



Ballarat Italian Association Inc. Annual Report 2013



Ballarat Italian Association President's Report for 2012-13

The Ballarat Italian Club is on the cusp of an exciting future. Since the last AGM the Committee of Management has worked closely with the Developer to bring the proposed development of the land around the club premises to the planning application stage.

The work of the Committee has also included the organising of functions for members and friends. Although the number of function were not numerous the quality and attendance was very pleasing.

The Christmas function was well attended by members and non-members and Santa Claus was a hit with the children. The feedback indicates that Santa needs a new suit so this coming Christmas watch out for Santa wearing an Armani Santa suit.

The annual bocce game with the Croatian Community was well attended but needless to say the trophy remained with home team but it was pleasing to see that the Italian Club was very competitive.

Many thanks to the Spurgo family, particularly Dolly, for the tasty gourmet meal prepared for the Italian Republic Cabaret held in June and accompanied by the wonderful music provided by No Limits.

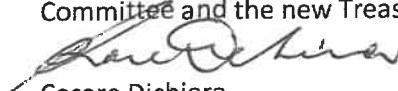
The Italian Film Festival, in its fourth year, is consolidating its position in the Ballarat Arts calendar. The three films on offer were of high quality and were all well attended. The theatre, at the Regent, was filled to capacity on the final night. Once again many thanks to Carla Woodruff and Kathryn Steele for selecting the films and organising another successful Festival.

The Italian Conversation Group is continuing strongly and thanks to Rita Ripani and Joe Sensi for keeping the group going. It has been a very good source of membership for BIA.

The planning process for the subdivision and development has been slow and taken a little longer than anticipated due to the stringent planning requirements. The eastern boundary of the property is subject to flooding according to rainfall data and hydrology reports. The implication for the original proposed subdivision was significant in that the proposed road had to be relocated resulting in a realignment.

To ensure that the subdivision was still viable the Committee and the Developer were obliged to rethink the proposed layout so that the road was out of the flood area. The re-routing of the road has resulted in the Clubhouse being re-located to another part of the property but still maintaining the same area. The new proposed subdivision has yielded an additional 8 allotments. It is anticipated that the first stage of the development will commence early in 2014.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee of Management for the work and dedicated effort over the last twelve months. Particular thanks to Maxine Bland for continuing to provide accounting support to the Committee and the new Treasurer.


Cesare Dichiera
President

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2012-13 FINANCIAL YEAR

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for the Ballarat Italian Association Inc. for the 2012-13 financial year. The audit was conducted by Jason Hargreaves of Prowse, Perrin & Twomey, 20 Lydiard Street South Ballarat.

Income has been derived from Membership Subscriptions, Government grants, Hall Hire, Italian Film Festival and Bank Interest and totalled \$6,446.00. However expenditure totalled \$13,220.00 resulting in a net loss of \$6,949.00. Water rates, gas and electricity, insurance and general maintenance accounted for the much of the expenditure. The City of Ballarat did not charge community groups for general rates in the last financial year.

The Association received an organisational grant of \$800.00 from the Victorian Multicultural Commission to assist with functions and general running costs; whilst hall hire income increased to \$735.00 compared with \$490.00 in the previous year. The interest on the cash investment was \$376.00 and cash on hand (in the bank) at the end of June totalled \$13,027.00.

Income derived from functions totalled \$1,941.00 and bar income \$2,078.00. Overall a net loss of \$175.00 resulted. The Republic Day Cabaret function held in June this year attracted over 80 adults with many extended families in attendance. A delicious 3-course lunch prepared by Dolly Spurgo and her family, combined with the music of 'No Limits', resulted in a net door profit of \$935.00 and bar takings of \$710.00.

Significantly, our membership increased to a total 70: 23 family, 24 individual and 4 life members. Membership income totalled \$1,750.00 (previous year \$1,075.00). The Association has attracted a number of new members through Il Mio Libro, the Conversation Group coordinated by Rita Ripani. On behalf of the membership our sincere thanks to Rita, Joe Sensi and Maura McCabe for their commitment in sharing their knowledge of the Italian language with community members.

The Ballarat Italian Film Festival which was held at the Regent Cinema in August 2012, provided a net profit of \$1,108.00 and was very well attended with the screening of 3 excellent films. I would like to thank Carla Woodruff and Kathryn Steele for their time and energy in coordinating this annual festival which attracted a diverse group of people interested in Italian culture and language.

I would like to thank Maxine Bland, the out-going Treasurer, who continued to provide her expertise and bookkeeping skills to the committee and myself up until March this year, so thank you Maxine for your dedication over the past 5 years. I would also like to thank the current Committee Members for their support and patience while I gained instruction on the MYOB book-keeping system and other aspects of the Treasurer position.



Yvonne (Evie) Dichiera, Treasurer.

BALLARAT ITALIAN ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Held on Sunday, 9th September 2012 at 2.00 p.m.
At 19 Recreation Road, Mount Clear**

1. Present:

Evie Dichiera, Rick Steele, Cesare Dichiera, Maxine Bland, Bill Greiner, Dawn Greiner, Giuseppe Angelini, Maria Angelini, Maura McCabe, Leilo Buczkowsky, Iris Buczkowsky, Antonio Spurgo, Isabella Spurgo, Alda Bernadeschi, Maria Tocchet, Adrian Morisi, Maryann Morisi, Guido Iacono, Helen Sarra, Armando Sarra, Rita Ripani, Mario Ripani, Carmelo Nuccio, Sherrie Nuccio, Giancarlo Faustini, Dino Cudia, Beatrice Cudia

2. Apologies:

Mark Karlovic, Frances Sensi, Joseph Sensi, Peter Jones, Trina Jones, Kathryn Steele, Yin Toe, Liz Denny, Rina Campana, Michael Kearney, Ugo Lolacono, Mary Lolacono, Dean Cinque, Jan Cinque, Carla Woodruff, Vince Rossi, Josie Rossi, Mario Debelli, Silvana Debelli, Henk Batstra

3. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous AGM held on

"That the minutes of the 2011 AGM are true and correct"

Moved: Leilo Buczkowsky, Sec: Armando Sarra

4. President's Report:

The President's report was distributed to the members and read by the President. The President reported that 2012 saw BIA secure its financial future by entering into an agreement with a developer to purchase and develop the land around the Club house. This was unanimously agreed to by members at a special meeting of members on 25th March 2012. Retiring members of the Committee were thanked for their dedicated work and support during their participation as Committee members. Organisers of the Italian Film Festival and the Italian Conversation Group were also recognized for their contribution.

"That the President's report be accepted" Moved: Cesare Dichiera, Sec: Rick Steele

5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts for the 2011-12 financial year. The full report was included in the BIA 2012 Annual Report. A question was asked regarding grant applications and it was reported that 2 grants had been received from the VMC.

"That the Treasurer's Report be accepted" Moved: Maxine Bland, Sec: Antonio Spurgo

6. Correspondence

A letter from the Ballarat Cemeteries Trust gauging the interest from community groups and organisations for the need of a mausoleum building for interment as an option to earth burial was tabled and read to members. Members felt that it was a good initiative and supported the idea in principle. It was requested that the letter be placed in the BIA Newsletter.

7. Report on Development

The agreement with the Developer was based on a two stage plan. The initial plan was for 15 allotment subdivision to be put to the Ballarat City Council for Planning Permit approval. Once the planning permits are received the Developer would endeavour to further subdivide the 4 larger allotments creating an additional 4 lots.

The agreement provides for \$450,000 to be paid to BIA when the planning permit is issued and the balance of \$35,000 per allotment to be paid when each block of land is sold. The agreement also states that when a further subdivision of the 4 larger allotments is registered with the Titles Office that BIA would receive \$120,000 and upon sale of each block of land a further \$35,000 per lot be paid by the developer.

It was pointed out that the agreement with the developer is based on all planning permit conditions being met.

Members were also informed that all costs would be met by the developer. In addition, the developer has agreed that BIA would have naming rights to the road to be constructed.

It was suggested by members present that the naming of the road should be publicized in the BIA Newsletter as a competition.

8. Election of Office Bearers and Committee of Management

Maura McCabe agreed to act as the returning officer and declared all positions vacant and called for nomination for the members of the management committee.

Nomination of President.

Cesare Dichiera was nominated by Leilo Buczkowsky and seconded by Alda Bernadeschi. As there were no other nominations Cesare was declared President for 2012-13.

Nomination of Vice-President

Adrian Morisi was nominated by Cesare Dichiera and seconded by Maxine Bland. As there were no other nominations Adrian was declared Vice-President for 2012-13.

Nomination of Secretary

Evie Dichiera was nominated by Alda Bernadeschi and seconded by Antonio Spurgo. As there were no other nominations Evie was declared Secretary for 2012-13.

Nomination of Treasurer.

Maxine Bland was nominated but declined but agreed to continue to do the accounts until the Committee appointed a Treasurer. Given that there was no other nomination it was agreed that the new Committee would arrange for a Treasurer to be appointed.

Nomination of General Committee Members

Antonio Spurgo was nominated by Giancarlo Faustini and seconded by Adrian Morisi. Antonio accepted the nomination.

Rick Steele was nominated by Cesare Dichiera and seconded by Antonio Spurgo. Rick accepted the nomination.

Kathryn Steele was nominated by Adrian Morisi and seconded by Evie Dichiera. Kathryn was elected to the Committee in her absence as she expressed an interest to be nominated.

Nomination of General Committee Members (cont'd):

Frances Sensi was nominated by Evie Dichiera and seconded by Cesare Dichiera..
Frances accepted the nomination.

Peter Jones was nominated by Rick Steele and seconded by Evie Dichiera.
Peter accepted the nomination.

Discussion on book-keeping requirements of the Association:

In view of Maxine retiring as Treasurer, and the financial affairs of the Association increasing as a result of the sub-division, the following motion was approved.

Motion:

*"That in view of the financial affairs becoming more complex as the sale of the land becomes a reality, that the Committee explores the possibility of engaging a bookkeeper on a part basis".
Moved: Cesare Dichiera, Seconded: Maura McCabe*

The motion was carried unanimously.

9. The meeting closed at 3.00 pm