



Ballarat Italian Association

Annual Report

2012

Ballarat Italian Association President's Report for 2011-12

The last 12 months have been significant for the future of the Association. The Committee has concentrated on securing the financial future of the Association by working toward the sale of a parcel of land around the Association building for housing development whilst retaining one acre in the immediate vicinity of the building for the benefit of the members.

On the 25th of March 2012, at a Special General Meeting, members unanimously accepted the proposal to sell a parcel of land to a developer. Since that meeting a contract of sale has been agreed to and signed. The developer is currently preparing a planning permit application and is hopeful that approval will be gained early in 2013 at which time the first payment will be received by the Association. Progressive payments will be received by the Association as the developer sells each developed allotment.

In addition to the purchase of the land the developer has agreed to allow the Association naming rights to the road to be constructed as part of the development. Suitable road names will be carefully considered by the Committee and suggested to the developer.

Proceeds from the sale of the land will secure the financial future of the Association for some years to come. However the challenge for the next 12 months will be planning the future direction of the Association, increasing the membership base, encouraging participation in events and increasing the general use of the facilities.

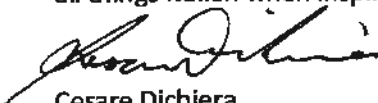
Although there were fewer organised activities over the last 12 months I would like to mention two that continue to be enthusiastically supported.

The Italian Conversation Group has maintained a steady increase in participation and has been a source of new members for the Association. My sincere thanks to Rita Ripani, Joe Sensi and Maura McCabe for continuing to coordinate the conversation group with commitment and enthusiasm.

The Italian Film Festival, in its fifth year, has been ably organised by Carla Woodruff and Kathryn Steele and is growing in popularity. This year the last night was completely sold out with a number of patrons not able to secure tickets. Sincere thanks to Carla and Kathryn for the selection of fine Italian films and putting together a successful Festival once again.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee for its dedicated voluntary work over the last 12 months. In particular I would like to thank Maxine, Yin and Mario who are not seeking re-election.

As Treasurer, Maxine has work tirelessly to ensure the accounting and book keeping was in order and her dedication as an active member of the Committee will be hard to replace. Yin was our resident chef and his skills and knowledge in the kitchen will also be sadly missed as will Mario's support and advice on all things Italian when inspiration was required.



Cesare Dichiera
President

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE 2011-2012 FINANCIAL YEAR

I would like to present the Audited Financial Reports for the BALLARAT ITALIAN ASSOCIATION INC. for the 2011-2012 Financial Year. The audit was conducted this year by Bruce Judkins from WHK Pty Ltd, 21 Armstrong Street North, Ballarat.

Unfortunately this year the Association has incurred a loss of \$6,622. This is mainly brought about by a decrease in grants received. Grants down from \$5,100 last year to \$1600 this year. Also increases in operating costs. Number of functions held was less than last year so this showed a decrease in income as well. Gross profit from bar and functions was \$1,075 compared to last year at \$1,761.

Other income was derived from Membership Subscriptions \$1050, Hall Hire \$490, and interest on Savings Account was \$692. The Italian Film Festival was again a success with the move to the new venue at the Regent Theatre. As usual the majority of the organising and work was done by Carla and Kathryn. Good response from the patrons and sincere thanks to Carla and Kathryn. Profit from this was approx. \$600.

Expenditure this financial year was \$13,609. This is up from \$10,550 last year. Main costs again include Rates, Insurance, Utilities, Accounting and Maintenance. We are still in credit for our Electricity account but other expenses have risen. As income decreases and expenditure is rising, the Association has to draw from the Savings Account. This account has decreased from \$19,621 at the end of 2011 to \$15,814 this financial year.

Membership number at the end of June was 56. This includes our four Life Members. Again most of the new members that joined this year came from Rita's Conversation Group held at Gplace. Sincere thanks to Rita for all the effort that she puts in to make it successful. Quite a few older members of the association are not rejoining so membership is down. Once again thanks to the Committee members for their tireless efforts throughout the year.

Maxine Bland



Hon. Treasurer