



AUTUMN 2016

IL GIORNALE

CIAO E BENVENUTI AL GIORNALE AUTUNNO!

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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

In the SPRING 2015 issue of *Il Giornale* I made mention of the proposal to redevelop the central plaza (Stage 1) and the New Italy Museum (Stage 2). Following consultation with professionals and the approval of a \$22,000 grant for the Museum redevelopment (on a \$ for \$ basis) things have moved rather swiftly and a significant start has been made on Stage 1.

To date this work has involved the construction of a permanent stage, the removal of the square rotunda (to the Park of Peace), statue relocation and new concrete pathways. Associated minor works have involved the gardens, drainage and electrical. Turfing has been done (see below) and finally the stage roofing is due in mid-March. Under consideration is the installation of a water storage tank at the front of the Pavilion. This work will provide the site with a permanent entertainment/public area which is spacious, has good acoustics and is visually attractive.



Piazza renovations underway. Photos John Barnes and Peter Blackwood

Meanwhile plans are being drafted for Stage 2 of our redevelopments – the New Italy Museum. Since this work will impact upon the café (during construction and in the final situation) consideration is now being given to the concept of redeveloping/ redecorating the whole of the inside of the building, rather than just the museum end. Since the number of decorative, change and improvement options available is somewhat limitless, plans are still being drafted and expert opinion sought. It is however expected that a start will be made later in the year.

Funding for Stage 1 will be from our accumulated reserves and as necessary from a loan facility that has been established with the Westpac Bank. This loan facility was approved at the 2015 AGM.

Funding for Stage 2 will be from the above two sources and also from the above mentioned 2015 NSW Government's Community Building Partnership's program - a grant of \$22,292.

The above renovations represent the largest single undertakings at the site since it was completed in the early 1990s. They represent our commitment to cater for continued growth to satisfy the ever-growing visiting public.

We look forward to seeing you all at Carnevale Italiano - Sunday 10 April! Read inside for more info...

John Barnes



**newitaly.com.au • PO Box 5139 East Lismore, NSW 2480 • info@newitaly.com.au
• 8275 Pacific Highway Woodburn NSW 2472 • FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK •**

2016 CARNEVALE ITALIANO

The New Italy Museum Complex's major fundraiser **Carnevale Italiano** is almost here! In 2016, we have a new stage, new performers and new children's activities. Funds raised support infrastructure changes and maintenance to the site. Through passionate volunteers, sponsors and Carnevale Italiano patrons, the complex enjoys steady growth.

Carnevale Italiano remembers New Italy's first settlers arrival in Australia in 1880, and their miraculous sea journey. Overtime the greater community enjoys a celebration of "**all things Italian**".

Being a family-friendly fun day, this year we have included children's entertainer's **The Chef's (Claudie Frock and Rene Bolton)** who will entertain the children in the paddock beside the **Bocce court**.

Our performers are as varied as the pioneers who founded New Italy. Alongside a great friend to New Italy, **Val Wills** on the accordion, we have **Simone Nicole**, Soprano, who sang so beautifully last year. Two new performers are guitarist, **Art Phillips** (President of Co.As. It., Sydney) and **Robert Severini**, keyboard and cabaret performer from Melbourne. We will also have the **Lower Clarence Community Choir** singing at Mass at 10am with **Father Slack** and afterwards on the main stage.

The story of the New Italy settlers will be retold by NIMI President, **John Barnes** at 11am in the Community Hall.

If you are a descendant, see **Lester Cooke** in the **Italian Pavilion**, to add your family information to the **Genealogy** section of the New Italy website. His wife **Evelyn** will take family photo on the restored sulky. **Leonie Lane** will guide you through the Pavilion's displays. At 1.30pm Leonie and Lester will be hosting an information session in the **New Italy Museum** discussing the **Museum upgrade** planned for later in 2016. Your input will be appreciated.

Lastly, we heard your call for **A DANCE FLOOR** last year! The performers are back in the **Piazza**! Recent changes will give the dancers more room to dance, and the watchers more room to watch! An all weather stage has been built that can be used for many different events throughout the year. *David*, *Venus* and *The Pioneer with his Dog* statues have been safely moved. We think it looks great! Give us your feedback after the event.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT! **Gail Williams** is co-ordinating volunteers - 0414 348 566 - there is much to do! Free lunch and entry for all workers.

Do you use social media? Share our Facebook posts to help promote the day by using hashtags **#NewItaly** and **#CarnevaleItaliano**

We hope you enjoy the day!

Aliison Kelly Event Manager 2016

THE PERFORMERS

ROBERT SEVERINI was born in Rome, coming to Australia in the late 1960's. He studied classical music at the Victorian College of the Arts, achieving the Music Associate Diploma in 1982 and has been working in the music industry ever since.



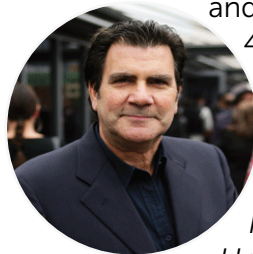
Robert's professional career has seen him work in many aspects of the music industry. Robert is a musician and performer, with an extensive Italian repertoire, swing, popular and world music. He is an experienced entertainer who will have us dancing in no time.

SIMONE NICOLE With a multi-lingual repertoire that spans across light opera, operetta, to musicals and popular genres, Simone's international popularity is testimony to an artist who continues to challenge and surpass audience expectation.



Simone was extremely well received last year and we are grateful she can join us again at this year's Carnevale.

ART PHILLIPS A guitarist, recording artist and a composer! With over 40 years of international experience including 2000 hours of television scoring including *Neighbours*, *Missing Persons Unit*, *Outback House*, *The Lost Treasure Of Fiji*, as well as decades of live performance and recording work with big names from Barry Manilow, Minnie Riperton to Demis Roussos; Art Phillips delivers original music with a distinctive approach. Art's Italian CD releases, *Chitarre Acustiche D'Italia* and *Via Portanova*, are tributes to his father and grandfather, Antonio Di Filippo, including classic traditional Italian songs performed on acoustic guitars and mandolins.



VAL WILLS A much loved local accordion player who first appeared at the New Italy Museum Complex alongside Harry Venn in the early 1990's. Val will be playing in the Museum, the Pavilion and throughout the Food Court. She plays beautifully!



SPONSORS

Our sponsors mean the world to us! With their support we're able to bring new performers to Carnevale, hold a major raffle with a fabulous 1st prize, have a door prize that will provide a weekend away for a lucky patron, produce stand-out posters and flyers, provide ample toilet facilities for our patrons and places to sit in the shade.

We thank the following local businesses:



RICHMOND WASTE This family owned business built from scratch by one of New Italy's descendants and the current president of the NIMI is a major supporter of **Carnevale Italiano** and the Museum Complex. From garbage bins to toilets John has a hands on work ethos and is a formidable force behind the success of New Italy and **Carnevale Italiano**. Pat him on the back when you go past.



REX AIRLINES is proud to be a Gold Sponsor of **Carnevale Italiano** to support the fundraising for the New Italy Museum Complex. Rex recognises the wonderful contribution of the Italian community to the Northern Rivers and the importance to maintain the history and the legacy of the early Italian settlers. The New Italy Museum Complex is a vital part of cultural tourism to the region and it is important this is maintained for future generations. When next you need to leave the region consider flying REX out of Lismore.



BOOYONG DESIGN Leonie Lane's input into the Museum and Pavilion over the past six years has seen significant improvements, funding and potential brought to both venues. Her drive and passion for history in addition

to her artistic vision and competence behind the computer has enabled us to have a professional look behind all our marketing material, signage and museum displays.



RAMADA HOTELS AND SUITES: BALLINA/ BYRON are proud sponsors of the **2016 Carnevale Italiano** for the third year running. As a local business they are thrilled to get behind this great event as it not only acknowledges and celebrates our vast and colourful history, it also provides a fun-filled day for locals, their families and beyond.

Summerland Travel Lismore

SUMMERLAND TRAVEL LISMORE are the generous donors of the first prize in our **Carnevale Italiano** raffle. They



have an Italian heritage and have been helping people travel around the world since 1956!



www.northernstar.com.au

THE NORTHERN STAR commenced publishing 140 years ago, just a few years prior to the 1880 sailing

of the New Italy settlers leaving Barcelona on the Marquis de Rays expedition. The paper has chronicled the history and significant events of New Italy and its residents since its settlement from 1882. These stories can be seen today as part of the New Italy Museum exhibition. With such a strong link to our shared unique histories, the Northern Star is proud to be a supporter of New Italy's **Carnevale Italiano**.

Thank you also to the **ROD N REEL WOODBURN** for the beer, and **OZ RICE** for the mulch.

Please consider using these businesses in the future and let them know you heard about them at New Italy. Your patronage of these generous businesses is most appreciated.

TIME GATES OPEN 9.30	COMMUNITY HALL & MUSEUM	STAGE 1	ITALIAN PAVILION	FOOD COURT	Paddock
10.00	HALL: Mass with Father Slack featuring Lower Clarence Community Choir		ALL DAY: Genealogy History Hunt Colouring In and mask making. Family photographs at the sulky display	FOOD TICKETS ON SALE	
10.30	MUSEUM: Accordion by Val Wills				
11.00					
11.15	HALL: The New Italy Story: John Barnes	Guitar by Art Phillips			11AM ONWARDS: Horse & Cart Rides The Chefs - fun for children
11.30		Lower Clarence Community Choir	Food Demonstration		
11.45			Display Tour: Leonie Lane		
12.00 NOON		MC Denis Dardengo Welcome to Country Opening Speeches: John Barnes - President NIMI Kevin Hogan - Member for Page Chris Galaptis - Member for Clarence Ernie Bennett - Mayor Richmond Valley Council			
12.45	MUSEUM: Val Wills	Opera Singer - Simone Nicole	Val Wills		1pm ONWARDS: Bocce
1.15		Salami Wheel/Raffle		STAGE 2 Lower Clarence Community Choir	
1.30	MUSEUM: Conversation with Leonie Lane and Lester Cooke. Where to next for the museum?	Music by Robert Severini	Food Demonstration		
2.00		Salami Wheel/Raffle		STAGE 2 Art Phillips	
2.15		Opera Singer - Simone Nicole		STAGE 2 Phil Pryor - Music/talk	Tree planting - honouring the women of New Italy
2.45		Salami Wheel/Raffle			
3.00		Music by Robert Severini	Display Tour: Leonie Lane		
3.30		Salami Wheel & draw major raffle and door prize			
3.45		Last dance with Robert Severini			
4.30		Ciao!			

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT NEW ITALY...

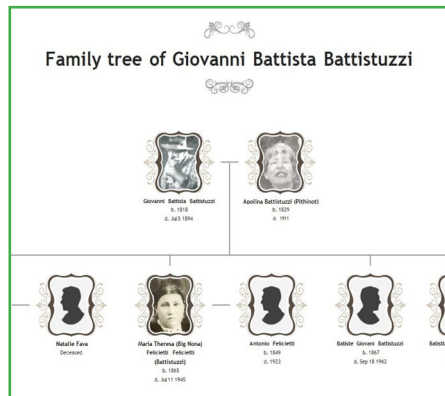


THE TASTES OF NEW ITALY CAFÉ

Enjoy the café's excellent food and coffee at CARNEVALE ITALIANO this year!

Enquiries: Rob Duncan, Tastes of New Italy Café owner • 02 66822622

NEW ITALY MUSEUM



The Battistuzzi family tree. Courtesy the Battistuzzi family and Lester Cooke.

Did you know that our museums website has a genealogy page? http://newitaly.com.au/?page_id=1517 Here you can view the dates and places of birth, marriage and more of 7,318 descendants of 58 of the pioneering families of New Italy. 5,796 of these names came from the book *Our Italian Heritage 1880-1980* compiled by Bazzo/Roder descendants H.T. De Stefani (nee Craven) and S.M. Craven. In the days before computers and genealogy programs, they produced this book from information gleaned by correspondence with representatives of the families. They donated the work to the museum for the New Italy 1980 centennial celebration. Thank you, Helen and Susan. Copies of this book are available from our gift shop (giftshop@newitaly.com.au). The 1881 NSW Government *The Italian Immigrants Inquiry Board Report* by J. Milbourne Marsh and George F. Wise was another important source. This is a work in progress, and we need your help.

We will have a genealogy station at Carnevale Italiano. On the day you can get a quality print of your ancestors, and help us update our records.

Enquiries: Lester Cooke, *Museums* Co-ordinator. • webmaster@newitaly.com.au

THE ITALIAN PAVILION



The Museums Monday team - Dot Randle, Leone Stibbard, Susan Creasey, Ellen Barnes, Cynthia Keough, Lester Cooke and Leonie Lane - at the door of the New Italy Museum. Photo Jamie the Barista

The Italian Pavilion Group and the Museum Monday Group have joined forces to gather ideas to upgrade the heart and soul of the New Italy Museum Complex - New Italy Museum! The extraordinary survivor and settler stories are carried within the existing displays and the family cabinets. We have been fortunate to have received a Community Building Partnership's grant with support from Chris Galaptis' office for the upgrade of the ceilings, lighting, wall displays and floors. NIMI intends to match the grant money on a \$ for \$ basis to ensure that this project is a success. The Museum has not been altered in any dramatic way since its inception. We feel that its precious collection of artefacts can be displayed in a very coherent way that can better tell the New Italy story.

To ensure that we get it right, we would like to canvas ideas and opinions at Carnevale Italiano through a survey and discussion of proposed ideas. We look forward to New Italy descendants and community members feedback through this process.

Contact Leonie Lane, *Italian Pavilion* Co-ordinator • booyongd@bigpond.net.au • 0423733569

THE CASA VECCHIA GIFT SHOP



Dedicated volunteers Susan and Carmen in Casa Vecchia Gift Shop. Photo Gail Williams

It was a busy and profitable time over the Christmas/holiday period and thanks to the dedication of the shop volunteers we were open every day to take advantage of it. This really is the secret to being a successful income stream for the New Italy Museum - to be open more often!

Here is Carmen (on the right) telling Susan why she volunteers.

"I enjoy being a volunteer because I value the importance of keeping this bit of local cultural history alive. Volunteering here is like stepping into another world. The Gift Shop has character and class and is a pleasant place to work. The other volunteers are friendly and we have fun!"

If you would like to also step into another world and join us for one day a month then please contact Gail on 0414 348 566.

Enquiries: Gail Williams, *Casa Vecchia Gift Shop* Co-ordinator • giftshop@newitaly.com.au

2016 MEMBERSHIPS ARE NOW DUE

Download the Membership form from
http://newitaly.com.au/?page_id=66

WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO IL GIORNALE?

Email stories, tourist tips to Italy, recipes etc.

Winter 2016 edition: content due 13/6/16

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Peter Blackwood (Secretary)

info@newitaly.com.au • 0414 673 933

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: ELLEN BARNES

Ellen's interest in New Italy is through her husband, John's, side of the family - the Spinaze and Capelin families. Together they share an interest in New Italy's history. Ellen is a highly organised and indispensable member of the Museums Monday group and a prized NIMI committee member.

