

May/maggio 2020  
ISSN2206-9828

## President's Letter

Dear members and friends,

I hope you and your family members are all in good health and keeping safe. Whilst it's important to keep up the physical distancing measures and adhere to all the rules, we can still stay socially and emotionally connected with our loved ones and friends. You can do this through mobile applications or just by picking up the phone to chat more often. I really enjoy seeing my children and grandchildren on Facetime. I can't hug or kiss them but at least I can see and hear them.

Thank you to those who are working to assist others through this time and for the sacrifices that you as an individual and family member are making in your daily life to keep our community safe. Hopefully in the not too distant future we can all return to normal life with our personal activities and those of our Society.

I would like to thank our teachers and students who are continuing our classes online using Zoom.

Thank you to Brian for the surveys on Functions and Video conferencing, and to the members who replied. Thank you to Martina for keeping Facebook updated.

In April we held our first Committee meeting using Zoom. It was very interesting and there were a couple of glitches but we will get better with more practice. Below is the photo of the Zoom meeting, I am holding Connie on my phone as she had trouble connecting.

We wish you well and always keeping positive hope to see each other again soon.

Cordiali saluti

*Giovanna*



## DATE CLAIMERS

*27<sup>th</sup> April – Start Term 2*  
*26<sup>th</sup> June – end of Term 2*

**Like us on Facebook**  
**Dante Gold Coast Australia**

**Instagram – @dantegoldcoast**

**President: Giovanna Santomauro**  
**07 5539 5528**

**Secretary: Anna Domaneschi**  
**07 55260170**

**School Director: Rita Lo Presti**  
**07 55270797**

## This issue

*School News P. 2*

*Virtual tours P. 2*

*Amici della Dante P.3*

*Dante Coro P.4*

*Italian Poem P. 5*



## SCHOOL NEWS

Ciao

We have really had to adapt and make changes like never before to allow our Dante students to continue their Italian learning. Thank you for your patience with the Zoom online learning. Though very stressful at the start in trying to understand how it works and the best ways of presenting lessons on it, I have received lots of emails to say how wonderful it also is. The teachers have had several Zoom meetings. This is a photo of the last one we had during the break.



The Dante has now paid for licences of Zoom online so that lessons will no longer be disjointed. You will have contact with your teacher for the full 2 hour duration of the lesson. If there are any problems or issues, please speak or email your class teacher or me. I do not know when we will be returning to the Dante rooms for classes. We will wait till we hear what the government's directives are.

### Course Dates for Semester 1 2020

Term 2 commenced - Monday 27 April

\*\*This is a nine week term.

Course concludes – Friday 26 June

### An evening to find out about Italian language Schools in Italy

We have had to put this on hold but will reschedule it in the future.

*If you have any questions or concerns-  
please call me on 55270797*

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

*Rita*

*School Director*

### **10 musei da visitare stando a casa: tour virtuali e collezioni online.**

1. Pinacoteca di Brera -  
Milano <https://pinacotecabrera.org/>
2. Galleria degli Uffizi -  
Firenze <https://www.uffizi.it/mostre-virtuali>
3. Musei Vaticani -  
Roma <http://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/it/collezioni/catalogo-online.html>
4. Museo Archeologico -  
Atene <https://www.namuseum.gr/en/collections/>
5. Prado -  
Madrid <https://www.museodelprado.es/en/the-collection/art-works>
6. Louvre - Parigi <https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne>
7. British Museum -  
Londra <https://www.britishmuseum.org/collection>
8. Metropolitan Museum - New  
York <https://artsandculture.google.com/explore>
9. Hermitage - San Pietroburgo <https://bit.ly/3cJHdnj>
10. National Gallery of art -  
Washington <https://www.nga.gov/index.html>

<https://ladante.it/comunicati-stampa/3145-la-dante-celebra-il-libro-e-la-lettura-pagine-di-storia-coinvolge-anche-narrativa-e-poesia.html>

**AMICI DELLA DANTE LUNCH  
WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

We missed a few of our friends but enjoyed our small group. Lunch was held the last week before everything closed down. In February we celebrated Ester's birthday and in March we celebrated Graziella's birthday. *Tanti auguri Graziella.*

Hope you are all well and safe and look forward to catching up again soon. Ciao a tutti,

*Maria Barrett*



*Maria Barrett, Gilda La Rocca, Teresa Pantano, Graziella D'Adderio, Ester Ceron and Delfina Bettega*

**PIAZZA DANTE**

The Piazza is empty now, just waiting to see all our members back again when it is safe to do so. Ester has beautified the Dante courtyard "Piazza Dante". She is a treasure and gets a lot of pleasure in her generosity. Thank you Ester, Franco and Anna for keeping the plants alive and the courtyard tidy.

**ZOOM CLASSES**



An advantage of Zoom classes is that we can share spontaneously. Above photo includes SHOW AND TELL - pets at home. (Beginners' 1 Class – Thursday morning)

*Luisa Liussi*

**PIAZZA DANTE**



**DANTE CORO UPDATE**

Dante Coro continues despite the lockdown. So enthusiastic are our songbirds, we unanimously decided to continue over the Easter break. Our Coro meets on Wednesday nights via Zoom. Each week we have a theme, Easter bonnet, Australiana, as examples. Our attendances are very good with 18-19 attendees. We usually start with 30 minutes of chat and catch up on our “exciting” lives under lockdown, followed by an hour of joyous singing. In these challenging times Dante Coro brings light and laughter into our lives and the group grows stronger.

*Helena Knight*



**COLLAS MORO ROSS**

46 Watson Esplanade  
**SURFERS PARADISE 4217**  
 PH. 07 55399099  
 Email: [ginom@cmrlawyers.com.au](mailto:ginom@cmrlawyers.com.au)  
 Web: [www.cmrlawyers.com.au](http://www.cmrlawyers.com.au)  
**ITALIAN SPOKEN**

**FOR GENUINE PROFESSIONAL  
 SERVICE & ADVICE**

GERARD WILKES & ASSOCIATES  
**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**  
 Family owned & operated. Est. 1977  
 Ph. 5532 1733  
 email: [admin@wilkes.com.au](mailto:admin@wilkes.com.au)  
 P.O. Box 1932 Southport Q. 4215  
[www.wilkes.com.au](http://www.wilkes.com.au)

*Our member, Sara Simonetti sent us a poem from her mother Giuliana Simonetti Massone, who lives in Genoa, to put in our newsletter:*

### IDENTIKIT DI UNO SCRITTORE

Vi sono molti tipi di scrittori, di stili, di argomenti ma, in chi scrive, esiste quasi sempre l'inquietante necessità di manifestare se stesso, e a questo approdi quando, con umiltà, riesci a penetrare negli oscuri meandri della tua anima che solo allora, docilmente, trasmetterà i tuoi pensieri.

Scrivere finisce così per essere un poco autoanalisi perché, mentre si dettaglia l' avvenimento reale, oppure s'inventano personaggi fittizi, affiora pur sempre uno stile che riflette la propria ottica di cui ci si avvalora costantemente per valutare, discernere, affrontare le situazioni della vita.

Un altro movente è leggere molto gli scritti altrui, letture che insegnano, arricchiscono e magari incitano ad afferrare la penna e cimentarsi con essa. Qualcosa di analogo a quel che avviene dopo aver ripetutamente ascoltato stupendi concerti: è stata così tanta la bellezza ed emozione trasmessaci dalla musica e da coloro che l'hanno eseguita che, al dissolversi le ultime note persiste all' udito un'eco struggente, e più tardi, ritrovandoci magari accanto ad un pianoforte, non si resiste alla tentazione di allungare le mani, anche se il risultato è ovvio.

Così come, colui che s'inizia ai principi dello scrivere (ma anche dopo) conosce a tal punto l'alienazione della mente in bianco, che si chiede cosa mai ci fa seduto al tavolino, il mento appoggiato al pugno chiuso, lo sguardo fisso nel vuoto.

...Bisogna amare il piacere di scrivere per constatarne l'angoscia di non riuscirvi. O sennò tenere sempre presente il precetto Oraziano: "SUMITE MATERIAM VESTRIS QUI SCRIBITUS ACQUAM VIRIBUS" (SE VOLETE SCRIVERE SCEGLIETE UN ARGOMENTO PARI ALLE VOSTRE FORZE). Ma invece più ardua è l'impresa più si è spronati a tentare, e ogni sfida affrontata può trasformarsi in una vittoria. Non su altri. Verso sé stessi. Una sfida, quella di scrivere, maturata, scaturita non certo per paragonarsi, ma per avere la mente ed il cuore colmi dell' eco di color che vi sono riusciti con dedizione, con amore, chissà con la speranza testarda di raggiungere quella felicità che non si avrà mai, ma ugualmente ci s'illude di possedere con solo dare vita alla propria penna. E forse, qualche volta, uno scrittore nasce proprio così'. ( *GIMS* )

Steve McCurry's Tribute to Italy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8xPukESw18>

**If you have any travel or study tips please share. Send a few words with a photo. We can always dream and plan for the future. In the meantime, we welcome any suggestions on useful websites to post and share with the society.**



*We wish all the mothers a wonderful Mothers' Day  
and send you virtual hugs and flowers.*

*Un abbraccio, Giovanna*