
The Times of Campello

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The Wandering Divianis

Carlo Giuseppe Diviani (born 1798) [of the Pociga branch of the family] and **Maria Margherita Brentini** (born 1808) were married in the church of St Atanasio, Calpiogna on 2 June 1829. Their third son Giuseppe **Giovanni** (born 1833) probably left Campello in the late 1850's and travelled to London where he appeared in the 1861 Census along with his brother **Maurizio** and his cousin **William** Diviani at 428 Euston Road. All of these were listed as being Confectioners.

Giovanni's and **Maurizio's** eldest brother **Clemente** was shown in this 1861 census at 5 Mile End Road along with **Gaudenzio** Diviani again both of them shown as Confectioners. **Gaudenzio**, who was featured in the last newsletter, was to change his occupation to that of Photographer by the end of the decade

In 1861 living at 426 Euston Road was 16 year old **Sarah** O'Doherty a tobacconist's assistant born in Bradford. By the end of 1863 **Giovanni and Sarah** were married probably at the Spanish Place Chapel.

Also in London in 1863 was **Maria Carlo Giuseppe Antonio** (known as **Antonio**) Diviani. He came from the Teresa branch of the family being the second son of **Giuseppe Maria** Diviani and **Rosa Madalena** Urietti. He was also a distant cousin to **Giovanni**.

Antonio married **Elizabeth** Butler on 15 September 1863 at the Spanish Place Chapel where one of the witnesses was a John Sheil O'Doherty, perhaps he was a brother to Sarah Jane?

The other witness to their marriage was **Ellen** Healand who was to marry **Gaudenzio** Diviani in 1867.

Until recently nothing more was known of the life of **Antonio** and his wife **Elizabeth** as there were no christening records for any children, nor death entries for them in either Campello or England. However whilst researching on the Internet I chanced across an entry for **Antonio** and **Elizabeth** Diviani together with a **John (Giovanni)** and **Sarah** Diviani shown on a shipping passenger list bound for New Zealand in 1863!

Further research is ongoing and indicates that **Antonio** and his wife **Elizabeth** received assistance and remained in New Zealand. **Giovanni** and **Sarah** returned to London where their first child **Margherita** (who was born in New Zealand) was christened at the Italian Church in Clerkenwell on 3 August 1866.

Giovanni and **Sarah's** sons **Maurizio** (1867) and **Charles** (1869) were born in London whilst their third



Charles Diviani
born 1869

and fourth sons **Guglielmo** (1871) and **Roberto** (1873) were born in Faido. **Giovanni** died in London in August 1874 and **Roberto** died in December 1876 just before his fourth birthday.

The story shows that even 150 years ago members of the Campello community were adventurous in travelling to new countries to forge new lives for themselves and their families. This pioneering spirit may explain why their descendants are scattered far and wide over the world today.

Reunion 2003

Some of us have a colourful and extensive knowledge of our Swiss ancestry whilst others are still trying to find our origins or fit snippets of information into a much larger jig-saw. The 2003 reunion hopes to enhance and further this knowledge and family relationships and provide material for visitors to explore their ancestry, the local social history, the village and its environs.

The reunion will be in Campello on 2 and 3rd August 2003 and everyone who has links with, or is interested in the Diviani and Brentini families is most welcome to attend. The itinerary is quite informal leaving plenty of time to explore the displays and material, the village and to meet up with members of the families.

Campello celebrates Swiss National day on 1 August with an evening meal, raffles, Bingo plus a bonfire and fireworks and this will be an ideal starting place for the weekend.

Will you be with us to share the experience? *An itinerary and booking slip is enclosed for your information.*

Reunion 2003- Itinerary

Friday 1 August 2003 evening Swiss National Day celebration Polenta and Stew supper (5sfr- deserts extra) followed by raffles and games of Bingo, the bonfire and fireworks.

Saturday 2 August 2003 morning-Casa Communale in Campello, family history- static display, family trees, memorabilia, old photographs, meet cousins etc

lunch- buffet lunch in Campello (20sfr drinks included)

afternoon- Visit to the village of Fontanedo. This is now deserted and is where the Diviani and Brentini families were living in the 1600's before they relocated to Campello etc. A magical place well worth the visit. The chapel has been restored by monies raised by the people of Campello and is delightful with beautiful murals painted on the chancel walls. Drinks, afternoon tea, coffee etc in Campello afterwards

evening- 3 course dinner at "Alla Birreria" restaurant in Faido (50sfr drinks and coffee included)

Menu

DRY CURED HAM WITH MELON
MUSHROOM PATE



SMALL ASPARAGUS LASAGNE
ARTICHOKE AU GRATIN



FILLET OF VEAL WITH MUSHROOM GRAVY
ROAST POTATOES
BUTTERED SPINACH
GLAZED CARROTS



GRAPE SORBET



COFFEE



Sunday 3 August 2003 morning- Service at St Margherita's church in Campello followed at the village cemetery by the unveiling of a plaque commemorating **Pietro Diviani** and his descendants (**Sebastiani**- branch). Campello, family history- static display, family trees, memorabilia, old photographs, meet cousins etc

lunch- Macaroni al fresco in Campello (15sfr drinks included)

afternoon Casa Communale in Campello, family history- static display, family trees, memorabilia, old photographs, meet cousins etc

To assist with catering arrangements, it would be much appreciated if you could reserve your places for either or both days as soon as possible, and advise if you have any special dietary requests (e.g. vegetarian). Please see booking slip enclosed for payment details.

Payment in full should be made by 21 May 2003

WHO WILL BE THERE?

At the time of going to press about 130 people have indicated they will be attending. The following families hope to be represented at the Reunion 2003

Brentini	(Barbatei)	Switzerland
Brentini	(Barbata))	England
Brentini	(Carli)	France
Brentini	(Cesaritt)	Switzerland
Brentini	(Giovanitt)	England & Switzerland
Diviani	(Bala)	Switzerland
Diviani	(Bota)	France
Diviani	(Franzitt)	England & Switzerland
Diviani	(Sebastiani)	England & Germany
Diviani	(Vebal)	Switzerland

