



ITALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA INC.

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

Editor : G. Geracitano



MEETING HELD AT:
Mater Christi Parish
413 Grange Road Seaton, Adelaide Australia

25th September 2018

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ITALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA INC.

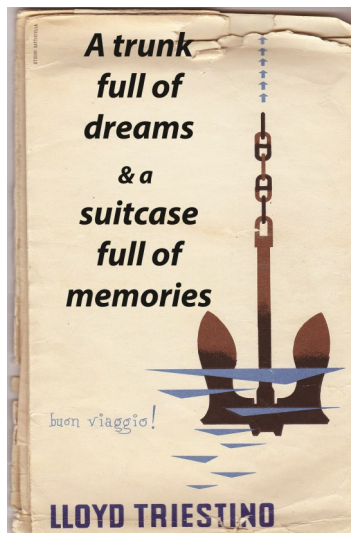
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Mission Statement

To collect, preserve, interpret and promote the history of Italians
and document their contribution
in South Australia.

Project



Oral History

Oral History

Is a picture of the past in people's own words.

History

“To be ignorant of what occurred before you were born is to remain always a child. For what is the worth of human life, unless it is woven into the life of our ancestors by the records of history?”

— **Marcus Tullius Cicero**



ITALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA INC.

COMMITTEE

2017—2018

PATRONS

Robertta Ronzitti (Consul of Italy)

Cav Uff. Dr Carmine De Pasquale

PRESIDENT

Mr Giuseppe Geracitano

VICE PRESIDENT

Mr Nick Fazzalari

SECRETARY

Mrs Jenny Geracitano

TREASURER

Mrs Tina Dichiera

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs Angela Cutri

Mrs Nella Santo

Ms Amanda Hockley

CO OPTED MEMBERS

SOCIAL MEDIA

Miss Rosemarie Geracitano

Mr Gabriel Tullio

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LIASON OFFICER

Councillor Dr. Rachele Tullio

ENTERTAINMENT

Mrs Mira Sangregorio

CULTURAL

Mrs Rosa Matto

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

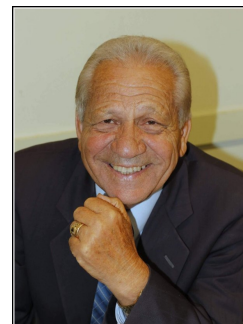
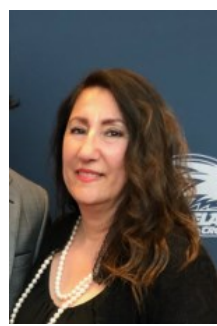
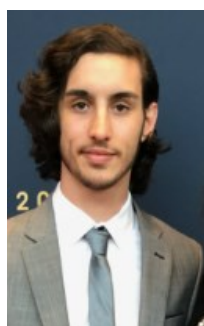
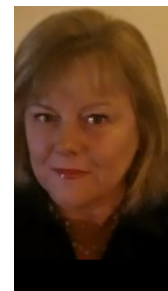
Mr Lino Cardone

MEDIA LIASON

Mr Cosimo Cutri

Committee

2017—2018



President Report

2017—2018

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the Italian Historical Society of South Australia for 2017-2018.

2017-2018 has been an exciting year in which we were able to finally reach our goal to start the process of recording the experiences of our fellow Italian immigrants. It has been a long journey over the past four years and although I may have appeared ultra-cautious in my approach there were important steps to be completed in order to achieve our ultimate goal.

The primary existence for the Society is to record and store oral stories and digital copies of documents of the immigration experiences of Italian immigrants in South Australia. To achieve this we had to navigate through three fundamental stages. Each of these had to be done progressively. These were:

- Establish an organization with good governance practices so that the community would have confidence that solicited funds would be utilized for the purpose of implementing the project.

- Establish a broad framework to capture the stories and documents of Italian immigrants.

- Develop funding strategies to finance the project. The funding requirements were divided into two types:

 - Purchase of equipment both for recording and storage of stories.

 - Recurrent funding for transcription, scanning of documents and publish of stories.

As I reported in my Presidents Report at the 2017 AGM we achieved during that year two of the objectives namely:

- We have an organization with good governance practices and an enthusiastic committee who believes in our mission and works to achieve it.

- We have established a framework to capture the stories and documents of Italian immigrants and resolved issues of possible defamation and copyright infringements.

In my 2017 report I concluded by stating that the challenge for the year 2017-2018 was to secure sufficient funds to implement the project. Phase one to purchase the necessary equipment was almost completed. Thank you to the City of Charles Sturt for their generous support. There are still a few remaining pieces of equipment which are important to fully implement the project and requests for further assistance will be submitted once local government elections are completed in November. Phase two to establish a stream of recurrent funds to implement the project was at that stage a work in progress.

This year has been exciting in that we not only established a financial foundation to finance the processing of the oral stories of our fellow migrants but we were also able to finally publicise to the community our activities and invite the community to have their stories reordered.

Financially we are in a sounder position following the great success of our Fundraising Pasta Night held on the 17th November, 2017 at the Marche Club which netted the Society \$11,000. Thank you to the great team work of all committee members and friends the night was not only a financial success but also a great public relation exercise. It showed that there was strong support for our mission and what was more important was that the support came not just from individuals but also from organizations within our community. This included both community organizations and business support. The event also gave us the opportunity to demonstrate the process of interviewing with the production of the video of the mock up interview.

The task of sensitising the community and making it aware of our project has continued and intensified during this year. This has been achieved utilising a number of strategies:

Continued to utilise our Facebook page to publicise our activities

We have added a YouTube channel to our social media arsenal which allows us to post larger video presentations.

Interviews on radio Italia Uno Adelaide have continued.

Meetings with business leaders

Meetings with Italian clubs and associations.

Public appearances as guest speaker at social functions and professional seminars.

The Facebook page which was launched in January 2016 has been very successful in promoting our activities and is growing in popularity. I would like to complement the work done by our Social Media Co-ordinator, Rosemarie Geracitano, for designing and publishing the page and the on-going work of our Secretary, Jenny Geracitano, in posting and monitoring the activity on the page. The number of followers has increased from 125 in 2016-2017 to 270 in 2017-2018. This is in excess of 100% increase. As I mentioned before we have added a YouTube channel to our Social Media tools which will become more important in the future as we produce larger videos which then can be posted on Facebook. Again a great big thank you to our Social Media department for their very important work.

One measure of the growing awareness of the community of our existence and activities has been the increasing number of invitations by organizations to address their members. Personal interaction supported by social media postings is a very important part of making the community aware of the activities of the Society. I would like to thank:

The Marche Club

The Veneto Club

The reunion of immigrants from Saint Marco Dei Cavoti (Provincia di Benevento)

The South Australian Association of Teachers of Italian. (SAATI)

Mary Mackillop College

These organizations gave me the opportunity to share our vision of recording the immigration experience of members of our community. All of these activities were posted on our Facebook page and received a high number of views.

A sign that the Society has had an impact on the community is that we are beginning to receive requests for interviews from the community and requests for immigration information of family members.

Perhaps the highest level of endorsement has come from organisations which have requested to document their history to mark important milestones. These have included:

The South Australian Italian Association (SAIA) which traces its foundation to 1949 and celebrates 70 years in 2019.

Madonna di Martiri Molfetta Club celebrating their 60th anniversary of the Blessing of the Fleet feast this year.

We have assisted and will continue to assist both of these organizations to record their history. The Madonna di Martiri Molfetta Club sought help to record the histories of their immediate past presidents still living. We produced posters for each president to commemorate their contribution to the club which were displayed at their 60th Anniversary Ball held on the 15th September, 2018. These posters will be permanently displayed in their club rooms. The Italian Historical Society of South Australia was acknowledged on the posters.

The South Australian Italian Association Inc. has sought to record their history in book form to be launched at their 2019 celebration ball. The Italian Historical Society of South Australia will be acknowledged in the book. This will occupy a large part of my work in the next twelve months.

The importance of this work is not just the recognition by the community of the activities performed by our Society but also it will give us the opportunity to record the immigration experience of important figures who have contributed to the development of their organizations and the Italian community in South Australia. By assisting these organizations I have already secured the agreement by the people involved to record their history and hence achieve our mission. Both of these organizations funded fully their respective projects.

In addition to these activities I'm in the process of recording individual histories the main one being Sebastian Galipo from Galipo Foods. Other interviews have been scheduled in.

I have completed the documentation of the foundation of the Co-ordinating Italian Committee and I'm working to document the development of Italian language community radio, the Italian festival (Carnevale) and the teaching of Italian in South Australia.

However despite these successes many challenges still remain.

The first issue is the amount of time that I can allocate to recording. I had hoped that I could allocate more time to the actual recording process but unfortunately due to delays in my property developments I haven't been able to retire from some of my other time consuming activities. Fortunately that is being addressed and soon I will have more time available. There is no doubt that I will require help to complete more interviews and it is my intention to train suitable interviewers in the near future. However, keep in mind that to have more interviewers requires additional equipment and a larger budget for processing the interviews.

The second issue is the funds required to process the interviews. To fully implement the project interviews require transcription and documents have to be scanned and stored digitally. I have undertaken to offer my time to prepare, conduct and edit the interviews on a voluntary basis. Transcriptions and other outlays will have to be funded. All avenues will be explored including grants and fundraising to secure sufficient funds.

Despite my cautious approach to ensure that all the activities of the Society are fully transparent and in particular the expenditure of money is fully accountable, the inevitable question is still raised as to where is the money going once the equipment have been purchased. To be fair a project of this magnitude is difficult to fully grasp nor is it easy to understand the process and hence it is a legitimate question. It is the fear by the community that often money raised is diverted into administration and salaries instead of going to aid the project.

To answer this question I would like to briefly summarize the finances of the Society over the four years since its relaunch. In the four financial years a forensic analysis of its finances reveals that money raised by the Society has been spent frugally as far as administration is concerned. Over this period the total receipts in round figures are \$29,882.00. This figure includes \$8582.00 from grants made available by the City of Charles Sturt; \$3585.00 from donations by individuals, community organizations and businesses; \$660.00 from membership fees; and \$17,055.00 from fundraising. The total expenditure over the same period is \$10,088.00 which includes \$8,476.00 for equipment and trialling of transcription which was funded by grants and had to be spent for the purpose that the grant was made; \$181.00 for registration of the Society; \$18.00 for purchase of domain name for web site funded by grant money; \$358.00 for web hosting of which the initial \$103.00 was funded by grant money; \$249.00 for banner; \$203.00 for refreshments for meetings and the Christmas dinner; and \$587.00 for stationary and postage. Hence the surplus over the four years is \$19,802.00.

In summary this analysis reveals that if the grant money is deducted from the totals the money raised by the Society so far is \$21,300 and the expenditure is \$1,506 of which \$587.00 has gone into administration. That is \$146.75 a year. The majority of the administration has been paid for by my company, Artcol Developments Pty Ltd and this includes the use of equipment which the Society does not have, telephone calls, travelling, software, and so on. I can assure the members of the Society and the community at large that the money raised by the Society will be spent to implement the project and will not go into salaries for anyone involved in the Society. However, we cannot expect that activities such as transcription services and scanning of documents can be provided on a voluntary basis. This work has to be of a professional standard and hence to be undertaken by those with the necessary skills.

In short once all equipment required has been purchased money raised will be utilised for transcriptions, scanning of documents, preparation of manuscripts and any videos, and publishing of stories.

I would like to thank the committee for their hard work during the year and for the support I have received as President. In particular I would like to thank the executive, the Vice-President Nick Fazzalari, Secretary Jenny Geracitano and Treasurer Tina Dichiera for their assistance. I would also like to make a special mention of our entertainers, Mira Sangregorio and Angel Cutri for their contribution to our fundraising pasta nights. Finally I would like to thank the individuals, community organizations, City of Charles Sturt and business leaders who have supported the Society and contributed money to our project.

I wish the new committee to be elected every success and to continue the good work. For my part I will concentrate on researching and writing the history of the South Australian Italian Association and recording the history of the individuals involved and continue with recording of other individuals so far scheduled for 2018 and 2019. It will be a year when the first recoded stories will be deposited in the State Library of South Australia and fulfilling our mission.

Giuseppe (Joe) Geracitano
President 2017-2018
25th September 2018



Treasurer Report

2017—2018

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE 2017-

RECEIPTS

Donations	\$ 2085.00
Fundraising Pasta Night February 2017	\$11054.05
Membership Fees	\$340.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$13,479.05

EXPENDITURE

Web Site Renewal	\$238.53
Stationary	\$379.38
Christmas Dinner (Drinks)	\$117.00
Flash Cards (Recording)	\$501.97
Petty Cash	\$200.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$1,436.88

PETTY CASH RECONCILIATION

Opening Balance	\$66.52
Add Transfer from Account	\$200.00
Less Expenditure - Postage	\$35..00
Stationary	\$57.90
AGM Refreshments	\$61.34
Meeting Refreshments	\$24.59
Card Holders	\$14.98
	\$193.81
Closing Balance	\$72.71

BANK RECONCILIATION

Opening Balance 1/7/2017	\$7,760.96
Plus Receipts	\$13,479.05
Less Expenditure	\$1,436.88
Closing Balance 30/6/2018	\$19,803.13

Social Media Report

2017—2018

The role of Social Media has expanded since the last AGM

The Society has now a **YouTube channel** which can be utilized to upload videos. The video of the Fundraising Pasta Night held on 17th November 2017 has already been posted. To reach the channel type in the Search bar **Italian Historical Society of SA** and the video will be displayed.

Facebook posting and viewing has increased. The number of followers has increased from 125 in 2016-2017 to 270 in 2017-2018. There has been an expansion in the number of postings both to celebrate important events and reporting on the Society's activities.

There has been a total of 65 postings in the period July 2017 to the end of August 2018. These have been in the form of both photos and videos depicting important celebrations, condolences for death of supporters of the Society and participating by members of the Society at various functions.

The number of views of the postings have varied with the highest viewing being 2,300 for the video publicising the Fundraising Pasta Night held on 17th November, 2017. Videos continue to have the highest number of views with the strongest support coming for posts which are shared by more followers. As the page is gaining popularity there have been more shares from followers who aren't members of the Society.

The success of the page will continue to grow as more members continue to share the postings to their time wall and tag their friends.

Now that the Facebook and You Tube Channel have been established the next task is to regularly update the web page.

Rosemarie Geracitano
Social Media Co-ordinator

Fundraising Pasta Night

17th November 2017

The Fundraising Pasta Night held on Saturday 17th November, 2017 was an outstanding success both in terms of raising funds and as a public relations exercise. It was well supported by both Italian Clubs and businesses and 350 people attended the night. Total funds raised on the night was \$11, 054.05

All the members involved are to be congratulated and the great support by all the entertainers is appreciated. In particular the following people deserve special mention.

Jenny Geracitano for her coordinating role and the videos she produced which were featured on the night. Many compliments were received for the quality of the videos produced.

Tina Dichiera for her gigantic role to collect and allocate money received on the night..

Mira Sangregorio for her role as Masters of Ceremonies and donating her time to entertain on the night.

Nick Fazzalari for his role as auctioneer on the night and the amount of money he raised \$3,450.00

Angela Cutri for donating her time to entertain on the night.

A special thank you to all who donated services and gifts to make the night a huge success.

G. Geracitano
President

Adami Sands and Metal
Amadio Winery
Artcol Developments P/L
Arte Grafica
Beautify Me
Blackwell Funerals
Bocelli Café
Buonasera Restaurant
Chapel Funerals
Christian Supplies
Clotho and Kitchenware
D-Zyner
Fulvia Caruso
Galipo Foods
Gino & Nella Santo
India to you Restarant
Italian Pantry
JG Maintenance
La Vita Restaurant

Lorry & Franca Circosta
Magnus Fruits
Marche Club
Mt. Barker Markets
Murray Mallee Metro
Nino's Small Goods
Peter & Tina Dichiera
Presidential Travel
Quinzi's Confectionary
Rita Ciufoli-Ditore
Romeo's Foodland
Royal Park Fruit and Vegetables
Sangregorio & Panfilo families
Surrell Hair
Taste Quality Meats
Virgara Winery

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
PATRON

NAME:	Carmine De Pasquale
DOB	25th February, 1939
Place of Birth	Montefredane
Province	Avellino Campania
Date of emigration:	19th August 1962
Date of arrival in Australia	15th September 1962
Australian citizen:	Yes



Immigration experience:

Son of Amato De Pasquale and Erminia Capone. Father immigrated to Australia 14th January, 1955 on the passenger ship *Sydney* and disembarked in Melbourne and arrived in Adelaide 12th February, 1955. The rest of the family emigrated to Australia on the 19th August, 1962 on the passenger ship *Australia* and arrived in Melbourne on the 15th September, 1962.

I received my education with the help of the Catholic Church which paid for my secondary education and thanks to the money sent back by my father from Australia I was able to go to University and study medicine. The land we owned in Montefredane was too small to provide for my education and give a financial secure future for the family.

On arrival in Australia I found it very difficult to settle in my new country but finally in 1964 I was accepted as a second year medical student by the University of Adelaide. I had completed 3 years of medical school before we emigrated from Italy. The initial years were very difficult due to the lack of knowledge of the English language especially the complex language required to study medicine.

In 1970 I completed my internship and applied for a training position in Psychiatry. I was accepted as a trainee Psychiatrist at Hillcrest, Enfield in 1971.

In 1974 I was awarded membership of the Royal Australian New Zealand College of Psychiatrists.

After starting my psychiatric career at Enfield in 1971 I moved to Beaufort Community Psychiatric Clinic and in 1978 I became Director of Psychiatry. The Beaufort Clinic became the centre of multicultural psychiatry in Adelaide and it officially provided a statewide service for many years.

In 2004 as Director of the Beaufort Clinic and Senior Consultant of the Cramond Clinic I retired and became a member of the College of Psychiatry.

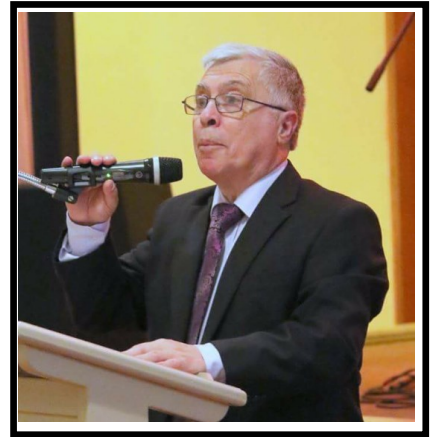
I have been immersed in the Italian community since I arrived and have been involved in many organisations over the years. I have been part of many community organisations including the Dante Alighieri Society, The Italian Festival, the foundation of the Italian Benevolent Foundation which established the Italian Village Nursing Home (Benè), Italian language radio and the teaching of Italian .

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

PRESIDENT

Executive Committee

NAME:	Giuseppe (Joe) Geracitano
DOB	3rd July 1948
Place of Birth	Rocella Jonica
Province	Reggio Calabria Italy
Date of emigration:	February 1958
Date of arrival in Australia	7th March 1958
Australian citizen:	Yes



Immigration experience:

My father was Nicola Geracitano (1921-20013) and mother Carmela Vittoria Geracitano nee Circosta (1926-2009).

In 1949, when I was 14 months old, my father immigrated to Australia on the ship *Toscana* and landed in Melbourne, Victoria, on 9th October, 1949. The voyage had taken 40 days from leaving Naples. Like many others in Italy after returning from World War II my father had found it very difficult to secure employment and had to embark on immigration to ensure a financial future for the family. In fact the devastation during the war was so great and the economy was so depressed that the Italian Government encouraged immigration.

On arrival in Australia my father settled in Mildura, Victoria, a country town in Northern Victoria on the River Murray which had been established by the Australian Government to settle ex-service soldiers returning from World War I. Many of the ventures undertaken by the ex-service soldiers failed and the area increasingly had attracted migrants and in particular Italian migrants during the 1930s. My father was sponsored by his cousin, Franco Circosta, and he joined his cousins and uncles, Domenico Circosta and Rocco Maiolo who had immigrated to Australia in the 1930s.

In Mildura my father was employed by the Local Council and after work and during the weekend he together with his cousins would grow vegetables to sell at the local market.

In the meantime I grew up in an extended family in my maternal grandparents' family home.

On the 21st June, 1955 my father left Australia and travelled back to Italy to see whether it would be possible to re-establish himself in Italy. I was 7 years old when I met my father. During the years he was in Australia with the money remitted from Australia we had bought a small plot of land just outside the town on which we produced wheat. However the plot wasn't sufficiently large to build an economic future for the family and since there was little opportunity for the family to advance and in particular the absence of higher educational institutions in the town my father after six months of arriving in Italy decided to re-immigrate to Australia and prepare for the whole family to immigrate. This time my father settled in Adelaide where his brother-in-law, Ilario Circosta, and uncle, Giovanni Cirillo, together with cousins were already established. He was employed by Davis Coop, a cotton mill in Kilkenny. In 1957 he purchased a property in Beverley and in February 1958 my mother and I emigrated from Italy on the liner *Oceania* and landed in Melbourne, Victoria, on the 7th March 1958.

As a child I had mixed feelings about leaving the town I grew up in and leaving my grandparents, aunties and cousins behind. I was in my third grade at school and doing very well especially in my pet subject history. During my school vacations I would live with my grandparents and aunties in the country. I was very close to my extended family.

Emotionally it was difficult for a young child of 9 years to fully comprehend what impact the act of immigrating would be. It was only 21 years later, in 1979, when I went back to Roccella Jonica for a brief visit and had to again say goodbye to my grandmother that I fully understood the emotional turmoil that every immigrant had to go through as the ship drew very slowly away from the wharf and realising that he/she might never again see the country of birth and all the loved ones left behind. I can still feel the emotions in my grandmother's voice as she uttered those final words of goodbye "I will never see you again".

The trip to Australia for me was one big adventure, exploring the ship, marvelled at new sights specially navigating the Suez Canal and seeing people with dark skins in Aden and Colombo for the first time. Watching little boats approaching our ship in the ports we visited and the natives haggling the prize of trinkets and ornaments they were selling. I remember the humid heat and strange odours as we docked in Jakarta. Our first introduction to Australia was the dock in Fremantle Western Australia. I remember my first impression at seeing tin sheds and wondered what sort of country we had come to. At least all our buildings in Roccella Jonica were made of stones. We left Fremantle with uneasiness in our hearts wondering what awaited us in the Great Australian Bite. We had heard so many horror stories of great storms and waves that would dwarf the ship. In the end it was an anticlimax as the waters were very calm and the trip was uneventful.

We arrived in Melbourne, Victoria, on the 7th March 1958 after 28 days after leaving the port of Messina, Sicily. The arrival was chaotic with just my mother making sure that all our belongings were packed. The bulk of what we brought from Italy were in two trunks in the cargo hold which would be unloaded later and sent to us but we also had 5 suitcases which we had to hand unload and pass through customs. We had heard horror stories how custom officers would empty all the suitcases on a bench and examine the contents and that if you carried too much gold jewellery it would be confiscated. My mother had sewed all jewellery we couldn't wear inside her underpants and bra, fortunately there were no x-ray machines at the ports in those days. My mother had to carry the 5 suitcases into the custom sheds which were lined with stone benches and proceeded to line them up on the benches and quickly opened them hoping that the custom officer would not put all our belongings on the benches. Luckily the custom officer must have took mercy on my mother and only lifted the corners of each suitcase without disturbing the contents and processed us.

My father and cousin Franco Circosta, who had transferred his family from Mildura to Melbourne, were waiting for us and collected all our luggage and drove us to his house in North Carlton. My cousin had bought for me a tennis racket and tennis ball which was attached to an elastic band. This was my first introduction to a foreign sport. We stayed with my cousins for two days and then boarded the *Overland* train to Adelaide. The trip to Adelaide was a twelve hour trip over night in the old red rattlers with wooden seats. It was a very uncomfortable trip, the trains we had in Italy were luxurious compared to the *Overlander*.

We arrived in Adelaide in the early morning of 9th March to be met at the train station by my uncle, Ilario Circosta, and his next door neighbour affectionately known as Uncle Ronny who drove us to our house in Beverley. The most vivid image that I recall is driving on War Memorial Drive through the green parklands. I had never seen parks of that size before.

The house that my father bought was modest but comfortable. It consisted of two bedrooms, kitchen and lounge. It had a backyard which my father had planted with vegetables and three fruit trees, apricot, peach and almond. There was a chicken shed which was stocked with chickens. The front of the house was planted with flowers, mostly chrysanthemums, which the previous owner had planted.

The day we arrived the house was full of people, relatives and friends all came to welcome us in our new land and house. We were entertained by Uncle Ronny and his wife, Auntie May, who played the guitar and sang. Listening to our entertainers was my first introduction to the English language. My father had bought a keg of beer and there was general merry making.

We had one neighbour who was Australian, Allan and Leonie Smith who had two children, a boy and girl both younger than me. They were friendly and often I would play with the children even though we had no common language. On the other side of our property facing Port Road was a caravan yard with a butcher shop and delicatessen on the corner of Port Road and Woodlands Crescent. Later on we met an Italian family from the Veneto region living a short distance away at 10 Olveston Ave and further along the road a family from the Campania region. We soon became friends with both families and it wasn't before long our language broadened to include both Venetian and Neapolitan dialect words. Also we were part of an extended Italian community which included both relatives and *paesani* and there was always an occasion to celebrate weddings, christenings, new arrivals, Christmas, Easter and so on. The weekends were devoted to visiting friends and relatives and celebrating. Although missing our town and family we left behind in Italy we never felt completely isolated because of our community.

My mother was a devoted catholic and would attend church every Sunday. In Italy I was an altar boy and knew the mass by heart. Our local church was Mater Dei in Beaufort Street, Woodville Park, to which was attached the catholic primary schools, Whitefriars. We would attend mass every Sunday and even though we could not understand the sermon which was in English at least the mass was still in Latin like in Italy. Religion had been a very important part of our lives but in Italy it was not just devotion to the scripture but it also included social activities such as the annual feast days celebrating our saints which was an opportunity to revel in the local *fiara*, music and fireworks. All of that was missing from our Australian religious experience. There were annual feasts of *St Hilarion*, patron saint of *Caulonia*, and *Madonna di Montevergine*, from the *Campania* region held at St Francis of Assisi church in Campbelltown but because we had no transport and it was too difficult to catch two buses we never attended in those early years. It wasn't until the feast of *St Hilarion* was transferred to Mater Christi church in Seaton that we began to attend regularly. The other issue was that although we were used to donating money to the church through the collection during mass the idea of planned donations towards the upkeep of the church building was completely foreign to us as the church was supported by the State in Italy. The idea of allocating 10% of our income to the church was a concept not easily accepted by Italian migrants.

The other issue that migrants had to face was the lack of familiar ingredients in the local shop to cook the food that we were used to. The number of continental shops in the late 1950s could be counted on one hand and the fruit and vegetable stores stocked very few of our familiar fruit and vegetables. The lack of fruit and vegetables was solved by planting in our backyard those items that we were used to such as tomatoes, eggplants (*melazzane*), capsicums, broccoli, beans, and so on. The seeds were often smuggled in when immigrating from Italy and it wasn't uncommon to share the seedlings with friends and relatives. Also, like in Italy, we would band together with relatives and produce our own olive oil, make our salami by killing the pig in June every year, and make our own wine. Buying other food ingredients was solved by making a monthly trip to our closest continental store which was *Star Grocery* on the corner of Morphett and Hindley streets in Adelaide. The shop was owned by a Greek family and stocked all the ingredients that we were familiar with such as pasta produced by *San Remo Pasta Company* which had been established by the Crotti family in the 1930s, spices and smallgoods. We would place the order and it was delivered by truck to our home. Meat was purchased from an Italian butcher shop, now known as *Lupoi Meat Store* on Findon road Findon who would offer cuts of meat with which we were more familiar. Bread was purchased from an Italian baker initially from *Champion Bakery* but later, because my mother was not completely satisfied with the bread, from *Perry's Bakery* located in Ferryden Park which still supplies our bread 60 years later. The Australian sliced bread just did not appeal to us because it was undercooked by our standards. There were foreign foods such as *vegemite* and *gravy* which would never grace our table. However we did introduce new foods in our diet which included *Pumpkin (Queensland Blue)* and *Carrots* with which we were previously unfamiliar.

After a week arriving in Adelaide my father enrolled me in the local catholic parish primary school, *Whitefriars* in Woodville Park. The school was staffed by the Josephite nuns which had been established in the 19th century by Saint Mary Mackillop to teach the poor. The nuns were predominantly of Irish catholic background who had little or no understanding of other languages and cultures and were not highly educated. They certainly were not trained to deal with the multitude of foreign languages and cultures which flooded their schools in the post war period.

I was placed in grade three because of my age and the fact that I was in grade three in Italy. In Italy I was doing well at school and in some subjects like History I was at the top of the class. None of the teachers spoke a language other than English and I was introduced to Josephine Alvino who was a grade ahead of me and whose family immigrated from *Caulonia* and spoke both English and Calabrian dialect to act as my mentor. Until I went to school I had not been exposed to any English at all and one could imagine the bewilderment of a child of nine being placed in a class that was English monolingual. I was unfamiliar with the language, I was unfamiliar with the subjects taught apart from arithmetic and there was no one to explain it to me. There was no assistance with learning English and we were expected to sink or swim. In fact on the second day that I attended school I was expected to line up in the morning and read to the teacher from the school reader. Of course I couldn't read the language and the teacher proceeded to smack the back of my hand with a ruler.

The lack of English impeded my education for many years, in fact almost to the end of my secondary school. The fact I finally mastered the language and was able to advance to tertiary and finally to teach at both secondary and tertiary levels was the result of determination, hard work, and a desire to succeed. The steps in learning a language is the ability to understand the language, both orally and written, then to reproduce it initially verbally and finally written. As I progressed through my education so did my English language skills which resulted in better grades. However, despite this I found it difficult to master the English language and because of this I was not considered to be a good student. In fact, even though I managed to pass my public exams at both Year 10 (Intermediate) and Year 11 (Leaving) the Principal of the school, Brother George, advised my father that it would be better to make me drop out of school and seek work in an unskilled occupation such as the assembly line at General Motors Holden. My father refused and I became even more determined to succeed and study harder. Up to that point I was doing reasonably well in mathematics and science which didn't require complex language to express myself but poorly in English and to a less extent History. What the Principal didn't realise was that during my Year 10 I set myself the task of reading in my own time a book a week in addition to my school work. It took two years before the language that I had exposed myself to would translate into writing complex sentences and which would eventually unlock my ability to express myself fully in written work. The result was that during my Year 12 I was able to top the College in Humanities and did very well in my Year 12 exam (Matriculation) and as a result I was accepted by the University of Adelaide in the Bachelor of Economics. I was able to gain both my degree and Diploma in Education with credits and distinctions and was accepted to enrol in the Masters of Education.

Throughout my years at school it wasn't so much a question of overt discrimination, especially at primary school most of the students were of migrant background and the largest group were of Italian background, it was more a structural discrimination that undervalued our existing knowledge and assumed that we were empty vessels waiting to be filled with Anglo-Saxon values. The education system expected us to become Anglo-Saxons overnight and there were no structures to help us to make the transition. Lack of ability to expressed yourself in English was equated to lack of intelligence and educational ability.

In 1974 I began my teaching career at Adelaide Boys High School (now Adelaide High School) teaching Economics, Accountancy, and History. The school at that time had a large proportion of students of Greek background and many of them weren't expected to succeed in their Leaving and Matriculation exams. I knew exactly how they felt and instead of accepting the general view I set myself the task of preparing them for their exams. I knew that it was not just a matter of learning the subject matter but also to develop skills in expressing themselves to answer the questions in clear English. Much of the year was spent in practising English writing so that by the time the exams were due only one student out of the whole class was able to pass their History and many were able to continue with tertiary studies at the South Australian Institute of Technology. During that year I was studying towards my Masters in Education degree and at the end of the year I was invited by the University of Adelaide to take up a position as Tutor in Sociology of Education in the Department of Education.

Throughout my years at University as an undergraduate I never stopped to think of myself as an Italian. I lived my life surrounded by an Italian family, relatives and friends, eating predominantly Italian food and attended all the celebrations associated with my Italian community. My friends at University came from a variety of backgrounds and ethnic groups and I belonged to a number of student related associations including the Italian Tertiary Students Association which was largely regarded as a marriage bureau with most female students of Italian background hoping to meet a medical or engineering student of Italian background as a future partner. My main concern during those years was to study hard and making sure that I was successful in reaching my goal to get my degree and becoming a teacher. This took a dramatic change during my Diploma of Education year when the question of ethnicity and its influence in education became a central point of my studies in Sociology. My lecturer in the subject was Dr. George Smolicz, who was later to become my mentor, a Polish refugee whose research centred on the concept of a multicultural-multilingual society and believed that education was the key to develop a more accepting society. I devoted most of my Sociology study to this concept and did all my research work to discover the concept of multiculturalism. Suddenly I found an explanation for my own struggles throughout my education and I resolved to dedicate my life to initiate change so that future generations would not be forced to be in a system which regarded them as failures because of their ethnic background.

I seized the opportunity of becoming a staff member of the University as a vehicle to continue my work in ethnicity and to influence the attitudes of future teachers to be more tolerant and accepting of diversity in their classrooms. Being a member of a University had many advantages in propagating new ideas since the ideas were more readily accepted and institutions were more likely to listen. During my time at the University of Adelaide I was also subcontracted to lecture in the Diploma of Interpreters and Translators at the Adelaide College of Advanced Education and preparing Social Workers at the South Australian Institute of Technology. I wrote articles on multiculturalism and multicultural education, wrote letters to the *Advertiser*, our daily newspaper, and addressed conferences.

To influence change the development and communication of new ideas is fundamental but it was also important to organise the community to express their concerns and promoting solutions to solve what they saw as injustices. Therefore I immersed myself in existing Italian groups and help to develop new ones to address specific concerns. In most of these associations I became part of the executive committees and in some cases was elected as president. I was also very prominent as a postgraduate representative on many University committees and worked on many government working parties to advance the multicultural concept. These included the development of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Commission, The Migration Museum and was a member of the State Library Board. Some of the Italian organizations I was involved in included the Italian Education Movement responsible for the introduction of Italian Language programs in primary schools and the initiation of community based Italian language radio programs; the foundation of the South Australian Association of Teachers of Italian; Italian Festival (later to be called Carnevale); Co-ordinating Italian Committee and the Dante Alighieri Society.

At the end of 1980 I was invited by the Catholic Education Office of Victoria to fill the newly created position of Ethnic Schools Liaison Officer. The position was made possible by money allocated from the Report on the Review of Post-Arrival Programs and Services to Migrants (Galbally Report). There were vague guidelines as to what the position entailed so it was left up to me to define my own role. As the majority of ethnic students in catholic primary schools in Victoria were of Italian background and as the Italian Committee of Assistance (Co.As.It.) had already established a model of Insertion Classes in primary schools, I took the opportunity of organizing schools and the parents to access funds to introduce Italian language classes in their school. The model was based on utilizing both Italian and Australian government money to fund the position of Italian teacher and to expose the whole school to the program. This was a variation to the normal after school language programs offered by the majority of groups. During my initial four years in the position I was responsible for the introduction of 27 Italian language programs in catholic primary schools in Victoria concentrating heavily on regional centres. My role involved not only to organize funding but to assist schools to develop Italian language curriculum throughout the school. The majority of my time was spent visiting schools and working with the staff in developing the curriculum

. In one of the school that I visited, St John's School in Koo-wee-Rup, I was fortunate to meet the love of my life, Jenny Interlandi, an offspring of Italian-Australian background whom I married in 1984. She was at the time employed as a school librarian.

In the final three years at the Catholic Education Office I was attached to the Research and Development department and I was responsible to devise a study of students of ethnic background in catholic primary schools. I devised the questionnaire and the computer program to analyse the data. I was also involved in carrying out research in Insertion classes for the Commonwealth Government and advise the Schools Commission on the allocation of funds.

After we got married, having decided to start a family early and that the children should be raised by the mother rather than attend a childcare, we developed a home based small business to increase our income making natural home fragrances and gift toiletries which we sold in the local weekend markets. The products were so well received that we were approached by wholesalers to supply them and soon we were swamped with orders which necessitated me to make a decision to continue my employment with the Catholic Education Office or go into full time business. We decided on the latter and in 1988 made the decision to relocate ourselves to Adelaide where we had property and my parents would help to look after the children. For the next 18 years we concentrated on raising our family and developing our business.

In 2006 I was approached as a Foundation Life Member of the Dante Alighieri Society to join other members to revive the Society which had ceased operation. I joined the committee as Vice President and spent the next three years rebuilding the Society.

My real passion was to research and document the experience of Italian immigrants in South Australia. I became aware that there was little in the archives on our existence and realised that once we no longer existed history had very little to say about us. I also became aware of how new technology made it possible not only to document our experiences but how it could preserve our own voices for the future. I discovered the Oral History method, the existence of an Australian Oral History Association, and the repository in the State Library of South Australia charged with the task of preserving oral histories.

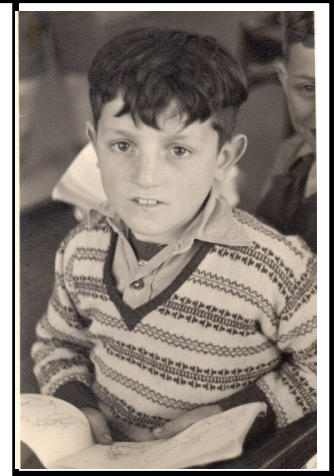
I spent the next four years upgrading my research skills utilizing the Oral History method and familiarising myself with the equipment required to produce recordings which would meet the requirements of the International Council of Archives. I also spent the time to develop the framework for the collection of the stories of the experience of Italian immigrants. I realized that the Oral History method to record the experience of Italian immigrants that arrived in South Australia in the 1950s and 1960s was the most appropriate method since many of them came from a non-literal background. I also came to the realization that it was a huge task and a very expensive undertaking even if I planned to donate my own time to the project. In order for the project to succeed and reach its full potential there was a need to involve both the community and government and to build a financial platform. In 2014 I invited a few close friends who shared the same passion to form a committee and revived the Italian Historical Society which had become dormant since the 1990s. The first meeting took place on Sunday 22nd November, 2014 and we have spent the last four years building a strong association and sensitising the community about the project we have developed.

I'm proud to be an Australian of Italian extraction. I will never forget my origins and I love the town I was born in but I have embraced the land that has given me a comfortable living standard and I'm passionate to make it a more tolerant and accepting society that values diversity.

G Geracitano
September 2018

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
VICE PRESIDENT
Executive Committee

NAME: **Nick Fazzalari**
DOB 14th January, 1944
Place of Birth Adelaide South Australia
Province
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia
Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

My name is Nick Fazzalari. I am the son of the late Ilario Fazzalari, born in *Focca*, a village of *Caulonia*, *Provincia di Reggio Calabria* Italy. My father immigrated to Australia in 1927 when he was 16 years old. As an immigrant he had a very hard life. He came looking for work and a better life. His first job was working in glasshouses.

In 1937 my father went back to Italy to find a wife. He met my mother, *Santina*, in *Caulonia* who was 16 years old, married her and came back to Australia. My mother had her first child at 17, my late brother *Pat*. She had 7 children in all, 5 sons and 2 daughters.

Dad bought the original Hardys Wines Homestead, *Bankside*, at the end of Hardys Road Underdale by the banks of the River Torrens. It was a large two storeys house with a cellar underneath large enough to drive a tractor in. There were also some outbuildings on the property. We were fortunate to have the most beautiful upbringing. Dad was very popular, hardworking, honest, a big hearted man who lived for his family and *paesani*. On the day I was born dad was interned as an alien.

My dad sponsored many people from *Caulonia* both individuals and families and would provide lodging for them on our property and help them to find work. I grew up in the company of many children on our property. Dad was liked by both the Italian and Australian community which included the chief of Police who would visit us on a regular basis on his motorcycle with sidecar. Every time he visited he would load his sidecar with vegetables and on occasions with a bottle of my dad's homemade grappa. On Sundays mum would cook for everyone, family, friends and people who lived on our property.

In 1955 my dad with 3 other *paesani*, *Giovanni Costa*, *Ilario Lamberto*, & *Giuseppe Ciccarello* decided to celebrate the Feast of St Hilarion the Patron Saint of *Caulonia*. The first feast was celebrated with a miniature statue owned by the late *Giuseppe Ciccarello*, at St Joseph's Church in Captain Cook Street, Flinders Park.

After the first year the novena was held at St Joseph's church and on Sunday, the day of the feast, the statue was taken in procession on the back of the truck to St Francis of Assisi Church in Newton. Eventually the whole celebration was transferred to Newton.

I went with my dad to all the meetings that were held in different houses. I was 10 years old and never missed a meeting, I would sit in on the meetings and I was so enthusiastic that I was made manager of the soft drinks stall for the first feast. I was involved with the Feast of St Hilarion from the age of 10 until the early 2000's.

I began my involvement in the Society of St Hilarion as the social co-ordinator and we were the first Italian organisation to hold a fundraising dinner dance which was held at the Latvian Hall at Wayville with the committee members and their families catering for the event. The event continued for many years being held in different venues.

A controversial decision was to transfer the feast of St Hilarion to Mater Christi Church in Seaton after many years of holding it at Newton. The decision was taken because there were a number of feasts in Newton and no feast of its type in the Western suburbs. The decision coincided with the invitation of the very popular Don Mimmo Lamberto, priest from Caulonia, for the feast which was a huge success. This particular feast was held with a framed picture of St Hilarion because St Francis of Assisi Church refused to release our statute. This continued for 5 years when the Archbishop of Adelaide instructed St. Francis of Assisi Church to return our stature.

I was President of the Society of St Hilarion for 20 consecutive years, I stepped down for a few years and then became President for a further 6 years. During my term as President in 1986 the Society received a Federal Government grant to purchase a 50 bed nursing home at Lockleys. We also built the *Villa St Hilarion* in Fulham consisting of 50 units for low care residents after which we were asked to build a 50 bed nursing home in Findon.

The next project, which was my dream for the Society, was to build a Community Centre in Barrpowell Street, Welland, named the *Riverbank Function Centre*, by the banks of the River Torrens. The purpose of the Centre was to act as the focal point of our community. There were many memorable occasions in the Centre. One of the highlights was the visit by the Prime Minister of Australia, John Howard, and his wife Janet who were accompanied by The Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Philip Ruddock, in the early 2000's. Unfortunately the Centre has since been sold to the Cypriot Community.

We also brought over many dignitaries for our feasts. In 1991 we brought Bishop Gilliberti, Bishop of *Locri- Gerace* together with Otello Profazio (Popular Calabrian Folk singer) who were funded by the *Ragione Calabria*. In 1997 we arranged for the new Bishop of *Locri-Gerace*, Bishop Bregantini, and the Mayor of Caulonia, Nicola Franmartino, with an entourage of 64 people to come to our feast. Both visits were a huge success.

In Caulonia the feast of St Hilarion is celebrated by carrying in procession an arm made of Silver which has a relic of the Saint's bone embedded in it. I thought it would be ideal to recreate this in Adelaide. Unfortunately it was impractical to replicate the arm made of silver but with the assistance of Don Mimmo Lamberto we had an exact replica of the arm carved out of an olive tree branch by a wood carver in Caulonia named Vigliarollo. Bishop Gilliberti obtained a bone relic of St Hilarion and had it embedded in the arm. The arm is carried in procession in Adelaide by the Procurators.

My passion has been fundraising for the needy and charities. Apart from fundraising for many years for St Hilarion I have been and continue to be involved in fundraising for many causes and through this I do three to four auctions a year. On many occasions I have been and continue to be asked to co-ordinate fundraising nights for families in need and for charities.

In 1978 after the loss of one of my dearest friends who died at the age of 34 from leukaemia, together with his wife, Joyce Bueti, we commenced fundraising for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Haematology-Oncology Department. The first fundraiser raised \$8,000 and the annual event over 18 years raised a total of \$1.5 million

I have been on Boards of many community organizations. In 2005 with the help of some great friends and community minded people I founded the Calabrian Benevolent Association to raise funds for needy causes. In particular we assist families with children in need of serious medical intervention. To date through this organization we have raised almost \$1 million. I was a member of the Mater Christi Pastoral Council in Seaton and was also involved in helping the parish particularly the building of the new church. I also have been a member of the Mater Christi School Council. I was on the Board of the Adelaide City Soccer Club and helped with fundraising events. I was a board member of Radio Italiana 531, and a member of the inaugural Com It Es.

I was involved in the first Italian festival in 1976 and continued for many years. I instigated transferring Carnevale to the Adelaide Show Grounds. I helped to form and was the inaugural President of the Calabrese Federation of South Australia. I was appointed as *Esperto in Consulta* for 5 years by the *Regione Calabria* which involved attending meetings in Calabria. I am a foundation member of the Campania Club. I was one of the founders of the rebuilt St Francis of Assisi Church in Newton.

In 1996 I received the Order of Australia. In 2007 I was made a Cavaliere.

In 2014 I became a member of the relaunched Italian Historical Society of SA and in 2016 I became the Vice President of the Society. I am proud to be part of this extremely important project to record the experiences of Italian Immigrants in South Australia.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

SECRETARY

Executive Committee

NAME: **Giovanna (Jenny)
Geracitano**
DOB 18th March 1959
Place of Birth Coburg
Province Victoria Australia.
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia
Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

Jenny Geracitano (nee Interlandi) I was born on the 18th Day of March in 1959 at Sacred Heart Private Hospital, Moreland Road Coburg. Victoria

I am the eldest child of Gregorio Giovanni Interlandi of Vizzini, Sicily (Vizzini is a town and commune in the Metropolitan City of Catania, on the island of Sicily, southern Italy. It is located 60 kilometres from Catania in the Hyblaean Mountains, on the most north westerly slopes of Monte Lauro) and Marjorie Ila Dell who was born in Coburg Victoria , descendent of John James Dell (1763-1866) who was the first Dell to come to Australia, in 1790, on the Second Fleet but it was his arrival in Tasmania to settle on 11 October 1818, after going back to England in 1810 with the NSW "Rum" Corps.

In Late November of 1950 my Father who was 16 years old, together with his Father Felice journeyed from Messina Italy on the Surriento and docked in Melbourne on the 27th December where he was met by Vito Trantino (Uncle) who sponsored the family (Born 1910 and travelled to Australia on the Remo and arrived in Melbourne on 9th January 1939) his older brother Vito arriving on the 15th February 1950 and his Grandmother Santina, mother Giovanna and brother Giovanni and sister Santina followed on the Surriento on 6th of July 1953.

On arrival My Father together with his Father got work in the fields in Koo Wee Rup (Country Town 75 Kilometres from Melbourne CBD) and were able to purchase land to grow their own crops of potatoes.

In 1953 my family purchased property in Moonee Ponds and this became the base for produce to be taken to the market and for the family to make roots, by 1958 a business (Milk Bar was purchased and was one of the first expresso shops where coffee was made, my father Gregorio operated one of the first Gaggia 9 cup Coffee machines in Melbourne which explains his great love for coffee, and this has been passed down to me. The business was sold in 1960 to make way for upgrading of roads on Mount Alexander & Maribyrnong Road and also gave the family and opportunity to establish their own properties within Moonee Ponds and Koo Wee Rup to this day.

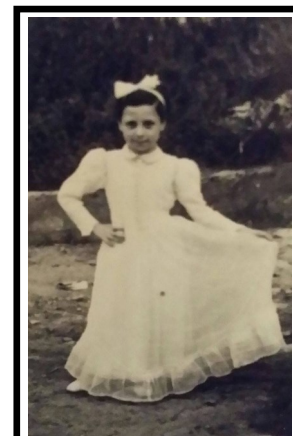
I grew up in an Italian environment learning all the family traditions and love of all things Italian with my Nonna teaching me, and extended family something which is very close to my heart.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

TREASURER

Executive Committee

NAME:	Tina Dichiera
DOB	1st January 1944
Place of Birth	Sant'Eufemia d'Aspromonte
Province	Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration:	October 1955
Date of arrival in Australia	18th November 1955
Australian citizen:	Italian Citizen



Immigration experience:

My name is Tina Dichiera (nee Cutri) born 1st January 1944 at Sant' Eufemia d'Aspromonte Pro.R.C. Italy . I am still an Italian Citizen.

In October 1955 at the tender age of 11yrs old I left Italy with my mother Francesca and my brother Cosimo Cutri with the MV Neptunia of the Lloyd Triestino Fleets from the Port of Messina, Sicily to come to Adelaide S.Australia to be reunited with my father Damiano Cutri who migrated in 1950. It was a very long journey on the boat, but we had a 4 persons cabin and this made the journey a bit more comfortable.

18th November 1955 we arrived in Port Melbourne where we were met by my father, after which we all travelled by train to Adelaide. Soon after arriving at our new address -Findon Rd. Kidman Park-I went straight to school at St. Joseph's Primary, Flinders Park and as in Italy I had completed all my Primary School (1-5), I was placed in year 4-5 without speaking or understanding the English language..but as my knowledge of most subjects was more advanced than their teaching of year 4-5 I didn't find it very difficult. Very soon I mastered the language and then continued onto St. Joseph's High School, Grange Rd. Hindmarsh, taught only by nuns. It was through the school, and the nuns' contacts with various companies at the time, that I got my first office job with a Insurance Company as a Stenographer and Interpreter. In the 50s and 60s there was a lot of Italians who spoke little or no English, and there were not too many office employees who spoke both English and Italian. I was lucky to be one who was able to speak both languages fluently which was to my advantage.

In 1965 I married Peter Dichiera from S. Nicola di Caulonia R.C. who was in Adelaide since 1949. Out of this beautiful union, 5 children (boys) were born.

Pino 1966 - Danny 1968 - Robert 1970 - Cosimo 1971 - Maurizio 1974. Within 10 years all the boys got married and altogether we have 8 Grandchildren - 7 boys and 2 girls. They are all our pride and joy.

I have been, and still am, involved in many Charitable Organizations as a volunteer which I enjoy very much. I am an Honorary Member of S. Hilarion Society and Aged Care of which I have been involved for 45 years.

Having our Family Gatherings and keeping our Italian traditions, whether be food or friends, is my greatest happiness.

COMMITTEE 2017–2018

Committee Member

NAME: **Filomena Larosa
(Nella Santo)**
DOB 21st July 1956
Place of Birth Italia Tresilico Oppido Mam
Province Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration: 18th June 1972 Nave Galileo Galilei
Date of arrival in Australia 18th July 1972
Australian citizen: No



Immigration experience:

My name is Nella Santo (Filomena Larosa) I was born on the 21st of July 1956, in Tresilico Oppido Mam and I am still an Italian Citizen.

After arriving in Melbourne we travelled to Adelaide by train.

I Left Calabria together with my parents, 2 sisters and 3 brothers I was the oldest of the siblings.

We left beautiful Calabria because dad did not have a lot of work to carry the family forward and to give us children a better future.

To leave the land in which you were born is never easy, to leave the relatives and school friends is always a very difficult path with the hope of finding a better life in Australia.

My father had his relatives in Adelaide, brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces, and fellow town's people which made it easier for us than those who had immigrated before us. However there were difficulties: first of all the language and the integration with those that regarded us as foreigners, and called us wogs. "Wogs go home" however slowly with all our good intentions we made it.

To me learning the English language was very important and I did everything to improve myself at night school and by correspondence. Let's say that I succeeded even though I prefer to write in Italian. Today after 46 years I am happily married to Luigi (Gino) Santo have two children and three grandchildren thanks to this land that has given us the opportunity to make a new life for ourselves but always with our heart in the town where we were born.

I have been involved in many community groups as a volunteer such as Society of St Hilarion, in the committee of Maria SS di Crochi for 4 years and others however I am now in the Italian Historical Society Committee for the last 2 years, thank you to the President Giuseppe Geracitano for his vision to create a society with the task of recording and preserving all our beautiful past for our future generations. I am proud to be part and hope that slowly this dream will become a reality. For this reason I have decided to be part of this wonderful project and to be remembered that I have made a small contribution for the society and the future of our grandchildren and great grandchildren.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
Committee Member

NAME: **Angela Cutri**
DOB 10th June 1955
Place of Birth Favazzina di Scilla
Province Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration: 20th February 1979
Date of arrival in Australia 3rd March 1979
Australian citizen:



Immigration experience:

My name is Angela Cutri nee Palamara, eldest child of four children, two girls and two boys, of Bruno Palamara and Natalina Labozzetta. Thank you to my parents who taught me good values of the family, respect, and solidarity towards others as a child my passion was for education and music, I completed my Secondary education and I usually sang as a soloist in the choir at the church.

I had a very happy childhood with my family and friends in Calabria at a very young age I met Cosimo who I married on the 10th of December 1979 in the Church in my hometown of Favazzina di Scilla. As Cosimo had been living in Australia since 1955 I followed him back to Australia, I left from the airport in Reggio Calabria on the 20th February 1979 and arrived in Adelaide on The 3rd March 1979.



My first impression of Australia was very beautiful, I was affectionately welcomed by everyone. However I realised that the distance from my family and longing for my country of birth would be forever be part of my life. Being the only one from my family who emigrated brought great sorrow to the whole family. Giving birth to three beautiful daughters Francesca, Natalie and Laura and now enriched by the birth two beautiful grandchildren gave me great joy.

It was my yearning for Calabria that motivated me to continue my passion to sing and promote the folklore of Calabrian music in Australia. This helped me to connect my family and Calabria together.

I have been a volunteer announcer on Italian Language Program for the last 20 years. I am on the Committees of Saint Rita, Maria SS di Tutte Le Grazie Adelaide. I am always ready to help all those who call me and give of my free time for the Italian community of Adelaide as a volunteer.

I have recently become a Committee Member of the Italian Historical Society of SA which is led by my friend Joe Geracitano. I am very passionate about the project that we have undertaken and it is a dream of all the Italian Immigrants to hear their story.

Thank you to all my fellow committee members who accompany me on this important worthwhile journey.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
CO OPTED
Entertainment Co-ordinator

NAME:	Wladimira (Mira) Sangregorio
DOB	25th November, 1960
Place of Birth	Naples
Province	Naples
Date of emigration:	17th November, 1970
Date of arrival in Australia	15th December, 1970
Australian citizen:	Yes



Immigration experience:

My name is Mira and I emigrated with my mother Carolina Panfilo (Nee Montaniero), 4 brothers Giuseppe, Vittorio, Corrado, Gennarino and sister Monica. It took 28 days to arrive in Australia on the *Angelina Lauro* on 15th December, 1970 we disembarked in Melbourne, Victoria, travelled by train to Adelaide South Australia.

In 1971 in Adelaide we moved into a small 2 bedroom granny flat at Norwood. I Attended Norwood Primary school for 1 year. We Moved to a Housing Trust house at Klemzig for two years. My Mother was very sick with Tuberculosis until I was in my first year of high school. We all needed to undergo tests every month for a year (this was very difficult time for us as mum was not home for 3 – 4 months and I had to stay home and look after the two year old). Mum eventually got better and the family moved to Elizabeth Field and into a New 4 bedroom house. Dad worked at GMH (General Motors Holden) at Elizabeth and to this day my parents still live in Elizabeth.

In 1975 I started performing with my brothers (I Napoletani Con Voi) at small private events. In 1982 I got married to Francesco Sangregorio who was also a musician. Together we promoted the Neapolitan Culture by performing for major Italian events: Carnevale, 180th Jubilee, SA Great, School Festivals, and Catholic Events.

In 1984 My First Daughter Carmelina was born, 1985 my second daughter Carla was born. In 1991 My Son Ben was born and in 1994 my daughter Diana was born.

In 1991 I entered many singing competitions. In 1997 I entered and won the singing competition in Naples – 20th Festival of Neapolitan Song. I also entered the Italian Festival Competition in Sydney and won The People's Choice at the Sydney Opera House. I am now recognised as an entertainer by the Italian Community in Adelaide In recent years I joined Radio Italia Uno Adelaide as a broadcaster.

I am an honorary member of the Campania Club and a life member of the Society of St Hilarion.

We emigrated from Italy to better our lives and ensure a better future for the family. As a child I remember being excited to embark on a ship to go and see my father who had been in Australia since the 18th of May 1970 (travelled on the *Marconi* from Naples. I also remember the confusion in Melbourne when we landed. I am very involved in promoting the Italian Culture through shows and school presentations.

I would like to be remembered for having the courage to front up to any situation, to have a go and bringing so much happiness to the community through my entertainment and singing career.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
CO OPTED
Social Media Co-ordinator

NAME: **Rosemarie Geracitano**
DOB 20th November 1999
Place of Birth Adelaide
Province South Australia
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia
Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

My name is Rosemarie Geracitano, I was born on the 20th of November in 1999 at Western Hospital, Cudmore Terrace Henley Beach, Adelaide

I am the youngest child of Giuseppe Geracitano of Roccella Joinica Reggio Calabria Italy and Giovanna Jenny Geracitano (nee Interlandi) of Melbourne Victoria.

Growing up in an Italian household is certainly interesting, there are many different traditions compared to a lot of my Australian friends. I have always been surrounded by older people. I have two older brothers Nick who is 15 years my senior who lives in Sydney and Anthony who is 13 years older I have two nephews Nathaniel who is 5 years old and Dante who is 3 (Anthony's children)

Family and close family friends are extensions to our family and have important impacts to my family everyday life, hence I have lots of cousins, comare and compares compared to a lot of my friends.

The Community and everything associated with the community is very important to my family in particular Festas and different Italian Organisations ,visiting and participating in annual making of the homemade sauce, wine and olives are traditions of great importance to my family.

My involvement in the Italian Community is quite extensive and I attend a lot of functions and activities associated with the wider Italian community with my parents which means I had to be careful what I do and say as I always had people watching me, partly because I am Italian and so many people knew my grandparents and know my parents and what they represent in the community. As well as the fact that I look a lot like my grandmother a lot more older Italians knew me without me knowing them.

I believe growing up in Italian family has its challenges because traditions that have been carried with my family are certainly things that influence my day to day life.

My love of the Italian Culture, Food, Music and everything Italian is partly the reason why I have become involved in the wider community as well, and I support the vision of recording the Oral Histories of our Community for future generations.

COMMITTEE 2017–2018

CO OPTED

Cultural Co-ordinator

NAME: **Rosa Matto**
DOB: 25th April 1954
Place of Birth: Adelaide
Province:
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia:
Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

My parents, Alberico Matto and Elvira Bosco came from Altavilla Irpina, prov. Avellino.

Like so many young men at the time, my father and his two brothers saved enough money to embark on the journey to Australia. My father and uncles arrived in Melbourne on the *Hellenic Prince* on the 8th August, 1951 just 6 months after the birth of my brother, Armando.

My mother and brother finally joined my father, arriving in Melbourne on the *Surriento, Flotta Lauro* on the 6th July 1953. My father and his brothers had already bought a house in George Street, Thebarton but very soon the arrival of my uncles' families meant it was too small. So, my father bought a larger house in Prospect where they all lived together for a time. The closeness between the three families remains to this day.

My father worked two shifts at British Tube Mills and later the Islington Railyards while my uncles worked hard cutting cane in Queensland. I remember many stories recounted about the early years which, undoubtedly, were very difficult. As soon as I started school, my mother went to work as a cleaner in various hospitals in Adelaide.

Although the times were harsh in a strange new land, there was also much fun. Every weekend, I remember, there were parties – for new arrivals, for weddings (sometimes two on one night), christenings and birthdays. And, of course, there was singing and a lot of dancing. We have grown up and grown old with people who shared a very special bond and a very special history.

I am very proud of my heritage and of my parents who gave me every opportunity to succeed. I am grateful, especially, for the intelligence and humanity both my parents had in treating my brother and I equally, with love and respect for our different abilities.

I am also proud to belong to the Italo Australian community in Adelaide.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018
CO OPTED
Local Government Liason Officer

NAME: **Rachele Tullio**
DOB 16th September 1959
Place of Birth Adelaide, Australia.
Province
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia
Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

Rachele Tullio (nee Racioppi) was born in 1959 to Raffaele Racioppi and Mariagrazia Polito. Both migrated to Australia in 1951 and 1954 respectively. My father was sponsored by his cousin, Antonio Racioppi, who had accompanied his sister to Australia as a proxy bride. Emilia was a 17 year old bride to Gennaro Russo; they had never met beforehand.

My father was the eldest son of 12 children and my mother was the 4th child of 6. She arrived in Australia in June 1954 and married my father in a borrowed wedding dress after 10 days. They had met each other as young people through working on a family share-farm: my father was 16 and my mother was 10.

For 2 years they lived in shared in rental accommodation in Adelaide until my brother was born in 1957. Until I was 12 years old, I grew up in Mile End, which was considered 'little Italy'. Most people in Gladstone Road came from another country.

I grew up in a large family, surrounded by multiple aunts and uncles. My father sponsored all of his family (except his sister, Luisa) to Australia as well as other relatives and friends. He purchased a large, run-down house in Mile End and housed many people. All of his siblings married other Italians and all were farewelled from my father's house. It was moment of pride for my parents when this happened.

I grew up a migrant child without English. However, I learnt very quickly the importance of learning and directed my focus to speaking and writing English. Eventually I became the official interpreter for my parents when letters arrived, especially my mother. Education was valued for my parents. I was encouraged to study and become a teacher. This has been a very rewarding outcome. My hope is that the migrant story is preserved in a safe place for future generations.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

CO OPTED

Technical Support

NAME:	Lino Cardone
DOB	24 th January, 1953
Place of Birth	Pietrelcina
Province	Benevento, Campania
Date of emigration:	December, 1959
Date of arrival in Australia	February, 1960
Australian citizen:	Yes, 1987



Immigration experience:

My memories of the departure from Pietrelcina is of many relatives and friends of the family coming to visit us in the days before leaving. They were happy to see us but also sad, as I realise now, that many knew they would not see us again. My father had chosen to come to Australia for economic reasons and had departed for Australia 2 years earlier so it was up to my mother to organise the migration documentation, selling the household effects and determining what to take. Our family consisted of two children, myself 7 years and my sister 4 years, as well as one set of grandparents who had never travelled far. The boat journey itself was uneventful but I formed a tighter bond with my grandfather as we went exploring the ship.

We moved into our home on Portrush Rd., Maylands this had been bought by my father and uncle and we attended Trinity Gardens (known then as Wellington Rd) Primary School this was right opposite our place and about half of the students were migrants. We established many friends in the neighbourhood some of whom we still see.

My grandparents had the hardest time of the migration because at about 65 years of age they had suddenly gone from working on a rural property to inner city living, having to make new friends in a new community, not going out during the day because of the language barrier, and most importantly for my grandfather, no longer being in charge of the finances and consequently the family. However, despite the homesickness in the first few years we slowly became accustomed to the new way of life in Australia. Both of our parents were working so we could have the opportunities which they never had such as formal qualifications.

My father always liked the piano-accordion and so I learnt to play that instrument and I am now very passionate about piano-accordions and play whenever I can. I think it's what I will be most remembered for together with my passion for electronic design.

COMMITTEE 2017—2018

CO OPTED

Media Liason Officer

NAME: **Cosimo Cutri**
DOB 9th June 1940
Place of Birth Sant' eufemia d'aspromonte
Province Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration:
Date of arrival in Australia 18th November 1955
Australian citizen:



Immigration experience:

My parents were Damiano Cutri and Francesca Cutri of Sant'eufemia d'Aspromonte. I completed my primary school and studied music learning to play the piano accordion. In 1955 my father emigrated to Adelaide Australia. to build a better future for the family because the economic situation in Italy was desperate.

Five year later I with my mother and sister Tina joined my father in Australia. I arrived on the 18th of November 1955 on the Neptunia.

I did a variety of jobs and at the age of 15 I began working with horses as a jokey and then with trotters as a trainer and reinsman for the next twenty years.

After 23 years I returned to Italy where I met my wife Angela and married her in Favazzina on the 10th of December 1978.

Beside being employed as a trainer my parents had a grocery shop in which I helped. For more than 30 years I have been an announcer on Italian Language Radio and have served on the Radio Committee for more than 20 years.

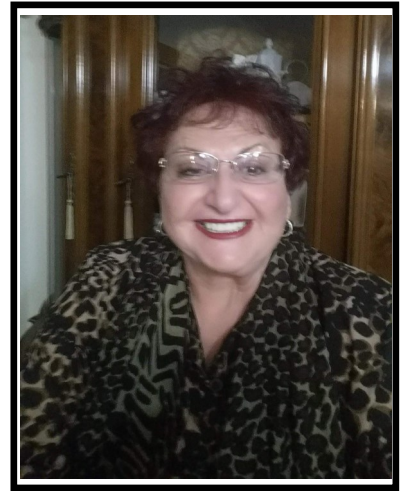
I am a big supporter of the Italian Historical Society of SA. I am not only a volunteer on the radio but I am always ready to help the community.

I promote the Italian language and culture through my radio programs, thanks to the good values instilled into me by my family.

2017—2018

Members

NAME: **Matilde Campanella Gallina**
DOB 10th March 1949
Place of Birth Caulonia Superior
Province Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration: 1951
Date of arrival in Australia Melbourne 14th June 1951
Australian citizen: Australian / Italian Citizen



Immigration experience:

I came out to Australia as a little girl of 2 years and 3 months, with my mother Angela Pulicano on the Surriento and arrived in Melbourne on the 14th June, 1951.

My father Domenico Campanella arrived on the Surriento on the 24th January 1950.

I was only little when we made our journey to Australia, but I do remember spending a lot of time below deck in the Sick / Medical room, as it effected mum and I most of the journey.

My parents choice to come to Australia was to give the family a better way of life, because things in Caulonia (Province of Reggio Calabria Italy) was very difficult back in the 1950's finding work and making enough to feed the family was difficult.

My parents gave my late brother Frank and I the best new fresh start they could and because of this we are eternally grateful and appreciate all the hardships they faced coming to a new country.

We are appreciative of everything that comes our way for all the family and all our friends.

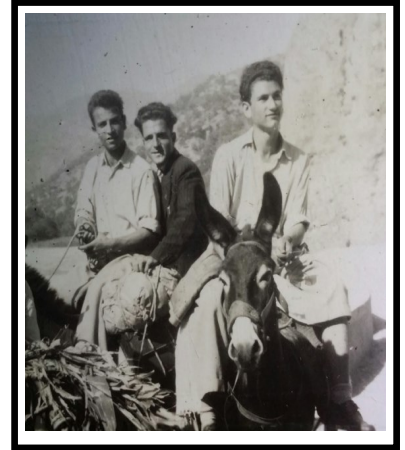
I am strongly associated with the Society of St Hilarion, Aged Care of St Hilarion, Radio Italiano 531 and The Veneto Club and now the Italian Historical Society of SA Inc.

I strongly believe if you can help others, do it with love and respect and Faith.

2017—2018

Members

NAME:	Pietro Dichiera
DOB	8th February 1933
Place of Birth	S. Nicola di Caulonia
Province	Reggio Calabria
Date of emigration:	10th October, 1949
Date of arrival in Australia	Melbourne 10th November 1949
Australian citizen:	Australian Citizen



Immigration experience:

My name is Pietro Dichiera born on the 8th February, 1933 in S. Nicola di Caulonia Prov. R.V., only child of Giuseppe Dichiera (1908) and Angela Frajia (1913).

I completed my 3rd Medie of schooling in Italy which is equivalent to Year 10 in Australia, doing the last year in Rome at Istituto Gennasiale Roma.

As my father had migrated to Australia in 1939 to make a better future, even though he himself had completed 3rd Medie of schooling in Italy in the early 1920. I remember and was also told by my mother and paesani that he used to write letters for illiterate people who had family members overseas. Also he would teach some of them to read and write, enough to be able to sign important documents.

In 1949 my father requested that I join him in Australia and I left the Port of Naples with the M.V. Napoli on the 10th October with a cousin Ilario Dichiera (28 yrs.old) who acted as my Guardian as I was under-age at the time. There was another paesano from Caulonia on the boat with us by the name of Mr Pileggi.

With my cousin we left S. Nicola for the train station at Caulonia Marina to catch the train to Naples, with the usual Taxis of that era...The Donkey's Transport...that carried all the luggage. It was approximately 18 km. ride to the train station with relatives and friends following us all with donkeys.

The boat trip was not so good as I got sea-sick. The M.V. Napoli

was originally a cargo ship so it had very few cabins for the passengers but plenty of Camerone Accomodation at the very lower level of the ship which was crowded.

After arriving in Melbourne, I caught the train to Adelaide. Our first address was Garden Terrace, Underdale, in a rented shed, and even though the times were harsh in a new and strange land with very primitive accommodation, I was feeling happy. Soon after my father bought 6 acres of land at Military Road, West Beach, where shortly after we built a 2 bedroom home and 17 glass-houses. After my arrival my father booked me into Rostrevor College as a boarder because he wished that I continued studying. Life at Rostrevor College at the time was not easy for me. I was 16 years of age and got placed with 12 year old boys (yr 6-7 class). That for me was not only demoralizing but so much different than the school I had left in Italy. Not coping very well with all that, soon after I left the College and went into the workforce.

In 1965 I married this beautiful girl Tina Cutri, who originated from S. Eufemia d'Aspromonte R.C., and went to Italy for our honeymoon which lasted 6 months. I was able to get time off work for all that period of absence. We made the trip to Italy by ship, the Marconi (20 days) and came back with the same ship. Back to Adelaide we started our family of 5 boys, who are now all married and have enriched our lives with 8 grandchildren.

I have been involved in the Committee of The Society of S. Hilarion for many years and I am still a Volunteer since 1975. I was one of the Guarantors to purchase the first S. Hilarion Nursing Home at Lockleys in 1987, and am an Honorary Member of S. Hilarion Society and Aged Care. I am also a member of the Italian Historical Society of S.A. Inc.

I will always love the town I was born in and all its traditions, respect and values of my origins. I am proud to be an Italo-Australian, and my greatest desire is for my children to continue the Legacy of Family Values that my parents taught me, and that I tried to pass onto my children for their families to follow.

If the Foundation is built solid, it will not crumble very easily.

NAME: **Giorgio Masero**
 DOB 8th March, 1920
 Place of Birth Vincenza
 Province Veneto
 Date of emigration: 1951
 Date of arrival in Australia Melbourne 2nd May 1951 Toscana
 Australian citizen: Yes



Immigration experience:

Dr Giorgio Masero was born in Vincenza, Veneto region, on the 8th March 1920. He was four when his father died in 1924, His brother Antonio, now deceased, was born in July 1924. In 1925 their mother Anna Dalla Pozza moved to Switzerland to work as a chef in order to help to maintain the family. The two young children were left in the care of her parents in Valmarana a hamlet very close to Vincenza. After his primary school, Giorgetto was encouraged to enter the monastery of Monte Berico where he completed his secondary schooling. He was an excellent student and he excelled in music, he had a beautiful voice, he loved to sing a solo the Sanctus of the Missa Angelorum. He left the convent before his vows, went back to his mother and enrolled in the University of Ca'Foscari in Venezia. He had just finished first year of his degree in languages and foreign literature when in 1941 he was called in the army.

He spent two years in the military academy of Arezzo and Ravenna. He completed his cadetship with honours and he was given the rare privilege of nominating the regiment of his choice to serve as Lieutenant. He chose Mestre at the door steps of Venezia, hoping to get permission to complete his studies, but it was not to be. He was sent to Greece, Eubea. He was there when news arrived, on the 8th of September 1943, that Italy had joined the allies. Dr Masero consulted with the 18 soldiers of his platoon and all decided to head for the mountains and join the Greek resistance, the Partisans. After wandering from mountain to mountain always on foot and helped by the Partisans and the Greek farmers, they make contact with an English Commando and reached Prevoza and eventually embarked for Taranto. It was March 1944.

Dr Masero, feverish and suffering with Malaria was sent home where he slowly recovered. He resumed his studies in 1946 at the University of Venezia. In 1947 he won a scholarship for the University of Genova and transferred himself there. In Genova he met Michelina Alberti, and he completed his studies. They married in 1950. They had seriously discussed the possibility of leaving Italy and migrating to Australia. They certainly had their plans and their dreams. Both with a University Degree they arrived in Australia on the 10th May 1951. Was Australia the promised land ? Dr Masero never had such illusions, for a couple of years he moved from one casual manual work to another, then from kitchen hand to chef at the Ambassador Hotel, Adelaide.

In 1954 he founded the Masero & Co Pty Ltd for the production of wines, vermouths, marsalas, bitters, liqueurs, spirits, cordials and essences. His products were sold throughout Australia and exported overseas to various countries. He traded under the name of Alberti, the surname of his wife. Many people within our community still remember .
 Vermouth Rosso, Ferrochina, Sciampagnino, Orzata, Mentha, Vodka, Tamarindo, Chinotto, Amarena.

In 1954 he became tutor in Italian Language at the University of Adelaide, education department and Chief examiner in Italian, position he kept for 26 years.

In 1960 he founded the Dante Alighieri Society of which he remained president for 25 years.

In 1963 he sponsored 16 classes to teach Italian to the children of migrants and to teach Italian to the English speaking members of the Dante Alighieri Society

In 1963 he was the recipient of the first Silver Medal for Cultural Merit from Rome.

In 1966 he received the second Silver Medal for Cultural Merit from Rome.

In 1967 he was nominated Cavaliere al Merito of the Italian Republic.

In 1968 he was promoter and major sponsor for the Institution of the First Chair of Italians at Flinders University.



In 1971 he lost his wife Michelina in a Motor Vehicle accident.

In 1971 he received the second Knighthood of Cavaliere Ufficiale of the Italian Republic.

In 1975 he became a Knight of Malta

In 1980 he received a Gold Medal for Cultural merits from Rome.

1981 he was a bank Guarantor of \$600,000 for the completion of the First Italian Nursing Home in Adelaide.

In 1985 he was honoured with AM, Order Of Australia.

In 1986 he became Board Member and Vice President of the Italian Village, Position he held for over 20 years.

Dr Masero enriched our Italian Community, a Benefactor and a man of Vision and Culture

Rest in Peace

Obituaries

MASERO, Giorgio. Born in Vicenza, Italy on March 8, 1920. It is with great sadness that the family of Giorgio Masero announces his peacefully passing on Saturday, March 24, 2018 at the age of 98 years.

Loving son of Anna Masero (nee Dalla-Pozza) and Antonio Masero (both deceased).

Beloved husband of Rachelina (deceased). Loving and dearly loved brother of Antonio (deceased) and loving brother-in-law of Angela.

Much loved and loving uncle of Alberto, George, Ana and Marcus, Silvia, Rosa and Nik, Monica and Andrew.

Adored and loving great-uncle of Gianni, Ricky and Michael; Daniel, Nicholas and Christian; Stefan and Natal; Nastasia and Maya; Antonio and Luisa. Loved and fondly remembered by his cousins Daniela, Renato, Silvio, Maria, Eda, Ida, Anna-Maria and families.

Our beloved Zio Giorgio was a hardworking, affectionate, devout and kind man who will be dearly missed.

He saw us grow up and always gave us his love, support and guidance.

You are now with your beloved wife and family. May you Rest in Peace.

Ad Adelaide l'ultimo saluto a Giorgio Masero, fondatore della Società Dante Alighieri del SA e parte attiva della comunità italiana

Addio a un uomo di cultura e di passione

ADELAIDE. Il 24 Marzo 2018 è stata una giornata che ha scosso la comunità italiana di Adelaide in quanto ha visto la perdita di Giorgio Masero. Nato a Vicenza l'8 marzo 1920, Masero fu incoraggiato a entrare, dopo le scuole elementari, nel Monastero di Monte Berico, da dove però uscì prima dei voti finali.

Frequentò l'Istituto Ca' Foscari di Venezia, ma durante il suo percorso universitario in lingue e letterature straniere fu chiamato a prestare servizio militare. Determinato, dopo la guerra, Masero riprese gli studi e nel 1947 vinse una borsa di studio messa in palio dall'Università di Genova dove completò il suo percorso formativo.

Li incontrò Micheline Alberti, che sposò nel 1950. Già durante il periodo universitario rifletteva sulla possibilità di lasciare l'Italia e trasferirsi in Australia; cosa che fece insieme alla moglie il 10 maggio del 1951.

Che il Paese dei canguri non fosse la terra promessa come in tanti volevano fare credere, Giorgio l'ha sempre saputo e non ebbe mai la presunzione di pensarla. Per qualche anno si prestò a fare i più disparati lavori manuali, fino a diventare l'aiutante



Giorgio Masero

in cucina dello chef all'Ambassadors Hotel di Adelaide.

Nel 1954 divenne insegnante, o meglio,

tutor di lingua italiana presso l'Università di Adelaide, posizione che tenne per 26 anni. Qualche anno dopo, nel 1960, fondò la Società Dante Alighieri del South Australia e assunse il ruolo di presidente che coprì per 25 anni. Durante il suo periodo di attività riuscì a supportare e sponsorizzare sedici classi di insegnamento della lingua italiana ai figli di immigrati italiani e ai soci di lingua inglese che avevano aderito alla società.

Nel 1963 fu convocato a Roma dove gli venne consegnata la prima medaglia d'argento che ha riconosciuto i suoi meriti culturali. Nel 1964 fu nominato capo esaminatore di Italiano nella commissione che si occupava degli esami pubblici (Public Examination Board). La seconda medaglia d'argento per meriti culturali arrivò nel 1966 e l'anno dopo, nel 1967, fu nominato Cavaliere al Merito della Repubblica Italiana.

Gli anni successivi, dal '68 al '69, l'hanno visto promotore e principale sponsor per la costituzione della prima cattedra di italiano presso la Flinders University.

Purtroppo nel 1971 Masero perse sua moglie in un tragico incidente stradale,

ma questo non scoraggiò il suo lavoro e lo stesso anno fu nominato Cavaliere Ufficiale. Quattro anni dopo, nel '75 divenne anche Cavaliere di Malta. Nel 1981 versò una somma proficua per supportare il completamento della prima casa di riposo italiana di Adelaide.

Anche l'Australia, Paese che lo aveva accolto molti anni prima, riconobbe il suo duro lavoro e il suo contributo, così nel 1985 ricevette l'Order of Australia (AM).

Nel 1986 divenne membro del board e fu nominato vice presidente de "The Italian Village", posizione che mantenne per oltre trenta anni. Negli anni fondò anche la Masero&Co, che si occupava di esportazioni e importazioni e i cui prodotti prendevano il nome di Alberti, come il cognome da nubile della moglie. Giorgio Masero fu un uomo di cultura con grandi visioni che hanno lasciato un segno sia nella comunità italo australiana, che nello Stato di Adelaide.

Numerosi i presenti all'ultimo saluto a Masero, che negli anni è riuscito a entrare nella vita di moltissime persone, affascinate dalla sua esperienza e dalla sua passione.

GG

**Fundraising
Pasta Night
17th November 2017**







Committee Members

Mr Nick Fazzalari Auctioneer for

The evening with President and
Cosimo Cutri (Media Liason)



Christmas Celebrations with
Committee Members and
Members of the Society



President Relaxing at Christmas
picnic Radio Italia Uno



President of Italian Historical
Society of Sa Inc..

Giuseppe Geracitano
Interview with
Radio Italia Uno —
with Cathy Papandrea.



Patron of the Italian Historical Society
sharing some history with Committee

At AGM

Memories 2017



President of Italian Historical
Society of Sa Inc.. Giuseppe
Geracitano Interview with
Radio Italia Uno —
with Angela & Cosimo Cutri



Pasta Night

February 2017



2017 Italian Historical Society
committee





Pasta Night

February 2017

Memories 2017

In Memory of wonderful
Supporters of the Society
RIP— Davide Caruso



Attended the official opening of
the 1st National Italian Festival
1976 exhibition at the Migration
Museum was great to remember
and catch up with Ken Jameson
the artistic Director of the
Festival of 1976



Attending the Monthly Luncheon
at the Veneto Club
Many thanks to Robert
(President) and Liana (Secretary)
and all attending for all your
warm welcome wishes and many
thanks for giving us the oppor-
tunity to talk to you on what our
Society is doing



A great evening our table had so much fun thank you to all the
committee who joined us for the Molfetta Fish Night — with
Cos Monterosso and 6 others..



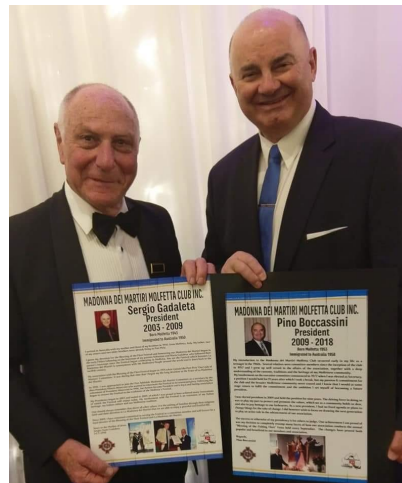
President (Joe Geracitano)
presenting
Certificate of Appreciation
to Ted Iuliano
(president of
Radio Italia Uno) Adelaide



Memories 2018



At the Festa of Maria Santissima
di Crochi — with Angela Cutri and
2 others.



Attending the 60th Anniversary of
La Madonna dei Martiri Blessing
of the Fishing Fleet

Attending the SAATI

AGM



Attending CIC Function with
Committee and Members of the
Society



Memories

2018



Attending CIC Function
and catching up
with the
Hon Steven Marshall MP
Premier of
South Australia



Addressing
Mary McKillop College





ITALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA INC.

FOUNDATION MEMBERS

2015

GERACITANO	GIUSEPPE (JOE)
IENCO	JOE
GERACITANO	JENNY
PERYK	ROSINA
HOCKLEY	AMANDA
FAZZALARI	NICK
FAZZALARI	JOAN
TULLIO	RACHELE
CUTRI	ANGELA
CUTRI	COSIMO
PERYK	JOHN
IENCO	ZORICA
CHIERA	LARRY
CHIERA	SCARLET



ITALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SA

Current Financial Member

2018

GERACITANO	GIUSEPPE (JOE)	CIRCOSTA	FRANCA
GERACITANO	JENNY	SANGREGORIO	FRANK
FAZZALARI	NICK	SANGREGORIO	CARLA
FAZZALARI	JOAN	PANFILO	GIUSEPPE
DICHIERA	TINA	PANFILO	VITTORIO
CUTRI	COSIMO	DONATO	PHILLIP
CUTRI	ANGELA	FANTASIA	ANGELO
TULLIO	RACHELE	FANTASIA	NINA
SANTO	NELLA	MASCIA	PAOLO
SANTO	GINO	CIRCOSTA	LORENZO
CARDONE	LINO		
GERACITANO	ROSEMARIE		
DEPASQUALE	CARMINE		
DICHIERA	PETER		
TULLIO	GABRIEL		
GALLINA	MATILDE		
CAMPANELLA			
MATTO	ROSA		
SANGREGORIO	MIRA		

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