DANTE NEWS

SOCIETÀ DANTE ALIGHIERI

"il mondo in italiano"

Newsletter of the Dante Alighieri Society Inc. Brisbane FEBBRAIO 2023

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and their unique relationship with their ancestral Country. We pay respect to Elders, past, present, and emerging.

Inside

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PRADELLA
Since 1959

Calendario

February 5 - 21 – CARNEVALE

February 14 – San Valentino

February 24 – Serata con Elsa Bettella

Date Claimers

March 11 – Bunnings BBQ
March 17 – A.G.M.
March 25 – Wine tasting

APERTI A NEW FARM da FEBBRAIO 2013

Dante matters

from the pen of the President…

Dear all,
Benvenute! / Benvenuti! to all new members and ***Bentornati! / Bentornate!*** to continuing members of the Brisbane Dante Society. For those who started courses last week: *buon divertimento e buon lavoro*! I wish you all an enriching and enjoyable term. As you'll see inside, not only has our school term started but we have various **events coming up**: an evening of Elsa Bettella's poetry and short stories, with the author and Danteatro; our Annual General Meeting and Welcome Party; a sausage sizzle at Bunnings Newstead; and a wine tasting. I hope you'll join in some of these. As always, we welcome any suggestions you have for cultural events and speakers, or workshop activities, to include in this year's calendar.
It is not too late to enrol for term 1. We have courses across a wide range of levels, and Bernadine and our wonderful teaching team are looking forward to welcoming you.
For those who are new to the Dante, your society **membership benefits** are:

- access to our Italian courses, conversation groups and *circoli*, and regular cultural events
- **r**eceipt of this monthly newsletter
- use of our library's extensive collection of fiction and non-fiction and the videotheque
- discounted entry into various museums in Italy

and, above all, belonging to a vibrant community of *Ital-simpatici*!
In addition to reading Dante News each month, you can **keep up with what's on** at and around the Dante through social media. Check out the posts that Tiziana puts regularly on our Facebook site (https://www.facebook.com/SocDanteBNE) and Instagram, then please like them and share them widely!! Feel free to add a comment about your experience at the Dante, to any of those posts. We also now have our own youtube channel and will be adding videos this year of various lectures and activities.
A **gentle reminder for any continuing members** who have not yet renewed their membership for this year: the form is on the website https://dante-alighieri.com.au/home/membership/ and payment options include bank transfer. Subscription covers a member for the year from January to December.
Our **Annual General Meeting** will be on Friday 17 March at the Dante premises, followed by the **welcome party** – do plan to come!
The proceedings will include the presentation of prizes to Griffith University students for their autobiographical writing and of awards from the *Sede Centrale* in Rome to some of our members in recognition of their exceptional service to the Brisbane DAS.
Please **consider joining the Management Committee** – your talents would be greatly valued! The current committee members are keen to continue and we are grateful for their vital contribution to the Society, but there is also room for others. Nomination forms are available at the reception counter. We would also welcome any new fundraising ideas.
This year, for the first time, all members of DAS branches around the world are invited to vote in **elections for certain positions at the *Sede centrale* in Rome**: the President and half the Central Council members. See the message from the *Segretario Generale*, Prof. Alessandro Masi, on the Dante Global site at https://8748962.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/8748962/Circolare%20Elezioni%20.pdf. The candidates' names are given at https://8748962.fs1.hubspotusercontent-na1.net/hubfs/8748962/SDA%20-%20Sintesi%20norme%20regolamentari%20Elezioni%202023.pdf . Should you wish to vote, please see Bernadine or Rosalia by 3 February for a ballot paper, as we need to put any completed papers in the post to the *Sede centrale* by Monday 6 February.

Back home: we are in the early stages of an exciting new project – to **document the history of the Brisbane Dante**. Committee members Deborah Skipper and Lesley Given (our librarian) have begun locating and collecting material. If you have any documents, photos or items that you think should be in our archives and/or might be useful in the preparation of a written history of the Society and school, please get in touch with Lesley at lesleygiven@hotmail.com We will be available to collect material if required.

We have received information about a research project being conducted at Swinburne University of Technology on **Coping with COVID-19: Social Networks and Resilience in Australia's Italian-background Community.** The researchers have asked us to publicise the survey they are conducting as part of this research. See page 5.
Finally, thank you for your support of the Dante in the past and over the year to come, as we continue to explore and enjoy Italian language and culture together.
Claire

Eventi

La Società Dante Alighieri Brisbane ha il piacere di presentare

Geografia di parole – poesie e racconti

Una serata con la scrittrice **Elsa Bettella**
accompagnata dalla cantante **Sim Lupa**
e le letture di **Danteatro**

Venerdì 24 febbraio
dalle 18:00 con inizio alle 18:30
26 Gray St New Farm (la sede della Dante)
Ingresso: $25.00 ($15.00 conc.)
Prenotare: 0401 927 967 / info@dante-alighieri.com.au

Elsa Bettella è persona, donna, cittadina con due cuori (uno italiano e uno australiano), madre, professionista e scrittrice. È nata a Padova ed è poi vissuta quasi sempre a Milano e in un continuo via vai con l'Australia dove vivono i suoi figli. Dal 2017 è tornata a vivere nella sua città natale. Come libera professionista ha lavorato da più di 20 anni nell'ambito della formazione e della consulenza (creazione e sviluppo di microimpresa in particolare per le popolazioni giovanili e femminili). Ha collaborato con diverse Camere di Commercio italiane e straniere e altri Enti internazionali per diversi progetti di sviluppo imprenditoriale.
La passione per la scrittura l'ha accompagnata nel corso di tutta la vita e tuttora la vede interprete di poesie, racconti brevi, romanzi, testi per il teatro. Ha pubblicato romanzi, raccolte di racconti e di poesie fra cui: *Disordine Numerico* (2012); *Madri che cantano e piangono* (2016); *Torno Casa* (2019); *Continua a cercarmi* (2019); *Esedra* (2020).
I temi dei suoi racconti si sviluppano su assi geografiche (città italiane e il continuo andirivieni Italia – Australia) e poetiche in cui nostalgia e ironia si intersecano.
Per una serata come questa si è pensato alla presentazione di una miscellanea di poesie e testi brevi. Inizierà l'autrice leggendo alcune poesie e seguiranno altre voci di Danteatro intercalate da inserti musicali.

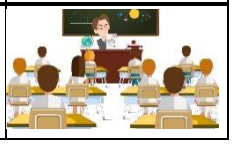
L'artista italo-australiana Simonne Lupinetti, in arte Sim Lupa, dopo dieci anni in una band rock, ha recentemente inciso "Messy", singolo d'esordio come solista dalle sonorità "un po' punk rock, un po' pop, un po' avant-garde".
Nata da mamma australiana e papà abruzzese, dell'Italia le "piace un sacco la lingua, il Paese, la cultura".

Dalla scuola

Il primo trimestre del 2023 è cominciato con corsi di tutti i livelli e lezioni tutti i giorni, mattine e sere. La scuola offre ben 15 classi con alcune di queste al completo.

It was wonderful to see everyone here at the Dante in the past week, great to see many familiar faces back in class with much to talk about and all related in Italian… well, most of it!
A warm BENVENUTI to the new students attending our school for the first time, we look forward to getting to know you and to also chat with you in Italian.

CORSI Trimestre 1, 2023

	Monday *classes*	Tuesday *classes*	Wednesday *classes*	Thursday *classes*	Friday *classes*
Morning classes start at 10:00am	☐ L 4		☐ C e S	☐ L 5 ☐ C e S 1 ☐ C e S	☐ C e S
Evening classes start at 6:30pm	☐ L 4 ☐ C e S 2	☐ Elementare ☐ L 1 ☐ L 5	☐ L 2 ☐ L 3	☐ Elementare ☐ L 1 ☐ C eS 1 ((privata)	

CALENDARIO dei TRIMESTRI del 2023

TERM 1	TERM 2	TERM 3	TERM 4
23 January to 8 April	18 April to 24 June	11 July to 16 September	3 October to 9 December

We always have classes on public holidays, the school offers lessons on these days.
The calendar and enrolment form for courses in 2023 are now available on the website
www.dante-alighieri.com.au

Come sempre durante l'anno saranno offerte allettanti attività come per esempio:

Cineforum
Bookclub
Gastronomia
Conversazioni
Giornata d'immersione e quant'altro riusciremo a fare.

Ci farebbe molto piacere sentire qualche vostro suggerimento e le vostre idee su ciò che vi interessa.

What are your suggestions?
When are your preferred days / times for the extra-curriculum activities?
Let us know, we are ready to begin!

The school also offers private tuition. If attending classes is not a possibility, do ask at the office about private tuition. We can come to your place or other venues.

Cominciamo con i **CIRCOLI di CONVERSAZIONE**.
Questi sono gli orari e i giorni per il primo trimestre:
Livello AVANZATO dalle 15 alle 16:30
16 febbraio,
2, 16 e 30 marzo

Livello INTERMEDIO dalle 15 alle 16:30
23 febbraio
9 e 23 marzo

A.G.M.

Notice of Annual General Meeting of the Dante Alighieri Society Inc. Brisbane Friday, March 17 6:30pm – 7:00pm at the Dante Alighieri Cultural Centre 26 Gray Street, New Farm

Nominations for the 2023 Management Committee

Nominations are invited from members wishing to stand for election to the Management Committee of the Dante Alighieri Society Inc. of Brisbane. The two nominators and the nominee must be financial members. The term of office of elected members is for one year.
All nomination forms must be in the hands of the Secretary fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting (Rule 27); i.e. by Friday, March 3, 2023.

Nomination forms are available, on request, from the Dante office or at www.dante-alighieri.org.au

Executive Positions:
***President *2 Vice Presidents *Secretary *Treasurer**
Committee Members:
***Editor Dante News *Functions Co-ordinator *I.T. Co-ordinator *Membership Registrar *Promotions Officer *General Committee Members**

A survey is being conducted by the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Swinburne University of Technology, as part of a research project titled:
'Coping with COVID-19: Social Networks and Resilience in Australia's Italian-background Community'

Brief description:

'Existing research suggests that migrant and minority communities tend to be disproportionately affected by crises like the COVID-19 pandemic and that individual and community resilience in the face of such challenges is dependent on strong community networks, trust and mutual support. With this in mind, this survey explores how people in the Italian-Australian community have coped with the impact of COVID-19; what social networks and community support they have drawn on throughout the pandemic; and how government policies have impacted on patterns of social and community engagement and interaction.'

For more detailed information on the survey, or to complete it (in English or Italian), see https://swinuw.au1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0dpAr1wosVU4Olo .
Feel free to contact Dr Simone Battiston at sbattiston@swin.edu.au should you have any questions.

Please feel free to forward the information to anyone you know who may be interested in participating, and consider completing the (anonymous) survey if you are eligible – i.e. an adult Australian resident of Italian background. All contributions will be appreciated, as research surveys need a large number of respondents in order to be useful!

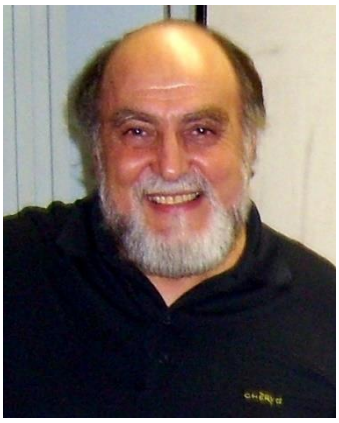
Auguri e Regali

You may recall that at the end of year dinner, *cena annuale*, the Brisbane DA Society also celebrated its' 70th anniversary with a brief timeline of the events that brought us where we are today. Moreover, we gave thanks to a number of people for their dedication and contribution to the Society and the school of the society during this period. Alas, a good number of people could not make the event, but they nonetheless participated in spirit.
We received many congratulatory missives sent to the present Committee from members and supporters unable to attend. The following excerpts from two in particular express sentiments that we greatly appreciated:

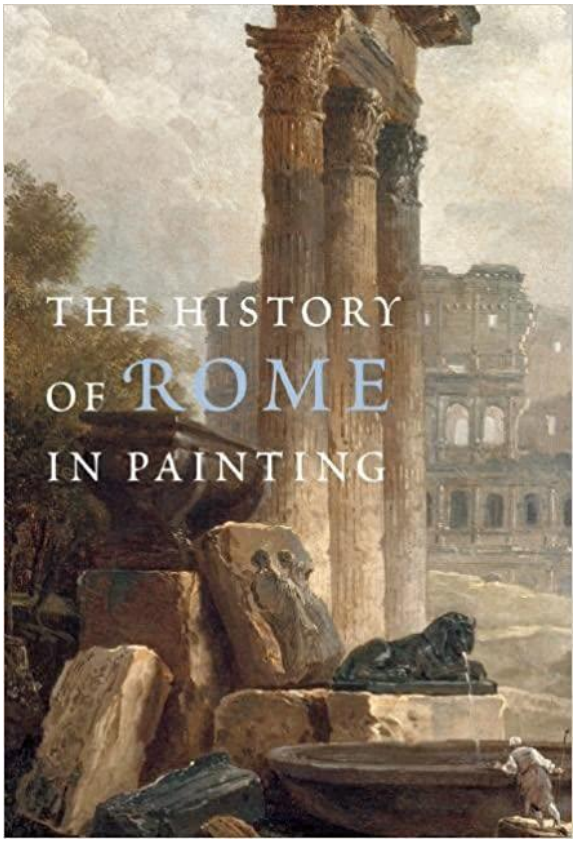
From Cavaliere Giovanna Santomauro, founding and current President of the Gold Coast Dante:

'*Congratulations to the Brisbane Dante Alighieri Society on achieving this wonderful milestone. I know it has been reached with the hard work, collaboration, passion and contribution of so many people over the years. I have fond memories of celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Brisbane Dante with a joint Dante National Conference held in Brisbane and on the Gold Coast. We thank the Brisbane Dante Society for their help in starting the Gold Coast Sede in June 1989. … I look forward to the years ahead with more of the Brisbane Dante Alighieri's achievements and our ongoing friendship. Buona serata! Giovanna*'

From Jean-Paul Loria, former School Director and President of the Brisbane Dante:



'*Please convey to Dante members my heartfelt wishes for a very successful get-together to celebrate 70 years of activity in Brisbane, looking towards even greater achievements in future years. Now, more than ever, there is a need in our world to develop harmonious relationships and a better understanding between people. I believe that through the teaching and learning of Italian language and culture our Dante Society has greatly contributed to reaching these goals. I will be with you in thought. Warm regards. Jean-Paul*'



In honour of the Brisbane DAS's 70 years, Margreet de Roos and Mila Zincone have donated a splendid book, *The History of Rome in Painting*, edited by Maria Teresa Caracciolo and Roselyne De Ayala (2011), which will be on display in our library.
One reviewer describes it as follows: 'Without a doubt, *The History of Rome in Painting* … is the most beautiful, best produced book I've ever seen.
The book features hundreds of very large, high definition pictures of art from and about the Eternal City. The accompanying text is illuminating; it discusses Rome from its earliest Etruscan beginnings through to the modern period'.

GRAZIE INFINITE A MARGE E MILA!

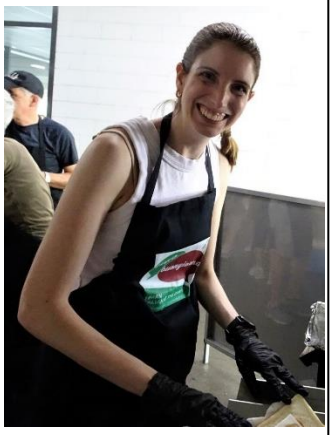
Un altro regalo

Sono disponibili i libri donati dalla Sede Centrale nell'ambito della iniziativa "La Dante per il libro italiano" .
La Dante Alighieri Brisbane ringrazia il Presidente Andrea Riccardi e il Segretario Generale Dott. Alessandro Masi per questa stupenda iniziativa che ci permette di arricchire le collezioni della nostra biblioteca.
Volete prenderli in prestito? È semplice, basta diventare soci della Dante
https://dante-alighieri.com.au/home/membership/

Questi sono alcuni dei libri nuovi che potete trovare in biblioteca.

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle – Saturday 11 March

This is an important e necessary fundraising activity for the Society: a sausage sizzle at Bunnings in Newstead.
If you can help out for a couple of hours, please get in touch with Mario (the Captain) mario@bono.id.au or with Bernadine info@dante-alighieri.com.au



And/or do drop in on the day to get a snag and say hello!

The weekend is a special time to dedicate to family and friends so, if you would like to assist the DAS but unable to be there in person, **please consider donating a Woolworths or Coles Gift card.**
We have to do all our purchasing (sausages, bread, soft drinks, and sauces) from two supermarkets so by cutting the expenses you would be contributing just as if you were there.

Thank you!

Another way to support the Society with fundraising is to purchase our merchandise. You could give it to a loved one as a gift or indeed gift it to yourself! All items we believe are useful e practical.

The bag and the cup are only $15 each and the magnet is $8.

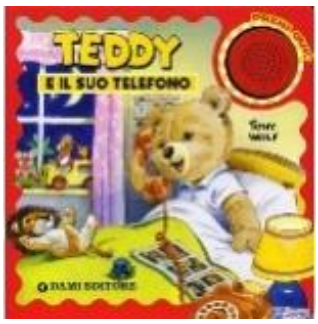
All available now!
Have a look at the display when you are at the Dante!

Dalla biblioteca

Cosa c'è di nuovo nella nostra biblioteca?

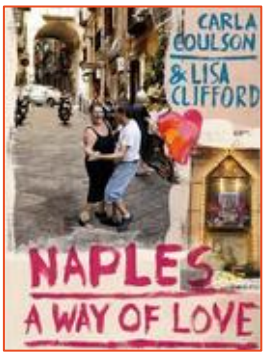
As a member of the Dante Alighieri Society, you are also a member of our library. So, what can our library provide for you? Well, that depends on your level of proficiency in the Italian language and interests.

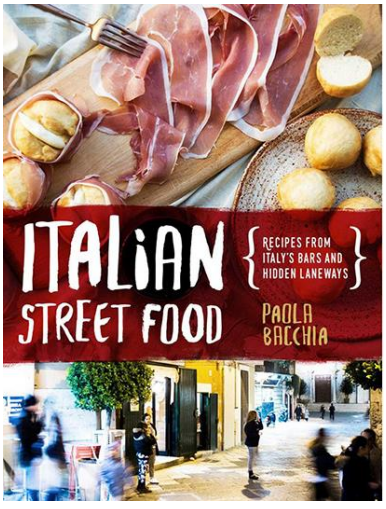
If you just beginning your journey in Italian, there are simplified Italian readers in the non-fiction section (Dewey decimal number 458). The teachers have more beginners' texts, accompanied by CDs. There are also comics in the fiction section and some beautiful books in the children's library. Sometimes the grammar in children's books can be a little difficult but the sentence structure and storyline are straightforward and have the added advantage of being short with pictures. I cut my teeth on the delightful *Teddy e il suo telefono*, written and illustrated by Tony Wolf. Despite his English-sounding pen name, Tony Wolf is Italian, born Antonio Lupatelli in Busseto, Emilia-Romagna. We also have a selection of Italian movies – entertaining and great for developing your ear for the rhythm of spoken Italian. A s your Italian improves, we have some wonderful short novels written for children but engaging for adults. *Il segreto del Bosco Vecchio* by Dino Buzzati is one such novel. Buzzati, graphic artist, novelist, short story writer and journalist, also wrote a number of novels for children. *Il segreto del Bosco Vecchio* is an allegorical tale about a General who wants to destroy an old forest for profit.



For those more confident Italian users, our fiction section provides a range of classic and modern novels. Some, such as the popular Montalbano books, are held in both Italian and English. It is interesting to see the decisions translators make. We have many winners of the Premio Strega, Italy's foremost literary prize, including last years' winner, the disturbing *La scuola cattolica* by Edoardo Albinati, an exploration of violence and masculinity focused on the 1975 Circea massacre.

But perhaps your interests can best be satisfied in our non-fiction section. For example, in the 700s, we have an extensive range of books on fine arts, the collections of Italy's great museums, on art movements and artists and exhibitions catalogues. In the 900s, you will find fascinating books on the geography, history and people of il Bel Paese. Here you can satisfy your voglia di viaggiare with sumptuous books such as *Naples, a Way of Love,* in which photographer Carla Coulson and writer Lisa Clifford explore that dazzling and contradictory city. Stop at 641.5 to enjoy our collection of luscious cookbooks in both English and Italian. Paola Bacchia's *Italian Street Food* leads you to out-of-the-way bars to sample food that can't be found outside of Italy – peach and basil gelato, anyone!





You can borrow whenever the Dante Rooms are open or browse our catalogue online at https://dante-alighieri.com.au/home/library/. We operate on honours system. Please fill out the book card clearly. You can borrow a book for a month and apply for an extension if needed. Return it to the box provided.

Volunteers are always welcome at our library.

If you enjoy accessioning, shelving, and labelling, and are available either Monday or Wednesday between 12 pm and 2pm, please drop in.

In the foyer is the Library Overflow.
These are culled books and you are welcome to take them.
A donation to the library is most welcome.

Happy Reading