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INAUGURAL EDITION

Reunion plans are

being made for the first family gathering of descendants and relatives of the Diviani and Brentini families who originated from the villages of Campello and Calpiogna in the Leventina Valley

The projected date is 1 August 2003, to coincide with the Swiss National Day and the bicentenary of Ticino joining the Swiss Confederation.

A weekend gathering with National Day celebrations will be augmented with a display of photographs, family memorabilia and an opportunity for you to meet with descendants of the families from all over the World.

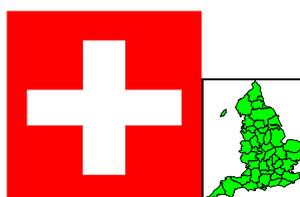
There are Divianis as far apart as Argentina and Australia and Brentinis in USA, as well as the UK contingents of both families. I have compiled a substantial computer database of family information that can be consulted to draw a family tree for you and you are very welcome to bring your information to add to the contents.

Will **you** and your family be there?

I hope so.

Accommodation details are not yet finalised but there are small hotels in Campello, Calpiogna and Faido and other hostel type accommodation in Cari. There is a campsite near Faido.

Early enquiries regarding attendance at the Reunion are invited.



Immigration

The earliest recorded information about the Diviani and Brentini families in England starts in the mid 1850's.

The 1851 Census records Maria Brentini (nee Diviani) living with her husband Antonio Brentini and their children Domenico, Filomena and Angelica at 13 Kirby Street, Holborn, London. This street is in the heart of the area known as "Little Italy" so named after the large number of Italian speakers living in the vicinity.

Maria and her husband probably arrived around 1846 as Domenico her eldest child, then aged 5, was entered on the Census as being born in London.

Their household also consisted of Antonio's brother Giacomo and 3 Brentini cousins, plus other male members of families from the Leventina Valley who were all Looking Glass Frame Makers.

There was also a Chestnut dealer and a street musician from Lombardy resident in the house.

What's

next?

 The next issue of

this newsletter will be produced early next year and will include more information about the families all over the world and perhaps a profile of **YOU!**

If you would like to submit a photograph and a short paragraph regarding yourself. I will try and feature it in the newsletter. Who knows, in 2003 people who you have never met before may be able to recognise you and introduce themselves to you as a long lost cousin!

Who am I?

I'm Corrinne Goodenough (nee Diviani) and I am passionately interested in the history of both the Diviani's and Brentini's and the culture in Switzerland. I started researching my own family tree about seven years ago and found that the families had intermarried so much that it was difficult to deal solely with one without including the other. I am registered with the Guild of One Name Studies in England to research the name of Diviani worldwide.

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