



August Newsletter 2011

Dates to Remember:

25th August: FerraDOC party

1st September: Overseas
Information Night

24th September: Last day of
Term 3

3rd-7th October: Spring
Intensive Course

10th October: Term 4 starts

La frase del mese

“Ama tutti, credi a pochi e non
fare del male a nessuno”

(W. Shakespeare)

Ciao a tutti!!! Welcome to Term 3. We hope that you are enjoying your classes so far and are speaking lots of Italian!!!! Did you know that from NOW on, you can attend as many extra classes as you wish at no extra charge?? Pick up a timetable from the office to find out which classes you can come to!

Remember: practice makes perfect! And talking about practising... why not come along to our **Conversation Classes!** We offer them every week, twice a week! For more details, turn to page 4.

In this edition of the newsletter, read about our students' study-holidays in Italy. If you are thinking about following their footsteps, come to our free **Overseas Information Night** on Thursday 1st September! For more information in regards to these fabulous experiences, turn to page 2.

This month, every Italian is celebrating **Ferragosto**, and so are we! To find out what Ferragosto is and to participate in our fantastic Ferragosto dinner at DOC, please turn to page 3.

Plus, challenge yourself with our “puzzle linguistici” on page 4!

Grazie and remember that if you have any suggestions, ideas or problems, you can contact one of our staff members at any time!

Ciao ciao

News from CIS Bookshop

Book of the MONTH

If you are finding Italian grammar a challenge, why not purchase:

“Italian Grammar Drills” (Paola Nanni-Tate)

Price: \$29.00

- ◆ ***Gain confidence in your Italian grammar skills***
- ◆ ***Review all Essential Grammar Areas***
- ◆ ***Practice with more than 200 Exercises***

STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES OVERSEAS

Sicily and Urbania, May 2011

Our plan was hatched in one of Nancy's level 6 Wednesday morning classes. Jane and I would escape our families for a few weeks in May 2011 and head to Italy in an attempt to improve our Italian.

Recommendations from fellow students led us to Scuola Italia in Urbania but before that, we decided to sweeten the deal with a cooking course in Modica, Sicily, significant for its fabulous Baroque architecture and delicious cuisine.

Fellow student, Melinda Osbourne's suggestion was a cooking program from 'LoveSicily', run by Katia Amore and her business partner, Angelo Sangiorgio (www.lovesicily.com).

Our home for 6 days was a beautifully restored apartment in the historic heart, accessed by a steep and lengthy staircase, but as a reward, offering fabulous views over the hilly Baroque town.

We were spaciously accommodated with a bedroom and bathroom each, with a magnificent kitchen for the cooking classes, opening to the balcony where we ate the meals we created during the course. How we suffered!

When we weren't attending cooking classes we were touring the countryside and towns of southeast Sicily with Angelo as our very amusing guide and driver. Noto, Ragusa, Siracusa, Cava d'Ispica were all on the agenda with almost a whole day spent following the footsteps our favourite Italian TV personality, Inspector Montalbano, filmed in the area.

At other times we visited an organic winery, Locanda Gulfi; a farm producing top-quality olive oil (Mastri di San Basilio 1888 www.san-basilio.com complete with a professional oil-tasting class; and Azienda Agricola Pianogrillo, a farm producing olive oil and Sicilian black pigs for salami.

Just in case we were still hungry, there were also the restaurants. Locally, Osteria dei Saporì Perduì, for traditional Sicilian food; and Dolceria Bonajuto, where we saw how the famous Modican chocolate is made.

After feasting and exploring for a week we left the gorgeous Sicilian weather, delightful hosts and the abundant spring wild-flowers ('fiori di maggio') behind and flew to Ancona. After a long and arduous day of travel, we finally arrived in Urbania (pop. 7,000) where for the first and only time of our trip, it was pouring!

Our home for two weeks was a very spacious 3rd floor apartment overlooking Piazza di San Cristoforo where all the 'anziani' gathered every day in the sunshine and discussed the affairs of the world.

For the next two weeks we spent our weekdays in classes.

The morning classes with Corinna or Barbara were excellent, a long conversation to begin, followed, with grammar and exercises, sometimes games, in Italian, and more conversation.

The afternoons comprised further conversation classes often in delightful historic places or outdoors at Barco Ducale, or an Italian film followed by a discussion.

Twice-weekly excursions took in Urbino and the Palazzo Ducale, Piobbico's Castello di Duca Brancaleone, the Chiesa dei Morti and the Teatro Garibaldi in Urbania, all conducted in Italian, the tour guides obviously well-primed by Scuola Italia to speak clearly, not too fast and to engage us in conversation.

Our memorable last excursion was to visit S. Angelo in Vado to view a recently uncovered Roman 'domus' with extraordinarily intact mosaic floors.

In the evenings we were never bored, often spending a quiet hour or so at Osteria Vin Italy watching the world go by, reading the death notices for locals on the posters pasted on the wall of the cathedral, relaxing with a glass of the local 'bianchetto' wine and a plate of bar snacks while witnessing the odd traffic 'incidenti' before heading home to cook dinner and do our homework.

On occasions we 'dined out', at Café Doddo on 'lumache' (recommended) and where Doddo himself plied us with homemade banana liqueur (NOT recommended), at Il Cucco where every dish was decorated with flowers from the garden of the owner and a little way out of town to Ricavata, an agriturismo in a centuries-old mill with a set menu of absolutely sublime food. Our sandwich weekend was spent on a most enjoyable car tour to medieval Gubbio, Spoleto and Assisi, overnighting in an Umbrian agriturismo and winery.

Goodbyes said to everyone at the school, Roberto Ferri included (of Ci Siamo fame) and our fellow student, CIS student, Helen Edwards, we then headed off to Rome for a fabulous few days before returning home to families and winter.

And yes, we think our Italian improved and we'd both recommend Scuola Italia to brush up your language skills and Urbania as a beautiful small town in which to stay or to use as a base for exploring Le Marche and Umbria.

A magnificent and highly enjoyable interlude was Sicily: the cooking class, scenery, history, architecture, cuisine and people leaving us hungry for more. Well, there's always next year!

Bea Donkin & Jane Hedditch (with thanks to CIS and Louisa for her assistance in organizing our stay in Urbania)

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To find out more about our study- holidays in Italy, you are all invited to attend our free Information Night on Thursday 1st September at 7.45pm here at CIS! Come along and enjoy a glass of wine while listening to our students present their fabulous experiences!

Che cos'è il FERRAGOSTO?

Il termine Ferragosto deriva dal latino **Feriae Augusti**, che significa riposo di Agosto. Indica una festa popolare, dalle radici antichissime, che si svolgeva il 15 agosto per festeggiare la fine dei principali lavori agricoli. Nell'occasione, i lavoratori porgevano auguri ai padroni, ottenendo in cambio una mancia; tale festa era tipicamente romana, tanto che in età rinascimentale fu resa obbligatoria dai decreti pontifici.

Agli inizi dell'età imperiale (18 a.C.) tali ferie vennero ribattezzate come "Augustali", in onore dell'imperatore Ottaviano Augusto, da cui deriva l'attuale denominazione del mese di agosto. Nel corso dei festeggiamenti, in tutto l'impero si organizzavano corse di cavalli e gli animali da tiro (cavalli, asini e muli) venivano dispensati dal lavoro e agghindati con fiori e ornamenti.

Tali antiche tradizioni rivivono oggi, pressoché immutate nella forma e nella partecipazione, durante il celeberrimo "**Palio dell'Assunta**" che si svolge a Siena il 16 agosto. Questo, coincide con la festa cattolica della dormizione e assunzione di Maria (madre di Gesù).

Tradizione tipicamente italiana, assente negli altri paesi europei, il Ferragosto è visto come giorno dedicato alla vacanza, al relax e al mare, senza dimenticare le tradizionali gite fuori porta verso località montane o collinari, in cerca di refrigerio.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO CELEBRATE FERRAGOSTO LIKE A REAL ITALIAN? COME ALONG TO OUR

FerraDOC party!!!

Il Ferragosto al D.O.C! Come along and celebrate the italian summer with us!

QUANDO:..... **GIOVEDÌ 25 AGOSTO**

DOVE: **D.O.C.** (295 Drummond Street, Carlton)

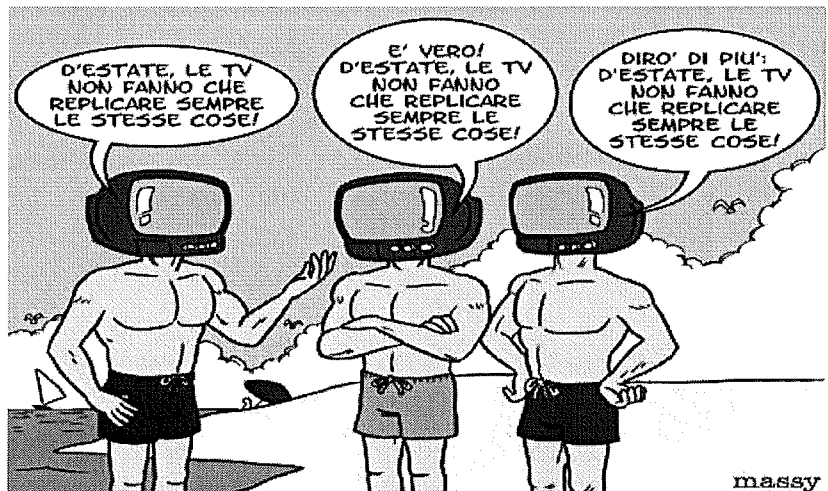
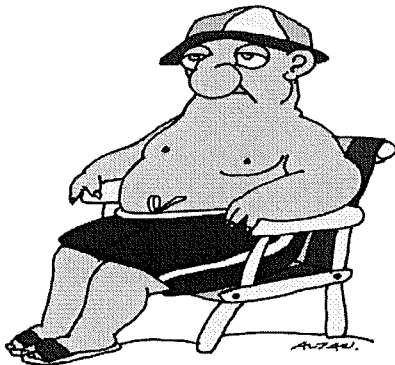
ORA: **7.30 pm**

COSTO: **\$35** (Please register and pay at the office before the **22nd August**)

INCLUDES: **antipasto, pizze, insalate miste e caffè'** (bibite non incluse)

DON'T FORGET TO WEAR SOMETHING COLOURFUL!!!

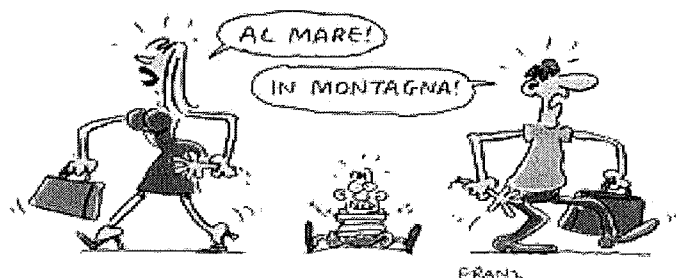
UNA GUERRA OGGI, UNA DOMANI,
E L'ESTATE È BELLA CHE FINITA.



LOVE BOAT



LE VACANZE RIUNISCONO LA FAMIGLIA



PUZZLE LINGUISTICI

PROVERBIO: Prova ad annagrammare questa frase senza senso per ricostruire un famosissimo proverbio italiano:
ecceda mi ringhi spolpino

...ma il **GATTO**, come fa a diventare **PESCE**?!

MODI DI DIRE....

G	A	T	T	O
P	E	S	C	E

- **Tutti i nodi vengono al pettine.**
 "All the knots come to the comb."

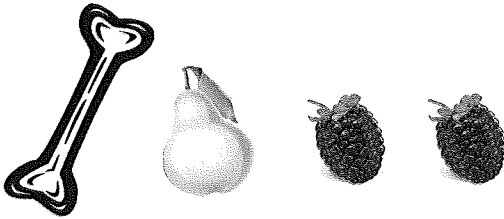
Meaning sooner or later our misdeeds catch up with us and we have to face up to put-off difficulties.
 Grammatically we see the irregular verb "venire" (to come) in action...

io vengo	noi veniamo
tu vieni	voi venite
lei viene	loro vengono

- **La famiglia è la patria del cuore.**
 "Your family is the homeland of your heart."

Would you be able to solve this **REBUS**?

COMM



This Italian saying gives us a good example of the contracted preposition. When you put "di" before "il cuore" the "di" and "il" blend together to make "del". This happens with **a, da, di, in** and **su** when they go before any definite article (Italian for "the" - il, lo, la, l', i, gli, le) - the two blend together. So just using di as an example you get...

di + il = del	di + l' = dell'	di + gli = degli
di + lo = dello	di + i = dei	di + le = delle
di + la = della		

Conversation Classes



Students in Levels 5 to 8 (intermediate/advanced) are invited to attend conversation classes.

Every Wednesday at 7.45 to 8.45pm
 with vino e formaggio

Every Thursday morning at 11.45 to 12.45
 with biscotti e caffè!

Students participating are asked to book at the office **1 week before** the class to be able to collect class notes.



My Italian Closet sells 100% Made in Italy hosiery, lingerie and clothing.

The Closet only promotes those authentic Italian labels that do not mass-produce and do not compromise on the quality of textiles & manufacturing.

If they are still out there, The Closet will find them!

The Closet has just opened its retail doors @

<http://stores.ebay.com.au/myitalianclosethosieryandtops>

We invite you all to indulge yourselves!

Just mention that you are a CIS student, and you will receive **15% discount or cash back** on all purchases!

To find out more about The Closet, visit www.myitaliancloset.com.au

Join us for some Italian fashion and culture *chiacchierata* on our

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/myitaliancloset>

Ciao Ciao, a presto,
 The Closet