

40th anni giochi Newsletter

Anno II

Issue VIII

October 2018

Welcome back everyone and we hope that you all had a relaxing and enjoyable summer and feel recharged, ready for the year ahead.

Britain too, as I'm sure that you are all aware, basked in glorious sunshine with temperatures often hitting the high 30's.

The summer months are traditionally a quiet period in our communities social calendar with very little happening, nonetheless we still have The Club Sociale Italiano di Finchley's Scampagnata and The Italian Church's annual Procession and Sagra to report on.

Furthermore, for those of you who thought that we might enjoy a period of calm for the remainder of the year, we would like to remind you that our BGM will be

Welcome

taking place this month, during which we will elect the new committee for OGI 2020.



And this new committee will face an onerous task, for not only will it need to organise the next games but 2020 will also see us celebrating 40 years of OGI. 40 years during which, over 12,000 young people, not to mention their parents and many thousands of spectators, have experienced and enjoyed this unique event in our communities calendar.

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The committee will need to ensure that 2020 and the next 18 months is a celebration of our proud history. But we must also remember that for this to be possible, it will need the co-operation, support and help of all the teams, parents and competitors.

Club Sociale Italiano di Finchley Summer Scampagnata



Sunday the 8th July was exceptionally hot and sunny, so a perfect day to hold a scampagnata. And so it was that the Club Sociale Italiano di Finchley held their annual summer scampagnata in the grounds of The Villa Scalabrini.

In the kitchen were Gaetano, Romeo, Vince et al, all busy preparing the various plates of antipasti, not to mention the various legumes for the main meal. While Cos, the Finchley team manager was manning the BBQ in preparation for lunch. There were of course many other helpers, too numerous to mention, tasked with getting everything that was needed ready in anticipation for the arrival of the many guests.

And so it was that over 120 people turned up to enjoy both each others company, some delicious food while helping to raise money for worthwhile causes.



Once the meal was over, people could take part in a variety of it's a knockout style games or else they could just spend the rest of the day relaxing, enjoying some fine wine while catching up with friends.

By the end of the day £1600 was raised, which will be divided between the Finchley OGI team and The Alzheimer's Society.

So well done to all the Finchley committee members and their helpers who worked tirelessly throughout the day, to ensure that the event ran smoothly. A special thanks must also go to everyone who kindly donated items for the raffle and the sponsors; IMS Butchers, Maren Meats, Filippo Berio, Boffa's Greengrocers, Carnevale & DiSotto food for their generosity.



Italian Procession and Sagra



This years procession in honour of Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Sagra was held on Sunday 22nd July.

As in the past Italian associations and other people from across

the UK descended into Clerkenwell to take part in what has traditionally been the Italian communities curtain closer before everyone decamps and heads back to the motherland for their summer holidays.

This event was initially just a religious celebration, with the procession meandering its way around the streets of Clerkenwell or "Little Italy" as it used to be known. But as the years passed, the Sagra was introduced into the festival to help raise much needed funds for our church.

Initially the Sagra was located on the old bomb site in Warner Street, which also doubled as a car park during week days. When this was redeveloped at the end of the 80's the Sagra moved onto Warner Street itself, where it has remained since.

As well as the usual cake, tombola and bric a brac stalls, which one could find at most church fetes, what



set the Sagra apart from the rest, was the large number of stalls offering tasty fayre from across Italy. This early form of street food, plus the fact that you could enjoy a drink on a Sunday afternoon when pubs were traditionally closed, soon established the popularity of the Sagra not only with the Italians but the local populace too.

While the procession is no longer as long as it used to be, nor the number of visitors as great, many thousands of people still make their way each year to enjoy the colourful spectacle of the religious costumes, the floats, the marching bands and the food and drink.

For many years now, OGIC has had a stall at the Sagra, not to raise money but to promote the OGI games. This year however, in another first for us, we joined forces with the Associazione Valceno to help raise money for the Italian Church. The stall offered both food and drink and was manned by volunteers from both the Valceno and OGI committee and at the end of a busy day raised over £3000 for the church.

So well done to Adrian, Tony, Luciana, Francesca, Sandra and Mark for all their hard work.



Vic Heissl

"Do you know that a man is not dead while his name is still spoken"

Terry Pratchett



The 26th July 2018 was the second anniversary of the sad passing of one of our founding fathers, our first and then Honorary President and lifelong supporter of OGI.

His determination and zeal gave us the games and his memory will live on forever in them.

RIP Vittorio



The Quick Quiz

Another five questions to test your OGI knowledge. Answers in the next issue.

1. Who was the second President of OGI*?
2. In which year did the OGI send a team to Italy to compete in the Giochi della Gioventù?
3. Who first computerised the registration process?
4. What is the maximum number of individual events which a competitor may enter in OGI?
5. Which Italian bank once sponsored OGI?

Answers to the last quiz:

1. Theresa Wilson nee Morena 2. Bruno Besagni 3. Harrow & Wembley 4. White Horse Whisky 5. 1996

Forthcoming Events



Associazione Parmense Dinner & Dance

Are holding their fund raising dinner and dance on Saturday 6th. October 2018 at the Hilton London Kensington, 179-199 Holland Park Avenue, London W11 4UL.

Tickets are priced at £50.00 per person

For further information or to reserve a ticket please contact either Lou Sidoli on 07825 410514, or Franco Lusardi on 07939 286646.



Biennial General Meeting

Is being held on Friday 19th October 2018 at 19.30 in St. Peter's Italian Youth Club, 136 Clerkenwell Road, London EC1R 5DL.

All teams who have competed in the 2018 games, as well as any teams who wish to compete in the 2020 games are expected to attend.

The outgoing committee will present their report on this years games and the accounts for the assembly's approval. Any proposed constitutional or rule changes will also be discussed and voted on before the new committee is voted in.

Apart from those directly involved with the teams, parents are also welcome to attend and while they will not be able to vote on issues, they will have the opportunity to give



their views.

OGI Fundraising Golf Day

Hot on the heels of The Ryder Cup and following on from last years first and very successful golf day, a second fundraising golf day is now in the planning.

Scheduled to take place in the spring of next year, at the popular and prestigious Hadley Wood Golf Club, this promises to be an even bigger and better tournament.

Further information will follow for those wishing to compete but if anyone is interested with either sponsoring the event or donating prizes, please contact the OGIC for further information.



Information

If you would like further information on the OGI, you can either visit our web site at www.ogi-olympics.co.uk or email us at the address below.

Likewise, if you would like to contribute to this newsletter or would like us to promote your event, please email us at the address below:

ogic@ogi-olympics.co.uk