



DANTE NEWS Gold Coast

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Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast

Febbraio 2015

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear members,

Welcome back to our students and welcome to our new students. Thank you to all members who have renewed their membership. We appreciate your support. If you need a Renewal Form please contact me and I will send you one or you can download it from our website – <http://www.dantegoldcoast.com.au>

We were fortunate to receive a Grant from Community Benefits Fund and thank Maria Barrett for all her work in preparing the submission. The Grant was applied to upgrade our classrooms and I think students and teachers have really appreciated the new look. Thank you to Werner, Rita, Maria, Luisa and Astrid for working so hard to have it ready for the beginning of 2015 classes.

Our AGM will be held on Monday 2nd March at 7 p.m. in the "White Room" followed by light refreshments. Nomination Forms and Proxies are in the Dante office or you could download them from our website as well as the 2014 minutes and Agenda for 2015 AGM.

Our first social function for the year will be on 6th March at 6 p.m. "Open Doors" a chance for you to see the refurbished rooms, meet the teachers, listen to guest speakers and for "aperitivi e assagini" Cost is \$10.

Thank you to Brian Bell for updating our website. You can find the latest news and information there.

Thank you to Vicki Minassian for the interesting information she puts on our Facebook page.

Library Guidelines are on page 4. Thank you to Yen Musgrove, Adolfo Matthews and Luisa for doing such a great job on the library.

Details on the Opera "La Traviata" are on page 6. Thank you Connie for organising these groups.

Cordiali saluti

Giovanna

[Like us on Facebook - Dante Gold Coast](#)

DATE CLAIMER

2nd March - AGM 7 p.m.
3rd March "2 Chiacchiere" 6.30 p.m.
6th March - Pranzo - noon
"Women's International Day"
6th March "Porte Aperte" 6 p.m.
"Una serata in Piazza Dante"
3rd - 19th April - Easter holidays
20th April - start of 2nd Term

S. MESSA IN ITALIANO

Ogni domenica la Santa Messa celebrata in Italiano sara' alle 16 (4 p.m.) nella Chiesa di Sacred Heart, 50 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters

THE GOLD COAST ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB

18 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters

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VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER DANCE

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PRESIDENT: Giovanna Santomauro 5539 5528

SCHOOL DIRECTOR: Rita Lo Presti 5527 0797



SCHOOL NEWS

Since last year, there have been big changes at the Dante. On hearing that we had received a grant in early January, we quickly got to work, making all the improvements that our school so desperately needed.

You cannot imagine how excited the teachers were, to be able to use the new technology to enhance their teaching, bring Italy a bit closer to us and to see the rooms less cluttered. The classes that I've visited in the first week couldn't believe their eyes on seeing the rooms and have made some very positive comments about the renovations.

2 Chiacchiere previously "Caffe` e Conversazione"

We would like to recommence these evenings again meeting at different locations on the Gold Coast. It will be an evening suitable for *all levels* and for all who need to practice speaking Italian. These evenings are enjoyable and non-threatening. Even though you may feel you can't say much, just the experience of being put into the situation where you have to listen and respond is of great benefit. Stay for as little or as long as you wish.

You may wish to buy a coffee or wine or enjoy dinner or dessert at the establishment.

So.... Mark this date

Our first conversation night for 2015 –
Tuesday 3rd March

At - Sinartra's restaurant, Broadbeach
Oracle Building

Starting at 6.30pm to 7.30/8 pm

**** Bring something along for show and tell-
Photo, object, book, postcard etc ****

RSVP on Whiteboard in Aula 1

Mini courses

Over the course of the year, we will offer a variety of extra mini courses. These will be advertised and with enough interest will be offered.

Children's Italian Class

These will be commencing soon. If you know of parents with children aged between 5-8 who want Italian lessons, please ask them to call or email me.

Library Guidelines are on page 4.

Scholarships

These have begun to come in from a variety of schools in Italy. If you are interested please contact Giovanna or myself. Some details on website.

Ideas and suggestions

We are always open to new ideas and suggestions. Please send us an email and let us know.

I hope that all students have a rewarding semester.

Any questions - please call me- 55270797

Or Email- info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita School Director



Summer Introduction Class teacher Astrid, Terry, Jenene and Carole. Absent were Emma and Jane.



Maria Barrett, Giovanna Santomauro, Martina Medda, Giulia Torello, Oriana Iacono e Luisa Liussi
Thank you to the teachers who worked on the play "La Befana" and Luisa for playing the part so well.



LABORATORIO DI GRAMMATICA



CONOSCIAMOCI

Intervista a Rita Lo Presti – Dante School Director

Buongiorno Rita. Noi ci conosciamo bene, vero?. Buongiorno, Luisa. Sì, da molto tempo.

Sei nata in Italia o in Australia? Sono nata in Australia, a Sydney. **Allora ti senti italiana o australiana?** Direi australiana, però sono molto contenta di essere in parte anche italiana. **Dov'è la tua famiglia?** Mia mamma e mia sorella abitano a Brisbane, e mio fratello si trova a Mackay, con la sua famiglia. **Hai famiglia in Italia?** Sì, ancora molti zii e cugini.

Ci parli della tua famiglia? Mio papà è venuto in Australia con suo fratello per motivi di lavoro. Dopo un periodo è venuta anche

mia mamma. L'intenzione era di ritornare in Italia dopo un paio di anni.però si sono sposati...e poi sono arrivata io e non sono più tornati in Italia. Mio zio aveva comprato un'impresa a Brisbane (costruzione di ferro), e allora i miei genitori hanno deciso di spostarsi a Brisbane, per lavoro e anche per motivi di famiglia. Ed è qui che mia sorella e poi anche mio fratello sono nati. Sfortunatamente è già da molto tempo che è mancato mio papà. Mia mamma invece è in pensione e sta ancora abbastanza bene. Mia sorella lavora a Brisbane per *Centacare* e mio fratello è direttore di un coffee-shop a Mackay, il "Jamaica Blue". Ha vinto molti premi...è il numero uno in Australia ed in Nuova Zelanda! **Come mai hai scelto di vivere alla Gold Coast?** Per motivi di lavoro. Andavo avanti e indietro, avanti e indietro tutta la settimana. Trovavo il viaggiare troppo faticoso. **Sei mai tornata in Italia?** La prima volta sono andata in Italia subito dopo la morte di mio padre, nel 1980. A dire il vero prima di sposarmi sono andata in Italia 7 o 8 volte da sola, a visitare i miei parenti e a vedere molti bei posti. È stato favoloso! Con mio marito ci siamo stati due volte.

Ti piacerebbe vivere in Italia? A mio marito piacerebbe moltissimo. Non vede l'ora! Se io dicessi di sì, lui sarebbe pronto immediatamente. Io ci andrei se ci fosse lavoro e una casa.....

Qual'è la tua professione? Sono insegnante di scuola elementare.

Dove lavori? Lavoro a Biggerran Waters State School tre giorni alla settimana dove insegno italiano per due giorni, e il terzo giorno insegno alla quarta. Gli altri due giorni della settimana sono a Labrador State School per insegnare l'italiano alla quinta e sesta ..

Ci parli del tuo lavoro con la Dante? Sono parecchi anni che sono alla Dante....veramente Luisa, ti ricordi di essere stata tu ad invitarmi ad una *Dante Car Rally!*

Da quel periodo sono sempre stata coinvolta nel comitato...come insegnante, poi in ruoli vari amministrativi...tesoriere, segretaria....ed ora ho il titolo di School Director.

Da quanto tempo fai questo lavoro? School Director? Direi quindici anni.

È un lavoro molto impegnativo? Sì, ma mi piace molto.

Hai molto tempo libero? No, non ho molto tempo libero. Se non preparo le lezioni per la scuola, faccio delle cose per la Dante. Poi ho mio figlio, la mia famiglia....

Come ti rilassi? Rilassarmi!!! Mi rilasso veramente solo quando sono in vacanza, lontano da casa.

Se potresti, cosa ti piacerebbe cambiare nella tua vita? Fare tutto quello che sto facendo ma in modo migliore..

Hai un libro/film/cibo/ristorante/café'/preferito? Una cosa preferita: gli gnocchi e la pasta verde fatti in casa da mamma!

Hai un sogno nel cassetto? Vorrei molto viaggiare ancora, come quando ero `single`!

Cane o gatto per te? Cane. Mio figlio ne vorrebbe uno!

Film preferito? Non ne ho uno preferito....mi piacciono molti film.

Dove vorresti vivere? Ma, al momento sono contenta qui, alla Gold Coast, però preferirei vivere in una casa invece di un appartamento ... per accontentare mio figlio e mio marito.

In una parola, per te "LA VITA È".....?" Preziosa!

Grazie.

Luisa Liussi

L'ANGOLO DELLA POESIA*(a cura di Connie Canale)***VORREI CHE IL MIO AMORE FOSSE
QUELLA ROSSA ROSA ROSSA.**

*Vorrei che il mio amore fosse quella rossa rosa rossa,
Che cresce tra le mura del giardino,
E io essere una goccia di rugiada,
E tra i suoi petali cadere -
Fino al suo sacro seno
Tutta la notte ci giocherei e mi divertirei,
E ci trascorrerei l'estate
Fino al sorgere del giorno.*

Robert Burns – 1759-1796**AUGURI A TUTTI GLI INNAMORATI
PER LA FESTA DI SAN VALENTINO
14 Febbraio 2015**

**This year is the 750th Anniversary of the
birth of the poet Dante Alighieri
(1265 – 1321)**

PORTE APERTE

A tutti i soci ed amici

SERATA in PIAZZA DANTE

venerdì 6 marzo alle 18

APERITIVI ED ASSAGGINI \$10**RSVP - Luisa****LIBRARY GUIDELINES**

Books, magazines, video-cassettes [VHS], DVDs and CDs in the Dante Library may be borrowed either 15 mins before class, or during the coffee break.

This is a self-checking honour system:

- **You select the item to be borrowed, and enter its details** (author, title, call number, etc.) **in the Loans Register.**
- **Sign it out to yourself by using a legible signature and providing your full contact details i.e. phone number.**
- **Loan Period: 2 weeks** [with a possible further 2 week extension after obtaining your class Tutor's approval].

Reference material can be used in the Library only. They are Not For Loan and cannot be removed from the library under any circumstances.

- **RETURNED loan item(s) must be signed in, by your Class Tutor, and placed in the Box provided.**

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Sergio Mattarella **Nuovo Presidente della Repubblica d'Italia**

Sergio Mattarella, a Sicilian judge and longtime critic of Silvio Berlusconi was elected Italy's new President on 31 January 2015 and he was sworn in on 03 February.

Mattarella was the only nomination put forward by Prime Minister Matteo Renzi. Politically it has been interpreted as a major victory for Renzi, and he has outmanoeuvred Berlusconi in choosing Mattarella.

Mr Mattarella comes from a prominent Sicilian political family. His father Bernardo, a vocal opponent of Fascism who was persecuted by Benito Mussolini, co-founded the Christian Democratic Party which dominated Italian politics for half a century. His brother, Piersanti, was Governor of Sicily when he was shot eight times at close range by the mafia in 1980 and died in his arms on the way to hospital.

A Constitutional Court judge and devout Catholic, the new President is a member of the Democratic Party and entered politics through the Chamber of Deputies in 1983.

Appointed Minister of Education in 1989, he served just one year in the cabinet of Giulio Andreotti before stepping down in protest against the so-called Mammi Act that liberalised Italian media laws and was widely seen as a favour to allow Mr Berlusconi to take control of private television in Italy. He later served as Defence Minister between 1999 and 2001.

Mr Mattarella succeeds Giorgio Napolitano, 89, who served as head of state for nine difficult years and resigned in early January, citing old age. The President's term of office lasts for seven years, however, Napolitano had his period extended when there was difficulty finding a successor for him. Mattarella is the 12th President. The first President, Enrico de Nicola was appointed in 1946 as the Provisional Head of State and then formally appointed as President on January 1948.

The vote was won after three previous inconclusive rounds which failed to elicit the required two-thirds majority. However the fourth, secret ballot in Rome saw Mr Mattarella win 665 of the 1009 votes cast by MPs and regional representatives, well above the 505 votes needed to win.

Italians learned of his election via an excited tweet from Mr Renzi: "Buon lavoro Presidente Mattarella! Viva l'Italia" he wrote.

In Italy, the President – while seen largely as a figurehead – has often been forced into making critical decisions in politics, particularly at times of unworkable coalition governments. Ultimately, he (there has never been a woman elected) is also empowered to reject laws regarded as unconstitutional, to block questionable ministerial appointments and dismiss or dissolve governments before their term is up.

Brian Bell

See Selena for your 10% Dante Members' discount at:

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selena@golosi.com.au

“LA TRAVIATA”
Opera by Giuseppe Verdi



Verdi's greatest romantic tragedy “**LA TRAVIATA**” has all the ingredients - love, passion, an overprotective father and a life cut short.

Rising star **Emma Pearson** sings the role of **Violetta**, a coveted courtesan trapped in a life of pleasure for payment. When she unexpectedly falls in love with **Alfredo (Aldo di Toro)** their brief affair soars, only to be torn apart and ultimately end in **Violetta**'s death. Sumptuous staging, twinkling chandeliers, champagne-fuelled parties and costumes that would make Dior envious bring the extravagant characters and setting of high society Paris to vivid life.

Kate Cherry's acclaimed production brings together some of Australia's finest international artists including celebrated baritone **Jonathon Summers**, with **Maestro Johannes Fritsch** conducting the combined forces of the **Queensland Symphony Orchestra** and the **Opera Queensland Chorus**.

Boasting some of opera's most adored arias and stirring choruses, “**LA TRAVIATA**” is this season's classic opera highlight. The mood is for champagne, but bring tissues for the ending.

“**LA TRAVIATA**” is a co-production between New Zealand Opera, State Opera of South Australia and Opera Queensland.

Sung in Italian with projected English translations

JOIN THE DANTE ALIGHIERI SOCIETY GOLD COAST

SAT. 16TH MAY 2015 – 1.30P.M. (MATINEE SESSION)

LYRIC THEATRE – QPAC – BRISBANE –

TICKETS \$128.00 “A” RESERVE SEATS (SPECIAL DANTE PRICE).

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