



## ***A message from your President:***

As your incoming president I understand the large responsibility I have taken on for the future of our club. My committee and I welcome any feedback or ideas regarding the future of the BIA. In the new year we hope to run several events and look forward to these events being well supported by all members.

2023 has seen the sad passing of several members of the BIA.

Ugo Lo Iacono, Sherry Nuccio and Elena Iafrate, we extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

Given the committee has had a major reshuffle, we were given no choice but to go with the easiest and quickest option for this years members Christmas Function.



Time being of the essence we went with what was available and close to affordable for the Association. Details regarding our Christmas Function can be found over the page. We do hope to see as many of you there as possible.

***On behalf of the committee I would like to wish you a safe and happy festive season. Buon Natale***

***Sofia Sarra***



The BIA held its AGM on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October at Barkly Square – we'd like to welcome the incoming Executive Committee and General Committee Members:

**President:** Sofia Sarra  
**Vice President:** Yvette Sarra  
**Secretary:** Felicity Sarra  
**Treasurer:** Malcolm Freeman  
**Committee:** Lou Campana, Giovanni Piazza, Christiana Micich, Tina Rizzo & Antonella Cupello

**Admin. Assistant:** Angela Bigarelli



We would like to acknowledge and express gratitude to the outgoing committee members and thank them for their tireless work and commitment to the BIA.

### *A wrap on language classes:*

Seven Italian Language Classes took place for the majority of the year and were well attended. Special thanks to Julia Moore and Cristina Giovannini for their hard work and dedication.

We welcomed Jess Ringin and Judi O'Loughlin for the later half of the year and the new beginner classes.

We farewell Julia and Cristina and wish them all the best for the future.



***SAVE THE DATE***



***Christmas Lunch***

***Sunday 3rd December 2023***

***Ballarat Golf Club***

***Refer to the attached Flyer***





In September a small group of members attended a shopping trip to Melbourne where they were able to stock up on Italian delicacies from the Mediterranean Wholesalers and Assembly Drive Tullamarine.



On the 14<sup>th</sup> of October we held a wine and cheese pairing event at the Art Gallery of Ballarat.

Cristina Giovannini, one of our language teachers, delivered a presentation on King Frederick of Sicily which was informative and very interesting.

Thank you to Meg and Lou Campana for providing a very educational snap shot of how the cheeses could be used in every day cooking and locations from where they originated as well as how to pair each cheese with the appropriate wine. *Grazie mille*





**W**e congratulate Dino Cudia for being a finalist in the 2023 Ballarat Senior of the year awards.

The awards seek to recognise Ballarat's ageing community members, aged 55 and over, and their commitment and contribution to our community.

The entire Ballarat Seniors Festival is a magnificent celebration of Ballarat's older residents, of which there are more than 35,000.

'Dino is pictured with the Mayor of the City of Ballarat Cr. Des Hudson.



**M**embers of the BIA enjoyed a wonderful day in October at the 2023 Swiss Italian Festa held in Hepburn Springs.

Picture left is BIA Member Armando Sarra and friends !!!



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