



UNIONE TICINESE
FONDATA A LONDRA NEL 1874
SEZIONE AUTONOMA DELLA PRO TICINO

MARCH 2019

Dear Members

I hope that those of you who attended the 145th anniversary dinner on 9th February will agree with me that it was a superb evening. For those who sadly could not be there, I will give you a brief overview of it.

We had representatives of the original members' families as well as descendants of other 'old' Anglo-Ticinese families; but there were also a good number of people who have settled in the UK in recent decades and others who have more recently discovered their Ticinese roots.

Our Ambassador and Honorary President, HE Alexandre Fasel, and Mrs Nicole Fasel-Rossier were our guests of honour, together with Granconsigliere Bixio Caprara; Giampiero Gianella, Vice-President of Pro Ticino; and Manuela Bechtiger-Salvadè, Pro Ticino's secretary. They came from Switzerland especially for the occasion.

After an aperitif served in the Embassy's lobby, we gathered in the lecture theatre, adorned with the Society's much-loved 1924 silk banner, to listen to the Ambassador's welcome, which included reassuring words about the post-Brexit relationship between Switzerland and UK.

The dinner that followed was accompanied by copious quantities of Ticinese wine from the house of Valsangiacomo in Mendrisio, and each course of the meal was named after a celebrated Ticinese restaurateur in London. Before the dessert, Bixio Caprara gave us an overview of the Sports Centre in Tenero, of which he is the CEO, and he also brought us, via video link, greetings from the Secretary of the Swiss Foreign Office, Ignazio Cassis.

This was followed by a toast to the guests from Mr Fasel; a toast to the Unione Ticinese from Manuela Bechtiger; and a few words from Giampiero Gianella who, on behalf of Pro Ticino, presented the Unione with a medal to commemorate Ticino's 200 years of independence.

Granconsigliere Caprara brought us on video the Swiss Foreign Minister's greetings. At the end of the meal Mrs Fasel drew the winning tickets in a raffle, with prizes that included Swiss railway tickets, a luxurious hamper and a special edition Victorinox pen knife. All the events took place to the accompaniment of Ticinese tunes played by the duo Rolando and Lorenzo from Locarno, and music and dancing continued until well after 11 pm, with grappa generously provided by the Ambassador. All the guests received a well-stocked goody bag kindly donated mostly by Migros with some other little presents as they departed.



UNIONE TICINESE
FONDATA A LONDRA NEL 1874
SEZIONE AUTONOMA DELLA PRO TICINO

2019 CALENDER

We are now looking at the year ahead and have the following events for your diary (some subject to confirmation):

- Thursday 4th April: lecture in Locarno by Peter Barber to the Anglo-Swiss society.
- Saturday 27th April: AGM at the Embassy.
- Thursday 9th or Thursday 16th May: Possible outing to Waddesdon Manor, Ascot Wing or Moor Park (Peter Barber will confirm the date and venue).
- Weekend of 27/28 July: Gatti weekend at the Canal Museum (not a UT event but very interesting for our community nevertheless).
- Sunday 15th September: possible outing to Eltham Palace or a walk to places associated with Ticinesi in London, led by Peter Barber.
- Saturday 19th October: Castagnata at the Swiss Embassy.
- Saturday 8th February 2020: anniversary gathering with possible lecture on the history of the Unione Ticinese, given by Peter Barber.



Some of the members of the committee in front of our flag



UNIONE TICINESE
FONDATA A LONDRA NEL 1874
SEZIONE AUTONOMA DELLA PRO TICINO



The room before we invaded it.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Thank you very much to all those who have moved their payments to January. If you have not yet done so, will you please send us your subscriptions payment of £25.00 now and change the payment to January for next year.

If paying by bank transfer, please use your name as the payment reference and ensure you are not using one of the old accounts. Our bank details are:

Sort Code: 30-64-57
Account no.: 46005060
Account name: Unione Ticinese

For members banking outside UK:

BIC Code: LOYDGB 21673
IBAN: GB61 LOYD 3064 5746 005060



UNIONE TICINESE
FONDATA A LONDRA NEL 1874
SEZIONE AUTONOMA DELLA PRO TICINO

If you pay your subscription by cheque, please make it payable to “Unione Ticinese” and send it to:

Stella Eusebio
Membership Secretary
34 Ditton Hill Road
Long Ditton
KT6 5JD

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, which will make life much easier for our hard-working Membership Secretary and Treasurer.

Thanking you all for your continued support,

Rita Day-Giullo, President.