



# Club Garibaldi News

December 2006

## The President's Report

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Well, the end of 2006 is fast approaching, and what a year it has been! Our club calendar throughout the year has kept us pretty busy! Here are some of the highlights: The blessing of the fishing fleet and small craft at Island Bay, the club's annual picnic at Queen Elizabeth Park, the blessing and opening of the moving platform/lift, our annual Italian Festa and this year's hosting of veteran members of the NZ Maori Battalion who had spent time in Italy during WW2, Italy's National Day celebrations at the club rooms, two successful GC benefit concerts, the huge party at the club following Italy's victory, winning the Soccer World Cup, the Italian Masses and shared lunches, the great soccer team fund raiser dinner, and our club winning the Aldo Memorial soccer trophy for the second year running, against Club Italia Nelson, the Senior Luncheon and the children's Christmas party.

A fantastic turnout at this month's Italian Mass and shared lunch at the club. Great food and a wonderful atmosphere! Thank you to everybody who helped in some way, to make this occasion so successful.

On Tuesday, 5 December, was the closing of this year's children's Italian language classes, and the presentation of certificates and party. Many thanks to Dott.ssa Chiara Fazi who represented the Embassy of Italy, for presenting the certificates to the children. Once again, this year's classes were very successful under the guidance of Nina Cuccurullo and the tutor, Giulia Strogliu. Sincere thanks and appreciation to both Nina and Giulia.

On Wednesday, 6 December, the club rooms were bursting at the seams at this year's Senior Member's Luncheon! The atmosphere was indeed festive, with 90 senior members and helpers enjoying an absolutely delicious meal together. Thank you to our distinguished guests for sharing this occasion with us: Dr Massimo Carnelos representing the Embassy of Italy, Archbishop Charles Balvo, the Apostolic Nuncio to New Zealand, Monsignor Janusz Urbanczyk from the Holy See and Palmiro Sportoletti, from the Embassy of Italy, who had only arrived in NZ from Italy the day before.

Very special thanks and much appreciation to the members of the executive and social committees, with a special thank you to Maria Colucci, along with all the club members who helped in some way, whether it be cooking/baking dishes, setting up and taking down again the club rooms, bar duties, general cleaning, or giving a helping hand in the kitchen, to make this occasion and outstanding success. Many thanks to Jane Di Mattina and Rosaria Massa for decorating the club rooms for the festive season. At the risk of forgetting a helper's name, please accept this as a personal acknowledgement.

This year's children's Christmas party was held on Sunday, 10 December. Well, what an event! It was truly wonderful to hear the voices of the 45 happy children of club members having fun, playing and mingling with each other. To watch their facial expressions when Father Christmas arrived with his sack full of presents was a joy to see! Again, we had a lady who painted 'tattoos' on the children, and who also twisted balloons into the most amazing animal shapes! As always, the 'bouncing castle' was very popular. Many thanks to Lisa Devitt, Maria Colucci and everybody who helped to make this party a success.

Because of heavy work commitments and taking on new activities in 2007, Luca Quaglia will be stepping down from his role as the club's newsletter translator. We sincerely thank Luca for the excellent job he did for us over the last 14 months, and wish him well for the future.

Last but not least, I sincerely thank the members of our great executive committee, the social committee, Paul Muollo for formatting the newsletter, and all the people who helped in some way, for their support during 2006. Each of you has helped to make this year's events on our club social calendar, an outstanding success! You have all been brilliant!

As this is the last newsletter for the year, I would like to wish all members, their families and loved ones, Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo, and filled with love, joy and many blessings.

Ciao a presto,  
Ginette Toscano Page

## Club Newsletter Translators Required

Many of our members enjoy reading the newsletters in Italian. Some of the older persons find it easier to comprehend and many younger ones utilize it as a challenge to exercise their multi language skills. In my opening report, I mentioned that Luca Quaglia, because of extra business commitments, is no longer able to do our translating.

We would love to continue this facility, and I ask members who are able to help, to contact us with the intention of sharing this service by way of a group of, perhaps six people, who would only have to do two letters per year. If you can help, and have a good command of both English and Italian, then please contact Ginette or Robin.

Note - all written transactions and communication would need to be via email.

## Club Garibaldi Website - [www.clubgaribaldi.org.nz](http://www.clubgaribaldi.org.nz)

The Club would like to form a small committee (two or three people) to monitor and control the website. This may suit a couple of younger club members. They could meet once a month and report to the executive committee, with ideas and suggestions.

## Sharing News

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.

## What about my Family?

Here is a chance to contribute your family's personal story on Italian migration to the Qui Tutto Bene Exhibition. The exhibition has been extended to May 2007. Your story will appear in What About My Family? – a collection of stories in the Settler Stories digital album. In the long term your story will be stored in the archives of the Museum and be accessible to researchers by request.

## Welcome to New Members

A warm welcome to the following new members: Francesco Colucci of Island Bay, and Antoinette and Eyal Aharoni of Evans Bay.

## Clarification of November Newsletter Item

With reference to the item about the visit of Vice Minister Danieli there was a mistake in the wording of the third paragraph of the article. Regarding the presentation of gifts to four members of Club Garibaldi the wording should be: "The recipients were: President Ginette Page, Cavaliere Salvi Gaeta, **President Mario Leonti (President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in New Zealand)** and Cavaliere Elizabeth Peek (President of the Circolo Italiano di Wellington)".

There is only one Italian Chamber of Commerce in New Zealand and Mario Leonti is the President.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### Italian Mass

The next Italian Mass will be held on Sunday 7 January 2007 at 11.30am at St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay. Mass is held every first Sunday of the month throughout the year.



### Shared Lunch

The next shared lunch will be held at the Club rooms on Sunday 4 February 2007 at 1pm. All members and families are very welcome. Please bring a plate.



### 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 \$4 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.

On behalf of Club Garibaldi the Circolo will show an Italian film (with English subtitles) at 7pm every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. A \$2 charge towards costs will apply.

### Anna Leese returns to Club Garibaldi

Outstanding young New Zealand soprano, Anna Leese, winner of the Mobil Song Contest and the Sydney Sun Aria, who recently performed the role of Musetta in the Covent Garden production of Puccini's La Boheme to rave reviews, has been released by her NZ promoter for a one night season at Club Garibaldi on Friday 2 March 2007. Bookings will also be accepted for a Saturday shownight (excluding Anna Leese) on Saturday 3 March 2007.



Preferential booking to GC concert regulars for the Anna Leese concert for a limited period. Ticket cost \$25. Light supper included. No door sales.

### Annual Bus Trip

We are hoping to go on our annual bus trip some time during February 2007. At this stage, no decision has been taken as to where our destination will be. However, keep in mind there is a possibility that it will be an over night stay.

Members will be given first consideration, but if you wish to bring a friend along, please give Maria a call first.

### Dates for your Diary

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January (11:30am) - Italian Mass  
Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February (1:00pm) - Shared Lunch  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March - A Night at the Garibaldi  
Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - A Night at the Garibaldi



## Senior Luncheon



Ginette, Palmiro Sportoletti and Massimo Carnelos

## Children's Language Classes

By Nina Cuccurullo

On Tuesday, 5 December, the children's language classes held their annual end of year party. Children from the three groups of classes presented small 'plays' in Italian written by themselves. Dott.ssa Chiara Fazi from the Embassy of Italy presented certificates to the children on behalf of the Italian Ambassador, Her Excellency, Dott.ssa Liana Marolla, who was overseas. Children were also presented with Pinocchio pencils to celebrate the 10 year anniversary that the classes have been running.

The photo shows the children along with their teacher Giulia Stroghiu, singing 'Tu Scendi dalle Stelle' after their performances.



## Children's Christmas Party



The children with Father Christmas



Rebekah Amitrano with Father Christmas



Enjoying the bouncing castle



Which tattoo do you like best?

# Massa Lubrense

By Ginette

I would like to share another 'chapter' of my recent travels to Italy, this time in Massa Lubrense, where we stayed for 3 days. Robin and I have previously been to Massa in 2002, on a fantastic day trip with Salvi and Jo Gaeta, who took us all around Sorrento, Capri and the neighbouring areas of Massa – we had a great time and heaps of fun together.

After departing my beloved Stromboli, Robin and I spent four wonderful days in Lipari, then two days in the city of Naples. Though we have been to Naples a few times, we had forgotten the hustle and bustle of the busy city life there, especially the car horns ~ you know how much Italians love their car horns! It is really good shopping there, and one can buy top brands of clothing and electrical goodies at a fraction of the normal price elsewhere.

We left our hotel, and walked to the railway station to go to Sorrento, then bus to Massa Lubrense. As luck would have it, there was a train and bus strike that day, so we ended up taking a taxi direct, which took approx 1½ hours. The day was fine and clear, with a warm gentle breeze, which showed Massa at it's very best. We were welcomed by our club's Vice President, Antonio Cacace, who had just arrived from New Zealand, for a short 'foodie's tour' of the area. On our arrival at his family's hotel, La Primavera, we heard distinctive NZ accents – sitting on the lounge chairs was a group of 'Kiwis', which included the TV chef Annabelle White, also waiting for Antonio!

Antonio, made us very welcome, as did his family. La Primavera is an excellent hotel and we highly recommend anybody travelling to, or through Massa Lubrense, to stay there. The hotel is beautifully appointed throughout, fantastic panoramic views, obliging staff and the food is fresh and mouth-watering ..... in one word, superb! Antonio's mother Anna, is not only a very kind person, but also a fabulous chef.

Antonio invited us to join him and the kiwi group for a visit to 'Il Convento' where Limoncello is made. What a great experience it was! After meeting the owners and a short tour of the amazing 400 year old operation, we were seated at a long table, amid the picturesque lemon groves, and were served lunch. The romantic surroundings, the warm sun, aroma of the food and the wine made for a very happy, contented group of people!

Robin and I strolled through the pretty village, and visited the beautiful church of Santa Maria Delle Grazie, where a lot of our club members have been parishioners over the years – who were baptised, confirmed, and married there. It took us about an hour to leisurely walk down to the scenic marina where literally hundreds of small craft are moored, and while sipping cool drinks in the shade, chatted to some locals who have relatives in Island Bay. After lunch at Michele's on the marina, while waiting for a bus to take us back up the hill, we strolled through the narrow streets and lanes, and thought of our paesani back home, in Island Bay – this beautiful place is where their roots are, and we can happily say 'we have been to Massa Lubrense and loved it there!'

When in Massa, Antonio visits his late father's grave every day. We asked Antonio if we could go with him that day. Robin and I felt privileged sharing this special time with him, and while walking through the beautifully kept cemetery, glancing at headstones, we recognised family names linked to many families in Island Bay.

The following day Antonio took us to visit the Cuccurullo and Vinaccia families, who made us very welcome. It was good to see the late Libby Vincaccia's brother Mario, and his wife Rita, again. We were really impressed with the way the families were so self-efficient – everything they want or need is on the land! Taking a whiff of Mario's red wine pressing, nearly knocked us out!! Boy, that's what I call potent wine!

However, all too soon it was time to leave for Rome, where we spent two days before flying back home to Nuova Zelanda.

## Massa Lubrense in Pictures



Enjoying lunch at 'Il Convento'



Anna Cacace making ravioli



A few sea craft moored at the marina



Angelo Esposito (Anna Basile's brother), Ginette and Tonino Esposito



**Down by the marina**



**Mario Vinaccia at the grape press**



**Beautiful Massa**



**Members of the Vinaccia and Cuccurullo families**



## INCA

INCA is an Italian Organisation, linked to CGIL, who helps Italian pensioners in New Zealand. The service of INCA is **free of charge** .

As my wife and I are leaving for France, I am pleased to announce that **LUCA QUAGLIA** has accepted to be the link between you and the INCA headquarters in Melbourne, from 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2007. Luca is a young Italian man who came in NZ two years ago and currently works at a building Research Centre in the Wellington area. Luca also speaks English fluently.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy Year 2007.

Marc-Olivier LeClercq

## Radio Iris

Don't miss Radio Iris' forthcoming broadcasts: In Wellington, at 4 pm every Sunday, on Access Radio 783 AM and on-line from anywhere on: [www.accessradio.org.nz](http://www.accessradio.org.nz)

Sunday, 17/12/06. Our youngest contributor, Carolina Anderson, interviews Cettina Agro at the Italian Embassy in Wellington. Laurence Simmons presents his new book 'Freud's Italian Journey'.

Sunday, 24/12/06. A special broadcast with many guests ~ Buon Natale!!

Sunday, 31/12/06. A special broadcast with many guests ~ Buon 2007!!

Sunday, 7/1/07. Elisabetta Germano talks about Angelo Branduardi's music and the meaning of his song 'Centro di gravita permanente' which is related to Gurdjieff's esoteric philosophy and his interpretation of the meaning of playing cards.

## Italian Restaurants Flourishing Overseas

By Ginette

September 2006, Ansa – Italy

Italian cuisine is without doubt, one of Italy's biggest international draw-card. There are over 60,000 Italian restaurants overseas which currently earns over 27 billion euros a year of income from more than one million customers, according to a new study.

In Germany alone, the report quoted that Italian immigrants controlled 38,000 companies, most of them in the food sector. Italians also hold the monopoly of Germany's 2,500 ice-cream shops!

The report point out that the only drawback was that second and third generation Italians overseas are reluctant to carry on the family business. For example, in Germany only two-thirds of the Italian restaurants are still owned and operated by Italians, while in South Korea, only eight out of that country's 600 Italian restaurants are run by Italians!

Ice-cream shop owners in Germany have found a solution to this problem by replacing their unwilling off-spring in the shop with those of Italian immigrants from Argentina and Brazil

## Executive Committee Member Profile – Mattio Amitrano

With the anti-smacking campaign so widely reported it obviously becomes a quite interesting situation when your President is threatening “amatsad” (T’spanza)! Thus I put pen to paper to appease - my previous reluctance being based on ‘what can I contribute?’ Having now attended a number of committee meetings my assumptions about a dedicated, forward thinking group have been reaffirmed and I will try to assist as best I can.

I am a ‘born and bred’ Island Bay boy. My father is Salvatore (Born Massa, fisherman, 82 years old), mother is Isabel (born Edinburgh, Scotland) and I have two sisters, June and Louise and a brother Peter all close at hand.

I am blessed with two beautiful daughters Grace (10) and Rebekah (8) who really enjoy their Italian lessons with Giulia. My wife of eleven years is Lynda who is into all things Italian and who it should be noted engineered my nomination for the committee (shared lunch – full belly – say yes dear)! In fact Lynda should probably be the one on the committee as she had the good sense to employ on her section at BRANZ one Mr Luca Quaglia – who is translating this.

Having been involved in the transport sector for 25 years I recently changed direction as a result of sporting injuries (read old age). I now spend quality time with my brother Peter at Saint Patrick’s College as an assistant custodian. I then go home to cook, clean and attend ballet, tap, swimming, netball etc with my girls.

While my grasp of the Italian language is limited to that learnt on the beach front soccer pitch after 10:00 Sunday mass I look more and more to my heritage through my children. The fact that the club has a large number of young people coming through is fantastic and something to be fostered.

During my time on the committee I hope to be of help to Ginette and her great team and avoid that hiding!

Buon Natal e Felice Anno Nuovo

Mattio Amitrano



Rebekah, Mattio, Lynda & Grace Amitrano

## Glimpse into ~ ~ ~ Grumento Nova

This month Grumento Nova is featured, where sisters Erminia Zino, of Miramar, Wellington, and Rex Da Vanzo's mother, Ines, were born and raised.

Grumento Nova, a town rising 771 metres above sea level, is in the province of Potenza, region of Basilicata, Southern Italy. It has a population of nearly 2,000 and its inhabitants are known as Grumentini. The town is located in the valley of the Agri River, once called Saponara until 1863, and Saponara di Grumento from 1863 to 1932. Today, it is simply known as Grumento Nova. However, locals prefer to call it Lucania.



**Erminia Zino**

Grumento Nova shares its borders with Apulia, Calabria and Campania, and is a region with two distinctly separate coastlines: one facing the Tyrrhenian Sea to the south-west, and the other facing south-east, where the Ionian Sea dilutes the Gulf of Taranto.

Ever since the 8th century BC, when the Greeks first landed there, Basilicata's ancient roads have seen the passage of Saminites, Romans, Byzantines, Normans, Saracens and Albanians, to name but a few. Some came to settle, some to conquer and some just to enjoy its amazing contrasts of landscapes and seascapes. For whatever reason they came though, its strategic location, at the southern end of Italy's Apennine range of mountains, has assured it of much cultural legacy.

At the same time, the Lucanians fiercely conserved their own identity through the ages so that now, their own traditions, crafts, cuisine and music co-exist happily with ancient art, folklore and architecture.

From the cobblestone-paved roads of the historical centre, overlooking the valley, spectacular mountain views can be enjoyed in the heart of the Mediterranean. The National Museum has a collection of archaeological finds of the once Roman colony of Grumento, founded in 133 BC, as well as some remains of big mammals that once lived in the Agri Valley during the Pleistocene Age.

Just outside of Grumento Nova are the ruins of an old town on a small hill between the Sciaura Stream and the Agri River. Its structure is very simple, with three main streets and several lanes, and surrounded by 3 km long walls, with six entrances.

There are also Roman ruins from the late Republican period, among them houses, a theatre, a fountain decorated with mosaics, baths, amphitheatre, aqueduct and mausoleums

Today, Grumento Nova is indeed, a town of historical interest.

### **"Sugar Pie, Honey Bunch" from "A Night at the Garibaldi" Friday 3 November 2006.**



Senior Member Lunch 2000



Senior Member Lunch 2006

