



DANTE NEWS Gold Coast

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Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast

August/agosto 2015

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear members,

After such a busy month in June I really appreciated the quieter month of July. I hope our students enjoyed the break. Second semester classes started on the 13th of July and it was good to see such enthusiastic students return to class. Welcome to all new Dante members.

Thank you Yen and Adolfo for all the work you are continuing to do on our library. We really appreciate how much time you are donating.

It is important that all members write what they borrow in the red borrowing book under their teacher's section and that when they return the item the teacher initials it. (Borrowing rules are on the web).

Most of our members are now receiving the newsletter by email but we have some past and current copies in Aula 1 if you prefer to have a paper copy. The newsletter is also on our website as well as a lot of interesting information and photos. When we offer short courses, details of these are put on the web site as well as in Aula 1. These short courses are offered from time to time and if there is enough interest, (minimum of 6 students) then it goes ahead. Thank you Brian for keeping the website up to date. We also put trivia and interesting information on our Facebook Page. Thank you Martina for doing this.

Our next bi-annual Car Rally "Matta Mattinata in Macchina" will be held on the 23rd August. Thank you Gino, June and Luisa for organizing this. It is always such an enjoyable experience and it gives our students and non student members an opportunity to use Italian in a practical way. (All details are on Page 5).

Looking forward to seeing you at the Car Rally.

Cordiali saluti

Giovanna

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

DATE CLAIMER

16 August MLTAQ Speech Contest

23 August – Car Rally

Matta Mattinata in Macchina

13 September – GC Multicultural Festival

19 September – 4 October School holidays

28 November Summer holidays

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SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome to all our new students in Semester 2 and *Bentornati* to Semester 1 returning students. We hope you have had a good break and are ready to continue with your learning and that the semester will be a rewarding one.

Thank you to students who enrolled early and paid their fees promptly. The on-line enrolment has made my life much easier in ascertaining if classes will continue.

I ask that you be patient with students moving between levels and several people still returning from holidays in Europe.

Dante Dates/ Prices/Forms

Over the break, I had several people call me to ask *What are the dates...., How much do I pay for a semester...etc.* I am happy to help anyone however now the website gives you everything you need. If you haven't had a good look at the site, there is more there than you probably think!

Cancelled classes

Unfortunately we had to cancel Intermediate 1 on Tuesday night and the Children's class as there were insufficient numbers.

Children's Classes

We would love to get this class going again. We need a few more students between 5-8 yrs. Please be our advertisers for anyone that you think may want classes for their children. Please give them my details.

Beginners' Conversation Mini course

Conversation classes for all beginners levels. This will commence Thursday August 6th for 3 weeks, 10 - 11.30am with Martina Medda. Price \$15 per lesson or \$40 for 3 classes. Please add your name to the list at the Dante or let me know.

Intermediate Conversation Classes

We offer Intermediate conversation classes on Monday mornings but there is a group of students wanting Intermediate conversation in the evenings. Are you interested?? If we have enough students interested we could go ahead with this. Please add your name on the white board in Aula 1 at the Dante or contact me.

SCHOOL NEWS (Cont.)

Advanced Conversation Classes

These are on Thursday morning with Gilda. Cost is \$60 for the semester if you are enrolled in another class or \$90 for semester if this is the only course you are attending.

Grazie

Thankyou to Valentina, Gabriel, Martina Medda and Martina Barzan for filling in for Oriana while she has been in Italy.

New Teachers

We have advertised and have employed new teachers recently. They will fill in from time to time and/or commence taking classes.

Matta Mattinata in Macchina – Car Rally

Sunday 23rd August. Details of this fun activity is on Page 5.

Any questions - please call me- 55270797

Or Email- info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita *School Director*



Many of our Students have travelled in Italy and some have gone to learn Italian at different Italian schools there. This photo of our students was taken at Camerino, in the Marche region. At the back are Helen, Jill, Julia and Vicki with Lesley in the front.

We are always happy to share your Italian experiences and useful suggestions for future travellers.



CONOSCIAMOCI

INTERVISTA - CONNIE CANALE
Cultural/ Social Co-ordinator
Gold Coast Dante Alighieri Society.

Ci diamo del tu, vero? Ma certo.

Come ti fai chiamare: Connie o Concetta? Uso Concetta soltanto sui documenti. Tutti mi conoscono come "Connie".

Sei nata in Italia o in Australia? Sono nata in Italia, a Ripa Teatina, a pochi chilometri da Pescara, in Abruzzo.

Allora come ti senti: italiana o australiana? Io mi sento meta`e meta`. Ho ambedue le cittadinanze e quando viaggio dico sempre che sono australiana ma nata in Italia.

Dove hai vissuto prima di venire sulla Gold Coast? La mia famiglia è emigrata dall'Italia e si è stabilita a Brisbane dove ho fatto tutti i miei studi. Dopo il matrimonio mi sono trasferita con la mia famiglia a Cairns e siamo rimasti lì per 30 anni. A Cairns avevo un'agenzia di viaggi per signori d'affari (business travel).

Ci parli della tua famiglia? Ho quattro figli sparsi dappertutto.

Hai famiglia in Italia? Sì, tanti zii e cugini. Ogni volta che torno in Italia desidero visitarli. Ma anche a me piace rivedere i luoghi della mia infanzia.

Una bella memoria di quando eri piccola? Il mare di Pescara. Andavo spesso da mia zia che abitava a due passi dalla spiaggia e ricordo il colore blu del Mare Adriatico. La casa di mio padre era soltanto a pochi chilometri da Pescara e da Francavilla a Mare, e vedevamo il mare.

Hai viaggiato molto? Abbastanza ... Sono stata in Europa, Asia, nelle isole del Pacifico, e negli Stati Uniti, ma il posto più memorabile per me è stato l'Alaska.

Qual'è la tua città preferita in Italia? Tutte le città italiane sono belle, perciò non ne ho una preferita. Mi piace molto Chieti, città molto storica e non tanto conosciuta.

Lavori? Faccio molto lavoro volontario; con gli anziani in un gruppo di "respite"; sono nel comitato della Dante Alighieri; assisto alla preparazione della Santa Messa Italiana, e poi aiuto altre organizzazioni caritatevoli, e poi vado spesso a dare una mano alla mia anziana madre.

Da quanto tempo sei coinvolta con il comitato della Dante Gold Coast? Con quella della Gold Coast, da 12 anni, ma prima di questo ero nel Comitato fondatore della Dante Cairns (che quest'anno compie 30 anni) e sono rimasta nel comitato finché non mi sono trasferita sulla Gold Coast.

Quali sono le tue responsabilità? Qui sulla Gold Coast sono la coordinatrice delle attività sociali e culturali. Mi piace molto questo ruolo perché mi dà l'opportunità di far conoscere la cultura italiana, storia, musica, cibo, ecc. agli studenti della Dante Alighieri.

Se potessi, cosa ti piacerebbe cambiare nella tua vita? Purtroppo non si può cambiare nulla del nostro passato – credo che tutto quello che succede nella vita ha una ragione.

Cosa ti piace fare nel tuo tempo libero? Quale tempo libero? Ogni giorno ho troppo da fare. Amo molto il giardinaggio e a Cairns avevo un giardino enorme che mi teneva occupata ogni week-end. Ora il mio giardino è più piccolo ma m'è impegnata ugualmente. Curo anche quello di mia madre a Brisbane. Inoltre mi piace leggere ed alterno un libro in inglese con uno in italiano.

Musica? Si amo molto la musica classica e anche la musica moderna

Hai un sogno nel cassetto? Sì ... con quattro figli ancora non sono nonna ... però a settembre finalmente nascerà il mio primo nipote.

In una parola, per te la vita è preziosa. Non bisogna sprecare nemmeno un solo giorno perché nessuno sa quanto tempo abbiamo a disposizione.

Luisa Liussi

(full interview on our web site)

(This interview is printed as submitted)

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

Ferragosto - blu come il colore del cielo
 terso,
 Giallo come il sole che brilla,
 Rosso come l'amore delle persone che ti
 circondano,
 Verde come i prati in fiore.
 Buon Ferragosto dai colori dell'arcobaleno,
 E la speranza che sia un'estate straordinaria
 (Autore ignoto)

Ferragosto, or Assumption Day, is an Italian national holiday celebrated on the 15th August. Many Italians head to the beach for *Ferragosto*. Traditionally it marks the start of the Italian holiday season.

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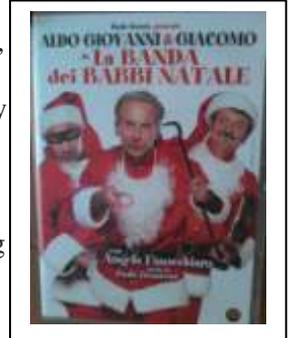
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www.wilkes.com.au**I MINI CORSI DURANTE LE VACANZE****Serata al Cinema e Pomeriggio al Cinema****Film Review:**

This film is a situation comedy, a little slapstick in character. It is a story of love and adultery of love lost and rediscovered, with some tender moments for the romantic at heart. The protagonists are three bumbling Santas mistaken by the local constabulary for the infamous "3 Santas" gang of cat burglars



How they got into the compromising position that sees them arrested and interrogated at the police station is recounted in flashbacks. What we learn about our heroes is that one is an adulterous Romeo living a dual life that sees him driving back and forth across the Italo-Swiss border in a poor attempt at maintaining two concurrent relationships. Balancing this farce we have the sad widower character still deeply in love with his deceased wife and oblivious to the attentions of his attractive colleague. The troupe is completed by a gambling addict whose wife has "had enough". There's more, like how the married lady police chief whose Christmas Eve is ruined by the arrest of our heroes, ends up in a relationship with our Romeo. A good film for those of us learning Italian because the dialogue is clear, unencumbered by the distractions of sound effects of any kind. In fact it feels at times like a filmed play. You'll love it!

Grahame Gillespie

It is Christmas Eve and three bocce enthusiasts are holed up in a police station accused of being the Santa Claus Gang. As they declare their innocence to a stern and maternal police inspector, who would prefer to be *a casa*, the police station becomes the location where they analyse their lives and express their hopes for change. Aldo is an unemployed and inveterate gambler, Giovanni is an unreliable veterinarian and Giacomo is a medico who lives in the past in love with his late wife. The plot moves fast and the characters talk even faster. Giovanni steals the limelight in this light hearted and festive action which is easily enjoyed. **Pamela Conway**



Students watching "La Tigre e la Neve"

Thank you for presenting these films. E` facile amare Roberto Benigni. *La tigre e la neve* era incantevole.

Pam Conway

Matta Mattinata in Macchina



What is a Car Rally?

It's a fun competition to find the place where we will all gather for a Sausage Sizzle. You will be given an envelope with instructions and clues - all written in Italian to make it more interesting (easy Italian, but it's a good idea to bring a dictionary)!

Prizes for the winners, top point scorers & best themed group!! -

Car Rally contestants meet at the Dante Rooms, Italo Australian Club, Clear Island Waters at **9.30 a.m. Sunday 23 August** for registration and your instruction envelope. If we have a huge turnout we will allocate starting times of 9.45am, 10am etc to shave unnecessary delays waiting for your start.)

If you don't want to enter the Competition, come to the Dante rooms at 10.30 a.m. for your envelope with the secret destination - you can go straight to the picnic spot.

Cost \$5 per person, includes antipasto, a sausage sizzle, tea/coffee and biscotti. **BYO** drinks and nibbles. Please phone so we have numbers for catering. Pre- Pay to Luisa Liussi or June Moro or pay on the day when you meet at the club.

RSVP 16 Aug

Gino & June Moro - 5538 7745

email : jpmoro@hotmail.com

Previous Car Rally photos



LET'S TALK WINE!! – Montepulciano (grapes)



Montepulciano is a red Italian wine grape variety that is most noted for being the primary grape behind the Denominazione di Origine Controllata e Garantita (DOCG). Seeing this on the label on the bottle of your Italian wine means that the wine producers followed the strictest regulations possible to make that wine.

Montepulciano should not be confused with the similarly named Tuscan wine – Vino Nobile di Montepulciano, which is made from predominantly Sangiovese and is named for the village it is produced in, rather than for containing any **Montepulciano** grapes in the blend.

Montepulciano grape is widely planted throughout central and southern Italy, most notably in Abruzzo, Lazio, Marche, Molise, Umbria and Apulia, and is a permitted variety in DOC wines produced in 20 of Italy's 95 provinces. **Montepulciano** is rarely found in northern Italy because the grape has a tendency to ripen late and can be excessively "green" if harvested too early. When fully ripened, **Montepulciano** can produce deeply coloured wines, with moderate acidity and noticeable extract and alcohol levels.

The winery above showing infinite rows of vines as far as the eye can see, is the **Illuminati Winery** in the area of Controguerra, province of Teramo in Abruzzo, a sunny land between the azure Adriatic sea and the majesty of the Gran Sasso Mountains. Located 320 metres above sea level, its natural characteristics make the cultivated **Montepulciano** grapes a real treasure of tastes and flavours.

History remembers that when Hannibal reached this area after the battle of Lake Trasimeno, (June 217 BC), the fierce fighter realized Controguerra was an ideal place for refreshment and recovery for himself and his soldiers. Folklore says they gained new power and strength thanks to the local wine! The winery is the home of Riparosso wine amongst others, which are also exported to Australia.

Connie Canale

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