocket sauce d'arte. The meal was followed by a short speech from the club's President, Ginette Toscano Page, Ambassador Alessandro and Archbishop Charles. After the formalities, dessert was served – Limoncello tart topped with berry compote.

Special thanks and appreciation to the following people: Move over Jamie Oliver, and make way for chef extraordinaire, Alfonso Basile for making the delicious food! And those outstanding members of the executive committee and their spouses for their assistance in helping make this occasion special.

Thursday: Robin Page did a liquor stock take, before purchasing numerous litres of wine, juice, and soft drinks which he stored in the bar cupboards and cooler display ready for serving, while Ginette organised the housekeeping side of things.

Friday night set up: Matt and Rebecca Amitrano, Lynda Marson, Liliane Bonafede Cacciato and Patrick, Josephine Van der Donk, Paul Elenio, and Ginette and Robin Page.

Saturday: Alfonso Basile and his daughters Sophia and Charlotte, Matt Amitrano and his daughters Grace and Rebekah, Paul Elenio, Ginette and Robin Page, Josephine Van der Donk, Lynda and Jim Marson, and Joe and Maryrose Basile.

Many thanks also to Caterina Costa for playing a bracket of old, well-loved and favourite Italian songs on the piano while the guests sang their hearts out!

SENIOR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2012



GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Vincenzo Basile immigrated to New Zealand in 1949 with his mother Flora and brother Frank to join his father Alfonso, who had immigrated from Italy a number of years earlier. As a boy, he grew up in the small fishing village of Massa Lubrense so it was no surprise that when he arrived in New Zealand he used the skills he had learned back home to become a fisherman in Island Bay for the next 40 years.

After 13 years in Island Bay, and now with another brother and sister, Giuseppe and Maria, in the family, Vincenzo decided to go back to Italy where he met his beautiful bride to be, Ida De Gregorio, also from Massa Lubrense. Within a very short time they were married in the Chiesa di Salvatore in Schiazzano, and both returned to NZ to start a long and happy life together. In 1963 as a seventeen year old young woman, Ida left behind her culture, ageing parents, one brother, five sisters and close friends to immigrate to a country half way around the world to start a future with Vincenzo. They have been blessed with four children – Alfonso, Johnny, Anna and Luigi, and eight grandchildren.

Vincenzo and Ida have been loyal and life long members of Club Garibaldi and are well respected and loved by their family and friends.

On Sunday, 11 November, their family and a few close friends celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Congratulations Vince and Ida, on reaching this great milestone. Club Garibaldi members wish you both many more happy, healthy years together.



CHILDREN'S XMAS PARTY

By Ginette Toscano Page

The last official club function for 2012 was the children's Christmas party held on Saturday, 8 December. Once again, the clubrooms boomed with the noise and excitement of young children. As noisy as it can be, this event is most gratifying, as these young Garibaldini are the future of our Club.

Lunch was the usual children's fare: pizza, hot dogs and chips, washed down with juice and lemonade, and followed by jelly and ice cream. Fresh fruit platters were also offered to the children, parents and nonni who were there. The air castle was a big 'hit' with the children who were all clambering to jump on it at the same time! They also had an opportunity to decorate their own face masks under the guidance of Catherine Monastra, who had set out the paints, stickers, glue and glitter for the children to use, and to also give a helping hand.

As always, the arrival of Babbo Natale, Father Christmas, carrying two bags full of presents, raised the noise level and excitement of the children! After they were seated in front of Father Christmas, he asked a few questions about Christmas and suggested they should sing 'Jingle Bells' before he gave out the presents. This was Babbo Natale's 28th year that he has come to Club Garibaldi! The children were also given chocolate marshmallow Santas and candy sticks. The children went home happy and tired – a great time was had by all.

Many thanks to the following people who helped on the day: Paul & Maria Elenio, Maria Colucci, Robin Page, Rex Da Vanzo, Ginette Toscano Page, Catherine Monastra and Sarantos Economou.



THE RECENT VISIT OF STUDENTS FROM THE ACCADEMIA DI BELLE ARTI DI BRERA, MILANO

By Ginette Toscano Page

On the evening of Wednesday, 28 November, in a matter of minutes, our 'reasonably' quiet clubrooms were suddenly filled with the excited voices of 46 young graduate Italian students and four faculty staff from Milano's prestigious Brera Academy of Fine Arts. A few hours earlier, the group had walked the '500 metre red carpet' in Courtenay Place, along with the stars, crew and many celebrities who were heading to see the world premier of Peter Jackson's film, 'The Hobbit', at The Embassy Theatre. Quoting Elizabeth Peek: 'What a joy it was to see so many young people in the clubrooms; their exuberance was infectious and exhilarating.'

As in 2007, the executive committee of Club Garibaldi hosted 82 visitors and club members to a fantastic buffet dinner, prepared by the club's Vice President, chef Alfonso Basile. This year, Alf's menu consisted of: Lasagne Sorrentino, Fillet of beef with salsa verde, Crumbed fish pieces, Frutto del mare, Asparagus and ice-berg salad, and Baby potatoes, roasted artichokes, red onion and olive salad. Club members who attended the function brought a great array of delicious dolci, and as an extra, Alfonso also made Cannoli Siciliani and Torta cassata.

Other invited guests were: Roberto Funari, who represented the Italian Embassy in the Ambassador's absence, his wife Nancy, and children Rueben and Lara, Cav. Elizabeth Peek, and Michael Fleck - the Organiser of the tour group.

The function commenced with students and members mingling and introducing themselves to one another. With a glass of wine or juice in hand, in no time, they were chatting away as though they had known each other for years!

The formal part of the evening began with Ginette, as Club President, welcoming the visitors with a short speech followed by everyone singing 'Fratelli di Italia' (Inno di Mameli – the Italian National anthem) with much gusto!

With formalities over, it was time to partake in the wonderful platters of food Alfonso had prepared ... the buffet tables were groaning under the weight! After everybody had eaten and more wine consumed, we were entertained by two of the students, one male and one female, who individually, sang beautiful Italian songs and ditties. This was followed by a group photograph...it was a tight squeeze trying to fit so many people in, but we did it!

A group of happy students commented that 'this evening is one of the highlights of our NZ tour ... to be warmly welcomed to Club Garibaldi, by fellow Italians has been fantastic'...what a wonderful accolade!

Special thanks to Alfonso Basile for preparing the delicious food; also to the small band of helpers, who helped put it all together, by setting up, servicing, clearing and tidying up the clubrooms after the group's departure: Matt Amitrano, Robin and Ginette Page, Joe and Maryrose Basile, Catherine Monastra, Paul and Maria Elenio, Maria Colucci, Liliane Bonafede Cacciato, Rex Da Vanzo, Martin and Josephine Van der Donk, and Lynda and Jim Marson. As I mentioned in one of my impromptu speeches, you are wonderful and this function would not have happened without us working as a team. Another wonderfully successful function held at Club Garibaldi!



ACCADEMIA DI BRERA FUNCTION 2012



CLUB SENIOR LUNCHEON 2012



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY



ACCADEMIA DI BRERA GRADUATES



CIRCOLO ITALIANO LANGUAGE CLASSES 2013

Enrolments in the 2013 Circolo Italiano di Wellington Beginners 1 classes are being accepted. The classes will be held at Club Garibaldi on Monday or Wednesday evenings. The classes commence on 11 and 13 February and finish in October 2013. Check the website: www.circoloitaliano.org.nz for more information.

Before completing an enrolment form please telephone President Elizabeth Peek on (04) 4759781 or email: president@circoloitaliano.org.nz. If there is a place in your preferred class you can then post your application and cheque to Circolo Italiano di Wellington, PO Box 9706, Marion Square Wellington 6141. We also offer Internet banking: Westpac Wellington Branch, account number 03.0502.0855498.00. Please ensure you put your surname in the reference box.

To ensure a place in your preferred class it is advisable that enrolments be made by post or through the Internet prior to Tuesday 25 January 2013. **We cannot guarantee you a place if you leave enrolment until the General evening on Friday 31 January (between 5.30 and 7pm).**

The Classes Opening Ceremony for **ALL** students will be at 6.30pm on Monday 4 February 2013 at Club Garibaldi. It is not necessary for Club Garibaldi members to join the Circolo and the course fees are offered at the reduced rate of \$195 for 30 fifty-five minute lessons.

The textbook required is: **Buongiorno Italia (2005)** for Beginners Stage 1 and 2. It is essential that each student has a copy of the relevant textbook. The textbook Buongiorno Italia (2005) can be purchased Online. Visit website: <http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/Buongiorno-Italia-Course-John-Cremona/9780563519454>. Approx. cost NZD\$26.32. Copies of **Buongiorno Italia** can also be purchased from VicBooks, Rutherford House, Lambton Quay, Wellington, Cost \$53.00.

CIRCOLO SOCIAL EVENTS

Monthly social evenings are held from March to November inclusive. Topics vary from time to time but they all have an Italian flavour. A light supper is served during or after the events. A small charge of \$5 towards the cost of the food/wine usually applies. Garibaldi House is the usual venue but other venues may be selected during the course of the year. Further information on the topics and venues will be made available with the monthly Circolo Newsletter and will also be advised to the Executive committee of Club Garibaldi. Club Garibaldi members are very welcome to attend all Circolo Italiano social functions.



2013 Circolo Subscriptions Renewal Form and/or 2013 Courses Enrolment Form

Full name (Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms) _____

Postal address _____

Telephone no.(home) _____ (work) _____ EMAIL _____

Subscription to Circolo Italiano: Single ☐ Couple ☐ Student under 18/Superannuitant/Member Club Garibaldi ☐

Where did you hear about the Circolo? _____

Classes enrolment: (tick box) ☐

Beginners Stage One	Monday	5:30 – 6:25pm	<input type="checkbox"/>
Beginners Stage One	Wednesday	5:30 – 6:25pm	<input type="checkbox"/>

I enclose cash/cheque for \$_____ to confirm my enrolment in the course selected.
I understand that my course fee(s) cannot be refunded.

Signature _____ Date _____