

# DECEMBER 2021

# MERRY CHRISTMAS!



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to our final newsletter for the year! This message is to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and blessed and relaxed festive season. I would like to thank our Staff and Volunteers and acknowledge the tremendous effort that you have put in over the last year - for your time and dedication to those in our Italian community.

*Merry Christmas!*

Benvenuti nella nostra newsletter finale dell'anno! Questo messaggio è per augurare a tutti un buon Natale e una felice stagione festiva. Vorrei riconoscere ancora una volta l'enorme sforzo che avete fatto nel corso dell'ultimo anno e ringraziare tutti voi per il vostro tempo e la vostra dedizione a quelli della nostra comunità italiana.

*Buon Natale!*



Tina Taddeo  
President  
Co.As.It. (SA)

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## VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Co.As.It (SA) had a fantastic Christmas lunch to celebrate our amazing Volunteers. Our organisation is assisted by approximately 50 volunteers so its lovely to be able to thank all the volunteers who have worked tirelessly and supported us throughout the year. We wouldn't be able to do it without their dedication and commitment.



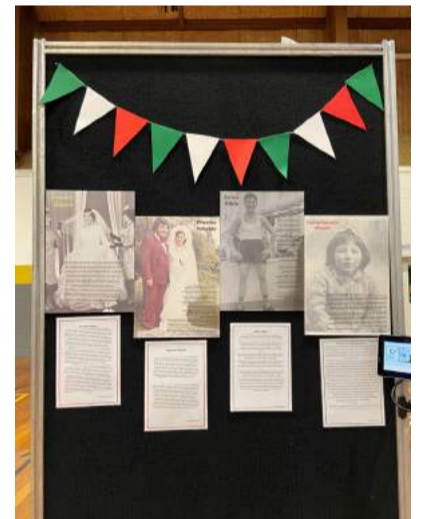
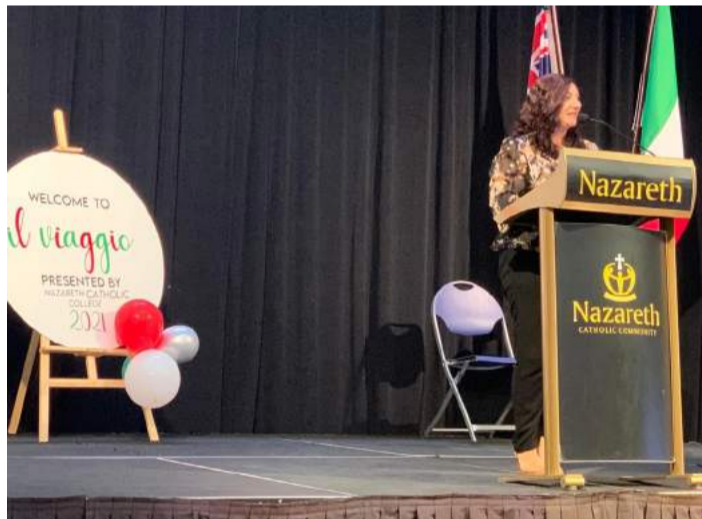
# IL VIAGGIO - ADELAIDE ITALIAN FESTIVAL

On November 19th 2021, Co.As.It. (SA) had the pleasure to be included in 'il viaggio' with Nazareth Catholic Community and Radio Italiana 531AM as part of the Adelaide Italian Festival 2021. Il Viaggio was an exhibition embracing Italian culture, migration stories, food and music where Year 9 & 10 students interviewed their grandparents and transcribed their stories of migration. Story boards were made up and displayed with each migration account as well as photos of their journey to Australia. It was wonderful to hear the personal

migration stories from guest speakers Ellie Librino and Gabriele Damiani.

Co.As.It. (SA) were honoured to be featured by describing where these migrants were now in 2021, which is socialising with friends, keeping their traditions alive by playing Italian games such as Bocce, Tombola, participating in exercise classes, sharing Italian meals and also volunteering and giving back to the community at many of the Co.As.It. (SA) Social Support Programs across Adelaide.

The event was attended by special guests Hon. Jing Lee MLC, Assistant Minister to the Premier, Mr Joe Szakcas MP, Mr Steve Georganas MP and Mr Ben Rillo, Chair of the Adelaide Italian Festival, and was broadcast live with Radio Italiana 531AM. This was a wonderful collaboration to celebrate the Italian culture and reminisce about each migrant's personal journey to Australia. Congratulations and a special thank you to Grace Gava and the team at Nazareth Catholic College who made the event a huge success!



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

On 16th November 2021, Co.As.It. (SA) Italian Assistance Association held its Annual General Meeting at Unit 3/215 Port Road, Hindmarsh.

We are proud to announce the election of the following Executive and Board Member positions

- President:** Tina Taddeo
- Vice President:** Joe Scalzi
- Treasurer:** Edmondo Palombo
- Secretary:** Gilda Campbell
- Board Member:** William Galimi
- Board Member:** Vicky Puleski
- Board Member:** Lina Scalfino

We would like to thank outgoing Board member and Treasurer Lisa Canale who has stepped down after serving 6 years on the Co.As.It (SA) Board of Management. We thank Lisa for her valuable contribution. We also welcome new Board Member Lina Scalfino and look forward to an exciting year ahead!



**Co.As.It. (SA) IS ON AIR!**



Join us every first Tuesday of the month on RADIO ITALIANA 531 AM from 2:30 - 3:00pm

**RUBRICA MENSILE DI Co.As.It. (SA)**

OGNI PRIMO SABATO DEL MESE ALLE ORE 10

conduce Andrea Planamente and Stefano Pratola






# Charter of Aged Care Rights

**All people receiving Australian Government funded residential care, home care or other aged care services in the community have rights.**

## **I have the right to:**

1. safe and high-quality care and services;
2. be treated with dignity and respect;
3. have my identity, culture and diversity valued and supported;
4. live without abuse and neglect;
5. be informed about my care and services in a way I understand;
6. access all information about myself, including information about my rights, care and services;
7. have control over and make choices about my care, and personal and social life, including where choices involve personal risk;
8. have control over, and make decisions about, the personal aspects of my daily life, financial affairs and possessions;
9. my independence;
10. be listened to and understood;
11. have a person of my choice, including an aged care advocate, support me or speak on my behalf;
12. complain free from reprisal, and to have my complaints dealt with fairly and promptly;
13. personal privacy and to have my personal information protected;
14. exercise my rights without it adversely affecting the way I am treated.

## **If you have concerns about the aged care you are receiving, you can:**

- talk to your aged care provider, in the first instance,
- speak with an aged care advocate on **1800 700 600** or visit **opan.com.au**, for support to raise your concerns, or
- contact the **Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission** on **1800 951 822** or visit its website, **agedcarequality.gov.au**. The Commission can help you resolve a complaint about your aged care provider.

# MEET THE CO.AS.IT (SA) VOLUNTEERS!

We would like to introduce our Co.As. It. (SA) Social Support Volunteers who give their time so generously to the Italian Community. Our volunteer of focus in this issue is Marisa La Bella, volunteer at Unley Mensa Social Support Group.

## What town / region were you born?

I was born in Adelaide, but both my parents lived in Italy until they migrated to Australia in the 1950's. They came from villages close to Naples, Benevento and Avellino.

## Who did you come to Australia with and/or who did you leave behind?

My father being the eldest male in his family (his father died during the war) left behind his mother and 5 siblings in Benevento. He travelled with friends to Australia and was met by my mother's brother and his wife who had migrated and settled in Adelaide in early 1952. My mother left behind her father and mother (Nonna passed away 3 years after mum left her homeland and she never saw her mother again). She also left behind her brother and sister-in-law (they eventually immigrated to Australia in the early 1960's along with her father). She travelled with her younger brother and several friends making the month-long journey. Several of the women, like my mother travelled to Australia to reunite with their husbands whom they had been apart from for some years.

## Was Australia what you expected it to be like? If not, what surprised you the most?

My father told me that it was very difficult for him and his friends (as some of their wives were still in Italy) in coping with their daily lives. They went to work, and when they returned home had to cook for themselves, wash their dirty work clothes and get food ready for their next workday. As they worked 7 days per week, they had little time to socialise, but he said that when they did get the opportunity to do so, they would enjoy quite a few "beers", playing cards or bocce.

Language was a huge barrier for both my parents and as there was no assistance from the Government, had to rely on family and friends to house and feed them until they were able to establish themselves. They both worked extremely hard (my father working 2 jobs) as my brother was born 10 months after mum arrived. Dad and Mum bought their first house a few years later in Parkside, close to family and friends and I was born there in 1958. A wonderful Italian community was established and I'm always amazed when listening the "old stories" of the battles they faced through much adversity and to their triumphs enabling them to establish successful, satisfying and enjoyable lives.

## What do you enjoy the most about volunteering at Unley Mensa?

I really enjoy the interaction amongst our volunteer group and knowing that we are providing a service that I had a small part in establishing whilst working with the City of Unley and that it has continued for over 30 years.

## Main reason for volunteering?

I enjoy helping people and feel a sense of pride in being able to give back to our community. We owe a great deal to our Italian pioneers who under much duress forged a better life for themselves and in turn ensured a great life for future generations.

## List a few words to describe yourself

Caring, happy, helpful, patient

## List a few words your friends would use to describe you

Loyal, hardworking, funny, enjoys a drink



**CO.AS.IT. (SA) WISH YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A SAFE AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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CO.AS.IT.SA

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