



# DANTE NEWS Gold Coast

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Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast

October/ottobre 2015

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear members,

It is with sadness I advise that our teacher Astrid Pennisi lost her husband Bryan, last month. We extend our deepest condolences to her and her family.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> September I was invited to attend the award presentations for the Studitalia prize. (We are one of the sponsors). This year's donations were sufficient to send six Year 12 students to Italy. Awards were presented by the Italian Consul for Qld. & N.T., Ludovico Carlo Camussi and Dr Jim Watterston, Director-General, Department of Education and Training, Queensland.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> September I was one of 93 delegates from all over Australia who went to Canberra to elect an Australian representative for Italians living abroad (CGIE). Two other Dante presidents were there, Liz Jarvis from Brisbane and Franco Papandrea from Canberra. The Italian Ambassador, Pier Francesco Zazo, opened the proceedings and invited everyone to a cocktail at his residence that evening. Seven candidates nominated and after a secret ballot Franco Papandrea was elected.

The theme for this year's Italian Language Week is "*L'italiano nella musica – La musica nell'italiano*". We are having a Musical Soiree on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> October. (Flyer is on our Facebook Page and on our Website).

We will be having an information stall at the Gold Coast Multicultural Festival being held at Evandale Parklands on the 1<sup>st</sup> November from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cordiali saluti

Giovanna



Giovanna Santomauro, Franco Papandrea & Liz Jarvis

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## DATE CLAIMER

1<sup>st</sup> October - Lavazza Italian Film Festival

[www.italianfilmfestival.com.au](http://www.italianfilmfestival.com.au)

5<sup>th</sup> October - School resumes

24<sup>th</sup> October - Musical Soiree

1<sup>st</sup> November - GC Multicultural Festival

27<sup>th</sup> November - end of year dinner

28 November Summer holidays

The Lavazza Italian Film Festival is being held in two venues in Brisbane from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Gambaro Hotel is offering a \$20 discount on accommodation during the Italian Film Festival.

## THE GOLD COAST ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB

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**PRESIDENT:** Giovanna Santomauro 5539 5528

**SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Rita Lo Presti 5527 0797



## SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back after a short break. This term of only 8 weeks will go very fast. So I am putting down a few things as reminders-

### **Mini Courses**

Over the next 8 weeks, we have 2 mini courses running.

Oriana's – **Grammatica e Conversazione**

Beginners 3 to Advanced

Over 4 weeks different grammar topics will be revised and conversational activities used to reinforce the point.

Martina's- **Basic Italian Conversation**

Introduction level to Beginners 3

Over 3 weeks, very basic Italian to get you speaking.

We are offering a short 8 week "Italian for Travellers" Course. Can you please advertise it to your friends.

All the information is available on the website and in the Dante classroom Aula 1. You must register and prepay. Class with insufficient numbers will be cancelled.

### **Date Claimer**

Classes finish Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Students' Presentation of Certificates and Christmas Function - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November

### **Summer courses**

Over the summer break, teachers may offer 3 week Summer Courses for those interested. These lessons are not a continuation of the semester courses but extensions to courses and things Italian that might be of interest. Courses offered will soon be found on the whiteboard in Aula 1 or on the Dante website. Please indicate on the board or contact me if interested in these courses. A minimum of 6 people must be reached for the class to go ahead. All courses **must** be prepaid.

Any questions - please call me- 55270797

Or Email- [info@dantegoldcoast.com](mailto:info@dantegoldcoast.com)

*Rita School Director*

## STUDENTS' SECTION

*Studente B2, Dr David McCrossin, ha riscritto la storiella simpatica del PICCOLO BRUCO MAISAZIO . (The Very Hungry Caterpillar), Date un'occhiata a vedere che cosa mangia questo bruco! E poi alla fine, ci sono due possibilità. Grazie, molto divertente, Davide.*

*Luisa Liussi*

La prossima mattina, una **domenica**, il sole sorge alle sei, e l'uovo ha covato. Ecco, il molto piccolo bruco. Subito, il piccolo bruco ha molta, molta fame e sete. Va a cercare cibi. **Lunedì**, mangia una pizza con mozzarella e pomodoro. **Martedì**, beve due bicchieri di birra. **Mercoledì**, mangia tre ciotole di fettuccine carbonara. **Giovedì**, beve quattro litri di vino rosso. **Venerdì**, mangia cinque bistecche. **Sabato**, mangia un dolce al cioccolato, un cetriolo, un gelato, un lecca-lecca, una salsiccia, una fetta di salame, e un'intera anguria. Adesso, il bruco non è più piccolo, ma è diventato grosso e grasso, ed ubriaco. Allora, ci sono due tipi di terminazioni-

#1 È caduto dall'albero ed è morto.

#2 Ha fatto un bozzolo. In due settimane è uscito dal bozzolo, ed è diventato una farfalla meravigliosa.

**Fine**

(D. McCrossin.)



### **Introductory students - restaurant role play**





## CONOSCIAMOCI

### INTERVISTA a SIMONE BELGIOVANE

**Hai un bellissimo cognome, Simone. Da dove viene?** Il mio cognome in origine era Belgiovine e non Belgiovane (anche se mio papà era un bel giovane!). Mio padre era triestino e durante la guerra c'è stato un incendio all'anagrafe di Trieste, per cui quando sono stati trascritti i dati anagrafici di mia nonna si sono sbagliati e lei non si era preoccupata di farli correggere.

**Di che città sei?** Sono nata a Melbourne dove ho vissuto i miei primi 11 anni.

**Allora come ti senti: italiana o australiana?** Non mi sento né solo italiana, né solo australiana. Come si dice "non mi sento né carne né pesce". Mi sento ambedue.

**Ci parli della tua famiglia?** La mia famiglia è composta da 5 persone. Sono sposata da 18 anni con un avvocato penalista romano ed abbiamo tre figli: Antonio di 16 anni, Sofia di 14 e Leonardo di 5.

**Dove hai passato la tua infanzia?** La mia infanzia l'ho trascorsa a Melbourne circondata dall'affetto della mia famiglia: nonni, zii e cugini. I miei nonni materni erano siciliani e la nonna paterna triestina, quindi sono cresciuta con le tradizioni del nord e del sud Italia, insomma il meglio dei due mondi!

**Un bel ricordo da quando eri piccola?** Un bel ricordo di quando ero piccola è nel 1977, quando siamo andati in Italia. Con mio padre andavamo a raccogliere i pinoli dalle pigne cadute a terra. Li schiacciavamo con un sasso per aprirli e con le mani sporche ed appiccicose di resina li mangiavamo appena sbucciati. Un profumo ed un sapore indimenticabile.

**Da ragazzina, quali erano i tuoi idoli?** Erano un gruppo musicale degli anni '80, i Duran Duran. Avevo tappezzato tutte le pareti della mia camera da letto con i loro poster. Ero convinta di voler sposare Simon Le Bon (e con il mio nome e cognome sarebbe stato un connubio perfetto!)

**Scuola? Studi?** Ho frequentato la scuola elementare in Australia, fino alla sesta classe, successivamente ho frequentato per 3 anni la scuola media italiana, poi la scuola internazionale di Singapore per 2 anni e poi ho terminato gli studi in Italia. Tutti questi spostamenti sono avvenuti per il lavoro di mia mamma.

**Dove hai vissuto prima di venire qui?** Per più di 20 a Roma, in Italia.

**Come mai hai scelto la Gold Coast?** Beh,....mia mamma abita qui. È un posto bellissimo dove splende sempre il sole...dove desidero far crescere i miei figli, con la speranza di offrirgli un futuro migliore.

**Cosa ti manca dell'Italia?...**Ah, le mie super fantastiche amiche ed i nostri aperitivi.

**Cosa ti piace fare nel tuo tempo libero?** Tempo libero? Mi piace trascorrerlo all'aperto. Amo il mare e questo è decisamente il posto migliore per goderselo.

**Se potresti, cosa ti piacerebbe cambiare nella vita?** Mmm.... cosa cambierei? Con pregi e difetti ed alti e bassi, non cambierei nulla.

**Hai un sogno nel cassetto?** Un sogno nel cassetto è quello di poter visitare ancora molti paesi perché adoro viaggiare.

**In un due parole, "Per essere felici, nella vita si dovrebbe....."** ..... mangiare un piatto di pasta e bere un buon bicchiere di vino!!!

*Luisa Liussi*

(This interview is printed as submitted)

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**L'ANGOLO DELLA POESIA**  
(a cura di Connie Canale)

**L'Albero degli Amici**

Esistono persone nelle nostre vite che ci rendono felici per il semplice caso di avere incrociato il nostro cammino.

Alcuni percorrono il cammino al nostro fianco, vedendo molte lune passare, gli altri li vediamo appena tra un passo e l'altro. Tutti li chiamiamo amici e ce sono di molti tipi. Talvolta ciascuna foglia di un albero rappresenta uno dei nostri amici.

*Paul Montes - Missionario Sud-Americano.*



**StudItalia 2015 prize winners (article p.5)**

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**L'ANGOLO DELLA LETTURA**  
**BOOK REVIEW**



Martina Medda ha letto per noi: **Tracce criminali** E' un libro molto interessante ed informativo. E' scritto a due mani da Carlo

Lucarelli, scrittore di noir e grande indagatore di tutti i misteri che hanno segnato la storia italiana, e da Massimo Picozzi, psichiatra e criminologo. Il libro racconta alcune indagini controverse degli ultimi anni e analizza ambigui casi di cronaca nera. Gli autori entrano nello specifico delle inchieste della polizia spigando come si valutano le tracce sulla scena del crimine. E' presente persino un Glossario alla fine del libro con le parole-chiave usate nelle indagini.

Lo stile narrativo di Lucarelli (cosi' come nei suoi programmi televisivi) e' inimitabile e coinvolgente. Ne consiglio la lettura ad italiani madrelingua ed a studenti di livello intermedio- avanzato.

***Martina Medda***

*Sabato 26 Settembre si sono svolte a Canberra le elezioni del CGIE con 93 delegati presenti da tutta l'Australia. È stato rieletto il consigliere uscente Francesco Papandrea. Alle 18.00 un ricevimento in Residenza ha permesso a tutti di godere della compagnia e della serata*

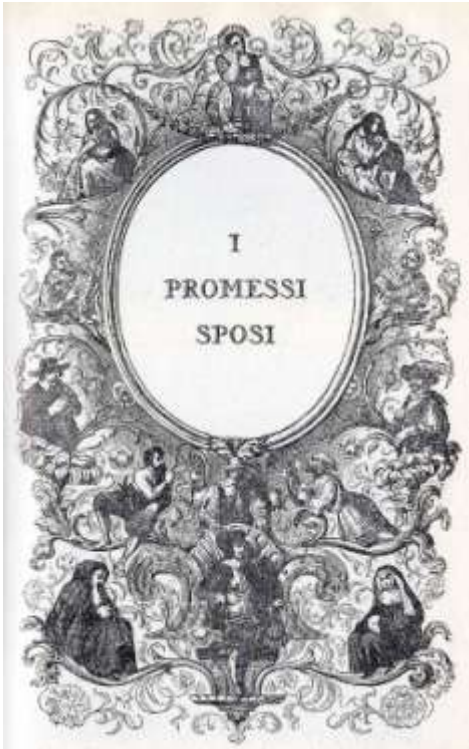


**Italian Ambassador, Pier Francesco Zazo, Giovanna and John Santomauro at the Cocktail party Saturday night.**

**LA BIBLIOTECA – THE LIBRARY**

You can now have the convenience of going to our Website and have a look at our library resources. It is easy to search. As soon as you open our Webpage there is a sign that says: “**Search the Dante Library Catalogue for your favourite DVD or Book**” and below that “Click here to search”. **Thank you Yen, Adolfo and Brian.**

## I Promessi Sposi



In our class, **Lingua, Cultura e Società**, Oriana is helping us study an Italian Classic called: “*I Promessi Sposi*” – literally “The Betrothed”. *I Promessi Sposi* is an Italian historical novel written by Alessandro Manzoni and first published in 1827. It has been called the most famous and widely read novel of the Italian language.

The story is set in northern Italy in 1628, during the oppressive years under Spanish rule. It is also noted for its extraordinary description of the plague that struck Milan around 1630.

*I Promessi Sposi* deals with a variety of themes, from the cowardly, hypocritical nature of one prelate (Don Abbondio) and the heroic sainthood of other priests (Padre Cristoforo, Federico Borromeo), to the unwavering strength of love (the relationship between Renzo and Lucia, and their struggle to finally meet again and be married). One thing that we learned from this novel, and it fascinated me, was the use of the word “bravo”. When used as an adjective, bravo means: good, capable, worthy, kind or well-behaved. If, however, you are using it as a noun, then it

means: scoundrel, rogue or henchman. Fascinating that a word can have such different meanings, depending on whether you are using it as an adjective or a noun!

In the story, Don Rodrigo, is a powerful horrible man who is infatuated with Lucia and is preventing Renzo and Lucia from getting married. He employs “due bravi” to do his dirty work for him.

Recently, there was a very elaborate, extravagant, over-the-top funeral of a Mafioso boss in Rome. It was complete with a band playing the theme from *The Godfather*, an antique black carriage pulled by six black horses and a helicopter that spread red rose petals over the mourners. One commentator described the priest officiating at the ceremony as being like Don Abbondio – the cowardly priest in *I Promessi Sposi*.

Fortunately, the version of *I Promessi Sposi* that we are studying is a simplified version, but certainly still enough to challenge us – particularly the use of passato remoto! Suitable for advanced students. It is a very enjoyable novel, and an important part of Italian culture.

**Brian Bell**

### STUDITALIA

Dear Sponsors, The Department wishes to sincerely thank you again for your contribution to the 2015 StuditaliA Prize. This Prize would not be possible, without the continued support from the Italian community and educational bodies. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces on Friday evening, where the importance of the Italian language within Queensland was very much evident.

Life-changing, transformative and powerful are often words associated with the StuditaliA Prize. Two of the four 2014 winners, Isobel Hunt and Justelle Coyle made a video and we share the link to their presentation, which details their experiences in Cividale del Friuli, Italy.

Video Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xy1-JVGDRHo> .

**Catherine Tynan** Project Officer – International Services (Department of Education and Training)

## **SOCIETA' DANTE ALIGHIERI CAIRNS .... 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**



On the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015, Societa' Dante Alighieri Cairns celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary – a very appropriate date since it was Ferragosto, and the year of Dante's 750th anniversary. I was very pleased to be present as a founding member. I remained on the committee from 1985 to 2001 when I transferred to the Gold Coast and have been on this committee ever since. Before leaving Cairns, Dante honoured me with "Consigliere a Vita" and "Diploma di Benemerenza" certificates.

Dante Cairns was initiated in 1985 by a small group of like minded Cairns Italians who gathered to decide how best to bring their knowledge of Italian language and culture to their community and to the second generation Italians who were falling out of touch with their ancestral language and culture, and set about forming a Sede in Cairns. Dante Brisbane, the Italian Consul and Sede Centrale Roma were all approached gave us their full support but no funds. But after lots of hard work and great enthusiasm the Dante Cairns Sede was formed.

As there was no official meeting place the group met at my home and used my office facilities to print the newsletters for 6 years before transferring to a public meeting place. Initially the group centred on food and wine tastings, outings, celebrating important Italian holidays such as Ferragosto, Festa della Repubblica, etc., later added literary evenings discussing Dante's writing and other poetry, and eventually Italian language classes. From the very start of the StudItalia prize I was a great supporter and still am. This prize allows four students of Italian in Queensland High Schools to travel to Italy and study in a local school for one month, all expenses paid. It's great to see that Dante Cairns still supports this prize.

The gala dinner was held at Pullman International Hotel, Cairns, and many past and present members were present. The programme was hosted by M.C. John Ford, a welcome by the present Dante president Pauline Morris and a reply by me bringing good wishes from Dante Gold Coast. A presentation by author Maria Bianco on her book "3 Trunks and a Cardboard Case" about the history of Northern Italian cane cutters in the 1950's, two sessions of classical arias by mezzo soprano Altouise De Vaughn, and a very interesting talk by Prof. Stephen Torre of James Cook University – "From here to Eternity – the love life of Dante Alighieri".

After the ceremony Mr. Claudio de Faveri of Multicultural Radio of Cairns approached me for an interview on Dante and Italian language's relevance in today's world, which I accepted to do.

Dante Cairns did a great job and hope to see them at the 2016 Dante Alighieri conference on Gold Coast/Brisbane.

*Connie Canale*