



DANTE NEWS Gold Coast

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Società Dante Alighieri Gold Coast Inc.

June/giugno 2017

ISSN 2206 - 9828

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Members,

It was good to see that "La Giornata della Dante" had an excellent attendance. The Italian Consul, Ludovico Carlo Camussi gave a brief talk and said he is always happy to come to visit us. Other guests from Brisbane were the President of Com.It.Es. Mariangela Stagnitti and the President of Brisbane Dante Society Liz Jarvis. Thank you to the Keynote speaker, Dott. Giulia Torello-Hill and student Donald Macdonald who presented as part of the day. Thank you to Rita and Martina for the activity on Dante words for everyone to participate in. Thank you to everyone who provided the delicious food particularly Ester Ceron and Vilma Andriani. Some comments on the day are on page 4.

On Tuesday 23rd May we remembered Magistrate Giovanni Falcone, on the 25th anniversary of his death. We watched a film followed by lunch at the G.C. Italo Australian Club.

In the May newsletter we put my name and email as a contact for anyone wanting to get tickets to the Opera in July. Tickets must be paid by the 14th June.

Our end of semester dinner and certificate presentation will be on Friday 23rd June and I look forward to seeing you there. We will be lucky again to hear the Dante singers.

Cordiali saluti,

Giovanna



"La Giornata della Dante" guests. More photos are on our Facebook page and on our website.

[Like us on Facebook - Dante Gold Coast](#)

We are also on Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/dantegoldcoast/>

www.ladante.it/associati

(discounts in Italy for members)

DATE CLAIMER 2017

Friday 23rd June – end of Semester function

29th June and 1st July enrolments

11th July Second Semester starts

Friday 21st July – Opera – sung in English

"The Marriage of Figaro"

Gold Coast Arts Centre

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SCHOOL NEWS

Our semester is drawing to a very rapid close. All of next semester's details are on the website. Please take advantage of the early bird special if you are intending on returning.

If you know anyone who would like to come to our classes, please let them know about our website. If they want to come to our rooms, they are encouraged to come on the enrolment days we are at the rooms. We can talk face to face, show them the premises and show them the books they will be using. They might be lucky and even meet their teacher!

Course Dates for Semester 2

Course concludes – Friday 23rd June
Friday 23rd June- Students' End of Semester dinner and certificates

June July break-24th June to 9th July- 2 weeks

Enrolment dates for Semester 2 in our rooms
Thursday 29th June 4.30-6.00 pm
Saturday 1st July 10.00-11.00 am

Semester 2

Commences - Monday 11th July

Giornata della Dante- Thanks

I firstly would like to thank Martina Medda and Anna Domaneschi for working with me putting the afternoon together. It was a pleasure having the Italian Consul with us on such a successful afternoon. Sincere thanks also to Giulia Torello-Hill for a detailed and most interesting talk on the Italian language and Donald Macdonald for the beautiful reading from Dante's works.

Semester 2 2017

The early bird special finishes on **Fri 23rd June**

Semester price-18 weeks

\$380 (returning student from Sem 1 2017)

OR	Term 1 (10 weeks)	\$250.00
	Term 2 (8 weeks)	\$200.00

These details and the enrolment form are on the website. Most people are paying by Direct Debit however we are having enrolments in our rooms at the time listed above in Course Dates should you want to come in and pay.

All information regarding Semester 2 classes is on the website including timetables, dates, forms, prices, etc

End of Semester Certificate Night & Dinner

Friday 23rd June at 6.30pm

\$27 students \$30 non-students
Italo Australian Club Lounge Room



Full menu on the website

RSVP- Wed 21st June

Name on whiteboard or phone Rita **55270797**

Mini Courses over the Break

There will be only 3 mini courses running while the school is on break. They are all being presented by Martina Medda. These are
+ **Easy Italian** (Beg-Inter)
+ **Dentro le Notizie** (Inter-Adv)
+ **Italiano in Azione** (Inter- Adv)

Some of these courses are available during the day and at night. Please take note.

The mini course details are on the website. Call me to confirm your place in the class if you are not able to place your name on the lists in the rooms. All classes **MUST** be prepaid before the commencement day.

Congratulations to our student Mills and her husband Andrea Ballancin on the birth of their daughter Rose Frances Ballancin born on 24/5/17.
Augurissimi da noi tutti.

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

Or Email- info@dantegoldcoast.com

Rita *School Director*

L'ANGOLO DELLA POESIA

(a cura di Connie Canale)

AUGURI A TUTTI GLI ITALIANI PER LA FESTA DELLA REPUBBLICA – 2 GIUGNO – 2017



AMOR DI PATRIA

Italia, patria mia, nobile e cara terra.

Amo i tuoi mari splendidi e le tue Alpi sublimi,
Amo i tuoi monumenti solenni e le tue memorie
immortali .

Amo la tua Gloria e la tua bellezza.

V'amo tutte di un solo affetto e con pari
gratitudine.

Torino valorosa, Genova superba, dotta Bologna,
Venezia incantevole, Milano possente.

V'amo con egual reverenza di figlio.

Firenze gentile e Palermo terribile.

Napoli immensa e bella, Roma meravigliosa ed
eterna.

E. De Amicis.

DANTE SINGERS



What a privilege it was to have our Singalong with the lovely Co.As.It. folk. It was such a good feeling for us all to see their smiling faces. **Virginia**

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Eurovision Song Contest 2017

This was recently held in the Ukraine and was a treat for world music lovers globally. Australians are such big fans of the event they have been asked to compete for the last few years despite the obvious geographical conundrum. The favourite going in to the event was Italy's Francesco Gabbani with his song "Occidentali's Karma". It's a very fun and catchy tune but also has a deep meaning. The song suggests that the western way of living is becoming more about style over substance as we become more absorbed in ourselves, our appearance and possessions and less concerned with bigger issues in our world. The clip for the song and Gabbani's stage performance feature a dancing ape which is a reference to human evolution. The song speaks of selfie addicts and of social media being a drug of the masses. The song won the Festival di Sanremo and had been a huge hit in Europe over the last few months. Unfortunately though it did not win the hearts of Eurovision voters and ended up coming in at 6th place and Australia 9th. Portugal had their first ever win with the song "Amar pelos dois" by Salvador Sobral, a beautiful heartfelt jazz song which he sang in Portuguese which in my opinion made it even more beautiful. So now we look forward to Eurovision 2018 which will be held in the winner's country of Portugal and I'm sure will be full of colour, quirkiness, interesting costumes and thought provoking songs! **Haley W.**

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ITALIAN SPOKEN

Una storia di 7 capitoli, "Amore e Mistero a Venezia" e' stata scritta da Carlina, Loredana, Gerardo, Nella, Marilena, Dora, Pamela e Nick (Advanced 2). E' una storia divertente ed un po' "per adulti". Qui sotto c'e' il sesto capitolo. Buona lettura.

AMORE E MISTERO A VENEZIA

Capitolo 6 "Le scelte"

Che proposta! Che disordine! Cosa fare adesso? Questa non era la proposta dei miei sogni. Avevo sperato in qualcosa di meraviglioso ma invece di una proposta di matrimonio c'era una proposta di spionaggio o di qualcosa di sinistro. Lorenzo aveva detto di tornare ognuno alla propria vita. Mi sono detta con enfasi " In questo momento preferisco la mia vita in Australia, dimenticare completamente l'Italia. Questo e' un vero fiasco! Sempre varieta', mai un momento di noia, non ho bisogno di essere una principessa!".

La mattina dopo siamo arrivati a Civitavecchia, il porto di Roma. Non sono andata sul ponte per non incontrare Martina. Ho ordinato la colazione in cabina e l'ho fatta la'. Lorenzo ha chiamato dicendo che avremmo dovuto aspettare che tutti gli altri passeggeri scendessero dalla nave. Ha detto che le nostre borse da viaggio sarebbero dovute essere raccolte e portate alla macchina pronta per noi. Avremmo dovuto lasciare la nave con l'equipaggio. Ci saremmo anche dovuti vestire come l'equipaggio. Alla fine tutto e' andato bene.

Dal mio balcone, di nascosto, ho guardato i passeggeri lasciare la nave, piano, piano. Erano milioni o quasi.

Li' sulla banchina ho visto Dandalo con altre persone. Almeno non erano vicini all'uscita dell'equipaggio. Erano lontani da me. L'ho riconosciuto immediatamente. Lui era molto alto e molto magro. Ho pensato ad un corridore molto veloce.

Quando siamo andati in auto verso Roma ho detto a Lorenzo di avere cambiato idea: Lorenzo aveva prenotato un hotel a Roma ma invece si poteva prendere un'altra strada per l'aeroporto. Volevo prenotare un volo per Venezia ed un altro da Venezia in Australia. Volevo incontrare l'avvocato Antonio Cascano a Venezia e fare dei piani con lui.

(Continua nella prossima newsletter)

LA GIORNATA DELLA DANTE (more comments on separate sheet)

"Secondo me il pomeriggio di sabato è stato davvero interessante, istruttivo e ben organizzato; mi è piaciuto molto ed è stato bello vedere tante persone interessate alla letteratura italiana. Credo proprio che dovremmo inserire più appuntamenti di carattere letterario e culturale, perchè i nostri studenti, e non solo loro, sono interessati ed hanno piacere di conoscere anche l'aspetto letterario, oltre a quello linguistico.

"Ho parlato con alcune studentesse sabato stesso, ed hanno detto che secondo loro questa è stata la manifestazione più riuscita ed interessante alla quale abbiano mai partecipato alla Dante, finora. Complimenti a tutti coloro che hanno organizzato, e soprattutto a Giulia per un intervento di grande spessore e professionalità, ma allo stesso tempo accessibile a tutti. Complimenti, *Oriana*"

"I thought that it was a wonderful afternoon. Giulia's exposition of Dante and his effect on the Italian language was the best that I have ever heard. Donal's re citation was very engaging. I enjoyed the word games at the end as it enabled a bit of audience participation. The catering as always was extensive and delicious. I think that Dante would have been proud! *Brian*"





**Intervista a HAYLEY WILLS
truccatrice, yoghi e volontaria con il Cancer Council Qld.
(Associazione del Queensland per i tumori)**

Chi è Hayley Wills? Sono mamma di Leila e di Jacob, moglie di Nelson. Studio italiano alla Scuola Dante Alighieri della Gold Coast. Sono yoghi, oltre a fare la casalinga.....insomma un po' di tutto.

Dove sei nata? Sono nata ad Adelaide.

Quando sei venuta a vivere qui sulla Gold Coast? Diciassette anni fa.

Qual'era il tuo lavoro da giovane donna? Ero truccatrice...

Dove hai imparato il tuo mestiere? Ho studiato Make up e Special Effects ad un istituto a Bundall, sulla Gold Coast. Si trattava di make up per matrimoni, spettacoli, effetti speciali per film.

Dove hai lavorato? Ho lavorato per Estee` Lauder e Revlon in farmacia a Robina. Desideravo lavorare per il cinematografo, ma avrei dovuto spostarmi a Sydney.

Ora cosa fai? Lavori? Sono casalinga.... ogni tanto faccio volontariato con Look Good Feel Better, un ramo del Cancer Council del Queensland, (Australia) per donne che stanno curandosi con la chemioterapia ... aiutandole a truccarsi, e l'estetica. Sono felice di dare la mia disponibilita` in questo modo. Gli studi che ho fatto molti anni fa mi hanno dato l'esperienza di aiutare le vittime di questa malattia, perche` si diano la carica di combattere.

Hai detto che sei anche yoghi - quando hai iniziato la tua disciplina, lo yoga? Quando avevo diciotto anni.

E la tua famiglia: tua madre, tuo padre, erano interessati nello yoga? No, loro no. Praticavo yoga con le mie amiche.

Hai studiato yoga? Studiato no, ma ho letto molti libri sul tema.

Ti ha arricchita la vita la filosofia dello yoga? Si. Mi aiuta a rimanere nel presente e ad essere tranquilla.

Hai un guru? Veramente no, ma mi piace il messaggio e mi piacciono le parole, di Eckhard Tolle.

Secondo te, lo yoga influenza anche la tua famiglia? Si, si. I miei bambini praticano yoga a scuola ogni mattina. E` una scuola col messaggio "holistic". Mi piace molto.

C'è qualcuno che ammiri moltissimo? Mia nonna. Ha novantatre` anni. Lei ha vissuto le guerre. E` una donna straordinaria.

Hai rimpianti nella vita? No perche` imparo "sbagliando".

Come vedi il futuro del mondo in generale? C'è sempre speranza....

Secondo te : " Per me, la vita è" L'importanza della famiglia e dell' amicizia.

Luisa Liussi

NOTABLE AUSTRALIANS OF ITALIAN HERITAGE (5)

Dr. Marie (Maria) Bentivoglio – 1898 – 1998

Maria Bentivoglio was born in Torino in 1898 to Carlo, a mechanical engineer and Ester, a linguist. Her family emigrated to Sydney when she was a child. They settled in Sydney and from a very early age Marie showed that she was a very intelligent student and very interested in geography. She was one of six children and was brought up in a home with a rich cultural background, which encouraged studying, learning, high ideals, and a fine appreciation of music and art, together with hard work. At school, she decided to anglicize her name and called herself Marie. She loved geography and learned by heart all the names of rivers, capes, and so on, but they did not mean much to her and thought that geography should be made more interesting to learn. In 1916 Marie graduated from high school then later Teachers' College. In 1919, she graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Chemical Geology and Geography. It is worth noting that all the six children went on to University, the father also taught engineering and the mother taught music.

In 1920 when Marie became a lecturer at the Sydney Teachers' College her method of teaching geography was very different. She made the lessons very interesting so that they came alive to her students. That year she also became the President of the Sydney University Club, an amazing feat not only as she was a woman but also she was not born in Australia. In 1921 Marie Bentivoglio was the first Australian woman to receive an 1851 Exhibition Science Scholarship to the University of Oxford, London, where she gained a Doctorate in Philosophy, and was only the second woman in the world to have achieved this.

On her return to Sydney from England, Bentivoglio lectured at both the University of Sydney and the Sydney Teachers College. In 1928, she succeeded Thomas Griffith Taylor as Head of the Department of Geography. In 1931, she published *A physical and practical geography for secondary schools* with Frieda Frances Friederich. This text was still in use in schools thirty years later. She later travelled to North and Central America, teaching in universities, and working in the chemical industry.

From 1927, when there was a temporary influx of Italian migrants into New South Wales, Marie also held evening classes in English for the benefit of the new migrants to enable them to adjust themselves to their new life and surroundings. These classes were held under the auspices of the Dante Alighieri Society, of which she was a member. She also conducted a course in Italian at the University of Sydney for two years aiming to give a working knowledge of Italian to those who wished to read Italian scientific publications and literature.

In 1933, famous Italian-Australian painter Dattilo Rubbo painted a portrait of her which is still displayed at the Manly Art Gallery. It won the Archibald prize. Due to her passion for geography she travelled all around Australia, using whatever travel means were available, and set up conferences in many cities for the National Geographic Society to discover what Australia had to offer including the Aboriginal history.

In 1936, she was invited to tour the United States of America for a series of lectures on the beauty of Australia – a form of publicity. It was there that she met an Italian nobleman from San Remo and married him, becoming Marie Spaldeschi. They lived in New York, and in 1938 she went to work for the Selanesi Corporation of America, a chemical company in New Jersey who dealt in plastics. She then went to lecture about plastics at New York University from 1952 to 1960. There she studied a new way of packaging fruit and vegetables to stop their deterioration. She had a team working on this and in 1952 they came up with a solution which today we call "cling wrap". She retired to San Remo, Italy, in 1961 with her husband who was stricken with cancer and hoped for a cure. However, he died in San Remo. They were childless. She later returned to Australia and in 1990 donated to the State Library of New South Wales a priceless limited edition of Dante's *Divina Commedia*. She also made monetary donations to the State Library of New South Wales, The Sydney Art Gallery, the University of Sydney and others. In 1994, she was awarded a Doctorate of Science by the University of Sydney. At almost 100 years old she returned to her place of birth in Italy where she died. Marie Bentivoglio was certainly a very exceptional woman and way ahead of her time. Her records are stored in the Mitchell Library in Sydney and at the "Societa' Storica di Melbourne". She received many more accolades which are too numerous to record here.

Connie Canale.