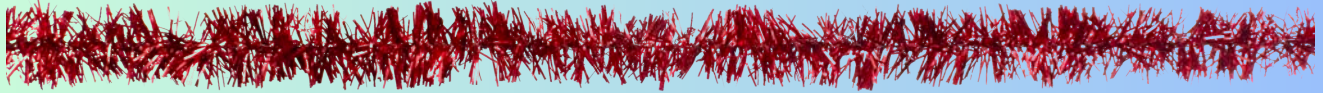


A.C.C.A. NEWSLETTER



December 2024 Edition

Welcome to the second edition of the Australian Calabrese Cultural Association (ACCA) newsletter. As mentioned in our first issue, we plan to publish updates periodically to keep members informed of the Association's activities.

We would also like to wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas filled with love, laughter, and the warmth of togetherness. As we reflect on the year gone by, we are grateful for the vibrant spirit and dedication each of you brings to our cultural community. Here's to celebrating our shared heritage and looking forward to another year of connection and growth.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!



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CELEBRATING SUCCESS, BUILDING THE FUTURO: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTE



Cari amici,

Thanks to you, 2024 was an extraordinary year of events, tradition, and Calabrese pride. Together, we celebrated our successes, from the “Calabrese dell’Anno” award to the many cultural moments that bring us together.

We are highlighting all the good and positive attributes of the Calabrese community in Australia.

With your continued support, 2025 promises to be even richer with new progetti and initiatives for our community.

Wishing you and your families a Buon Natale and a Happy New Year!
With gratitude,

Pat (Pasquale) Rocca , on behalf of the all directors



A DIRECTOR’S DIALOGUE & INSIGHT



The highlight of my year has been participating in the Diaspore Italiana conference that ran from December the 5 to the 7th in Genoa. The conference was co-hosted by Genoa and the Museums of Italian emigration and the Galata Museum as well as museums in Brazil and COASIT.

I gave a presentation titled “growing up Calabrese in Australia—contesting the negative stereotype of Calabrese in the media in Australia. The paper outlined, amongst other things, the projects undertaken by ACCA since its inception in order to contest that negative stereotype.

The conference was widely attended and there were about 90 presenters over the 3 days. I am pleased to say that the delegates were very interested in ACCA after my presentation, and I had some very stimulating discussions with delegates from the US and Canada as well as from Italy. Hopefully there will be publication of the papers in due course.

The conference confirmed my view that there is a great opportunity to connect with organisations in the other countries, because what emerged is that there were common issues confronted by immigrants in the various countries. Marco Fede was representing COASIT at the conference and he expressed an interest in discussing the contents of my paper. Hopefully that will take place in 2025.



VINCENT MORFUNI KC

2024: A YEAR OF REFLECTION AND ACCOMPLISHMENT

- 2024 Calabrese of the Year
- Organising the Italea Calabria pavilion at the Italian Festa
- Pancetta Making Demonstration
- Multicultural Leader's Forum
- Sono Calabrese series of Interviews
- Launching of our new website: www.accaonline.com.au



As many of our readers will know, 2024 has been an incredibly busy and rewarding year for ACCA.

Beyond the events mentioned above, we were honoured to be invited by the Regione to assist in organising the Turismo Dei Radici promotion alongside the Festa Italia. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of both ACCA and ICCI, the event was a resounding success. We're optimistic that ACCA will be entrusted with organizing a similar event in 2025.

2024 has solidified ACCA's position as the leading cultural association for the Calabrese community in Australia, and we're determined to build on this success. We look forward to an even bigger and brighter 2025.



2025: A YEAR OF GREATER OPPORTUNITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We're excited to make 2025 an even more remarkable year! In addition to our beloved annual events, we have big plans and new possibilities on the horizon that we would like to share with you:

- Planning for a Calabria Festival, in October 2025 alongside Festa Italia! This vibrant celebration will highlight Calabria's rich culture with live music, dramatic performances by contemporary artists, and a mouthwatering feast of Calabrian cuisine. Experience authentic dishes crafted by talented chefs and discover the beauty of Calabria through tourism. If there's enough support, we may even expand the event to other states!
- We're planning another spectacular Gala to honour the Calabrese of the Year! Know someone who truly embodies our community's spirit? Nominate them for this prestigious award!
- Know an outstanding young Calabrese who's made a mark? Share their story with us and help us celebrate their achievements!
- Announcing plans for our third international conference, set for September 2025! Be sure to stay tuned for the 'Save the Date' announcement coming your way shortly after the New Year—this will be an event you won't want to miss!
- Tune in to the "Sono Calabrese" series on Il Globo TV, where community members share their stories in a relaxed, unfiltered format. Plus, enjoy exciting podcasts featuring captivating guests, including an author uncovering the mystery of Sybaris and a renowned Calabrian entertainer!
- We're seeking funding for research into the rich history of the Calabrese community in Australia, aiming to preserve and share the stories that have shaped our legacy.
- We're planning to host a virtual meeting between Australian importers and Calabrian producers to explore exciting products for the Australian market. In collaboration with the Italian Chamber of Commerce, we aim to foster connections and create lasting partnerships.



SNIPPETS OF CALABRIAN CULTURE



Looking for a great read this Christmas?

Check out Pino Aprile's *Il Nuovo Terroni* (2024), which re-examines the impact of Italy's Unification on the South. Challenging the official narrative, Aprile argues that the North's invasion, aided by England and France, destroyed the Kingdom of Two Sicilies. The book uncovers atrocities committed by the Northern army and exposes how history was manipulated to suppress the South's true story. With lessons for Australia, it also challenges the negative stereotypes of Calabrians and Southern Italians that still persist today.



A must-read for anyone interested in Italy's history and migration.

If anyone has doubts about its authenticity, then you should read the Ferry Report of 1925 to the Queensland Government:

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/19580163.pdf>

and the paper titled "Olive or White? The Colour of Italians in Australia" which includes a Poem "the Dago Menace" which was published in the Bulletin in 1912.

https://www.api-etwork.com/main/pdf/scholars/jas77_andreoni.pdf

TRIVIA QUESTION



Who was the first Italian to win an academy award?

ANSWER: Tony Gaudio who won it for cinematography in the 1936 film "Anthony Adverse" directed by Mervyn Le Roy. Born Gaetano Antonio Gaudio in Celico, Cosenza, Italy in 1883 to a famous photographic family. His first film was "Napoleon Crossing the Alps" in 1903, and he eventually shot hundreds of short subjects for Italian film companies before moving to the US in 1906.



This is another lesser-known fact about the positive impact Calabrians have had in every country they've called home.

FEEDBACK & MEMBERSHIP



ACCA is here for you! We want to know what excites you and what you'd like to see us pursue. Reach out to us – drop a line at; info@accaonline.com.au

ACCA is excited to welcome new members, especially those eager to bring fresh perspectives from women and younger voices to our board. Join us today by visiting our membership page at <https://accaonline.com.au/membership/>