

## Working for Italian People in the Community

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CO.AS.IT. promotes a collaborative approach to service providers providing quality, culturally and linguistically inclusive services that enable older Italian people to continue living as valued members of the community to enhance their quality of life.

November 2009

## From the President...

As 2009 is quickly passing by and Christmas celebrations are in sight. I take this opportunity to thank the staff and board of management for their dedication and support to CO.AS.IT. and to the agencies who we have worked closely with this year we look forward to a working together again in 2010!

Working in partnership with TAFE SA, FILEF and the Fernando Santi Institute we are happy to announce that we have been successful in securing a grant from the Italian Department of Employment and Social Security on a project which aims to upskill young people with both aged care and Italian language skills without any expense to the young person. We are always looking for new ways to bring new people into aged care who also have some language skills so this project is a very exciting

initiative. The project will commence in 2010. Keep an eye out for more information!

We were very happy to have the Hon. Michael Atkinson and his staff visit us and all Italian agencies at Punto Italia on 20 October. This gave us an opportunity to discuss current and future needs of our community. Punto Italia agencies include CO.AS.IT., COM.IT.ES., Dante Alighieri Society, Australia Donna and it.sa.

We are still awaiting news about the potential Italian consulates of Adelaide and Brisbane closure. However we are assured they will remain open till December 2011 at this point.

On behalf of the staff and board I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and all the best for 2010!

*Franca Antonello*  
CO.AS.IT. President



Staff and board members of the Punto Italia agencies at 230 St Bernards Road, Hectorville on 20 October



## A Day in the Italian Culture

### IBF Volunteer Recognition Day

A special Volunteer Thank You Afternoon Tea was held on Tuesday 13 October at the Italian Village. Dr Carmine De Pasquale welcomed the special guests and volunteers and gave an address in English and Italian where he sincerely thanked all the volunteers for their valuable contribution to our community in assisting with our frail elderly citizens.

The Hon Chris Pyne also thanked the volunteers on behalf of the Government for their contributions.

Approximately 60 volunteers attended and were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation. Years of service badges were also presented. A delicious afternoon tea was served and enjoyed by all.



On Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> August MAC together with the Italian agencies held a workshop for cultural awareness training specifically on the Italian culture. The day was filled with informative presentations from CEO of MAC Rosa Colanero, Acting Manager Maria Johns, CO.AS.IT. President Franca Antonello, Project Officer Luisa Schopman and finally by Debra Belperio from IBF.

Mr Nazareno Vella entertained us all playing the piano-accordion wearing a traditional costume while we enjoyed tasty homemade treats. PISA also provided a delectable lunch for us all, a sample of traditional Italian food.

A vast array of cultural activities were also carried out in the afternoon from learning small phrases in Italian to assist care workers with better communication to activities like playing Italian card games such as Briscola.

Other activities on the day included a brief history and game of Bocce, A game of tombola and making rosary beads.

The day was well received by all and below are some comments from participants on the day:

*The Cultural Activities – I learn by doing, I work with residents who have spiritual needs; learning more about the rosary was really helpful”*

*“Very friendly and well presented and so much information”*

*“I am Italian but this workshop has helped so much in realizing how many Italian speaking people are in need of some these organizations help. The need for more funding and all carers are to be recognized for their work”*

*“Gaining the knowledge about particular cultural differences especially religion”*

*“I enjoyed the fellowship and being able to sample some of the Italian food and sharing ideas”*



### Farewell and Good Luck!

We are very sad to have said good bye to Nina Carracio the APAIA Tiramisu Coordinator Day Care Coordinator on Thursday 17 September. Nina has been with APAIA for many years and will be dearly missed by all

clients and volunteers. Nina is pictured centre next to Carmine Gioiosa, APAIA President.



Anna Rita Miada is employed as the new Tiramisu Coordinator and Lisa Carbone was employed as the day care assistant coordinator. Both Anna Rita and Lisa are looking forward to working with our Italian speaking elderly community.

### Seniors Week Lunch

The traditional CIC Senior's week luncheon (Festa Dell'Anziano) was successfully held at the Fogolar Furlan on the 14 October 2009. Approximately 400 people attended the Festa luncheon. The event is the yearly luncheon where the past contributions of our elderly to the local community are celebrated and where the continuing commitment of 80 volunteers are publicly acknowledged.



Festa dell'anziano is an opportunity for the Coordinating Italian Committee (CIC) to say thank you to our volunteers who dedicate on average some 12 hours a week to support the programs and less active members of our community. As usual the event was enjoyed by all those who attended.

## Italian Cultural Day

On Tuesday 29th September CO.AS.IT. assisted Seaford community seniors day care program in Noarlunga to hold an Italian Cultural Day educating participants about Italy and the Italian way of life and gave information on Italian community services.

The day included a trip to "la bella Italia" through an informative dvd. Especially of interest to the participants was watching the 'Digital Stories' of Italian women talking about their lives which was produced by Australia Donna.



Everyone enjoyed the marvelous melodies of the piano-accordion while tasting some tempting Italian sweets prepared by the Italian members of the group along with a traditional Italian espresso coffee! Pictured above are the Italian women of the group with Franca, Luisa and the group coordinator Carmel.

## Introducing 'Villa ANFE'

ANFE has great pleasure and satisfaction in announcing the acquisition of their wonderful new premises at 108 South Road Torrensville, ph: 8234 5550 and fax: 8234 5557.

From the first day of operation almost 50 years ago, ANFE always hoped to be able to provide and administer services from their very own premises. To see this become a reality is a dream come true for all those associated with ANFE and particularly for the founding members. Most of all, this will enable ANFE to plan ahead to meet the ever growing demand for services to our much loved and valued clients.

ANFE wishes to thank all those who have supported and contributed over the years and hope that your association continues. The staff, volunteers and board look forward to seeing you in at "VILLA ANFE".



## "Con Te" In the south

The 'Con Te' social programs are initiatives of the Italian Benevolent Foundation (IBF). They form part of the Passa Tempo Program that works in collaboration with local government, mainstream service providers and other CALD communities to achieve culturally appropriate services. These programs aim to link participants back into their community by meeting new people, making new friends, accessing information on services that are available to them to increase confidence and good health.

Our new **Con Te Trott Park** program offers a variety of activities including; tombola, bocce cards, chair based exercises, outings, chit-chats, music and relaxation. Con Te Trott Park is scheduled to commence early in 2010 and will operate weekly from the Trott Park Neighborhood Centre. This program has been developed in partnership with the City of Marion. For further information contact the Padre Pio Centre on 8424 600.

## Community Information Notice Board



### Carnevale 2010

Plans for Carnevale 2010 are underway at the Royal Adelaide Showground which will be held on February 6 & 7.

The Italian fun, food and fair festival has an exciting program lined up for the two days including: live cooking demonstrations, fashion parades, traditional mass with choirs, also including the new "Search for a singer" local talent competition and much much more!

Admission is \$12.00 for Adults, \$6.00 for Concessions & children under 12 free. For more information please visit: [www.carnevale-adelaide.com](http://www.carnevale-adelaide.com) or contact Teresa on 8362 0233.



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CO.AS.IT.<sup>SA</sup>

### Congratulations 10 years of Service!

This year, ANFE are celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> year of service of two of their employees, Joyce Bueti and Gianni Maniero, who have provided valuable services to a significant number of clients over the last decade and have remained dedicated to the goals and strategic directions of ANFE.

Joyce has been involved in areas such as the Community Visitors Scheme, Ethnic Aged Care and Community Partners Program, and has worked through many changes over the last ten years and her efforts continue to be much appreciated by the ANFE family.

Gianni's passion and commitment to ANFE and its clients applies not only to his employment as Day Care Coordinator, but also extends to his many hours of unpaid voluntary work. Gianni has made significant contributions to a wide range of activities and services including funded aged care programs, social and fundraising events. We thank Joyce and Gianni on this achievement and hope they will be around for the Italian community well into the future!



### New Website On the Way!

Keep an eye out early next year for CO.AS.IT.'s new and updated website. We are in the process of working with our web designer and have been taking photographs of Italians in our community. We thank Raegan from Photos @ Your Place ([www.photosatyourplace.com.au](http://www.photosatyourplace.com.au)) for supporting us and taking some wonderful photos!

### St Hilarion Building update

Construction of *The House of Saint Hilarion* at Seaton continues to progress well, although the relatively high number of rainfall days this winter have had an impact on the completion date. Nonetheless we remain confident that the building will be completed early in the new year.

Within the overall development, construction of the dementia specific residential wing is well advanced, while the community and administrative areas are starting to take shape. The chapel has already taken on the appearance of a prominent landmark, and this will be reinforced on Sunday 22 November when the official Cross Topping ceremony takes place.

### Parliament house visit

On August 28<sup>th</sup> the Hon. Vini Ciccarello, provided a guided tour of Parliament House for 16 A.N.F.E volunteers. They were taken first to Old Parliament House where they heard about the history of both the building and the parliament that had occupied it. Then it was off to the Library, the Lower House and Legislative Council chambers. The volunteers found the history and parliamentary procedures very interesting and all present had a great time!



### Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The next AGM for CO.AS.IT. will be held on Tuesday 24 November at Punto Italia our office premises at Hectorville. Please call our office for more information. Everyone is welcome!