



DANTE NEWS GOLD COAST

December/dicembre 2022



LETTERA DEL PRESIDENTE

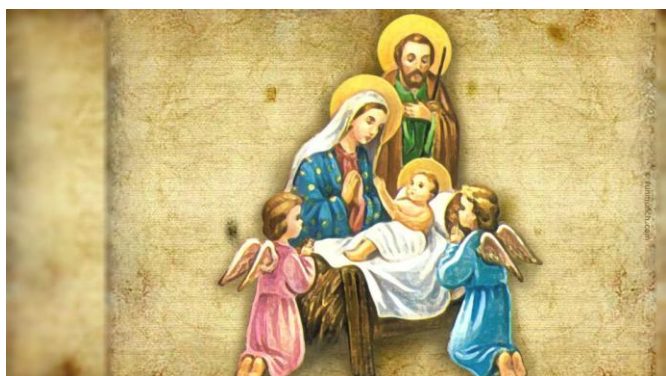
Dear Members and friends

We have come to the end of another year . I hope you and your families are well and that you enjoy time with family during the Christmas holidays. Hopefully 2023 will be a better year for everyone. Thank you to all the Dante students who support our school and the wonderful teachers in all our classes. Rita does a wonderful job in putting together all the information about classes and courses and our very efficient Web Master, Brian Bell, quickly puts the information on the web and also emails updates to all our members. Thank you Martina for managing our Facebook page. I am very fortunate to have wonderful people on the committee and volunteers who take on the tasks necessary to run our Gold Coast Society. We congratulate the Brisbane Dante Alighieri Society who celebrate 70 years. They are very dear friends and always very supportive of us. We hope to include some of their celebration photos in our next newsletter.

Sadly we lost another special Dante member, Sue Corfield last month. You can see her photo on *Pagina 7*. I went to her beautiful funeral in Tweed Valley. Susanna, as we knew her, and her late husband Grahame also came on our Italian trips. A long time ago, when we were all younger!!

Cordiali saluti a tutti, un abbraccio.

Giovanna (Cav. Giovanna Santomauro, Presidente SDA Gold Coast)



*Il Comitato e gli insegnanti
Augurano a tutti voi e le vostre famiglie
Un Buon Natale e un
Felice Anno Nuovo*

Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast Inc

Office: 07 5575 5772

www.dantegoldcoast.com.au

info@dantegoldcoast.com

P.O.Box 6862 Gold Coast MC 9726

2/18 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters, Qld Australia

President: Giovanna Santomauro 07 5539 5528

Secretary: Anna Domaneschi 07 5526 0170

School Director: Rita Lo Presti 07 5527 0797

Facebook Dante Gold Coast Australia

Instagram @dantegoldcoast

Ciao a tutti,

Another year has flown by. We are so lucky not to have had all the interruptions with Covid as we had in the past two years. I must thank our teachers for their constant dedication to the students and their commitment to the Dante. A sincere thank you to the students. Because of you, we have a Dante school on the Gold Coast.

There are mini courses running before Christmas and several after the New Year. There may be something there for some students who would like to refresh or recommence in 2023. Complete an online enrolment form and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Next year's membership and enrolment forms for 2023 Semester 1 courses are all available on the website. There is a calendar also on the website highlighting start dates, holidays etc so that you can work out classes around your holidays!
Please take advantage of the Early bird price!!

Important Course Dates

2022

* **Mini Courses** - *Let's talk Italian*- Tuesday 6 Dec 9.30- 11.30am

- *Parliamo come veri italiani* - Friday 2 Dec/ 9 Dec/ 16 Dec 10.00- 12.00

**** School Closed between 17 December 2022 to 8 January 2023****

2023

* **Early Bird Special price**- Payment before 13 January 2023- \$500 including membership

* Enrolment at the rooms- Tuesday 17 Jan 4.30-6.00 p.m.

* **Mini Courses**- *Back to Italian* - Beginners - Intermediate Grammar & Conversation
Thursday 12 Jan/ 19 Jan 9.30-11.30am

Back to Italian - Advanced Grammar & Conversation
Monday 9 Jan/16 Jan/23 Jan 10.00-12.00

Novità dall'Italia – Wednesday 11 Jan/ 18 Jan/ 25/ Jan 10.00-12.00

* **Classes recommence - Monday 30 January 2023**

End of Semester and Christmas Party

Thank you to the few who replied to our survey. Unfortunately, the Christmas party scheduled for Friday 25 November was cancelled due to the lack of support. A lot of time goes into preparing for these events and cleaning up. It is usually a great night and a chance to unwind together. I look forward to our first function next year for the students!!

2023 Fees for Semester 1 courses (18 weeks)

Early Bird special- \$500 includes \$20 annual membership for 1

Must be received by Friday 13th January 2023

Late direct deposits will pay the higher rate

From Saturday 14 January \$510 plus \$20 annual membership for 1= \$530

* More than one person per family- 5% discount per person

Private Classes in 2023

If you are interested in private classes next year, please get in early to book your class. Please complete the online enrolment form stating possible days and times and a preferred teacher if you wish.

Any questions or concerns about the school, please call me on 55270797 or email me: info@dantegoldcoast.com

Tanti Auguri per un Buon Natale e Felice Anno Nuovo

Rita – School Director

Gli studenti della classe Lingua, cultura e società' hanno creato degli slogan pubblicitari per la nostra scuola. Siamo felici di avere studenti con noi da tantissimi anni e ancora entusiasti. Grazie a tutti voi per far parte della "grande famiglia della Dante GC"
(Martina Medda)

Vieni alla Dante! La Società' Dante Alighieri qui alla Gold Coast ti dara' una grande passione per la lingua italiana

Vieni qui, alla Dante nel sole

Viaggio in Italia? Prima vieni qui, alla Dante GC

Per imparare l'italiano e per incontrare nuovi amici. Vieni alla D. G. C.

Unisciti a noi per "un viaggio" in Italia con amici. E' meraviglioso.

Vieni alla Dante GC. Parlerai un italiano perfetto.



La classe di Lingua, Cultura e Società' di mercoledì mattina.



La studente di Beginners 1

Sassi, un quartiere di circa 1.500 abitazioni rupestri, si trova sotto Matera nella Basilicata. Durante le epoche classica e medievale, le grotte naturali sono state scavate più in profondità e ampliate in spazi abitativi. Oggi queste residenze sotterranee sono state restaurate e soggiornare in uno di questi hotel rupestri è un'esperienza esotica. Sassi era un mondo rurale dimenticato che, dall'Unità d'Italia nel 1870, era sprofondata in una povertà disperata. Era sempre stata isolata e tra le regioni meno popolate e visitate d'Italia. Anche nel diciannovesimo secolo, pochi viaggiatori si avventuravano nei suoi paesaggi aridi e desolati, note per essere pieni di briganti. Le abitazioni rupestri erano diventate 'buchi oscuri' crivellati di sporcizia, malattie e invasi da animale da cortile. Il tasso di mortalità infantile superava il 50%.

Nel 1945 l'artista e scrittore italiano, Carlo Levi, durante il suo anno di esilio politico in Basilicata nel periodo fascista, pubblicò le sue memorie "*Cristo si fermò ad Eboli*". Il libro suscitò scalpore nell'Italia del dopoguerra e Sassi divenne nota come la vergogna nazionale. I fascisti modernizzavano il paese ma Matera rimase molto arretrata.

Nel 1952, un piano di reinsediamento trasferì l'intera popolazione di circa 16.000 persone dai Sassi in nuovi quartieri della città moderna, lasciando un guscio vuoto. Il governo decideva di radere al suolo con la dinamite la collina, tuttavia, gli studiosi che indagano sulla città scoprono che nei siti esistono prove che antichi romani, bizantini, greci, e altri fossero passati, lasciando dietro di loro manufatti fisici e culturali (per esempio, strumenti neolitici e dipinti). Uno scheletro di ominide di 150.000 anni è stato trovato. Le prove indicavano che le persone vivevano lì ininterrottamente almeno dal 7.000 AC. Oggi è riconosciuta come la terza città abitata più antica del mondo. È un sito del patrimonio mondiale dell'UNESCO.

Sassi era il luogo di molti film tra cui *Il Vangelo secondo San Matteo* di Pasolini, *Ben-Hur* e *Non c'è tempo per morire*, l'ultimo film di James Bond.



Sassi, a district of about 1,500 cave dwellings, is located below Matera in Basilicata. Throughout the classical and medieval eras, the caves were burrowed deeper and expanded into living spaces. Today, these underground residences have been restored and staying in one of the cave hotels is an exotic experience. Sassi was a forgotten rural world that had, since the unification of Italy in 1870, sunk into a desperate poverty. It had always been isolated and among the least populated and visited regions of Italy. Even in the 19th century, few travellers ventured through its arid, desolate landscapes, which were known to be full of brigands. The cave dwellings had become 'dark holes' riddled with filth and disease and overrun with barnyard animals. Infant mortality rates were over 50%.

In 1945, Italian artist and author Carlo Levi published his memoir, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*, about his year of political exile in Basilicata under the Fascists. The book caused an uproar in post-war Italy, and Sassi became notorious as the national shame. The fascists modernized the country but Matera remained very backward.

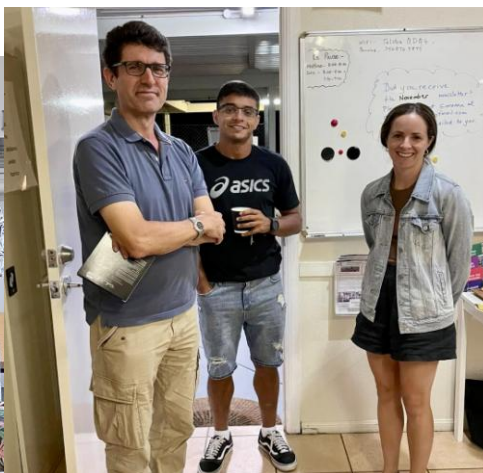
In 1952, a resettlement plan transferred the entire population of roughly 16,000 people from Sassi to new quarters in the modern city, leaving it an empty shell. The government planned to raze the hillside with dynamite, however, scholars investigating the city discovered sites which showed Ancient Romans, Byzantines, Greeks and others had passed through, leaving physical and cultural artefacts (eg Neolithic tools and paintings). A 150,000-year-old hominid skeleton was found. Evidence indicated that people had lived there continuously since at least 7,000 BC. Sassi is now recognised as the third oldest inhabited city in the world. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Sassi has featured in many films including Pasolini's *The Gospel According to St. Mathew*, *Ben-Hur* and *No Time To Die*, the last James Bond film.



Jaquie Shelton (LCS)

GLI STUDENTI DELLA DANTE CON GLI INSEGNANTI



*Auguriamo a tutti
un Buon Natale e un
Felice Anno Nuovo.
Ci vediamo alla
Dante Gold Coast
nel 2023.*



Dear students, we would appreciate it if you could promote our Italian language classes. It would be lovely to see some of our past students come join one of the classes running next year. Our classes are from complete beginners to advanced levels. If you have any suggestions for special mini courses we would also like to hear from you. Thank you to our wonderful teachers. *Ci vediamo l'anno prossimo. Grazie. Giovanna Santomauro (Presidente)*

Altri studenti



Joseph Patane playing Scarabeo.

Thank you to Ester Ceron who keeps our courtyard plants thriving. We are fortunate to have members who are willing to give their time to help out at the Dante.

Dante membership is due for renewal at the end of this month. Students will renew their membership or join when they do their enrolment for classes. Non student members can download the form from our Webpage and send in with payment or complete and pay online. If you would like a hard copy of the membership form please let me know and I will mail it out to you. We appreciate your support of the Italian language and culture by becoming a member of the Gold Coast Dante Alighieri Society. Grazie.

Giovanna



Rita, John and me at the Migrant Families Org. Dinner



The Coro entertained the seniors at Co.As.It.

OUR SPONSORS AND FRIENDS



R.I.P

**Susanne Jean
Corfield**

**24/5/1944
10/11/2022**



We are so sad to announce that our good friend, Sue Corfield, has died of heart failure at the age of 78. Sue and her husband Grahame were great supporters of Dante Alighieri Gold Coast where Graham was a valuable assistant to the treasurer, Tony Carnovale. Sue was an Italophile who loved everything about the country, and travelled there several times in her retirement years. After being a student at Dante Alighieri for some years she became a tutor for U3A and held classes at Tugun where she inspired many others to fulfil their dreams of speaking another language in order to travel to Italy. Sue was a woman of wit, wisdom and deep compassion. A gentle soul, a fierce intellect, a teacher, a musician, a wife, mother, grandmother and a loving friend. We will miss you Sue.

In loving remembrance from Barb Roughan and Mary Rawson.



**FOR GENUINE PROFESSIONAL
SERVICE AND ADVICE
GERARD WILKES & ASSOCIATES
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS**

Family owned & operated. Est. 1977

PH. 07 5532 1733

Email: admin@wilkes.com.au

P.O. Box 1932 Southport Q. 4215

Web: www.wilkes.com.au

COLLAS MORO ROSS

Ph 07 5539 9099

Email: ginom@cmrlawyers.com.au

Web: www.cmrlawyers.com.au

46 Watson Esplanade

SURFERS PARADISE Q. 4217

ITALIAN SPOKEN



**THE GOLD COAST
ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB**

18 Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters

Phone: 07 5575 1966 for bookings

www.italoaustralianclub.com.au

FOUR CANDLES

Four candles burned slowly. The place was so silent that you could hear their conversation.

The first said: I am Peace, and even though my light is bright, the people aren't capable of keeping me alight. In that moment, its flame went out, slowly and completely.

The second said: I am called Faith! Unfortunately, I am useless to the people. They don't want to know of God, this is why it doesn't make sense to stay lit. When it finished speaking, a breeze blew gently over it and the flame was extinguished. Very sadly and with a whisper, **the third candle** manifested: I am Love! I don't have the strength any more to keep burning. The people push me aside because they only seek themselves, forgetting even the ones who are beside them. It, too, was extinguished.

Suddenly, a little boy arrived and said to the three spent candles "Why are you spent? You must remain lit and burn till the end".

Then, **the fourth candle** began to speak: Don't be afraid, my child. As long as I am lit, we will be able to light the other candles. When we extinguish the flames of Peace, Faith and Love, everything is not yet destroyed something has to remain in our heart and this must be defended against everything.

Then the boy took the candle of Hope and lit again those that were already spent.

May the candle of Hope never extinguish in you. It is our light in the dark of the tunnel. The path of happiness first must be covered by hope. Happiness does not always knock at our door. To have it, we need to search for it incessantly and having found it, have the courage to conserve it within us. "One candle does not extinguish by lighting another one".

I hope the candle of hope, love, faith, peace and friendship will never be extinguished in your life!



QUATTRO CANDELE

Quattro candele bruciavano lentamente. Il luogo era così silenzioso che si poteva sentire il loro dialogo.

La prima disse: - Sono la Pace, e nonostante la mia luce, le persone non riescono a mantenermi accesa. In quel momento, la sua fiamma si spense lentamente e completamente.

La seconda disse: - Mi chiamo Fede! Purtroppo, sono inutile alle persone. Non vogliono saperne di Dio; ecco perché rimanere accesa non ha senso. Quando ebbe finito di parlare, un vento soffiò leggermente su di lei e la fiamma si spense. Molto triste e a voce bassa, **la terza candela** si manifestò: - Sono l'Amore! Non ho più la forza per rimanere accesa. Le persone mi lasciano da parte, perché cercano solo se stesse, dimenticando anche quelli che sono accanto. Anche lei si spense.

Improvvisamente un bambino arrivò e vide le tre candele spente. "Perché siete spente? Dovete rimanere accese e bruciare fino alla fine."

Allora la **quarta candela** prese la parola: - Non aver paura, bambino mio. Finché io sarò accesa potremo accendere le altre candele. Quando noi **spegniamo** le fiamme della **Pace, Fede e Amore**, non è ancora tutto distrutto qualche cosa deve rimanere nel nostro cuore, e questo deve essere difeso da tutto.

Allora il bambino prese la candela della **Speranza** e **accese** di nuovo quelle che erano spente.

Che la candela della Speranza non si spenga mai in te. E' la nostra luce nel buio del tunnel. Il cammino della felicità deve prima di tutto essere rivestito di speranza La felicità non bussa sempre alla nostra porta. Per averla, occorre ricercarla incessantemente e avendola trovata avere il coraggio di conservarla dentro di noi.....

"Una candela non si spegne accendendone un'altra."

***Ti auguro che la candela della speranza,
dell'amore, della fede,
della pace e dell'amicizia non si spenga mai
nella tua vita!***