



Club Garibaldi News

November 2025

Club Garibaldi
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Note from the President

What a great night it was celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy and this year's football game against Club Italia of Nelson.

What made it even better was Club Garibaldi regaining the trophy with a 3-1 win over the Nelsonians.

The weather was perfect for the game and the celebration at the Pines was one to remember. The Pines is a great venue with the backdrop of a setting sun over Cook Strait and the South Island. There was plenty of good food and many reasons to celebrate.

Thanks go to Rosina van der Aa and Linda De Gregorio for all the work they did to make this so successful this year. David Da Vanzo's match report follows.



Over the last month I have met with His Excellency, the Ambassador for Italy in NZ, Cristiano Maggipinto. He was very interested in what we are planning for our Club over the next 12 months. He was very welcoming, and I look forward to his support of our Club.

As president it gives me pleasure to announce that the club Executive Committee has agreed to fund free Italian lessons for members' children aged 7-16 years for 2026. This is a pilot scheme and will be reviewed in 12 months. *See the notice below.*

Time is flying - before we know it Christmas will be here and there's a lot to look forward to.

The children's Christmas Party is being held on **Sunday 23 November**. If you haven't already, please phone or text Josephine or Maria with the number of children who will be attending. This is for catering purposes. *See the notice below.*

The last function for the year is our annual Seniors' Lunch on **Monday 15 December**. *See the notice below.*

We are currently organising another club Bus Trip in March. The Events Co-ordinating Team is planning to have further details in the December newsletter. That's good news for everyone who have been asking when the next excursion is taking place. I know you all enjoyed the last one.

Ciao a presto

Frank Basile

Football and celebration

Fine ally!

By David Da Vanzo, long-time Club Garibaldi player, coach and mentor

The 30th anniversary of the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy match was played out in beautifully fine conditions at Te Whaea Park, Newtown.

The high-speed tempo of the game defied the warm conditions and both sides started at full tilt.

Things were seemingly very even, but Club Italia went ahead with a very well-taken goal from Gianni Darroch.



Club Garibaldi, stunned by the concession of the goal, redoubled their efforts, and equalised before the break with a wonderful goal from Charlie Hale, who zig-zagged his way through a number of defenders before slamming the ball into the roof of the net.

The second half began like the first, with both sides exhibiting attacking intent at all times. Club Italia pushed forward at every opportunity, and Club Garibaldi pounced via a counter attack, where an excellent run and shot from Tom Da Vanzo was followed up by Anton Di Leva, who turned on the jet-shoes to sprint and stab the ball home to give Club Garibaldi the lead 2-1.

Club Garibaldi extended the margin with another superb goal from Charlie Hale, who, following a mazy run past defenders into the box, effortlessly curled the ball high into the far corner of the Club Italia net. Club Italia just about pulled a goal back but could not quite convert a penalty kick when the penalty kick missed by a matter of inches.

The game ended in a hard-fought 3-1 victory for Club Garibaldi and the Aldo Cuccurullo Memorial Trophy will finally remain in Wellington after a few years down in Nelson, including a mystery disappearance in recent weeks. The well-attended, post-match dinner at The Pines restaurant was fantastic, with wonderful food together with the backdrop of stunning sea views.

Tony Moreno marked the 30th anniversary of these games with the presentation of some beautifully designed medals to the players who took part in the very first game back in 1995. A bus transported Club Italia back into town, where they continued the merriment into the early hours.

A huge thank you to Linda De Gregorio and Club Garibaldi for making the day such a special and pleasurable occasion, and to Rosina Van Der Aa for all of the communications and logistics intel.

We look forward to heading down to Nelson next year to defend the trophy.

Members of the Club Garibaldi football team who played in the first game against Club Italia



Nelson in 1995. Wearing their anniversary medals are:

(left to right) Antonio Volpicelli, Luigi Basile, Alfonso Basile junior, Alfonso Basile senior, Paul Muollo, Tony Moreno and Antonio Cacace

Children's Italian Lessons

The Executive has agreed to support the learning of Italian for the children of our members who are **aged between 7 and 16 years old**. This is in association with the Circolo Italiano teacher-led programme.

For the sake of clarity, given possible future changes in the Club's financial circumstances (*e.g. the purchase of alternative premises and associated costs*) or changes to the Club's Executive Committee (*who may have other priorities*) the following has been **agreed** by the Executive:

The Club will meet the Circolo Italiano tuition cost of a child of a Club Garibaldi parent who is a current member of the Club for the 2026 academic year, subject to the following restrictions.

To qualify:

- The relationship between the child and its parent does not extend to a grandparent for the purposes of this concession; and the child must attend at least 50% of the available Italian language classes on offer each term.
- The fee shall be paid in instalments at the end of each term by Club Garibaldi; and this should be regarded as a pilot scheme which will be subject to annual review by the Club before the operating year's end to enable the Circolo to advertise its new classes in good time.

Note: There will be limited spaces available due to the tutor- child ratio.

The Club looks forward to working with Circolo Italiano as a continuation of the good relationship between us in facilitating our cultural objectives.

Parents are invited to apply for places in the usual manner directly to Phyllis Mossman, Vice- President of Circolo Italiano, when the new term starts in 2026. Circolo Italiano advertise their programme for 2026 with term dates etc on their Circolo Italiano Website. Phyllis can be emailed at phyllis@mossman.net.nz

Condolences

Club Garibaldi expresses sincere condolences to the families of:

Emma Amitrano, who passed away on 24 October at the age of 92. She was buried following a Requiem Mass at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay.

Domenico Massa, who passed away on 2 November 2025, aged 83. He was buried following a service at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay.

Colleen Famularo, wife of Silvio, passed away in October 2025 with a private service held in Newtown on 10 October. Colleen was a professional photographer for 40 years.

Children's Xmas Party – Sunday 23 November – from 12 noon – 3.00pm

This year Zappo the magician will entertain our young ones (10 years and under). Arts and crafts table will be available and lunch will be served. Of course, Santa will pay a visit too. So if you want your child to attend the Children's Xmas party, please RSVP to either Josephine t: 9348 720, or Maria t: 3838 476 before Saturday 15 November. Start time 12 Noon – 3pm. We ask that parents please bring a small, wrapped gift for your child with their name on it.

Seniors' Xmas Lunch – The Pines Monday 15 December 2025

Our Senior's Christmas lunch will be held at The Pines, 50 The Esplanade, Houghton Bay, on **Monday 15 December** commencing at 11:45am. For reservations please telephone either Josephine t: 9348 720, or Maria t: 3838 476 to book your seat. The lunch will have a Christmas theme and is for club members who are aged 65 and older. If younger members want to join the party they are welcome but there will be a charge of \$55 per person for the special buffet. This should be deposited in the club's bank account with your name and reference Xmas lunch if paying by internet banking by 15 December.

Italian Film Festival

The Italian Film Festival is coming to Wellington 19 November – 14 December.
It is being held this year at two venues:

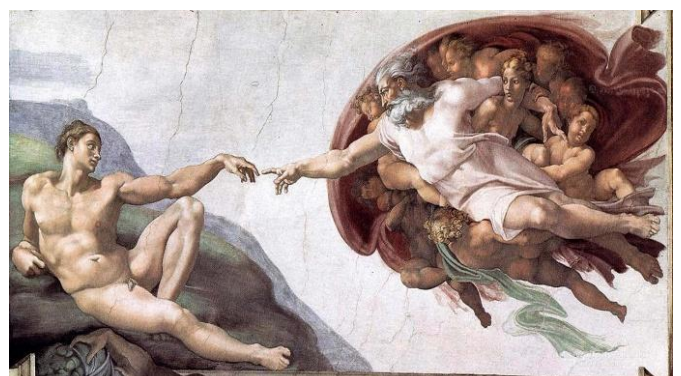
- Roxy Cinema 5 Park Road Miramar from the 19 November -14 December
- The Embassy Theatre 24 Nov – 14 Dec.

Tickets for the opening night are \$30 each and provide for Peroni, San Pellegrino, JK14 Prosecco, Pizza from Bongusto. Arrivals from 6.45pm for 7:30pm film screening. The opening film is called **Gloria!**

The Italian Embassy in Wellington officially supports this Festival. The festival has reached its 10th Anniversary.

Rome Comes to Wellington

The exhibition Michelangelo – A Different View is coming to town. Under licence from the Vatican Museums this exhibition offers the most complete and authentic reproduction of Michelangelo's beautiful ceiling frescoes from the Sistine Chapel to be shown outside the Vatican.



The exhibition is at the Wellington Convention and Exhibition Centre (Takina) from 22 December to 8 February 2026. Tickets are available through [Stensongroup.com](https://www.stensongroup.com). Early Bird booking costs \$39pp, after 22 December \$45pp.

This exhibition features more than 50 stunning pieces including a life-sized reproduction of The Genesis, famously painted on the Sistine Chapel ceiling.

Every ticket purchased is eligible for a draw to win a trip to Rome for two, including entry to the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel.

Italian Movies

For your interest the Italian movies listed below are on the Rialto Channel in November.

Roberto Rossellini Retrospective – Rialto Film Channel

Rialto Channel in November will be showcasing a beautifully curated retrospective on Roberto Rossellini, a pivotal figure in world cinema and a founding voice in Italian Neorealism.

Highlights in the series include:

- Rome, Open City (1945) a seminal film shot during the Nazi retreat; the cornerstone of Neorealism.
- Paisan (1946) an episodic portrait of war and human connection during Italy’s liberation.
- Germany, Year Zero (1948) filmed amid post-Nazi Berlin’s ruins; stark and devastating.
- Stromboli (1950) starring Ingrid Bergman, grappling with spiritual isolation and resilience.
- Journey to Italy (1954) often cited as a precursor to modernist cinema.
- The Flowers of St. Francis (1950) poetic simplicity in storytelling and spirituality.
- The films are introduced with new contextual material and presented in newly restored versions where available.

Did you know?

Member Rex Da Vanzo points out that The Post newspaper front page in October paid tribute to the highly successful local band The Waratahs and their induction into the NZ Music Hall of Fame after sharing stages all over the world with some music greats.

Not so well known is that the band started life with a two-year residency (from 1986) at the Cricketers Arms tavern in the building the club currently occupies.

Dates for your diary

2025

January	February	March	April
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May	June	July	August
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September	October	November	December
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Children’s Christmas Party

Seniors Christmas Party

Italian Film Festival

Michelangelo exhibition

Nelson Italian Festival

Sunday, 23 November 2025

Monday, 15 December 2025

19 November – 14 December 2025

22 December-8 February 2026

Sunday 1 March 2026