



SPRING 2018

IL GIORNALE

CIAO E BENVENUTI AL GIORNALE!

IN THIS EDITION:

- From our President John Barnes OAM
- Recent and upcoming events
- What's happening at New Italy

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

No one needs reminding that we live in an era of change. It is a permanent of long standing. What must be added now is that the pace of change has accelerated greatly and New Italy has not escaped the trend.

This fact has been exposed by recent visits to New Italy by firstly, the Mayor and General Manager of Richmond Valley Council and secondly, by the State Member Mr Chris Gulaptis. These contacts led to an on-site meeting with representatives from the Office of Regional Development from the Premier's Department based in Lismore.



Left to right: A museum visit with Chris Gulaptis MP, Leone Stibbard, Leonie Lane, Cynthia McKeough, Margaret Robinson, John Barnes

There was agreement from these visits and our own findings is that in order to satisfy the opportunities arising and to meet public expectations the site needs a capital injection of a size which is beyond its capacity to generate. Consequently it was stressed to us that in order to qualify for large grants (capital) New Italy must have another master/strategic plan prepared. Our previous plan of 2007 is very dated and not suitable to accompany large government grant applications.

As a follow up to the above advice, an approach has been made to a well qualified consultant to assist us in developing a master/strategic plan. It is hoped that this plan can be finalized in time for presentation at the AGM in November.

Meanwhile: The new rear (western side) car park should be ready for use by mid September (Contractors advice). Kerbing has been laid and finishing works which include more fill, compaction, surfacing, line marking and entrance/exit driveways are to follow in short order.

When this new rear car park is completed and opened the front (eastern) car park will close. This will allow works on the nearby highway and front car park to commence. Then when all this is finished we will have both front and rear car parks. This two car park situation will mean that the site has two entrances - front and rear. Both will need to be safe, informative and welcoming.

This stage of our development will hopefully open up the possibility of charging vans etc for overnighting. This income would defray our share of costs for the new car park establishment which has already cost approximately \$50,000 as well as supporting infrastructure such as lighting and a footpath to the buildings.

I might mention that the new 120 space car park's construction costs are being largely borne by the Department of Roads & Maritime Services. It is nice to see Government money go to a good cause.

Also: Following advice in the Winter edition of *Il Giornale* re smaller events at New Italy, I recommend attendance at our first **Grandparents Day** to be held on **Sunday 28 October** at the New Italy Museum site. Lots of music, dancing, competitions and family fun! Looking forward to seeing you there!

Finally: My quarterly messages are intended to be informative and interesting, keeping you up to date with changes and developments. However, depending on the topic(s) being addressed it is sometimes difficult to give details. If you haven't visited recently, come and see for yourself. You are in for some pleasant surprises! We look forward to your feedback.

Any suggestions or comments would be greatly appreciated.

John Barnes



The new car park takes shape down Swan Bay-New Italy Road



Early cooking at New Italy

In his MA thesis about the early settlement of New Italy, Phil Pryor describes a chicken recipe named 'Bolla', as told to him by Mrs A. Piccoli and Mrs A. Sullivan.

'Meals based on chicken meats were popular, whether roasted, steamed with macaroni or boiled for soup. Chicken was boiled with rice and allowed to set, the popular Bolla. Bolla was everybody's favourite' and widely remembered.'

Does anyone recall 'Bolla' in their family's stories or recipe books? Perhaps it was also called 'Pollo' (chicken)? or Il Bollito (a traditional recipe from Veneto)?

It would be great to add to our own recipe collection.

Leonie Lane ~ booyongd@bigpond.net.au

"THE WELCOME WALL" : AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM, SYDNEY

For your information, *The Welcome Wall* stands in honour of all those who have migrated to live in Australia, with registered names permanently engraved in bronze. It is located outdoor on the Australian National Maritime Museum's northern boundary facing Darling Harbour and Pyrmont Bay. The Museum holds regular unveiling ceremonies to commemorate new registrants who have inscribed their family names on the wall.

It costs just \$150 to register a name and honour your family's arrival in Australia. Place your family's story on the online database at anmm.gov.au/ww. To register a name please contact the Museum staff during business hours on 02 9298 3777.



RECENT EVENTS

THE 2018 FRIENDSHIP FESTIVAL PIAZZA IN THE PARK: SPINKS PARK, LISMORE



The day was a great success! In amongst the huge crowd there were many faces familiar to New Italy. Clockwise from top left: Narissa Phelps, Leone Stibbard and Jo Kijas; Peter Bortolin, Julie de Nardi and Thomas George planting the cypress pine; Judy McCormack at the Italian Gift Shop stall; Cynthia McKeough and Val Wills and their accordions; Americo Melchior organising the Italo Club pasta and BBQ stall; a happy shopper at NI Gift Shop; Domenico and Julie; special guest speaker Armando Gardiman AM; and (centre) the 2018 winners of the Tug o war comp - the Battistuzzi family were well represented in the Clunes Furies team! (All photos by Peter Derrett)

lismorefriendshipfestival.com.au

COME AND JOIN US - GRANDPARENTS DAY!

You are invited to a luncheon event where all grandparents - including descendants of the settlers of New Italy - will celebrate New Italy the place and share their stories and memories. We wish to celebrate and honour grandparents, give grandparents an opportunity to share stories for their children's children, and to help children become aware of the fun, strength, information, and guidance older people can offer. There will be an opportunity to have the New Italy stories recorded to add to the NI archive. However this is a celebration of all families, not just New Italy families. Everyone is welcome!

We invite visitors to get into the spirit of the day. Be inspired by your grandparent's era and dress accordingly! As we build new displays in the New Italy Museum we have noted the New Italy families' love of big hats - male and female! So we encourage you to create one, borrow one - and wear one! At the end of the day the best Big Hat will be chosen and awarded.

New Italy Museum Inc. welcomes Joe Zappia from the Central Coast area to perform for us at the inaugural Grandparents Day at New Italy. So dust off those dancing shoes!

Childrens activities will take place in the Park of Peace, the Museum and the Pavilion. A variety of traditional games and other creativity will be available across these spaces. Prizes to be won!

Terrific food and refreshments will be available. Join us for lunch in the Piazza under the new shaded area. Arrive at 10am for a 10.30 start. Lunch from 11am. Music & more until 3pm.

Bring the whole family and get together with old friends. See the recent changes to the site and the new Museum displays. Visit the Gift Shop. Also there will be an opportunity to update your membership or to sign up for the first time.

For more information, check out Facebook sites - see below - or go to our website - www.newitaly.org.au

Contact us info@newitaly.org.au



An earlier New Italy gathering - note the hats!



KEEP UP WITH US VIA SOCIAL MEDIA.

We have not 1 but 2 Facebook pages (soon to be joined as one). So why not like us - twice! Remember to share us with your friends and family.



NEW ITALY

<https://www.facebook.com/NewItaly/>



HISTORIC NEW ITALY

<https://www.facebook.com/historicnewitaly/>

UPCOMING EVENTS



We invite you and your family to
A CELEBRATION OF FAMILY & CONNECTION TO PLACE

2018
Grandparents Day

WEAR A HAT ... A BIG HAT ... NEW ITALY STYLE



music by
JOE ZAPPIA

from 10^{AM} **SUNDAY 28 OCTOBER**

NEW ITALY MUSEUM
PACIFIC HIGHWAY
(SOUTH OF WOODBURN)

join us for LUNCH • MUSIC • KIDS ACTIVITIES
• **THE INAUGURAL NEW ITALY BIG HAT COMPETITION**
• LOTS OF COMPETITIONS • MUSEUM DISPLAYS & TOURS and much more...
BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY

For more information • www.newitaly.org.au • FACEBOOK historic new italy • info@newitaly.com.au
Go to our website ... become a member ... receive our quarterly 'Il Giornale' newsletter ...

Photo left by PETER ORABETTI Photo right NEW ITALY MUSEUM

NIMI 2018 AGM

11^{AM} SUNDAY 4 NOVEMBER

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME !

ENQUIRIES:

PETER BLACKWOOD (SECRETARY)

INFO@NEWITALY.COM.AU

0414 673 933

DONATIONS ARE IMPORTANT TO US

NIMI is a volunteer-run organisation reliant on the good will of our visitors and community. Your generous cash donations keep us going! They can be made to New Italy by

- New Italy Museum Complex on-site donation boxes
- New Italy website has an easy to use donation form - go to www.newitaly.org.au/about-us/donation/
- Our Facebook page provides a link to that page
- Cheques can be sent to **New Italy Museum Complex, PO Box 5139, East Lismore NSW 2480**
- Bequests

WE THANK YOU IN ADVANCE

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NEW ITALY...

MUSEUM UPGRADE UPDATE ... SEPTEMBER 2018



A lot has been happening inside and outside of the Museum recently. Much sifting and gathering of New Italy family photos has enabled the preparation of a large wall graphic and display recognising the first families in the New Italy community.

Also a 4.5 metre wide screen, to separate the Café and Museum on the southern side, will be installed. The design features the generous donation of an original Joseph Check photo - 'Settlers of New Italy 1899: A typical Gathering at a Festa', by the Spinaze family. It includes the names of almost all the people in the photo. Both projects show the nature of the early settlement at New Italy. They will be ready for Grandparents Day - Sunday 28 October. See you there!



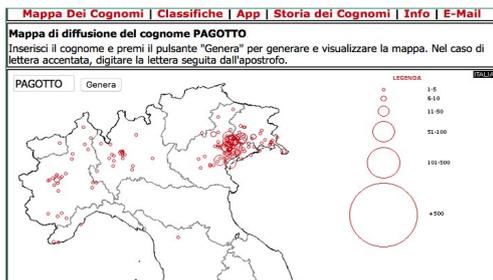
Top: The proposed design of the new café screen.
Bottom: The museum/café verandah has four paintings by Florian Volpato

The New Italy heritage fabric cabinet, which will house many of the Museum's beautiful and fragile fabric items will also be installed into the Museum over September. The construction by Design Spec Joinery and Kitchen (Lismore) of the eight-drawer cabinet was made possible through a Museum and Galleries grant.

Meanwhile Florian Volpato's painting - *Bassano del Grappa, Ponte Vecchio* - has been installed outside the Museum. This completes the row of Florian's painting along the verandah wall. Framing and installation by Lickiss Glass, Lismore.

Leonie Lane, Museum • booyongd@bigpond.net.au • 0423733569

THE ITALIAN PAVILION



The Pavilion can tell many stories through maps - a graphic way to tell of events, record important changes over time and tell us where we came from.

Try this handy Italian website. Go to <https://www.mappadeicognomi.it/index.php?> - type your surname into the empty field and see where people with your surname live in Italy. I was surprised to find my very Anglo name popping up in many of the regions of Italy. You will see here the very Lismore surname 'Pagotto' is well represented in northern Italy - especially Veneto and Friuli.

Leonie Lane, Italian Pavilion • booyongd@bigpond.net.au • 0423733569

THE CASA VECCHIA GIFT SHOP



So much roadwork is happening around New Italy these days that you may be wondering how it is affecting us. We often hear from travellers that they are surprised we are still open as it looks like the new highway will be going right through us! We assure you we are still here and open for business! All the land clearing on the northside is to make an access road to the highway. The car park out the front will soon be closed for work to begin there. In the meantime a new car park is being built out the back to house 100+ cars!! A quieter place to stop for all. Exciting times!

Gail Williams • Casa Vecchia Gift Shop • giftshop@newitaly.org.au

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS DUE FOR RENEWAL

JOIN UP OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP
www.newitaly.org.au/about-us/membership/

CONTRIBUTE TO 'IL GIORNALE'

Summer 2018 edition: content due 17/10/18

BECOME A VOLUNTEER

Contact Peter Blackwood (Secretary)
info@newitaly.com.au • 0414 673 933

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: DOT SAWATZKI OAM

Dorothea (Dot) Sawatzki née Felicetti was a descendant of the Battistuzzi expeditioners. For many years Dot co-ordinated the New Italy Museum collection until her untimely death in 2010. She laid the groundwork to what has become a valuable collection that illustrates the enduring New Italy story as we have been able to show in the New Italy Museum. She was awarded an OAM for her work and contributions to her community. Thank you, Dot!

