#### **NEWSLETTER**

# CO.AS.IT.SA

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# COASIT Italian Community Volunteer Awards 2017

The 13th annual COASIT Italian Community Volunteer Awards were held on Tuesday 9th May 2017 at the Carrington Function Centre, an iconic venue for the Italian community in South Australia. The event was a huge success with over 300 attendees enjoying lunch, great music and joyful celebrations for the efforts of our community volunteers. Guest speakers and special attendees on the day included his Excellency the Governor of South Australia Hieu Van Le, Mrs Dana Wortley MP Member for Torrens, Ms Rachel Sanderson MP Member for Adelaide, Vincent Tarzia MP Member for Hartley and Antonio Accorso Vice Consul of Italy to South Australia. The appreciation shown by the mentioned special guests and other important members of the ageing, multicultural and volunteering community emphasised the value placed on the work done by all volunteers.

In total, 37 volunteers were nominated for awards, a tremendous effort on behalf of the Italian community. Special length of service recognition was given to longstanding volunteers that included Mrs Antonietta Battistella, Mrs Vincenza De Sanctis, Mrs Esterina Quarantiello, Mrs Carmela Di Maria, Mrs Lucia Menechella, Tina Morcombe, Maria Russo and Wanda Cavaiuolo. Life Membership was also awarded to Mrs Franca Antonello, of which more information is provided later in this newsletter.

The Youth Volunteer Award for 2017 was awarded to Mr Eddie Maio, who has been volunteering with PISA for 18 years. His role includes delivering meals to the elderly and he is dedicated to helping the community. He is

caring and conscientious, but it is his tireless dedication to the community that inspires others around him. COASIT is extremely proud recognise Eddie as a much deserving winner. The Volunteer of the Year Award 2017 was awarded to Mrs Genoveffa Paradiso, who has been volunteering with Bene Aged Care for the past 7 years. She volunteers weekly for church service at the Italian Village and dedicates her life, her heart and her time to assisting with the Catholic service for residents. Without revealing her age, Genoveffa is Bene's oldest volunteer and an inspiration for us all. She sets an example for all of us that anyone of any age can contribute to their community.

During the event, guests were serenaded by the wonderful sounds of the band 'Friends'. Many people got involved in their performance by showing off their moves on the dancefloor! In addition, the famous COASIT raffle saw around 30 lucky people win prizes donated by our fantastic sponsors. A huge thank you to all COASIT sponsors who made this possible by donating generously. Radio Italiana 531 and Radio Italia Uno Adelaide both broadcast live from the event on the day and COASIT thanks both radio stations for their support.

A final huge thank you to all of our special guests, sponsors, the Carrington Function Centre, volunteers, COASIT members and everyone else who helped make the day possible. COASIT again thanks all volunteers for their tireless work in the community and we look forward to celebrating again next year!







# COASIT Italian Community Volunteer Awards 2017 - PHOTOS































# COASIT Life Membership – Mrs Franca Antonello

At our recent Italian Community Volunteer Awards, Mrs Franca Antonello was awarded COASIT Life Membership and is one of only three people to have ever received the award. Franca commenced her career in 1979 as a Community Development Officer with the Thebarton Council. She was instrumental in leading the development of the Multicultural Dementia Respite Program with Domiciliary Care, the Thebarton Mensa Program and in conjunction with COTA organised the first Italian seniors lunch. Over the years Franca worked tirelessly with two Italian Regional Clubs, the Fogolar Furlan Club and the Veneto Club, to open their doors during the week and provide social activities for their aged members. In 1989, as part of the

Communities Multicultural Council aged care committee she was involved in establishing the Ethnic Link service. In 1998 she played in integral part in the development of the Italian Meals Service, where she was elected as Chair and held the position for 7 years. Franca was involved as a founding member of COASIT and had the honour of being president for over 10 years. The list of accolades and achievements includes an Order of Australia Medal in 1981 for her work towards providing welfare services to migrant communities. Franca has contributed greatly to the Italian community in so many ways and was a deserving winner of life membership and recognition by our community on the day. We are proud of Franca's achievements and congratulate her again!

## ATTENTION! ATTENZIONE!

Our newsletter will no longer be posted in hard copy!

We hope that you understand this decision will not mean the community becomes less informed. In fact, we anticipate that this will allow us to spend more time on delivering outcomes and allow us to work towards a greater online presence!

If you have any queries regarding this change please do not hesitate to email us at admin@coasitsa.org.au or call the COASIT office on 8223 3311 so that we may assist you.



# COASIT IS ON AIR!





Join us every first Tuesday of the month on RADIO ITALIANA 531 AM from 2.30-3.00pm!

### Rimani Informato!

Se avete bisogno di assistenza con questa pubblicazione in italiano si può contattare l'ufficio COASIT su 8223 3311. Aperto Lunedi, Martedi, Giovedi & Venerdi (9.30am - 2.30pm)



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The peak body for Italo – Australians in South Australia – advancing the wellbeing of ageing Italo-Australians with access to information, support, advocacy, services and programs that promote a fulfilling life.

### **COMPLIMENTS OR COMPLAINTS**

Your compliments or complaints help COASIT offer a high quality of service and we value every person who takes the time to offer us feedback.

How to communicate a compliment or complaint:

- Speak to your social support program Volunteer Coordinator
- Call COASIT directly and speak with a staff member on 8223 3311
- Call COASIT and request to speak to one of our staff members in person
- If you prefer, send us your feedback in writing

All compliments and complaints are important to us and can be made anonymously.

Our COASIT contact details are:

Phone: 8223 3311

Email: admin@coasitsa.org.au

 Address: 262a Carrington Street Adelaide SA 5000

All formal complaints must be made in writing to the email or postal details shown above. The COASIT Client Satisfaction Feedback Form also provides formal opportunity to provide this feedback.

All complaints are acknowledged in writing by COASIT.



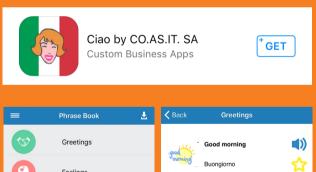
If you prefer to make an external complaint please contact the Aged Care Complaints Commissioner on:

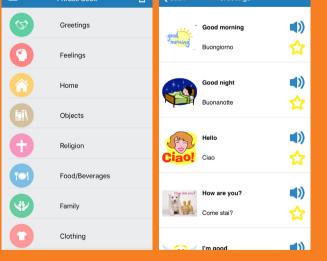
**1800 550 552** or visit their website for further information:

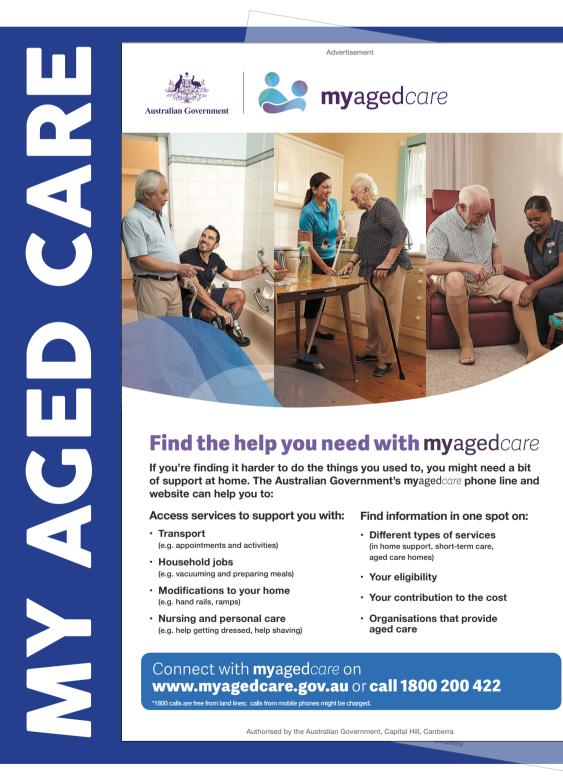
www.agedcarecomplaints.gov.au.



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