



DANTE NEWS GOLD COAST

May/maggio 2023



DATE CLAIMER

Term 2
17 April to 16 June

Ladies Monthly Lunch
Friday 26th May

Italian National Day
Lunch 2nd June

LETTERA DEL PRESIDENTE

Dear members and friends

Thank you to everyone who came to the second presentation of **How an Australian lives La Dolce Vita in Italy**. Thank you to Lou Puggioni for the very informative presentation and answering all the questions people had.

I hope all mothers had a wonderful Mother's Day and that they were spoilt by their loved ones.

Welcome to all new Dante members. I hope you enjoy your Italian learning experience.

On *Pagina 6* are two flyers of events at the Gold Coast Italo Australian Club. I will be organising a table for the 26th May lunch. If you would like to join me, please phone me on 07 5539 5528 or email me on gsantomauro23@gmail.com

This year Italy celebrates 77 years since it became a Republic. If you would like to join the Dante group at the lunch to celebrate Italy's National Day please phone Judith on 0418 768 155 or email jorobe11@bigpond.com

You can also book directly, for both events, with the Gold Coast Italo Australian Club and tell them that you would like to sit at the Dante table.

Most Fridays some Italian ladies meet to have lunch at the Gold Coast Italo Australian Club and then stay to play cards. You are welcome to join us. You can practice your Italian or if you are Italian you can meet some new ladies. Please let me know if you are coming so I can book for lunch.

Thank you to everyone who contributed articles for this newsletter. I always welcome articles for our newsletter.

Cordiali saluti

Giovanna

Cav. Giovanna Santomauro
Presidente, Societa` Dante Alighieri Gold Coast Inc.

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Ciao a tutti,

Welcome back to the second part of this semester. We have continued strongly and maintained our numbers from Term 1. We presently have one Italian for Travellers that commenced in April. Welcome to these new students.

Our next break - mid semester - will be of 3 weeks' duration. We hope to offer Mini Courses as usual if we have a good response. Any suggestions for a course you would like to see offered, please drop me a line.

We are just finalizing our end of semester dinner which we hope you will attend. More details soon.

Semester 1 Dates

Term 2 - 17 April to 16 June

End of Semester Break - 17 June to 9 July

Private Classes

If you would like private classes, early bookings would guarantee your preferred day and time. Please complete a private class request form or ring me to discuss this further. ***Please note the terms and conditions of the private classes.***

Any questions or concerns about the school, please call me on 55270797 or email me:

info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita

School Director



DANTE MEMBERSHIP CARDS

All new students should have received their Dante Membership Card with the 2023 sticker on it. Please let your teacher know if you did not receive it. A list of places in Italy that give discounts to Dante members was included in past newsletters and in the information sheet given out to new students with the information on how to borrow from the Dante library.

Continuing students please make sure you have the 2023 sticker on the back of your card.

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How an Australian Lives La Dolce Vita in Italy

Recently Lou Puggioni gave his second talk on the topic of living '*La Dolce Vita*' in Italy, at the Dante rooms. Lou had many insights for the not insignificant crowd about the many benefits of living in Italy, not only the beauty and diversity of the country, but also the cost of living which is significantly lower than in Australia. Italy's proximity to the rest of Europe was high on Lou's list of reasons for making his second home on beautiful Lake Como.

There are many different Visa options available that can allow Aussies to make a second home in a variety of European countries, Lou explained. He did stress that if visiting Italy, either as a tourist, or planning for a longer stay, at least some command of the Italian language is important.

Jos Lobascher



If you are a Catholic and would like to hear Italian spoken you can attend **Italian Mass** on Sundays at 4 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church, Clear Island Waters. Phone Giovanna on 07 55395528 for further information.

Bologna si trova nella provincia dell'Emilia-Romagna. Si sviluppò come colonia etrusca e successivamente romana. Le strade centrali seguono lo schema a griglia dell'insediamento romano. I bastioni romani originali furono soppiantati da un sistema medievale di fortificazioni. Di circa 180 torri difensive medievali costruite nei XII e XIII secoli, ne rimangono solo 24. Le più famose sono le centrali 'Due Torri', Asinelli (498 gradini per la splendida vista dall'alto) e Garisenda. Le torri pendenti sono un simbolo della città e danno a Bologna uno dei suoi quattro soprannomi, 'la turrita'. Un secondo soprannome è 'la dotta', un riferimento all'università di Bologna, fondata nel 1088, e considerata la più antica università del mondo. Qui si trova il Teatro Anatomico dove un tempo si tenevano lezioni di anatomia. Un terzo è 'la grassa' che si riferisce alla cucina bolognese. Le sue specialità più famose sono preparate con carni ricche, pasta all'uovo e latticini, come burro e parmigiano. Infine, c'è 'la rossa', un riferimento al colore degli edifici nel centro della città.

Bologna è famosa anche per:

* I suoi portici eleganti ed estesi che coprono circa 38 chilometri nel centro storico (oltre ai 45 km nella città propria). Questi offrono riparo dagli elementi. Nel 2021, i portici sono stati nominati patrimonio mondiale dell'UNESCO.

* La Basilica di San Petronio costruita tra il 1388 e il 1479 (ancora incompiuta). Per volume è la decima chiesa più grande del mondo, 132 metri di lunghezza, 66 metri di larghezza, con la volta 45 metri all'interno e 51 metri nella facciata. Nel mondo è la più grande chiesa costruita in mattoni ed ospita la più grande meridiana.

* La Basilica di San Domenico, scrigno dell'arte italiana.

Nel 2006 Bologna è diventata Città della Musica, nominata dall'UNESCO. Promuove una vasta gamma di generi e offre ai suoi cittadini una vitalità musicale che si infila profondamente negli aspetti professionali, accademici, sociali e culturali della città.

Una caratteristica inaspettata di Bologna sono i suoi corsi d'acqua sotterranei che erano canali aperti fino a due secoli fa. La vista da sotto il Porticato di Via Piella offre un'impressione di Venezia con l'acqua che lambisce le fondamenta degli edifici.

Jaquie Shelton (LCS)

Bologna, in the province of [Emilia Romagna](#), developed as an Etruscan and later Roman colony. The streets in the city centre follow the grid pattern of the Roman settlement. The original Roman ramparts were supplanted by a medieval system of fortifications. Of around 180 medieval defensive towers that were built in the 12th and 13th centuries, only 24 remain. The most famous are the two towers, the 'Due Torri', in the city centre: Asinelli (498 steps to the wonderful view from the top) and Garisenda. Their leaning forms are a symbol of the town and give Bologna one of its four nicknames, 'the towered' ('la turrita'). A second nickname is 'the learned' ('la dotta'), a reference to Bologna's university, founded in 1088, and considered to be the world's oldest university. It contains the Anatomy Theatre where anatomy lessons were once held. A third is 'the fat' ('la grassa') which refers to Bologna's cuisine. Its most famous specialties are prepared using rich meats, egg pasta and dairy products, such as butter and parmesan. Finally, there is 'the red' ('la rossa'), a reference to the colour of the buildings in the city centre.

Bologna is also famous for:

* Its elegant and extensive [porticoes](#) covering some 38 kilometres in the historical centre (over 45 km in the city proper). These offer shelter from the elements. The porticoes were named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2021.

* The [San Petronio Basilica](#) built between 1388 and 1479 (still unfinished). It is the tenth-largest church in the world by volume, 132 metres long, 66 metres wide, with the vault 45 metres inside and 51 metres in the facade. It is the largest church built of bricks in the world. It also houses the largest sundial in the world.

* The Basilica of San Domenico, a treasure chest of Italian art.

Bologna became a [UNESCO](#) City of Music in 2006. It fosters a wide range of genres and offers its citizens a musical vitality that deeply infiltrates the city's professional, academic, social and cultural facets.

An unexpected side to Bologna is its underground waterways that were open canals until two centuries ago. The view from under the Arcade of Via Piella offers an impression of Venice with water lapping against the buildings' foundations.

Jaquie Shelton (LCS)

BOLOGNA pictures



Ciao a tutti

Recanati week one.

A beautiful hilltop village about 10 kms from the Adriatic and 30 mins from Ancona. It's famous for Giacomo Leopardi, a poet and Beniamino Gigli the tenor.

The school is 5 mins from my hotel. Classes go from 9a.m. to 1 p.m. This month we have 137 students in the school over about 7 classes. We were tested on day 1 to determine our level. The majority of students are from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Uruguay. We also have some Canadians, an American and 5 Australians -.so a good mix. There are some as young as 18 studying university level Italian at home and then up to 80 year olds who have studied the language for many years and everyone else in between so lots of diversity.

Our teacher is lots of fun and so far not taking things too seriously just lots of grammar, conversation and comprehension sprinkled with lots of humour. We have cultural sessions in the afternoon if we want to learn more about the area and Italian life in general.

We had a wonderful trip to the Grotte of Frasassi about 1.5 hours away. I had never heard of these caves but they were magnificent so have included a photo of the area.



The first few days my brain was exhausted from thinking in Italian but today it seems to have calmed and I enjoyed lunch with fellow students at a beautiful Osteria.

Tomorrow we are off to explore San Marino and Urbino. Sunday I think I will sleep.

Candy Brown

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Dante website

Please remember that at the website you will find.....

- * Semester calendar
- * Enrolment & Membership forms
- * Private class application form
- * Prices of courses
- * Monthly newsletter
- * The latest News from La Repubblica Newspaper
- * Info on scholarships/discounts to study at Italian language schools/Library contents



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