

edition 4 – 2013

# insieme

*co.as.it. magazine*

## 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH COAST OFFICE



Celebrating 35 years  
of community  
services



# director's note

This last quarter has been so busy that we are all looking forward to the forthcoming Christmas break! So many things have happened in the past few months – 230 new clients have come on board from Medicare Local - North Brisbane which contributed to a restructure of staff duties and employing extra staff to meet the service needs. A further expansion of home support services in the Brisbane North area was also approved in the month of October bringing us to advertise for more staff. We are constantly reconfiguring office space as more staff or new programs commence.

We have been fortunate to now have two full time workers who are providing some very engaging activities for members of our Italian community. These activities are all free and have included some entertaining and new experiences for participants from line dancing to tai-chi to candle making. The community is particularly responsive to the wonderful and easy computer classes that have seen a large number of people taking part.

Our wonderful 10 year anniversary of the opening of the Gold Coast office was celebrated recently with over 200 people at the Italo-Australian Club. What a memorable day we shared with our Italian Australian community on the South Coast. When we started services a decade ago, we never anticipated that we would be renovating the premises and now arranging to have a new office to accommodate the additional staff we need to place there.

The proposed renovations for Casa Serena are proceeding well and once again, illustrate the high need for services within our ageing population. Due to Christmas fast approaching the renovations will take us into the New Year. The renovations to our previous office space at Newmarket commenced during this quarter and these will be finalized at the end of this year. We must thank the Brisbane City Soccer Club for generously allowing us the use of their area downstairs whilst these renovations are taking place.

Our Christmas concert is going to be a joyous occasion, once again to be held at the Old Museum – an event to share with all of our families and friends. In the past this has been attended by over 450 people, it provides us all with the opportunity to celebrate the festive spirit with an array of entertainers and enjoy a glass of champagne and 'panettone'. I look forward to seeing many of you on the day.



Being the last newsletter for the 2013 year, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to a very busy 2014 with the many community activities and social events planned.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the Christmas concert on the 15th December by contacting our office on 3262 5755.

*Dina Ranieri*



35 dover street  
albion qld 4010

po box 59  
albion bc qld 4010

tel: 07 3262 5755  
fax: 07 3262 9985

mail@coasit.asn.au  
www.coasit.asn.au

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## MARIA ROCCHI



My name is Maria Rocchi – I joined Co.As.It. on 15 October 2013 to complete the team working towards delivering the Diversity and Inclusion Program to its target group, the older Italian CALD Community.

I am originally from Sydney and moved to Brisbane after departing the Department of Family and Community Services (Community Housing Division) in 2010 for extended travel to Europe, which I may add, was thoroughly enjoyed and would return in a heartbeat.

With the experience I gained from having worked across three units in CHD, I bring a strong understanding of housing and human provisions from the bureaucratic perspective – so coming into the coalface of working directly with clients will bring different challenges and rewards.

I am truly grateful and happy to be working at Co.As.It. – I actually get to speak Italian - which I love. I must admit, since landing in Brisbane in February 2011, I have never met so many Italians, young and old.

I have two beautiful daughters and an adorable little grandson, all residing in Sydney, with my youngest currently in the UK (chasing love!!!). I miss them dearly, but I get to jet down frequently to catch up with family, gossip, etc.

A big thank you to Dina, Nella and Zina for offering me the opportunity to join Co.As.It. to be part of not only the team that is delivering the program, but to also learn and move forward with an organisation that is growing and developing new ways to better care for the needs of the aged.

## FRANCESCA MALENICA



My name is Francesca Malenica, my family and I left Italy in 1988 to come to Australia. Originally trained in Childrens' Services I also have qualifications in counselling and office administration.

I have worked within the Community Services area since 2008 as receptionist/admin officer with another service provider before becoming a Community Care Worker with Co.As.It. in April of this year. I am now employed as an Assessment Officer working alongside Orietta and Stefania.

I find myself absolutely loving my work with Co.As.It. I get to connect with the community in a whole new way, not only

sharing the Italian culture and speaking the language, but also meeting the needs of the elderly in the community.

## ZINA HULBERT



After a number of years as a medical typist, I decided to go to university to study for an Associate Diploma in Electrical Engineering – just to see if I could do it. When I was eight months pregnant with my third child, I graduated and continued part-time work as a computer technician. I had always wanted to teach so I got my Cert IV in Assessment and Workplace Training which I upgraded at the end of last year. I've enjoyed running my business in computer hardware software support and training with my then business partner Alana. Our goal was to be the only computer support business around run by a couple of mothers.

It's my eighth week here at Co.As.It. and I couldn't be happier. With the work I do as Senior Project Officer for the newly funded Diversity and Inclusion Program, I can incorporate all of my skills in technology and teaching adults, together with my deepest respect and love for my Italian heritage (which my four beautiful children have inherited), to assist our much loved Italian elderly to get involved in activities that will improve their mental and physical health.

# Attenzione Toowoomba: arrivano gli italiani!

Durante la giornata di venerdì 18 settembre è stata organizzata un'escursione nella zona di Darling Downs del Queensland che ha visto la partecipazione di un gruppo sociale patrocinato dal programma HACC del Co.As.It.

Il tour ha esplorato zone che si estendono lungo una vasta fascia collinare dove si coltivano diversi prodotti agricoli tra cui verdura, legumi, cotone, grano ed orzo, nonché aree adibite al pascolo di mucche da macello e da latte, e anche all'allevamento di maiali, agnelli e pecore.

Al termine di una breve sosta caffè e tè a metà mattinata vicino a Gatton, l'autobus ha continuato il suo percorso attraversando le montagne ed offrendo viste mozzafiato dei burroni e scarpate della Grande Catena Divisoria (Great Dividing Range).

In questo periodo dell'anno Toowoomba ospita l'annuale festival dei fiori e visitatori da tutta l'Australia si incontrano per ammirare i giardini magnifici della città, tra cui la 'Brindabella Country Grader' che rappresenta una delle attrazioni più famose e che si estende su oltre 4 acri di terra ricca di rose profumate.

Originariamente questa bellissima proprietà era una terra brulla di cui la famiglia Grey si è impossessata 21 anni fa per realizzare questo giardino, che ora mette in mostra rose profumate, piante sempreverdi ed esemplari di piante rare.

Il gruppo che ha visitato questo giardino non si smetteva di annusare queste rose bellissime ed è rimasto piacevolmente

sorpreso dalla varietà di colori, descrivendolo "un giardino dell'altro mondo".

Nonostante il gruppo sia rimasto incantato dal bellissimo e coloratissimo panorama, l'ora di pranzo si stava avvicinando e una zona con una vista stupenda è stata scelta come area di riposo e picnic. Coloro che preferivano un pranzo più organizzato, hanno potuto usufruire dell'invitante ristorante a pochi passi.

Dopo pranzo il tour è ripreso con la visita di altri giardini ben noti, tra cui i

Giardini Giapponesi in cui piante e i motivi decorativi evocavano un senso di serenità e pace.

Il suono dello sgocciolio delle fontanelle, le foglie verdeggianti e lussureggianti, bonsai e piccoli ponticelli tra i giardini hanno ricreato un'atmosfera speciale.

Toowoomba è anche rinomata per i suoi parchi, infatti il gruppo ha potuto approfittare di una visita guidata del Queen Park e del Laurel Bank Park prima di ritornare a Brisbane.



Chiunque sia interessato a unirsi al gruppo può chiamare  
il Co.As.It. al numero 07 3262 5755

day care respite centre

## Weekend away at the Gold Coast



It seems that there is a huge demand for weekends away at the moment for our respite clients.

Perhaps it's because it's almost the end of the year and a nice break before Christmas is just what is needed to re-energize to cope with the strenuous task of eating, celebrating and eating again!

Ten clients enjoyed a great time away with many revitalizing activities over the weekend. Some of these were morning tea at McDonald's; lunch at the German Club at Merrimac; a browse through the Carrara Markets; dinner at the Southport Sharks Leagues Club; afternoon tea at the Surf Life Saving Club at Broadbeach as well as a scenic tour through the Tweed Heads Coolangatta areas.

The group also went to Sanctuary Cove for a special lunch before stopping on the way home, to visit the Koala Centre at Daisy Hill.

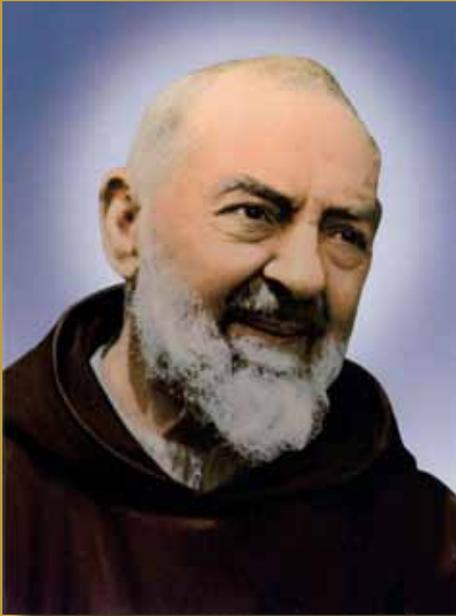
Many photos were taken by the merry little group and although thoroughly exhausted, everyone was extremely happy for the great care provided by Corinne, Claudia and Angela who dedicated the whole weekend to keeping the clients well fed, happy and active.

A special thank you must be extended to DCRC Coordinator Corinne who acted as both bus driver and coordinator! All of the clients have booked again for the next trip one which is sure to be as wonderful as this one.



Anyone wishing to join the happy crew is invited to contact Co.As.It. on 3262 5755

## *hacc social outings*



# PILGRIMAGE TO PADRE PIO

Every year in September, the Italian community gathers to celebrate Mass in honour of Padre Pio at Marian Valley. Members of the HACC social outings were part of this pilgrimage.

A large number of pilgrims left from Co.As.It. by bus to participate in this religious event. Hymns and songs were sung during the ride up the mountain and a brief story on the life of Padre Pio was read to the travellers who listened with great interest.

As the morning advanced their destination was reached with eagerness and enthusiasm. The life sized bronze statue of Padre Pio overlooked those who came to Marian Valley.

So much to do, so much to hear and more importantly so much to listen to! Father Angelo's celebration of Mass was once again very touching, especially when he read briefly the sufferings of Padre Pio during his lifetime.

It was soon time for lunch, picnic tables and chairs were quickly covered with fresh tablecloths and a variety of Italian dishes were placed on the tables together with delectable red and white wines. Coffee and biscuits followed with lots of chatting among everyone on the wonderful day shared with old friends and families.



# Office Closure



Co.As.It. office will close from 12.30pm  
December 24, 2013

and will reopen January 2, 2014

Co.As.It.'s Staff  
and Management  
wish you and your family  
a very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year



## membership application form



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tel (H)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

Are you interested in volunteering for Co.As.It.? Yes  No

If yes, may we contact you to discuss your interests?

Cut out this form and send it along with your payment to:  
Co.As.It. Community Services  
PO Box 59 ALBION BC QLD 4010

I would like to become a member of Co.As.It. and request you to enter my name on the Register of Members accordingly. I agree to abide by the Rules of the Constitution and conditions of membership.

I enclose the \$20 subscription fee.

Cheque

Credit card

...../...../...../...../.....

Expiry ...../.....

Name on card .....

.....  
Signature

# CHRISTMAS CONCERT SPECTACULAR

Sunday

15 December 2013

2.00pm to 6.00pm

Old Qld Museum Brisbane  
Bowen Bridge Road & Gregory Tce  
Bowen Hills

Entry fee \$15

Tickets available at Co.As.It. 3262 5755

## Merry Christmas!

Includes Champagne & Panettone (Italian Christmas Cake)

### FEATURING

Angelo Di Bella  
*a voice to leave you amazed*

Nata Forte - *Singer/Songwriter*

Leslie Martin Nightingale - *Soprano*

Tiana V - *Singer/songwriter*

Voices of Birralee - *Choir*



Under the patronage of the Italian Consulate  
for Qld and Northern Territory

Il Co.As.It. in collaborazione  
con l'Associazione Siciliana del Qld  
vi invita ad una gita a  
Marian Valley in occasione  
della celebrazione

## DI SANTA LUCIA

Sabato  
14 dicembre, 2013  
Marian Valley

Gita riservata ai clienti HACC senza problemi  
cognitivi o di mobilità, capaci di raggiungere  
indipendentemente il punto di partenza.

**Pagamento  
Anticipato**

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Partenza  
alle ore 8.00 dal Co.As.It.  
42 Newbery St, Newmarket  
e  
alle ore 8.30 dalla chiesa di  
St Bernards  
4 Klumpp Rd, Mt Gravatt

Ritorno alle 16.00

**\$30**

INCLUSO  
TRASPORTO, MERENDA e  
PRANZO  
(FOCACCIA, BIBITA e DOLCE)

Prenotazioni essenziali  
entro il 06/12/13  
tel: 3262 5755

**The clients were delighted with this unexpected trip which generated a great deal of anticipation and enjoyment.**

The Day Care Centre Respite groups at the Gold Coast have been busy this last quarter, especially since the weather has been so lovely recently.

Clients have been able to enjoy walking along the Broadwater at Labrador and then enjoy lazy lunches at Parkwood Tavern.

September was the perfect month for group outings, they loved the scenic drives to South Tweed Heads for a smorgasbord lunch at the 'Coolangatta and Tweed Heads Golf Club' and the impromptu one hour visits to the 'Ferry Road Markets' where some clients took advantage of the fine delicatessen there to make various purchases as well as enjoy a 'gelato'. This spontaneous visit gave clients the choice of remaining at the Centre and participating in group activities or going out for a short while before returning to the Centre for lunch. The clients were delighted with this unexpected trip which generated a great deal of anticipation and enjoyment.

Other highlights of the quarter at the South Coast groups were the 'mercato di ferragosto' which consisted of numerous little items donated by the groups which went on sale (one man's trash is another man's treasure!), and of course the celebrations at the Italo-Australian Club for the 10 year anniversary of the opening of the South Coast Office.



**TREASURE!**

# 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTH COAST OFFICE

*The day will be remembered by all as a worthy celebration of Co.As.It.'s expansion and development in service provision.*

When Co.As.It. began providing services to the South Coast area in 2003, there was no way to imagine that in 10 years, the growth in clients and services would necessitate us carrying out renovations to the old club house at the Italo-Australian Centre as well as now having to relocate the office to larger premises to cater to the increased number of staff.

These changes and rapid expansion of our programs on the South Coast have provided many in our Italian community with vital support services that have enabled them to live at home independently.

It was with great pride that the organization celebrated these past 10 years with a wonderful luncheon held at the Italo-Australian club on Sunday, 10th November, 2013.

Over 200 people attended the celebrations which included a buffet lunch, entertainment and numerous prizes which were generously donated by many people, organizations and businesses.

A special thank you must be expressed to these people as well as Fil D'Arro from Italiquore who generously donated the champagne for this luncheon.



Compered by Frank Paolino, the day was a lively experience for all involved.

Local Gold Coast City Council member Cr William Owen-Jones attended as did representatives from the Sicilian Association of Qld Inc. (Mr and Mrs Phillip Sciacca) and the Piemontese Association of Qld Inc. (Mr and Mrs Anna Di Pasquale). Co.As.It. President Cav. Nereo Brezzi opened the formalities of the day before everyone enjoyed the rest of the afternoon's activities. Entertainment

by the Two Cuppuccinos brought many people to their feet in energetic and spirited dancing. The day will be remembered by all as a worthy celebration of Co.As.It.'s expansion and development in service provision. Together with Coordinators Rita La Rocca-Fontana, Cristina Iuculano and Admin Officer Patti Sokolowska we all look forward to another successful 10 years of Co.As.It.'s presence on the South Coast helping the community age well and maintain their independence for as long as possible.



# aged care services

day care respite centres

## New experiences await us at every turn!

How lovely it was to receive two letters of thanks from clients and families who experienced a respite weekend away at Biggera Waters in September organised by Coordinator Marta Figlioli.

A lady in particular was thrilled by the chance to be taken for coffee at an internationally acclaimed hotel – Palazzo Versace! An enthusiastic group of 9 clients and 3 staff began a weekend that can only be described as a culinary journey! Lunch at Sanctuary Cove in front of a sparkling water view; dinner at the Italo-Australian Club; lunch at the German Club and in between were the various snacks freshly made by the staff.

All of these pursuits were enjoyed in the company of good friends and in the midst of a refreshing seaside environment.

The most memorable activity before leaving the Coast after three days of sightseeing and other fun was the opportunity to indulge in a restorative little break at Palazzo Versace.

The clients couldn't believe the magnificence and richly decorated areas where people congregated to chat, relax and enjoy the surroundings. They enjoyed coffee, live piano music and took lots of photos to remind them of the splendid place!

Clients were finally taken home safely, happy and tired. All of them looking forward to doing it again soon.



## ***Social interaction in nursing homes***

There are so many members of our Italian community in nursing homes that it is a very comforting thought to know they have the opportunity to attend our Cald Activity Program. Operated on a fortnightly basis by our Lifestyle and Leisure Officer Rosa Basile, this program not only provides social interaction but also engages them in activities they can relate to.

Many times our Italian residents cannot join in with the facility's Diversional Therapy programs because of a lack of English language skills. Instructions and games are alien to them and since many used to embroider, crochet or sew for a living, these are not considered recreational pastimes, to them it's work!

Rosa runs the program fortnightly in 12 nursing homes around Brisbane where there is a higher number of Italian residents. Rosa takes great care to plan things that employ both mind and body, are enjoyable and can be easily achieved by the residents.

The program is in Italian and involves games, conversations, reminiscing and

the brewing of the familiar fragrant coffee for morning tea. Two dedicated volunteers Connie Massadi and Rosa Raciti provide support and energy and many family members also come along to share the morning with their loved one.

As part of the Aged Care reforms, residential facilities are required to cater to the needs of residents from a culturally and linguistically diverse background. If your family member is in a facility, ask us about being a part of the program.



# aged care services

## *community support*

Co.As.It. continues to value the kindness of many friends and supporters who generously donate towards its programs for the Italian community.

At the present time, the organization provides aged care and community support services to over 2,200 people per week! Many of these clients have been involved with the organization since it first started in 1978.

Not everyone requires the same assistance, services may be minimal like helping clients with domestic assistance or providing them with social contact and support.

Others however, have avoided admission into an aged care facility because of Co.As.It. which is heavily involved in providing many services such as personal care, clinical and nursing care.

Clients with complex needs have been able to remain at home because of the daily presence of Co.As.It. in their lives.

We know that we make a significant difference to the lives of many but this is not always acknowledged within the community.

Many times families will request that donations be made in lieu of flowers at a funeral but disappointingly, these donations are made to organizations that have not been involved in the person's care.

Over the past few weeks however, Co.As.It. has received a number of donations recognizing the valuable support services that enrich the lives of so many people.

On October 6, at the Annual General Meeting of the Sicilian Association of Qld Inc., held at Mr. and Mrs. Joe Politi's house with approximately 50 members, a generous donation of \$2,500 was

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# THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.



## *community support*



presented to Director, Dina Ranieri. Dina thanked them for their generosity but also recognised that the association worked tremendously hard to fundraise during the year to donate to worthy organisations.

Although the Association is very active, the President mentioned how difficult it was becoming for members to attend functions. The Association would like to do more, but are limited in the support they receive as members are now quite elderly, lack transport and find it difficult to attend functions at night.

Dina spoke about the need for committed volunteers in our community and encouraged members to join Co.As.It.'s volunteer teams.

On October 13, at the Annual General Meeting of the Piemontese Association of Qld Inc., in recognition of services rendered to the community, Co.As.It. was presented with a generous donation of \$1,000 by President Anna Di Pasquale. The Association is also heavily involved in fundraising and organizes many events and functions not only for its members but also for the wider community.

Also recently, one of Co.As.It.'s carers, Mrs Maria Floriani generously donated \$1,210 to Co.As.It.'s Dementia Support Services Program. Her husband Leonardo attends the Co.As.It. Sunshine Groups and she has been very appreciative for the opportunity to have a few hours to herself to re-energise whilst Leonardo is at the Group.

Leonardo recently celebrated his birthday in October and rather than purchasing a gift for him, Mrs Floriani asked her guests to give a donation to Co.As.It.

Co.As.It. is very grateful for the generosity of the community and wishes to extend thanks and an appreciation for the thoughtfulness which has accompanied each generous act.



# Live in the moment



***Our Sunshine groups thrive on spontaneity and laughter as we let our clients guide us in unearthing their world of wisdom and insight.***

Hi everybody! Here we are at the end of another busy year.

Working with people living with dementia is teaching us all to live “in the moment” as they do!

What does “live in the moment” mean? It means meeting people exactly where they are at that moment.

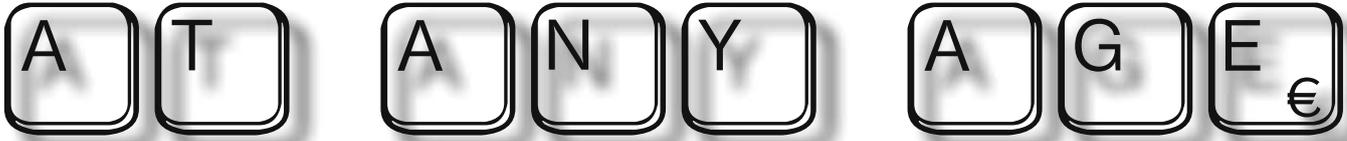
People with dementia may find it challenging to imagine the future and at times may not remember the past... but they are real professionals at living in the moment!

Very often with people living with dementia, the social inhibitions which ‘control’ human responses will lift, and they are free to express themselves without feeling bad, embarrassed or guilty.

This can give us (their supportive partners) great opportunities for spontaneity and laughter!

Our Sunshine groups thrive on spontaneity and laughter as we let our clients guide us in unearthing their world of wisdom and insight.

## TECHNOLOGY IS FUN



Il programma di Diversity & Inclusion del Co.As.It. è rivolto a tutti i membri della comunità CALD (culturalmente e linguisticamente diversa) ed ha come obiettivo principale quello di sostenere una sana e felice terza età.

Durante il Forum annuale organizzato dal Co.As.It, il 29 agosto, è stata presentata la proposta di organizzare classi gratuite di informatica come parte del nostro programma.

Nelle nostre classi iniziali queste persone, di cui la maggior parte non aveva mai toccato un mouse prima di quel momento, si sono impegnate ottenendo grandi risultati e facendo richiesta di partecipare ad ulteriori classi.

Il numero delle richieste da parte di genitori e nonni della comunità italiana è aumentato così tanto che sono state organizzate ulteriori classi di informatica per computer e Ipad. Durante questi adorabili incontri, si sono svelati i segreti, la forza e i talenti che queste persone hanno importato nel nostro paese. Ed ora possono anche dire che hanno imparato ad usare la tecnologia!

I partecipanti ai gruppi hanno preso parte ad altre attività tra cui line dance, terapie di rilassamento, aromaterapia e Tai Chi, tutte accompagnate da momenti di relax con una tazza di té o caffè e biscotti. Ci sono state mattinate tutte dedicate al cinema italiano, guardando "Il pesce innamorato" alla Chiesa di St. Bernard, Upper Mount Gravatt, e "Innamorato pazzo" al Brisbane City Soccer Club di Newmarket.

Si è inoltre organizzato una presentazione con la prof.ssa Donna Hendry, funzionario educativo per la Fondazione per la



cura delle malattie della retina e della macula (Macular Disease Foundation Australia), che ha spiegato alla comunità come riconoscere un occhio sano, come prevenire una possibile degenerazione della macula, i trattamenti, la prevenzione e i consigli per diagnosticare questa malattia. Questa presentazione ha avuto un effetto positivo tra il pubblico in quanto le persone hanno avuto l'opportunità di capire se avevano la malattia oppure no, e di imparare metodi per rallentare il decorso.

Sono state organizzate sessioni informative allo staff del reparto di

geriatria (Older Person's Mental Health Unit) del Royal Brisbane Hospital su come meglio rispondere ai bisogni della comunità italiana CALD (culturalmente e linguisticamente diversa).

Nel mese di novembre ci saranno molte attività, tra cui ulteriori classi di informatica, yoga, zumba, massaggi alle mani e adesso anche carte e bocce! Il calendario degli eventi di novembre è disponibile online sul sito [www.coasit.asn.au](http://www.coasit.asn.au) e per maggiori informazioni sulle attività o per prenotare, chiamare Zina o Maria al 3262 5755. Unitevi a noi! È tutto gratis!



**Christmas closure dates  
for Co.As.It.'s Day Care  
Respite Centres**

All Day Care Respite Centres  
will be closing on  
Thursday, December 19, 2013

and will re-open

on Monday January 13, 2014

Co.As.It.'s Staff and Management  
wish you and your family a very  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year



**Notifica di chiusura  
Natalizia dei Centri Diurni  
di Tregua del Co.As.It.**

Tutti i Centri Diurni di Tregua  
saranno chiusi  
dal Giovedì 19 Dicembre, 2013

e riapriranno

il giorno Lunedì 13 Gennaio, 2014

Il personale e la direzione del Co.As.It.  
augurano a tutti voi e alle vostre  
famiglie un Buon Natale  
e un Felice Anno Nuovo



**HIS DAUGHTER  
WAS HIS PRIDE  
AND JOY, NOW  
SHE'S TAKING  
BOTH.**

**Elder abuse can be  
emotional,  
financial and physical  
abuse and neglect.  
If you suspect someone  
you know  
is experiencing elder  
abuse, make  
the call.**

**Elder Abuse  
Helpline  
1300 651 192  
(Queensland)  
9am–5pm  
Mon -Fri**

# **non ce la faccio. il posto mi deprime!**

Sappiamo tutti che andare in una casa di cura può essere deprimente e che lo stato di salute dei pazienti non è certo dei migliori, ma se così non fosse, queste persone non sarebbero lì, vero?

È facile dire "Non ce la faccio, il posto mi deprime, non ho la forza di spirito" ma quando si tratta di un nostro familiare, allora la storia cambia.

In questi momenti il Co.As.It. riceve numerose telefonate dai famigliari chiedendo di trovare un volontario per far compagnia alla mamma o al papà in modo che non stiano soli tutto il giorno.

Purtroppo, la nostra risposta è spesso del tipo "Mi dispiace ma non abbiamo

abbastanza volontari per soddisfare tutte le richieste che ci giungono".

Perché si sente spesso dire dalle persone alle quali si chiede di diventare volontari "non ho tempo", "devo stare attenta ai miei nipotini", "non saprei come arrivarci", "non sopporto l'ambiente" e quasi mai invece vengono chieste domande come "Come posso migliorare la vita di queste persone?"

Entrare a far parte del gruppo di volontari del Co.As.It. significa mettere da parte le scuse e fare contento un anziano grazie ad una breve visita. La strada che conduce alla vecchiaia è molto breve e tutti noi la dovremo percorrere prima o poi. Investire negli anziani della

nostra comunità significa limitare la loro solitudine e la depressione.

Non ci vuole molto per diventare un volontario e i benefici sono veramente tanti. Grazie a questo programma i nostri volontari visitano diversi anziani italiani residenti in case di cura, ma abbiamo bisogno di nuovi volontari che possano dedicare agli anziani un paio d'ore alla settimana.

I nostri volontari sono gente speciale che mettono a disposizione degli anziani il loro tempo rendendo la loro vita molto più piacevole. Vorremmo estendere un grazie particolare a tutti i nostri volontari e vorremmo allo stesso invitarvi ad unirvi al nostro gruppo.



# Buon Halloween!

## Dolcetto o scherzetto?

Historically, Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, marked the beginning of the celebrations of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Halloween is not traditionally associated with Italy but this festivity is rapidly catching on and towards the end of October one often sees carved pumpkins, costumed children running through the piazzas and signs for Halloween-themed parties.

Halloween falls just before two important religious holidays in Italy: Ognissanti or Tutti i Santi (All Saints' Day) on 1 November and Il Giorno dei Morti (All Souls' Day) on 2 November when loved ones who have passed away are remembered.

Historically, Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, marked the beginning of the celebrations of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day.

Although these are still the main holidays recognized in Italy, Halloween is gaining in popularity. For many Italians, Halloween is simply the chance to celebrate another festa (party) with children in dress-up costumes walking from store to store or door to door asking "dolcetto o scherzetto?" (trick or treat?)

To celebrate Halloween with an Italian twist, the Italian Language Centre launched its Poetic Calligram competition 2013 in early October.



The competition was open to Primary students of Italian from Prep to Year 7 who were invited to create a calligram and 'disegnare con le parole' (draw with words). A calligram is a poem, phrase, or word with the handwriting arranged in a way that creates a visual image.

In a poetic calligram the image created by the words expresses visually what the words say.

Hundreds of entries were received from schools in and around Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast, Townsville and Cairns.

Entries were judged on Wednesday 13 November and deserving creations in each of the four categories were awarded medals, certificates, and i-Tunes gift cards.

# Italian professional development in Cairns

On Thursday 1 August 2013 the Italian Language Centre, in association with Catholic Education Services Diocese of Cairns, presented a professional development session in Cairns for teachers of Italian in Far North Queensland.

The presentations began with Mary Lantman who introduced Variations of Carnevale across Italy which explored the characteristics of this ancient festivity. Next Dina Nardone introduced the strategy "Reading to Learn" which she has adapted to the teaching of Italian.

She first demonstrated what this looks like at primary level by introducing the fashion theme 'Sfilata di moda'. This was followed by a Reading to Learn workshop for secondary school based on the classic "Divina Commedia" by Dante Alighieri and the modern play "Il buio, la luce e il carnevale" by Roberto Piumini.

Lastly, Rosella Dermedgoglou explored the use of film as a teaching tool to make cultural comparisons. This took the form of investigating the cultural stereotypes and prejudices evident in the two films "Benvenuti al Nord" and "Benvenuti al Sud." Feedback from the day indicate a high level of satisfaction on behalf of participants.

The Italian Language Centre supports Italian insertion programs in schools throughout Queensland by supporting teachers and providing professional development to assist them in remaining culturally and linguistically up to date.



# GIROTONDO PLAYGROUP

The final term of the year has been very busy for our active playgroup children. During Term 4, playgroup teacher Laura Zanichelli and assistant Carmel Paolino touched on the beautiful imaginative world of fairy tales.

Carlo Collodi's timeless story of 'Pinocchio' soon had the children singing 'Geppetto's song' while revising words for parts of the body: 'Faccio gli occhi, occhi, occhi, e poi il naso, naso, naso....'

These were useful words to know for the Halloween activity which came up next. Although Halloween is not strictly Italian, it has nevertheless become a popular celebration in Italy and it was therefore celebrated in Playgroup too.

The children showed great imagination by transforming their 'zucca' templates into a variety of smiling Jack-O'-Lanterns!

Learning the words for family members was quickly achieved through the tale of 'Cappuccetto Rosso'.

Dressed up as the characters from the story, the children had great fun role-playing 'Cappuccetto Rosso', 'Nonna', 'Lupo' and 'Cacciatore', much to the delight of the mums and nonni present.

Finally, it was time to listen to the story 'I tre porcellini' which included getting right into the action of the tale by singing 'Cade la Poggia', 'Sento i tuoni', 'C'è il pavimento nella casa'.

Playgroup is also practising a number of Christmas carols in Italian which will be sung for all present at the final term wrap-up.



Girotondo Playgroup runs throughout the year and offers an engaging introduction to Italian for children from 3-5 years old.

For more information on the Playgroup classes due to commence early in 2014, view our website at [www.italianlanguagecentre.org](http://www.italianlanguagecentre.org) contact us at [learn@italianlanguagecentre.org](mailto:learn@italianlanguagecentre.org) or telephone 3262 5755 or view us on Facebook.



Competitors showed off their spoken expertise in 7 language categories: Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

## The 2013 MLTAQ Speech Contest

Support for Italian programs in schools takes many forms, one of which is donating to associations such as the MLTAQ (Modern Languages Teachers Association Queensland) to assist with expenses associated with organising the Sunshine Coast Speech Contest.



This popular annual event is open to students in schools from Caboolture to Gympie and west to the range, and was held on Sunday 25 August 2013 at the University of the Sunshine Coast from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

The warm spring day saw hundreds of primary and secondary school students and their families gather at USC where contestants were marshalled to the appropriate judging areas to give their speeches. Competitors showed off their spoken expertise in 7 language categories: Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

The contest rules required students in years 4 to 9 to prepare set speeches, whilst students from years 10 to 12 prepared speeches on a prescribed topic.



Two Certificates of Appreciation were presented to the Italian Language Centre: one in recognition of the sponsorship donation for the event and the other to acknowledge ILC representative, Rosella Dermedgoglou, who was invited to present medals to the winning competitors.

The ILC is proud to be associated with supporting this annual event and applauds the efforts of the MLTAQ Sunshine Coast in organising an occasion that helps promote the benefits of learning a second language.



### MLTAQ Sunshine Coast Speech Contest Results of the Italian sector are as follows:

Division	Competitor	School
Year 4	1 <sup>st</sup> Noah Driver	Talara Primary College
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bridget Dowling	Talara Primary College
	Highly commended: Ethan Petherik	Talara Primary College
Year 5	1 <sup>st</sup> Shvika Thakur	Noosaville SS
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ruby Spee	Siena Catholic Primary School
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Chice Blain	Noosaville SS
	Highly commended: Tia Welch Eleanor Anstey Styve McKechnie	Siena Catholic Primary School
Year 6	1 <sup>st</sup> Shae Mackay-Black	Noosaville SS
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Annika Taylor	Noosaville SS
	Highly commended: Makenzie Leather Dominique Meehan	Talara Primary College Stella Maris Catholic Primary
Year 7	1 <sup>st</sup> Moet Vella	Noosaville SS
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Judd Hooper	Siena Catholic Primary School
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Cassidy Perkins	Noosaville SS
	Highly commended: Kyra Bellamy Lauren Bellamy Summer Falkner Angus Low	Stella Maris Catholic Primary Talara Primary College Noosaville SS
Year 8	1 <sup>st</sup> Kirily Nicholls	North Lakes State College
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Amy Hills	North Lakes State College
	Highly commended: Georgina Caddy Kathleen Bias	North Lakes State College St Theresa's Catholic College
Year 9	1 <sup>st</sup> Stephanie Phillips	North Lakes State College
	Highly Commended: Laura Barry	North Lakes State College
Year 10	1 <sup>st</sup> Norrielyn Dalangin	Chancellor State College
	Highly commended: Grace Broughton	Chancellor State College
Year 11	1 <sup>st</sup> George Britchford	Sunshine Coast Grammar
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Alexandra Bošnjak	Siena Catholic College
Year 12	1 <sup>st</sup> Grace Chapman	North Lakes State College
	Highly commended: Madeline Cunningham	North Lakes State College

## advocacy policy regolamento della rappresentanza

Co.As.It. will encourage clients/care recipients to utilise an advocate of their choice to ensure that clients/care recipients receive the best possible service.

All clients/care recipients and potential clients/care recipients, may choose to involve an advocate to represent his or her interests at any time as accepted practice by this organisation.

### **The organisation:**

- Offers each client/care recipient the opportunity to nominate an advocate
- Accepts the involvement of an advocate of the client's/care recipient's choice whenever this is the wish of the client/care recipient
- Has developed links with advocacy groups in its area and informs clients/care recipients of the availability of such assistance

### **Procedure:**

- At point of first contact with the client/care recipient, prior to assessment, clients/care recipients are verbally advised of their right to have someone to represent their interests and help them with complaints, disputes or any aspects of service delivery if they wish
- An advocate may be a relative, friend, neighbour or someone from an advocacy service
- The agency maintains a register of service providers and agencies that provide advocacy services
- Clients/care recipients are to be reminded of their right to use an advocate on subsequent visits and contacts, along with their other rights associated with the services they may receive
- The agency documents informal feedback as a quality assurance measure to ensure the service provided to the client/care recipient meets their needs

*Il Co.As.It. incoraggerà i clienti ad utilizzare un rappresentante di loro scelta per assicurare che i clienti ricevano il miglior possibile servizio.*

*È pratica accettata da questa organizzazione che tutti i clienti e clienti potenziali possono scegliere un rappresentante che si occupi dei loro interessi in qualsiasi momento.*

### **L'organizzazione:**

- *Offre a ogni cliente l'opportunità di nominare un proprio rappresentante*
- *Accetta la mediazione di un rappresentante scelto dal cliente ogni volta che il cliente lo desidera.*
- *Ha sviluppato legami con gruppi rappresentativi nell'area di sua competenza e informa i clienti della disponibilità di tale assistenza.*

### **Procedimenti:**

- *Al primo contatto, prima della valutazione, i clienti sono consigliati verbalmente del loro diritto di avere qualcuno che rappresenti i loro interessi e che li aiuti nei loro ricorsi, dispute, o per qualsiasi aspetto della prestazione di servizio, qualora lo desiderano*
- *Il rappresentante può essere un parente, amico, vicino di casa, o qualcuno di un servizio rappresentativo*
- *Il Co.As.It. tiene un registro dei prestatori di servizi e agenzie che forniscono servizi di rappresentanza*
- *Ai clienti va ricordato, nel corso di visite e contatti successivi, che hanno il diritto di impiegare un rappresentante, ed anche degli altri diritti riguardanti i servizi che possono ricevere*
- *Il Co.As.It. documenta le risposte informali riportate come misura di garanzia di qualità onde assicurare che il servizio prestato ai clienti soddisfi le loro esigenze*

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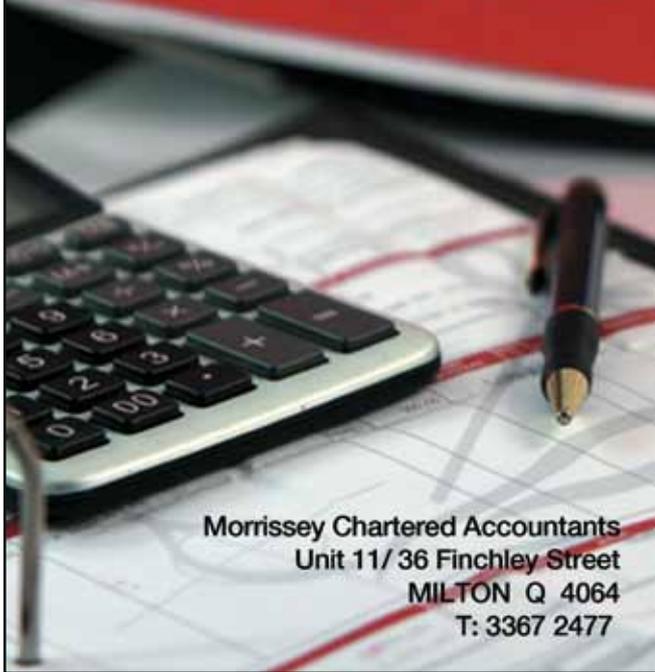
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Il Co.As.It Community Services provvede assistenze alle persone anziane dal 1987 e il nostro personale esperto e qualificato è capace di prestare un servizio che è culturalmente e linguisticamente adeguato. La maggioranza del nostro personale è bilingue e capace di assistervi nel vostro ambiente familiare in casa vostra.

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e organizzeremo la visita di un operatore per fare la valutazione dei vostri bisogni e informarvi dei nostri servizi.

