

Newsletter

August 2015



**MACKAY AND
DISTRICT ITALIAN
ASSOCIATION INC.**

FUNCTIONS

Welcome to our mid-year Newsletter for 2015.



After many months of preparation the Italian Festival in Ingham is now but a distant memory. All who attended the festival reported that a fantastic time was had by all and that a return visit to a future festival is definitely on the agenda.

Our first Luncheon, held in early May, was attended by about 180 members. Sib Torrisi, our Guest Speaker, presented an interesting insight into the history of his family in the Mackay area.

The next function on the calendar was the August Sausage Sizzle which was attended by about 50 people. The slide show of photos was a great talking point as pictures of migrants flashed across the screen.

2015 marked the 100 year celebration of Greenmount Homestead and our first venture at the Greenmount Heritage Fair was a huge success. As was done for Global Grooves last year, the Committee asked for volunteers to make Italian biscuits. Members did not let the Committee down and this resulted, not only in a wonderful variety of delectable sweets, but also a large quantity. The biscuits must have tasted as good as they looked because the sold out sign was out by 2 pm. Many, many thanks to all who made the delicious delights and also to those who manned the stall on the day.

In the preceding weeks the Association had applied for a Heritage Award which was being promoted by the Mackay Regional Council. The award, valued at \$500, was to be presented at the Fair and we were honoured to win a silver award in the Heritage Media section.

Sunday 28 June, a cool, blustery day, saw approx 25 members enjoy an Italian/Australian picnic at the Harbour Beach. This event, organised by the younger members of our Association, was attended by all ages.



Ingham Italian Festival



Sausage Sizzle

DATE CLAIMERS

Global Grooves

1st October

Luncheon

8 November

Grande Suites, Mackay



Italian/Australian Picnic

As everyone is aware, funds are needed not only for the running of the Association but also for the eventual printing of the book. Many members donate not only their time but also items for raffles, cent sales etc. If you are able to help in any way, donations would be gratefully appreciated for our major fundraisers. Any donations can be left at the Rover residence, 26 Keelan Street Mackay, or with any committee member. We thank all members who have generously donated prizes to our previous functions.

TASTE OF LITTLE ITALY - ITALIAN STREET PARTY

Join us for an evening of celebration, food and fun. The Mackay & District Italian Association has partnered up with City Centre eateries Burp and The Dispensary to bring you "Taste of Little Italy", the first Italian Street Party in Mackay.

The event, part of Twilight City Festival, will take place on Saturday 29 August, from 4 pm till late at 82-86 Wood Street. Enjoy exquisite Italian food and wines, listen and dance to traditional music played by a professional accordion player and mingle with the Italian community of Mackay. Bring family and friends and immerse yourself in this incredible event.

STORIES

The format of our Tuesday morning workshops this year has changed and we have really started to make inroads into the stories with 58 family histories signed off ready for publication. As each story has two reviews before the final review we would love to have a family member present at one of the reviews so the family

is part of the review process. Please realise there are only a few writers so if you would like to offer your assistance it would be greatly appreciated.

However we know there are still stories out there. You can either email your story to any of the following people or come to a Tuesday morning workshop and enjoy the friendship and help from all who attend. Workshops are held at the Rover residence from 9 am to 11 am.

Email addresses:

Aldo Rover gandarover@bigpond.com

Phil Logan ploges05@bigpond.net.au

Marice Perna mariceperna@gmail.com

SUNDAY MEETINGS

The Association has a monthly meeting on the third Sunday of each month starting at 3 pm. Meetings are held at the Shakespeare St Child and Family Centre, Cnr Shakespeare & Macrossan Street. Everyone is welcome to attend. .

FACEBOOK PAGE AND 4CRM NEWS

Hope you have heard the "MaCheDici" hour on 4CRM or 107.5 on your radio every Saturday at 11am. Lots of Italian music as well as an interview with a mystery guest. Everyone involved is having a wonderful time.



Diego and Luana are more than happy to take requests from anyone wishing to hear a favourite Italian song.

Have you checked our Facebook page recently? If you have attended any of the Association's Events you may have made our Rogue's Gallery. Our Intrepid Traveller's tour of Italy is certainly a great way to visit Italy without leaving the comfort of your home. Matera, our last stop is certainly stunning.

We now have some younger members of the community with Italian heritage also posting functions on the page.



Italian Festival

GENERAL

The Association now has smart **polo shirts** for sale. The shirts are available for \$25 from Gloria and Aldo and are also available for sale at all functions.

Sponsors

The Association acknowledges the kind and generous donations to our functions held during the year from the following businesses.

Bushman's Bakery

Mifsuds Fresh

Grande Suites

Honorary Auditors:

Forsyth's Accounting Services

Corporate Members

Quarrico



Flying the flag for Mackay at the Ingham Italian Festival.