



FESTA FEAST FOR 2009

The 2009 Swiss Italian Festa will provide a feast of great activities and community celebrations from the 9th to 18th of October this year.

Rob McDonald Committee President stated “Following feedback on various aspects of the Festa the organising Committee decided late last year to shift it to October this year. This decision was taken after discussion with some of the key participants including the schools and some local organisations.”

“This year’s Festa theme is “Tutto il Mondo e’ Paese – the whole world is one big town”. This recognises our heritage links not only with swiss-italian cultures but with other cultures and local residents from many parts of the world.”

Established in 1992, the Swiss Italian Festa this year will include many past activities as well as new and improved activities. “It is important to keep reviewing a festival to ensure that it is vibrant and enjoyed by our local community as well as the many visitors who come along” added Rob McDonald.

Activities being planned include: the traditional street parade, involvement of local schools and other groups, recognition of heritage through photos and written means, art and music events, sporting events, a concert, fireworks, food and wine themes and the very popular lantern parade.

“The changed timing also takes into account the problems with cold and wet weather we have often experienced which has affected numbers attending and sometimes spoilt the experience. A number of our activities are outdoor based and hopefully October will provide better weather.”

“The changed dates will also allow direct coordination with the Fabulous Flower Festa which will take place following the Swiss Italian Festa. We also hope to link in with the Melbourne International Arts Festival which our dates will tie in with.”

The Swiss Italian Festa Committee welcomes feedback from the community and the valuable help of volunteers. The Committee may be contacted via its email address of

info@swissitalianfesta.com or by contacting Committee members: Rob McDonald, Maria Viola, Adrian Tinetti, Jenny Beacham, Eddy Beacham, Ben Annison, Paul Clempson, Hal Swerissen and Victor Szwed.

For further information contact: Rob McDonald President PH 5348 6626 or Victor Szwed Communications PH 5348 2200. 15th January 2008.