



DANTE NEWS Gold Coast

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Societa` Dante Alighieri Gold Coast
Dicembre 2012/Gennaio 2013

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear members

Welcome to new student members. The Gold Coast Dante Alighieri started on the 8th July 1989 with the assistance of the Brisbane Dante Alighieri Society. This year the Brisbane Dante Alighieri Society celebrates its 60th Anniversary – as I celebrate my 60th birthday. On the 8th November, Tony Carnovale, Connie Canale and I went to Brisbane to attend their 60th Anniversary dinner.(photo p.4) It was lovely to chat with the president, Liz Jarvis and my Brisbane friends.

We had a garage sale in our courtyard “Piazza Dante” on Sunday 18th November as a fundraiser for the Italian earthquake appeal. Thank you to everyone who donated items for sale and to the set up crew – Tony, Susanna, Tom, Astrid, Connie, Judith, Vicki, Rita, and Joseph. With the proceeds of the garage sale we added the raffle money and sent €1147 to Carpi to be put towards the schools there. If you wish to look up the web site www.carpidiem.it As mentioned in previous newsletters our former teacher Francesca (photo p.4) comes from that town and we know that the money will go directly to the earthquake appeal. Photos from the garage sale are on our web site. Email received from Francesca is on p.3.

2013 Membership renewal form is enclosed. Please support our society and renew your membership. If you could remind others to renew theirs also it would be appreciated. I also ask your help in promoting our language classes. If you have had a break from classes and are ready to come back, we would be happy to see you again and I am sure that there is a level that would suit you. Thank you to all the great teachers.

In the insert sheet is the last of Brian Bell's Travel Tips. Thank you Brian. Many students have found these very useful. On the insert sheet I have also included a list of schools in Italy offering our students discounts. Check out their web sites and if these interest you please contact us.

Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way this year, in particular my wonderful Dante committee, and wish you and your loved ones a peaceful Christmas and a happy start to a wonderful New Year 2013.

Giovanna



*Il Comitato vi augura Buon
Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo*



More photos- www.dantegoldcoast.com

2013 DATE CLAIMER

Enrolments -

Sat. 19 Jan & Tues 22nd January

1st Term starts 1st February

Easter holidays 29th March - 14 April

2nd Term starts 15 April (w.9)

GIORNATA DELLA DANTE 19TH MAY

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS NOW DUE

DANTE PHOTOS ON WEB SITE

www.dantegoldcoast.com

GOLD COAST ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB

Open for lunch and dinner

from Tuesday to Sunday

Ph. 55751966

PRESIDENT: Giovanna Santomauro 5539 5528

SCHOOL DIRECTOR: Rita Lo Presti 5527 0797

SCHOOL NEWS

Another semester and year draws to a close. Thank You to all who came to our school this year. A sincere Thank You all the staff at Dante- the Teachers- Giovanna, Luisa L, Danielle, Ursula, Astrid, Luisa W, Martina, Gilda, Charlotte, Giulia, Gabriel and Centre Manager, Tony for all their work in promoting and supporting Italian to its best. There is some information in this newsletter but everything is posted on the website so please check it and print out forms from there if necessary.

Caffe` e Conversazione evenings

Our last Caffe` e Conversazione was Thursday 15th November at La Bella Pizza, Burleigh. It was good to see a few new faces as well as the regulars. These nights will recommence in 2013.



End of Semester Dinner

Another great evening held at the Italo-Australian Restaurant to finish off the year. 70 people attended. Thank You to all the students that bought tickets for raffles for the Earthquake victims in Italy. A huge Thank You to Maurita Bakery for an unbelievable cake which was all Dante!!

Corsi Estivi~ Summer Courses

Thank You to all the students interested in doing a Summer course. These are the courses running over the break-

Before Christmas- 28th Nov, 5th Dec, 12th Dec
Italiano per Parlare- Wednesday 10-12noon
 6th Dec 13th Dec *Conversazione* – Thursday 10 – 12 noon

After New Year- 4 weeks

Mini Book Club- Monday 10-12noon

January- 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

Advanced Grammar- Wednesday 10-12 and 7-9pm

January 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

If you wish to join one of these classes contact me please.

2013 Courses

Dates-

Enrolment dates-

Saturday 19th Jan – 9.30-11.30am and

Tuesday 22nd Jan – 9.30am- 12noon & 3.30-6.30pm

Early Bird Special Price

Must be received by Wednesday 16th January

Late direct debits will be charged at the higher rate.

**If Direct Debiting please write your surname in the reference of Payee

Teachers Meetings- The teachers and I have been meeting over the semester and better organizing the Dante curriculum/ levels and looking at text books. Students may find even more uniformity between classes of the same level offered at different times.

Text books –

All beginner levels will continue to use the BBC's Buongiorno Italia.

Intermediate 1 and 2 will use Espresso 1.

Intermediate 3 and 4 will use Espresso 2.

These books come highly recommended and are used in Italy and are at other Dante and Italian Language schools in Australia.

These are all available from the Dante Bookshop in the New Year and on Enrolment day.

Please check the website for all Dante information- Terms and Conditions

Enrolment and membership forms

Dates of Semesters

Classes and times

Buon Natale a tutti gli studenti

Any questions, please call me- 55270797

Or

Email- info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita

School Director

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS

*Dalla classe "Lingua, Cultura e Societa'" ecco i Capitoli 6 e7 della storia - **Sei personaggi in cerca di autori.***

Di : Maria Barrett, Brian Bell, Dawn Behan, Margaret Byrne, Maria Bowker-Perry, Susanna Konigsberg, Christine Merkel, Helen Murphy e Justina Turrisi. Con la collaborazione di Martina Medda.

Capitolo 6

Questa e' una serata importante. E' la cena per celebrare la fine della stagione del campionato di pallavolo. Il club dei ragazzi ha avuto un enorme successo: sei delle otto squadre hanno vinto inclusa la squadra femminile che dalla serie C passera' in serie B e cosi' quella maschile che andra' invece in serie C. I ragazzi sono felici. Alla cena inoltre verranno date le medaglie al miglior giocatore e visto che alcuni di loro sono candidati al titolo, tutti aspettano con ansia. Le ragazze avevano parlato tanto di cosa avrebbero indossato e tutte avevano deciso di portare un vestito, anche Janet che usa sempre pantaloni o jeans. Per questa occasione speciale aveva comprato un vestito verde intonato ai suoi occhi, e le scarpe col tacco alle quali non era abituata. I sei amici si erano incontrati prima e si erano seduti tutti vicino. Erano elegantissimi ed in particolare Riccardo aveva iniziato a vedere Janet in una luce diversa con quel vestito.

La serata comincia con la cena e poi i discorsi formali che i ragazzi sperano non vadano troppo per le lunghe. Finalmente e' il momento delle medaglie. Davide e Paola vengono proclamati i migliori giocatori.

Alla fine della cena pero' tutti diventano un po' tristi perche' per due mesi non ci sara' il consueto allenamento. Janet in particolare non riesce a non pensare al viaggio in Australia alla fine delle vacanze ed e' ancora piu' triste ora che sembra che anche Riccardo sia interessato a lei. Riccardo le chiede un appuntamento e tutti gli amici insieme si rivedranno per un caffe' durante il fine settimana

Capitolo 7

"Ti devo dire una cosa."

"Cosa?"

"Niente, niente, lasciamo perdere."

"Cosa? Umm...Ti vedo strano. Non sara' che....Dai! Ti sei innamorato! E' vero?"

"Innamorato...Credo di si."

"Avevo ragione! Riccardo innamorato! E di chi? Aspetta fammi indovinare."

L'avevano capito tutti o quasi oramai, era evidente da come si guardavano alla festa. "Janet!"

Riccardo stava in silenzio. Poi annui'.

"Come? Adesso che deve partire per l'Australia!"

Riccardo era diventato terribilmente serio ed anche Davide non scherzava piu'.

"E lei? Ma forse, chissa'.."

Continua nella prossima newsletter

Carissime amiche /amici della scuola Dante Alighieri di Gold Coast.

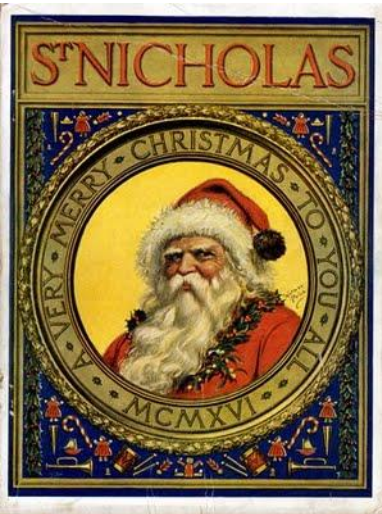
Ho appreso con sincera commozione l'iniziativa da Voi intrapresa al fine di raccogliere fondi a favore delle zone colpite dal sisma nella provincia di Modena e a Carpi, dove io risiedo. Qui a distanza di sei mesi dal devastante terremoto che ha squassato l'Emilia, la parola NORMALITA', sembra strana, viste le ferite subite e le gravi ripercussioni che ha generato il sisma, ma, è proprio questo l'obiettivo che gli emiliani si sono posti: "tornare al più presto alla normalità".

Sono già attive le opere di ristrutturazione (ove possibile) come pure i tanti cantieri che dovranno costruire ex novo quanto è stato distrutto totalmente. Ovviamente per certe opere quali chiese, il loro ripristino richiederà un tempo piuttosto lungo, mentre per gli edifici scolastici, ospedali ed altri edifici di pubblica utilità si sta procedendo a pieno ritmo per riportarli attivi il prima possibile. Un cenno importante in questa drammatica vicenda del sisma è da attribuire alla SOLIDARIETA' manifestata a profusione con grande partecipazione.

Grazie di cuore per la vostra encomiabile solidarietà.

Per voi tutti un sincero AUGURIO di BUON NATALE e meraviglioso ANNO NUOVO.

Francesca Manuele



SAN NICOLA – ITALY’S ORIGINAL SANTA CLAUS

Saint Nicholas (270 A.D. to 346 A.D.) was really **Nicholas of Myra**, a saint and bishop in Turkey. Many miracles have been attributed to him. He is also known as **Nicholas the Wonderworker**. He had a reputation for secret gift-giving, such as putting coins in the shoes of those who left them out for him. Because of this, he became the model for Santa Claus. After his death, his relics were brought to Bari. That is why is also known as **Nicholas of Bari**

Saint Nicholas is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, archers, and children and for his help to the poor. Nicholas is also the patron saint of pawnbrokers - the three gold balls traditionally hung outside a pawnshop symbolize the three sacks of gold.

He was born into wealth, and using his inheritance, would give anonymous gifts. People began to suspect he was the gift giver. After he died, people in the region continued to give to the poor anonymously, and such gifts were still often attributed to Saint Nicholas. In this tradition many initiated a ‘Secret Santa’ project in our work places and schools.

Nicholas’ original tomb can be found in the Basilica of Saint Nicholas in Myra - Turkey, but the Italians acquired his relics in the 11th century. Some say his relics were taken by thieves or pirates. Others believe they were taken in response to a vision by which Saint Nicholas himself appeared and commanded that his relics be moved in order to preserve them from an impending Muslim conquest.

At the tomb of Saint Nicholas in Bari (region of Puglia – on Adriatic Coast), some observers have reported seeing myrrh exude from his relics and when using this myrrh for anointing, resulted in numerous miracles. Vials of myrrh from his relics have been taken all over the world for centuries, and can still be obtained from his church in Bari.

Currently at Bari, there are two churches at his shrine, one Roman Catholic and one Orthodox.

Connie Canale

Pranzo con Francesca



Torta di fine d’anno – Grazie Maurita



Tony Carnovale con Connie Canale, Giovanna Santomauro e Tiziana Miceli alla cena della Dante di Brisbane.



La bellissima torta per la cena del 23 novembre fatta dalla pasticceria “Maurita”