



DANTE NEWS GOLD COAST

October/ottobre 2023



LETTERA DEL PRESIDENTE

DATE CLAIMER

2nd October last term starts

27th September to 25th October

Italian Film Festival Brisbane

28th September to 18th October

Italian Film Festival Byron Bay

24th November end of year function

Dear Members and Friends

Thank you to everyone who made our **Serata and Mercatino** so successful. There are some photos in this newsletter and many more on the Dante web page. Many items for the Mercatino, Lucky door prizes and raffle prizes were all donated. The winners of the Raffle prizes are listed on **Pagina 8**. This event would not have been possible without the hard work of many people starting with Leslie McCrae, Luisa Liussi and Dante artists. Thank you to Ester Ceron for the beautiful plants she donated for sale and for selling a record number of raffle tickets. Thank you to Vilma Andriani for making the crostoli. Thank you to Robyn Wallace for her support allowing us to have this event at the club and buying many raffle tickets and items from the Mercatino. Thank you Clelia Zilli for organising the fashion parade through Danae Boutique and the Compere Lori Ferluga.

Our student member, Pam Conway is in Lucca. You can read her letter on **Pagina 4**. On **Pagina 5** is the last of Deanna Nott's current Italian adventures. Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and photos for this newsletter.

Cordiali saluti,

Giovanna

Cav. Giovanna Santomauro, Presidente



Luisa and Giovanna.



Roberta, Rosita, Maria, Ester and Hayley at the Serata function.

Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast Inc

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Ciao a tutti,

As I write, we have just started our two week break. Everyone seems to be travelling again as per pre-Covid. Several of our students are travelling. Ilaria is in Italy now, Eleonora only recently returned and Giovanna is preparing to go in a week's time!

To those returning from overseas who would like to return to our classes, this term is of 8 weeks only. If you have been away and wish to join in again, please contact me first to ensure there is room in the class.

In conjunction with the XX111 Settimana della Lingua Italiana, the Italian National conference is being held on Saturday 21 October for all teachers and other interested students of Italian (like students of the Dante) who wish to participate to immerse themselves in world of the "bella lingua".

The link is <https://www.italianlanguagecentre.org/ilc-settimana-della-lingua> to enrol. The conference can be done face to face or on Zoom.

New Course starting - Italian for Travellers - October

Please let your family and friends know that a new 8 week Italian for Travellers course will commence immediately after the September break. They can enrol on the website.

Mini Courses in September

Thankyou to Martina for taking these. We have had a great response.

Book Exchange

Don't forget we have a special section near our library which contains English novels with settings in Italy or related to Italy. If you take one of these books, it does not need to be recorded however, it is a book exchange. Either please return the book once finished or replace it with another similar type book based on Italy. The cupboard is in Aula 1 near the front whiteboard. There are several new books there!!!

End of year Function – Fri 24 November

Keep this date free for our end of semester get-together. More details in the next newsletter.

Semester 2 Dates

September holidays- 16 Sept – 1 Oct Term 2 2 October- 24 Nov

Private Classes

If you are interested in private classes, prices and the online form are available on the website.

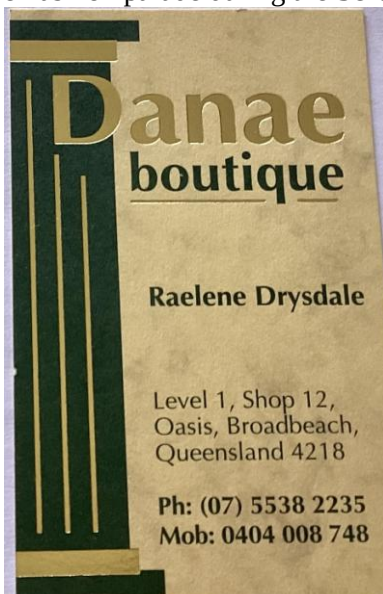
Any questions or concerns about the school, please call me on 55270797 or email me:

info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita School Director



SERATA E MERCATINO Thank you to everyone who made our **Serata and Mercatino** such a successful event. The Fashion parade during the **Serata** was by **Danae Boutique**. Thank you Clelia Zilli for organising this.



There were many **lucky door raffles** for the people who attended the Serata. All the names of the people who purchased a ticket for the Serata went into a container and drawn on the night. The Main one was won by Gerard Wilkes who purchased a ticket but was unable to attend the function. We presented his prize at class last Monday.



(above) David Truskinger, from Monday night class won the \$120 voucher .
(left) Vilma Andriani made the Crostoli for the Mercatino. and in the photo with Ester Ceron, who sold the most raffle tickets, are other raffle winners from the Co.As.It group Franco, Concetta and Josephine .

Dear Giovanna

A Letter from Lucca

Lucca is a city both beautiful and charming. It is situated between Pisa and Firenze - a very good position. By train it is about half an hour to Pisa and an hour to Firenze. It is possible to discover Tuscany by train. Lucca is more tranquil than Pisa and Firenze. Well, Lucca is a good place for a tourist to stay. You could be a tourist and also frequent the LIS - Lucca Italian School. And, if this is not enough for you, you could ask Giovanna to request a 10% discount for you. How do I know this? Because, at the moment I am staying in Lucca for a month and Giovanna has organised this discount for me.

I visited Lucca for a month in 2016 and frequented the LIS. In 2023 all is good for yet another month here. Think about it !! Ask Giovanna. She will help you. Enjoy !!

Pamela Conway

Cara Giovanna

Una lettera da Lucca

Lucca è una città sia bella che affascinante. È situata tra Pisa e Firenze - una posizione molto buona. In treno è circa mezz'ora da Pisa e un'ora da Firenze. È possibile scoprire Toscana in treno. Lucca è più tranquilla di Pisa e Firenze. Lucca è un buon posto per una turista in cui soggiornare. Potresti essere una turista e frequentare anche la LIS - Lucca Italian School. E, se questo non ti basta, potresti chiedere a Giovanna di richiedere un 10% sconto per te. Come faccio a saperlo? Perché, al momento sono a Lucca per un mese e Giovanna ha organizzato questo sconto per me. Ho visitato Lucca per un mese nel 2016 e ho frequentato LIS. È il 2023, tutto va bene per l'ennesimo mese qui. Pensaci !! Chiedi a Giovanna. Lei ti aiuterà. Buon divertimento !!

Pamela Conway



ITALIAN ADVENTURES

Thank you Deanna Nott for her four stories of her recent Italian adventures. This completes Deanna's stories for now, but we are looking forward to hearing your stories of your Italian adventures and would love to share with our members. Also in this newsletter is our student, Pamela Conway's Italian adventure.

Giovanna

Exploring the Enchanting Amalfi Coast – Story 4 of our Italian Adventures 2023 *By Deanna Nott*

The Amalfi Coast in Italy is renowned for its breathtaking beauty, charming towns and exquisite cuisine. Some may fear the narrow, winding coastal road but we loved it, embraced it, almost made ourselves one with it (especially on our Vespa!). Our trip to this picturesque paradise in June provided an unforgettable experience, filled with stunning vistas, delightful hospitality and a plethora of gastronomic delights.

Staying at Villa Nettuno in Positano

Upon arrival in our rather dodgy Avis VW Polo.... (I would need a whole story to tell you about that...), our stay on the Amalfi Coast began with checking in at Villa Nettuno in Positano. This boutique accommodation became our home away from home, offering unparalleled views of the sparkling Mediterranean Sea. Hosted by the gracious Antonio and his family, who live downstairs from the rooms, we were warmly welcomed and promptly immersed in the local culture. Antonio's wealth of advice and recommendations added an extra layer of authenticity to our adventure. Nothing was too hard for him...only problem was that we wanted to chat with him all day (me in Italiano...) rather than head out and explore!

Cocktails and Aperitivi at Hotel Poseidon

Positano's allure extended to its enchanting bars and restaurants. Our visit to Hotel Poseidon's Il Tridente Cocktail Bar was spur of the moment and without a booking...but fortunately a table was free and they invited us into this rather exclusive world upon a terrace...it was a highlight. We indulged in unique speciality cocktails while soaking in the panoramic views. The aperitivi of pre-dinner snacks were some of the best we had on the entire trip. It was a dreamy experience.

Idyllic Days at Spiaggia di Fornillo Beach Club

For ultimate relaxation, we spent two blissful days at the Spiaggia di Fornillo beach club. This fun, laid-back beach club offered the perfect blend of sun, sea and rocks...fortunately, I had packed my rock shoes from last year, so my feet were protected when I wanted to jump up and dive into the Med... Our host, Davide, was such a lovely young man, and the convenience of a complimentary boat pickup from Positano's main beach made the experience even more memorable. The meals and drinks were very affordable but it did cost 50 Euro for each day we visited...this gave us a front row lounge and umbrella for two plus access to the toilet, but that was it!

Culinary Delights at Historic Establishments

Our culinary journey included visits to iconic restaurants such as Da Vincenza, established in 1958. There we had some amazing anchovies and pasta. Il Fornillo, another gastronomic gem, was a great place for cacio e pepe! For a rustic, all-you-can-eat experience amidst the mountains, La Tagliata offered a unique and satisfying treat...but it was PACKED with American tourists, so please beware!

Continued on Pagina 6

Exploring the Enchanting Amalfi Coast – Story 4 of our Italian Adventures 2023 (Cont. from P. 5)

Amalfi: A Town of Gastronomic Delights

Venturing to the charming town of Amalfi, we dined at the elegant Da Gemma. The refined ambience and delectable pasta dishes showcased the region's culinary finesse. A culinary must-try, the Mozzarella Burger – two slabs of mozzarella packed with sundried tomatoes and prosciutto - at La Tramontina left us craving for more – a true innovation in flavour. Remember to have a side of fresh, marinated anchovies!

Adventurous Rides along the Amalfi Coast

For those seeking adventure, renting a 150CC Vespa proved to be an exhilarating way to explore the Amalfi Coast. Our day-long ride took us all the way to Ravello and La Scala. It can be a little hair-raising at times, but that is part of the fun. It is essential that you are an experienced rider (and passenger) for this journey.

Franco's Bar at Le Sirenuse: A Trendy Delight

Our trip culminated with a visit to Franco's Bar at Le Sirenuse, a trendy hotspot... It is a must-visit for those who really want perfect Instagram pictures.

When people speak of La Dolce Vita, they are really telling you to go to Positano...

- Villa Nettuno: <http://www.villanettunopositano.it/> Positano
- Hotel Poseidon: <https://www.hotelposeidonpositano.it/> Positano
- Spiaggia di Fornillo Beach Club: https://www.tripadvisor.com.au/Attraction_Review-g194863-d669732-Reviews-Fornillo-Positano_Amalfi_Coast_Province_of_Salerno_Campania.html, Positano
- Da Vincenza: <https://www.davincenzo.it/>, Positano
- Il Fornillo <https://www.facebook.com/ilfornillo.positano/>, Positano
- La Tagliata: <https://www.latagliata.com/>, Positano
- Da Gemma: <https://trattoriadagemma.com/>, Amalfi
- La Tramontina: <https://www.latramontina.com/>, Amalfi
- Franco's Bar at Le Sirenuse: <https://francosbar.com/en>, Positano

Deanna Nott



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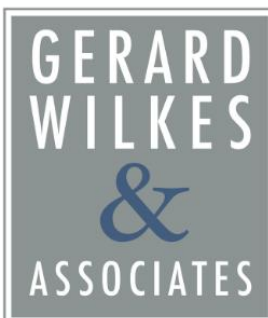
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PREMI DELLA LOTTERIA – WINNERS OF RAFFLE PRIZES DRAWN 8/9/23

1. Costume jewellery accessory gift package donated by **Sonia Stradiotto Couture**
Won by Concetta Valdarchi
2. One overnight Darling Gold Coast Hotel stay donated by **Mirella Bos**
Won by Sandria Johnson
3. Gift Voucher \$120 for Double Zero Robina donated by **Dora English**
Won by Marilyn Zavattin
4. Book – Melody's Secret donated by **Hayley Wills** - Won by Ina Montagna
5. Gift voucher \$100 at Manola's donated by **Corapi family**
Won by Jacquie Shelton
6. Gift Basket from **Italiquore** Wine importers donated by **Com. Filippo D'Arro`**
Won by Maria Barrett
7. Hair products from **AIR BOW TEAK** – donated by **Air Bow Teak**
Won by Ester Ceron
8. Gift Voucher **BUMBLES CAFÉ** - donated by **Tim and Kate Navratil**
Won by Gail Huggins
9. Gift Voucher **MATTEO'S RESTAURANT** - donated by **Matteo's**
Won by Josephine Chicco
10. Free Consultation **JOHN'S FOOTCARE** donated by **John Politakis**
Won by Maria Barrett
11. Gift Voucher \$120 Double Zero donated by **Dora English**
Won by David Truskinger
12. Gift Voucher DANTE GOLD COAST - Won by Robyn Wallace
13. Gift Voucher **ORIGANO** donated by **Origano** - Won by Ester Ceron
14. Oil painting in a beautiful frame - Won by Robyn Wallace
15. Voucher Old Paris Cafe at Varsity Lakes – donated by **Gordon Cameron**
Won by Joan Capone
16. Australian Supporters scarf - donated by **Gordon Cameron**
Won by Hudson Liussi
17. Azure Spa & Fitness \$150 gift card – donated by **Giovanna Santomauro**
Won by Maria Barrett
18. **Scoop Gelati bar** voucher – Won by Franco Innocenti
19. **Social Brew** voucher – Won by Margaret Byrne
20. A bottle of Prosecco Rose` - Won by Joseph Patane

LUCKY DOOR PRIZES – Thank you to everyone who donated these!

There were many great **lucky door prizes**. The main one being a large cane basket (donated by Luisa) full of wonderful goodies donated by the ladies from the Friday morning Dante Conversation group. This was won by Gerard Wilkes. *Grazie a tutti!!*