



DANTE NEWS GOLD COAST

September/settembre 2023



DATE CLAIMER

Friday 8th September
Serata e Mercatino

16th September
School holidays

LETTERA DEL PRESIDENTE

Dear Members and Friends

We had a lovely afternoon with author, Hayley Wills on Saturday 12th August. Thank you to everyone who came and to Heather Winter and Pat Hembrow for organising the afternoon tea. (photo below)

Serata and Mercatino – Thank you to all the members and friends who have been purchasing raffle tickets and donating gifts for our fundraiser. Thank you to our Webmaster Brian Bell and Facebook Manager Martina Medda for the publicity.

I will do a special insert in our October Dante News to advertise the wonderful sponsors and to advise the winners of the raffles. We now need to have many of you come to check out the wonderful items in the Mercatino between 12 noon and 9 p.m. on the terrace of the Gold Coast Italo Australian Club. I need to know numbers for the Serata function catering in the Garden room by the **6th September**. There are some great lucky door prizes attending that one.

Thank you to everyone who contributed articles and photos for this newsletter.



Cordiali saluti

Giovanna

Cav. Giovanna Santomauro
Presidente
Società Dante Alighieri
Gold Coast Inc.

Pat Hembrow, Charlotte Petrucci,
Heather Winter, Hayley Wills, Giovanna
Santomauro and Lydia Lessing.

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,

Our regular classes continue well. We have had many more people enquiring and requesting private classes. If you would like to have some private classes, ensure that you have several days and times available. Our normal classes will always have priority over the rooms.

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 contact me for further information and to put their name on the waiting list.

Mini Courses in September

These are presently being prepared and will be advertised at the Dante and on the website. You will most likely receive an email with all the courses offered.

Semester 2 Dates

Term 1 10 July- 15 Sept
Term 2 2 October- 24 Nov

September holidays - 16 Sept – 1 Oct

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

On the left – Teacher Ilaria with some students on the Zoom Conversation class.

Pictures below – Monday night students. Buon Viaggio Tania e Gino.



Serata e Mercatino

Friday, 08 September 2023

VENUE: Italo-Australian Club
18 Fairway Drive, Clear Island Waters

12.00 noon Mercatino on the verandah
FREE ENTRY
(market will be open until 9 p.m.)

~~~~~  
**The Serata 6 – 9 p.m.**

**COST \$35 - RSVP 6/9/23**

**Includes:**

- \*fashion parade by DANA E boutique\*
- \*live music\* raffles \*
- \*Assaggini (grazing table)\*
- \* many lucky door prizes\*

***Money raised will go towards the Gold Coast Dante Alighieri School***

-----  
Artist Leslie McCrae with some of her art work.



***Thank you Leslie, Clelia, Luisa and the many helpers. We need help to set up on Friday morning 8<sup>th</sup> September and to look after Mercatino. Please contact us if you are available to help.***

Clelia Zilli and Luisa Liussi went to Tamborine Mountain to collect the glass donations.



Friday morning Conversazione ladies make some articles for the Mercatino.



Just a few pictures of items available in the Mercatino.



## MEET THE AUTHOR

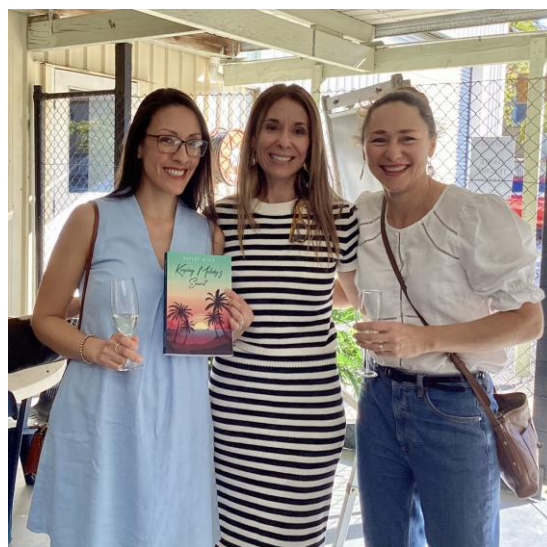


The meet the author event held on the 12th of August was a very enjoyable afternoon. Firstly, grazie mille Martina Medda for suggesting the idea. Also a huge thank you to Giovanna Santomauro for organising and Heather Winter and Patricia Hembrow for catering and setting up. It was so lovely to see so many familiar faces and a few new ones too. We enjoyed a glass of Prosecco (or two!) and a selection of delicious treats before we headed inside. I shared with the group my journey to becoming an author and my aspirations to adapt my novel to the screen before reading a few pages.

As I mentioned at the event the story is fictitious but I've added a few anecdotes inspired by real life. One of the characters in the book talks about wanting pineapple on a pizza. At one of my early classes at the Dante, I was told the funny story of a student that had asked for pineapple on their pizza in Italy. The story goes that the pizza arrived at the table with an entire pineapple sitting on top! Once again thank you to everyone that came along and to all that helped to organise it. I greatly appreciate the support and after nearly ten years at the Dante, I feel like an honorary Italian.

Keeping Melody's Secret is available as an ebook and paperback on Amazon.

*Hayley Wills*



Dante students and friends meet the author.

**Returning to Roma – Story 3 of our 2023 Italian Adventure** By Deanna Nott

As I write this, I can't help but feel overwhelmed with joy and excitement at the prospect of sharing my latest Roman adventure with you all. It's my eighth time visiting this captivating city, and I am still astonished by how Rome continues to amaze and surprise me with new and interesting places to explore. That said, I must tell you it is becoming busier and busier...and we were there in June.

During this trip, my husband, Patric, and I were determined to peer through the Aventine Keyhole and check out the nearby, often promoted, gardens. In a bizarre twist, after walking in the late afternoon up the winding Aventine Hill and past the Giardino degli Aranci to reach the Knights of Malta Keyhole, AKA the Aventine Keyhole, we were confronted by burly security guards and many polizia! To our surprise, the door which housed the aforementioned keyhole, was APERTA!!!, revealing a partially obstructed view of the Vatican but perfectly framed by the long medieval arched entrance hallway that lay on the other side of the keyhole. Unbelievably, on the evening we chose to visit, the Italian Parliament were hosting a United Nations function inside the building and out on the lawn, so a marquee blocked some of our view.

The next day was a special highlight of our 2023 trip. We attended the Andrea Bocelli concert at the Baths of Caracalla. Bocelli's powerful voice echoed through the ancient ruins as he sang his favourites, leaving us spellbound. With four encores, it was evident that he was as passionate about performing as we were about listening. We had two exceptionally important people with us - Charlotte Petrucci and her husband Lee! Charlotte was in Rome visiting her family, and we had additional tickets because the original concert was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID, so we asked them along. Having them by our sides added to the warmth and joy of the evening.

Before the concert, Charlotte introduced us to Osteria delle Coppelle, an authentic Italian aperitivo bar, where we savoured traditional Roman cuisine. Here is a link to the menu - <http://osteriadellecoppelle.com/il-menu/> Of course we tried Trippa alla romana .. and loved it! The flavours and aromas were nothing short of exquisite, and it set the perfect tone for an unforgettable night. **Osteria delle Coppelle** Address: [Piazza delle Coppelle, 54](#), 00186, Rome, Italy

The following day, on a quest for more breathtaking views of the city, we decided to visit the second floor of the Victor Emmanuel II Monument (Altare della Patria). Although we opted not to pay for a ticket to the top, the panoramic vista was still awe-inspiring, capturing the heart and essence of Rome. I would highly encourage a visit to more than just the outside of "the wedding cake"...climb to the top alfresco level where there is a café and bar.

Now, let's talk about coffee — our daily ritual that became an adventure in itself. While we had always frequented San Eustachio, it unfortunately is now a popular tourist haunt, so this time, we discovered Antigua Tazza d'Oro and were blown away by their exceptional beans and enjoyed the company of local Romans, including some quite elderly ladies who were very well looked after by the baristas. The delightful atmosphere and the rich aroma made it an instant favourite.

When it comes to pasta, there's no better place than Armando Al Pantheon. This quaint eatery, run by the Gargioli family since 1961, offers authentic Roman cuisine that has won the hearts of locals and visitors alike. And take it from Stanley Tucci and us — it's a gem worth booking in advance

**Armando al Pantheon** Address: Salita dei Crescenzi, 31, 00186 Rome, Italy

For a quick and budget-friendly bite, we couldn't resist All'antico Vinaio. Their enormous sandwiches are perfect for sharing if you're not too hungry, and they are packed with delicious flavours that will leave your taste buds dancing. My favourite is Stracciatella, porchetta, pesto and vine-ripened tomatoes!

**All'antico Vinaio** Address: Via dei Coronari, 32, 00186 Rome, Italy

*Continued on P 6*

**Returning to Roma – Story 3 of our 2023 Italian Adventure** By Deanna Nott *(Continued from p. 5)*

Of course, no Roman experience is complete without indulging in the decadent dark chocolate fondant gelato at Giolitti — a treat that truly transcends the boundaries of delight.

**Giolitti** Address: Via degli Uffici del Vicario, 40, 00186 Rome, Italy

For pasta lovers, Mastrociccia is another culinary haven that shouldn't be missed. Another tip from Charlotte! Their delicious yet affordable dishes created a perfect, truly authentic experience for us even though it was in a hugely popular area.

**Mastrociccia** Address: Via della Missione, 8, 00187 Rome, Italy

And lastly, let's delve into the enchanting world of the Jewish Quarter in Rome, where the artichokes and pastries reign supreme. Guarded by four World War 2 era gateways to the Jewish ghetto and next to the 'other' 2000-year-old colosseum, Il Giardino Romano is a true treasure. Next time, I can't wait to explore Nonna Betta as well for a taste of their culinary delights. Nonna Betta was CHIUSA when we visited Roma ☹

**Il Giardino Romano** Address: Via del Portico d'Ottavia, 18, 00186 Rome, Italy

**Nonna Betta** Address: Via del Portico d'Ottavia, 16, 00186 Rome, Italy

Rome is truly the eternal city with an inexhaustible supply of hidden gems waiting to be uncovered. Each visit brings new revelations and cherished memories that linger in our hearts. Whether you are visiting for the first or eighth time, I encourage you to explore every corner of this timeless city, for it will forever captivate your soul.

Next stop – spectacular Positano on the Amalfi Coast.



Charlotte e Dee a Roma



Concerto di Andrea Bocelli



TRIS DELLA CASA  
Jewish style artichoke,  
fried artichokes,  
artichokes carpaccio.

## OUR SPONSORS AND FRIENDS

### Studenti di giovedì sera – *Ilaria Villani*

Qui sotto la foto dei miei studenti del livello Beginners 1 del giovedì sera. Damien prima di partire per le sue vacanze in Italia ci ha portato un bel cannolo siciliano! (Buonissimo!)



### COLLAS MORO ROSS

**Ph 07 5539 9099**

Email: [ginom@cmrlawyers.com.au](mailto:ginom@cmrlawyers.com.au)

Web: [www.cmrlawyers.com.au](http://www.cmrlawyers.com.au)

46 Watson Esplanade

SURFERS PARADISE Q. 4217

**ITALIAN SPOKEN**



Brisbane Business Equipment  
Unit 1, 747 Fairfield Road  
Yeerongpilly Qld 4105  
Ph: 07 3255 9500  
E: [admin@bbe.net.au](mailto:admin@bbe.net.au)

### THE GOLD COAST ITALO AUSTRALIAN CLUB

18 Fairways Drive, Clear Island Waters

Phone: 07 5575 1966 for bookings

[www.italoaustralianclub.com.au](http://www.italoaustralianclub.com.au)

Small Business Specialists

Specialists in SMSF

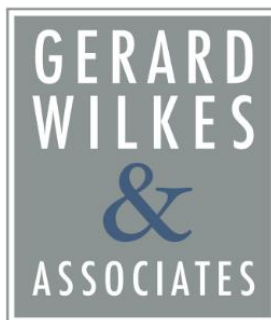
Income Tax Returns

Business Advisory

Financial Planning & Investment Advice

Retirement & Estate Planning

EST. 1977 Family Owned and Operated



CHARTERED  
ACCOUNTANTS

FOR GENUINE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & ADVICE

Contact us today

**07 5532 1733**

or call Gerard direct on

**0412 753 339**

[www.wilkes.com.au](http://www.wilkes.com.au)

[info@wilkes.com.au](mailto:info@wilkes.com.au)



Southport Central Commercial Tower 3, Level 5, 9 Lawson Street, Southport Qld 4215



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
AUSTRALIA + NEW ZEALAND

## FIRST LOOK AT THE 2023 ST. ALI ITALIAN FILM FESTIVAL LINE UP

### SILVIA COLLOCA ANNOUNCED AS FESTIVAL AMBASSADOR

**The 2023 ST. ALi Italian Film Festival presented by Palace Cinemas** returns to cinemas in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Canberra and Byron Bay from 19 September, transporting audiences to Italy with a stunning selection of the best in contemporary Italian cinema. Award winning drama, comedies and documentaries will feature, timed perfectly to celebrate the start of spring.

The Festival is thrilled to welcome the wonderful and talented Italian-Australian food writer, TV producer and host Silvia Colloca as the 2023 Festival Ambassador. A great film lover, Silvia will be talking about her top picks plus her Italian heritage, and will be in attendance to open the Festival in Sydney and Melbourne.

Opening the 2023 Festival is the exciting drama **THE LAST NIGHT OF AMORE** (L'ultima notte di Amore) led by Italian superstar Pierfrancesco Favino. The stylish, Milan set thriller follows a police lieutenant (played by Favino) who is drawn into a web of crime and corruption on the eve of his retirement and was a major Italian box office hit. The first of two Special Presentations to be announced is the searing, intense crime story of love and revenge **BURNING HEARTS** (Ti mangio il cuore). Set in Puglia and shot in stunning black and white, it features singer Elodie in her first acting role, in which a forbidden love rekindles an old feud between two rival families.

Festival Special Presentation **CARAVAGGIO'S SHADOW** (L'ombra di Caravaggio), is an eagerly anticipated historical drama from writer/director Michele Placido, starring Riccardo Scamarcio and Isabelle Huppert. It explores the struggles of the notorious Renaissance painter as he is investigated by the Vatican.

Other unmissable highlights include the latest offering from the legendary Nanni Moretti, **A BRIGHTER TOMORROW** (Il sol dell'avvenire). Featuring an all-star cast, Moretti's new film direct from the Cannes Film Festival, where it screened in competition, is a meta-comedy in which a movie director struggles with his relationship and family during the production of his latest film.

Starring Toni Servillo, **STRANGENESS** (La stranezza) was declared Film of the Year at the 2023 Nastro d'Argento Awards and was a top box office performer in Italy. Inspired by true events, it follows playwright Luigi Pirandello on a trip to Sicily in the 1920s where he meets a pair of amateur actors – a meeting which brings great surprises.

**The full programme was released and tickets went on sale Thursday 24 August.**

**The 2023 ST. ALi Italian Film Festival presented by Palace screens in the following locations:**

**Brisbane** 27 September – 25 October, Palace Barracks, Palace James Street

**Byron Bay** 28 September – 18 October, Palace Byron Bay

For information and updates, please visit [italianfilmfestival.com.au](http://italianfilmfestival.com.au)

and sign up or follow us on **Facebook** @ItalianFF and **Instagram** @ItalianFilmFest for all the latest news.

**FOR IMAGES, INTERVIEWS AND PREVIEW SCREENER LINKS, PLEASE CONTACT**

**CHATTERBOX PR:** | 0423 842 258 | [nicola@chatter.com.au](mailto:nicola@chatter.com.au)