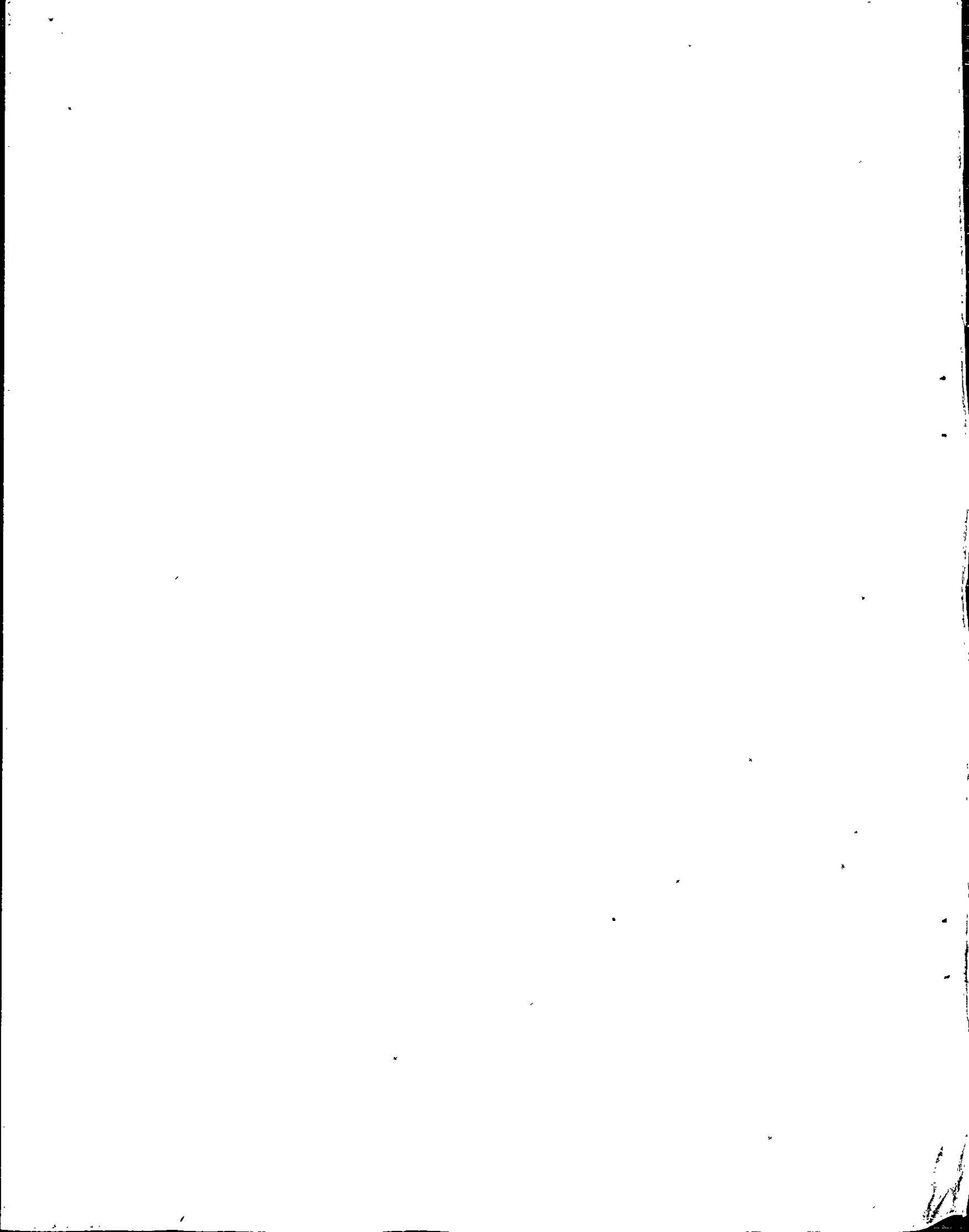


BACKHILL

EC1

MARCH 77

10p





BACKHILL

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Ecco la seconda edizione. La prima ha ricevuto una risposta abbastanza entusiasta. Vedremo se possiamo fare ancora meglio questa volta. Resta a voi diffondere la rivista; portatela alla conoscenza dei vostri amici dovunque vivano a Londra (o fuori). Desideriamo comunicare con la piu' gente possibile.

Ringraziamo quelli che hanno fatto dei suggerimenti e delle critiche utili. Leggete e vedete cio' che abbiamo fatto per amigliorare "Back Hill".

Ricordatevi che c'e' sempre posto nella rivista per le vostre contribuzioni: queste dovrebbero essere il materiale essenziale della rivista. Dunque non siate timidi o vergognosi (o pigri forse?). Mandateci qualcosa di interessante.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Well, here is our second issue; we were pleased by the fairly enthusiastic response the first issue received. Let's see if we can do even better this time. We're depending on you to publicise the magazine: tell your friends about it wherever they might live in London (or outside). We want "Back Hill" to reach as many people as possible.

We are grateful to those who have made useful suggestions and criticisms. Read on and see our efforts at improvement.

Do remember that there is always room for your contributions; they should be the essence of the magazine. So don't be so shy or self-conscious (or lazy!).

Send us something !!!

NOTIZIE DALL'ITALIA

News from Italy you may have missed

I poliziotti italiani si stanno organizzando per formare un sindacato. Sembra che il Governo sia disposto ad accettare questa riforma. L'unico problema che resta e' concedere o no la possibilita' di sciopero.

Alessandro Menario su Lancia Stratos ha vinto per la terza volta consecutiva il 'rally' di Monte Carlo e Leandro Donardi e' arrivato terzo ^{nei} Campionati Mondiali di Tiro con l'Arco, permettendo all'Italia di piazzarsi seconda dietro gli Stati Uniti.

Un senatore italiano ha chiesto al Governo di usare lenzuola di carta nelle prigioni per evitare le fughe dal carcere con le lenzuola tagliate a strisce.

L'anno scorso ufficialmente 50 persone sono state rapite in Italia. Le autorità hanno ammesso che non meno di 9m. di sterline sono state pagate per i riscatti.

With more and more children affected by skin disease, the local authorities of Seveso have asked for troops to keep people out of the area contaminated last July with doxin.

One of Italy's best known footballers, Re Cecconi, was shot dead by a jeweller when he walked into the jeweller's Rome shop with his hands in his coat pocket and jokingly said: 'This is a hold up!'

Hundreds of angry soccer fans staged an eight hour siege at the Ascoli stadium to stop the referee and visiting team from leaving after a second division league match.

The Italian Cabinet is deciding how to remove more than 900 poison filled steel drums from the bottom of the Adriatic to stave off the threat of a major pollution disaster.

Two prisoners who broke out of jail in Gioia knocked at the front door an hour later and asked to be let in. They said they only escaped for a joke.

Kidnappers demanded a ransom of 1,000 million lire for the return of the body of a South Italian businessman, stolen from a tomb in a cemetery in Bari.

Dear Editor,

May I congratulate you and your editorial staff on the layout and presentation of the paper. I especially liked the article written by G. Croci. The language was simple and easily understood, which I feel should be paramount when trying to communicate with people whose English may not be perfect.

Unfortunately, the style and language of the other articles could be taken straight out of the Sunday Supplements, which I feel prohibits you from reaching the ordinary parishioner whose experience of English doesn't help them to understand words like 'unequivocally' and 'controversial' etc.

I also agree with the famous 'Cirillo' that the paper is a little too impersonal, and a few familiar names may make your paper 'swing'.

Wishing you every success for the future,

Mrs. S. Rapacioli

p.s. Keep up the good work.

p.p.s. Just tried the Fritelle recipe. They were delicious!

Dear Editor,

I'm very glad you have brought out this new paper called 'Back Hill', which brought back so many memories, of the Hill, which so many Italians will remember; especially the Globe Cinema which used to be a treat on Sunday afternoon. We used to pay 3d. to get in, and 1d. for a packet of sweets from the stall outside.

It was all we could afford but inside the Globe it was like a big family. We all knew each other, we had a good time and we were happy,

I'm wishing the 'Back Hill' paper every success in the future.

Rosa Lusardi
(better known as Gigiati).

Sir,

Many thanks for the first issue of 'Back Hill', and admiring congratulations. It is an enchanting publication which I have read from cover to cover and which I wish every success.

Many cogratulations.

I wonder what this Society could do to promote its circulation? Miss M. Guindrod would review it in RIVISTA, if you would send her a copy.

Mrs R. Pearce,
Secretary of the
British-Italian
Society.

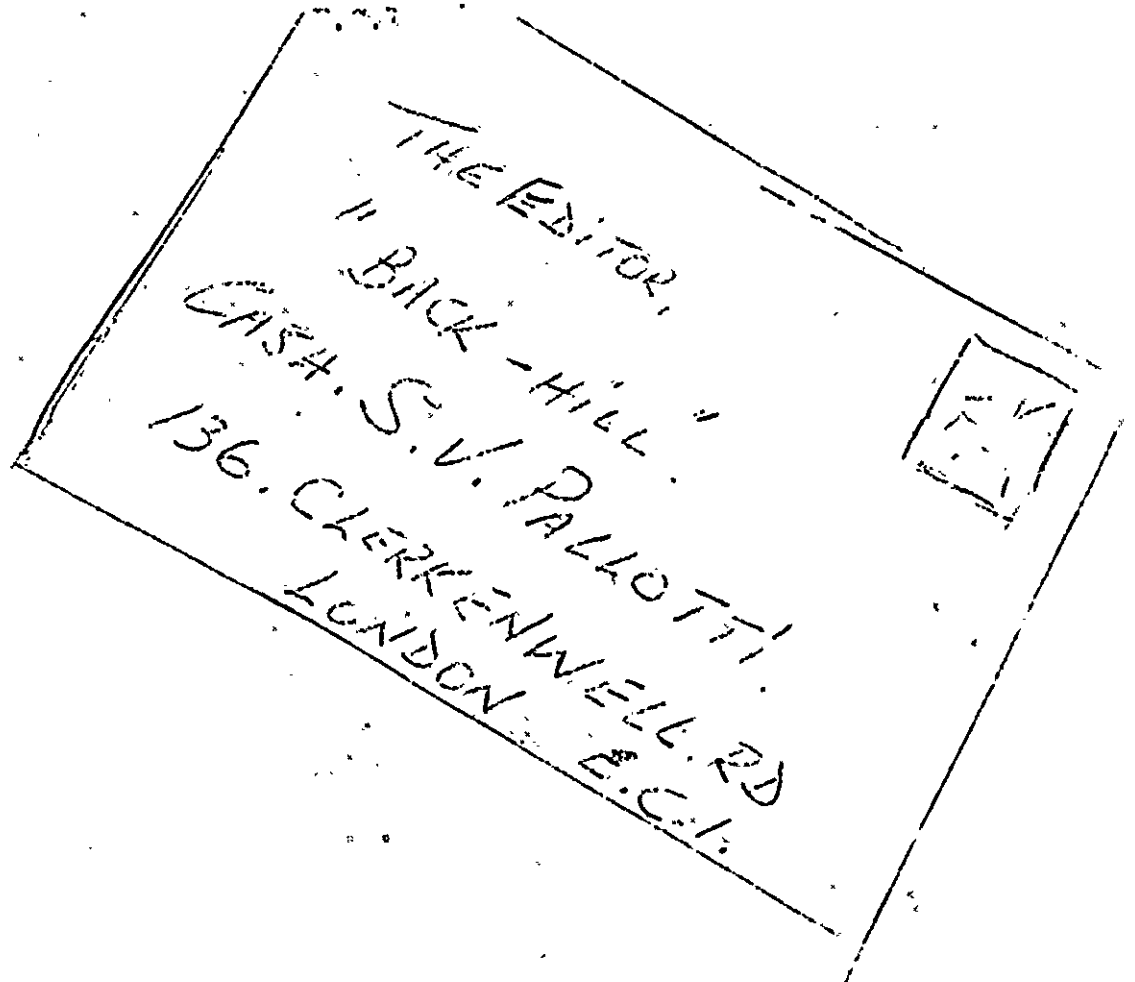
LETTERS ----- LETTERE

Our heartfelt thanks to the ladies who sent these letters. They were just what we wanted: the memories of the Hill, the encouragement and the criticisms.

Indeed, we accept the rather flattering, if they can be called that, criticisms of our style and use of language. They raise an important point. We wanted our language to be plain, gramatically correct and easily understood. Seemingly it wasn't. Perhaps that was the result of our efforts to avoid colloquialism or slang. Was it really that 'highbrow'? All the same we shall do our best to be as straightforward and simple as possible in the future.

We would like to have a few more letters like these for our next issue. Some in Italian too! LETTERE IN ITALIANO!!

The address to send them to is:



"THE HILL"

Every year ,for as long as the Italians in London can remember, on the Sunday following 16th July - the feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel - "The Hill" has been the scene of a procession in honour of the Madonna. This has been known for ages as the "Italian Procession".

It was the highlight of the year for the community. Children would have new clothes made specially for the occasion; everyone would wear their best: it was a real 'Festa'. Certain prominent members of the "Hill" would take it upon themselves to collect money for the procession and organise the decorations etc.

On the eve of the procession the North Hyde Band would play for a few hours in the evening. They would be back again on the Sunday to join the rest of the procession: priests and altar boys, cross-bearers, statues and Saints, boys and girls in national costumes, banners and bands. The route followed was along the Clerkenwell Rd., down Eyre St. Hill, up Great Bath St., along the Farringdon Rd., then up Cross St., through Hatton Garden and back to the Church.

On the way the procession would pass beneath windows with altars to the Madonna in them. Families such as the Malangones, the Avellas, the Terronis, the Dondis and the Napoletanos all made their colourful altars.

A notable feature would also be the baskets, containing two doves and petals of flowers, strung across the street. The Notaros, who owned a shop in Eyre St. Hill strung one across and opened it when the statue of Sant'Antonio passed. The Terronis, further down Eyre St. Hill opened theirs when Santa Lucia passed; they owed their special devotion to Santa Lucia to the fact Mrs. Terroni's father, Mr. Giuseppe Di Falco, had the statue brought from Naples because his daughter had bad eyesight (Santa Lucia being the Patron Saint of the eyesight). Finally the Fuscós, in Great Bath St., would release their basket when the Madonna passed by below.

Now it's a pleasure to introduce some personal childhood memories of the procession sent by Mrs. E. Stone, formerly Miss Pierina Servini of:-
57, Mount Pleasant, now living in Watertown, New York, U.S.A.

"I have many fond memories of my childhood in 'Little Italy' and one in particular which will be shared by many of your readers is "Procession Sunday". We all looked forward to it a long time ahead because we always remembered the fun and excitement of the previous one.

"For me it started in the morning when I heard the strains of the band practising at the top of Mount Pleasant, the street where I lived. I and all the other children would rush out to watch them. I believed the band was composed of men from the Mazzini-Garibaldi Club which, in those days was on Leystall St. opposite 'The Buildings' - the only name by which we knew that block of flats.

"After dinner we would get dressed for the Procession, the girls in their white dresses, the boys in their Sunday best and those of us who lived in the Mount Pleasant area will remember that as we rounded the corner past 'The Apple Tree,' old Mr. Dove, the proprietor of the pub would be waiting, seated beside a small table piled with pennies and as we approached he would beckon to us, say how nice we looked, give each one two of the pennies, a pat on the head and a sweet smile. We all knew that he would be there and I'm sure that we slowed down in anticipation as we turned the corner. This was such a nice gesture, he did this for many years and I'm sure that Mr. Dove still lives in many of our memories. Then to school where we put on our veils and wreaths and lined up for the procession.

"There were large crowds all along the route, people came from far and near, it seemed that anyone who had ever attended St. Peter's Church or school came back for this day. Saffron Hill and Eyre St. Hill were decorated - I can still see the many second floor windows transformed into little altars. At one point on Eyre St. Hill two white doves were released as the statue of our Lady of Mt. Carmel passed by. After the procession the crowds converged on the Saffron Hill area greeting friends and relatives. Every house was filled to overflowing with people, wine, tea, torta, salame, 'bossulan' (see recipe) and good cheer. This is one of the most treasured memories of my childhood and which I am sure is shared with the many friends I grew up with."

MRS. E. STONE
U.S.A.
18th January 1977

TEMPO DI QUARESIMA : TEMPO DI GIOIA.

La quaresima comincia con il Mercoledì delle Ceneri: si va in Chiesa e il sacerdote ci mette la cenere sulla fronte dicendoci: "Ricordati, uomo, che sei polvere e in polvere ritornerai": si torna a casa e non si può mangiare carne, anzi non si può mangiare nemmeno molto perché è digiuno. Si vogliono fare tante cose e ci sentiamo sempre dire: "Non si può : è Quaresima".

Siamo riusciti, con tutte queste cose a far odiare la Quaresima, a renderla pesante e noiosa, a presentare la figura di un Dio che fa tristi e malinconiche tutte le cose che ci circondano. Povero Dio! Ha messo tutto il suo amore per creare il mondo, per creare l'uomo, per creare me in particolare: ci ha messo tutta la sua gioia, perché l'amore è gioia e ora noi ci ritroviamo senza più la capacità di sorridere. Come siamo ridotti male: per fortuna la Chiesa ha messo questo tempo di Quaresima: per riscoprire l'amore e la gioia di Dio che ci vengono offerte in Gesù Cristo, morto e risorto.

E per prima cosa dobbiamo scoprirli in noi stessi: dobbiamo amare noi stessi e la nostra vita, altrimenti non siamo capaci di amare gli altri. Io amo me stesso quando ho la gioia di fare il bene, di perdonare le offese, di non essere pesante agli altri, di bere un buon bicchiere di vino e di farmi una risata con la famiglia e con gli amici: io amo me stesso quando mi metto davanti a Dio e lo prego come lo so pregare e gli chiedo che mi faccia sentire la sua voce: se io voglio, la voce di Dio entra nel mio cuore e nella mia anima: e mi fa capire tante cose.

Questa è la Quaresima: ritornare all'amore e alla gioia di Dio, ritrovare la serenità della vita nella preghiera con Dio.

ROBERT BELLI INTRODUCES:-

T.A.P.

The Arlecchino players (T.A.P.) was formed on 6th March 1975 with two main aims: firstly, to further dramatic art and secondly, to further Anglo-Italian relations through the arts. Our first production, "The Lion in Winter", took place in October 1975 and resulted in total success not only financially but more importantly it proved that our group had the potential to achieve greater feats.

Our next production came in March 1976 in the form of "Gigi" and once again T.A.P. triumphed to produce three memorable nights with the aid of tremendous back-stage endeavour.

"Saturday, Sunday, Monday" undertaken in the Autumn of 1976 posed, perhaps, the greatest challenge to T.A.P., but with typical unlimited reserves of enthusiasm and boundless optimism a cast of seventeen successfully played this comedy with the essential flair and gusto required of a Neapolitan family.

However, our activities do not end on the stage for in April of last year T.A.P. revived the Passion Plays in the Italian Church with the intention of continuing these traditional spectacles.

The group consists entirely of amateur members, some with acting experience and some without but most certainly at present T.A.P. needs all the help it can obtain both on and off the stage. So if you are interested in taking part in the coming Passion Play at Easter or are interested in T.A.P. membership (or both!) please contact:-

ROBERT BELLI

12 HOLFORD HOUSE

HOLFORD SQUARE

W.C.1.

Vi sar  certo capitato di sentire, in qualche festa italiana, delle canzoni di cui vorreste sapere le parole. Bene. Acominciare da questo numero pubblicheremo le parole di alcune fra le pi  famose canzoni italiane, sperando di farvi cosa gradita.

MAMMA

Mamma, son tanto felice
perch  ritorno da te.
La mia canzone ti dice
ch'  il pi  bel sogno per me.
Mamma, son tanto felice
viver lontano perch 
Mamma,
solo per te la mia canzone vola.
Mamma,
sarai con me, tu non sarai pi  sola.
Quanto ti voglio bene
queste parole d'amore
che ti sospira il mio cuore
forse non s'usano pi .
Mamma,
ma la canzone mia pi  bella sei tu;
sei tu la vita
e per la vita non ti lascio mai pi .
Sento la mano tua stanca,
cerca i miei riccioli d'or
sento...e la tua voce ti manca
la ninna nanna d'allor.
Oggi la testa tua bianca
io voglio stringere al cuor.
Finale: Mamma, mai pi .

DOVE SEI STATO MIO BELL'ALPINO

Dove sei stato, mio bell'alpino
che ti gh'ha cambi  colore?
L'  stata l'aria del Trentino
che mi ha cambi  colore.
I tuoi colori ritorneranno
questa sera, a far l'amore.

ITALIAN HOSPITAL DINNER & DANCE

On Thursday, 10th February the Italian Hospital held its annual dinner and dance at the Grosvenor House.

Though many recognizable faces of our local community were present including Signora Wanda Ducci, wife of the Italian ambassador, who has never failed to give our church support when needed; the absence of Dott. Montuschi, a much loved and respected physician, who has generously sacrificed both his time and skill for many years at the Hospital, was notable.

The none too superior quality of the food was recompensed by the guest speaker Lord Thorneycroft, who pleasantly entertained us with his sophisticated witticisms, an effort that would not go amiss at many other Italian dinner and dances.

The highlight of the evening came when the Fiat 127 car donated by Fiat (England) for the raffle, was won by Miss Anna Giacom, a richly deserved prize for someone whose work and enthusiasm is apparent in many charitable committees. The most pleasing factor of the evening was the dedication and selflessness with which the working ball committee applied themselves from the Chairman Lady Thorneycroft and the ladies of the tombola to the young girls selling and collecting for various raffles, all striving to make the evening a success -- and from my point of view it certainly was.

A.T.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. A. Maestranzi of 4, Bickerton Rd., Archway, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. We hope they may enjoy many more years of happy married life together.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Our congratulations to Mr. F. Rizzi upon whom the title of "Cavaliere" has recently been conferred. It is an honour which has long been due to him.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

LA FESTA DELLE MAMME

Sabato, 27 Febbraio si è svolto l'annuale festa delle mamme: sono considerate mamme quelle che hanno i figli almeno quarantenni. L'appuntamento era per le 5.30pm e a quell'ora si sono trovate pronte e agguerrite per iniziare la prima fatica della serata: le scale. Con passo giovanile, al suono della marcia dei bersaglieri sono arrivate alla "Red Room" del Social Club, dove ridenti ragazze le aspettavano con bombolette di ossigeno. Ma non ce ne è stato bisogno, perché hanno recuperato le forze in una sala preparata magnificamente che le ha accolte con lasagne, cotolette, patate e piselli, vino, strudel e caffè. Due giovani dello Youth Club hanno presentato una scenetta divertentissima, piena di colpi di scena con uova spaccate in testa e torte in faccia. La lotteria (i biglietti erano stati offerti in precedenza) ha dato un regalo quasi a tutte: due ridenti signorinelle al suono della fisarmonica hanno accompagnato canti e danze; alla fine sono andate a casa perché noi organizzatori eravamo stanchi: un tempo le mamme mandavano a letto i bambini perché erano stanche, ora dobbiamo mandarle a letto noi.

Siamo stati felicissimi di aver regalato un poco di gioia a queste nostre meravigliose mamme: e siamo stati anche commossi al vedere tanti ragazzi e ragazze dedicarsi con passione e gioia a far riuscire bene la festa: non abbiamo scritto il nome di alcuno: stanno scritti nel cuore di Dio.

R.R.

LA FESTA DEI CACCIATORI

Se c'è gente che stenta a credere se esiste una tale associazione, posso assicurarla che esiste e prospera. Sabato, 19 Febbraio s'incontrarono alla Casa S. Vincenzo Pallotti con parenti ed amici per una festa magnifica. L'intera serata è stata organizzata dal presidente dell'associazione, Mr. Roberto Cardinali, che insieme con altri soci andò a caccia per lepre e miracolosamente ne portò a casa abbastanza per nutrire abbondantemente più di 70 fra parenti ed amici.

C'era antipasto, polenta, lepre, biscotti e formaggi, torte alla crema fresca, vino e caffè. C'è stato pure una lotteria con premi ricchi, il ricavato della quale fu donato ai fondi della Casa.

Sinceri ringraziamenti a tutti quelli che hanno offerto premi per la lotteria e ai "Cacciatori" per avere donato il ricavato della serata intera alla Casa Italiana.

Ode to hard-pressed licensees.

Most Welcome Guest - we here present
Our Bill of Fare for your content;
Now please enjoy your food and drink
But-- Sir and Madam - do not think
When you, at last, call for your Bill
That all the cash goes in the Till.

Remember please - as you relax -
You're paying us for Income Tax
And Graduated Pension too,
and National Health - all falls on you-
And Purchase Tax puts up the price,
There's also Customs and Excise

And Licence Duty to be met:
(Hold on - we've hardly started yet)-
There's Import Duty : SET,
And Profits Tax; PAYE,
And Rates - inordinately large,
And "Temporary " Import Charge
On everything we buy and sell;
There's Wine and Spirit Tax as well.

You think these charges were enough
But still we have to cook the stuff.
Electric Charges cost a 'packet:
Gas prices is a flaming racket -
(Increasing at an early date)
And still there is our Water Rate.

Our Barmaid's wages to be paid
And wages for the Serving Maid,
And Soap and Polish - Laundry too -
The whole damn lot depend on you:
And since among our other chores -
We use a car for getting stores
We must allow (proportionate)
For Taxes quite extortionate.

For Capital that we invest
No Tax Allowance is assessed;
And all these Taxes - large and small-
Are really not our fault at all.
We do not fleece you with intent,
Please blame this blasted Government.

Dear Sir and Madam, eat you fill,
Enjoy yourselves - we hope you will
Remembering, when you pay the Bill,
Not all the cash goes in the Till.

Anon.

(from the library of Mrs G. Guselli).

Dedicated to all those hard-working licensees (of which there are many in this Italian Community) suffering under present Government policies.

" CIRILLO " WINE BAR

1. glass of wine	£0.20
V.A.T.	£0.25
Excise Duty	£0.30
Wine & Spirit Tax	£0.35
Cover Charge	£0.40
Service Charge	£0.20
Enjoyment Tax	£1.60

<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>£3.00</u>
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Thank You.

HAVE YOU BEEN THERE ?

A few weeks ago my husband and I were invited out to dinner, an event that we normally find pleasurable as we do not have to pay the bill. Taking this into consideration and knowing our host and his friends to be amiable we expected our evening at THE HUNTING LODGE, Lower Regent St., to be entertaining.

Unfortunately, although the company was stimulating, the surroundings elegant, the whole evening was marred by the near atrocious food and the unprofessional service. I, for my part, played safe by ordering an uninteresting pâté as my first course, but I was not to be recompensed with my main course for the "entre-côte" steak was tough in texture and the vegetables that accompanied it so small in portion that it would be very difficult to pass comment on them. The supposed rum baba was unexceptional as was the food of my friends. The service throughout the meal was, for want of a better word, sloppy and I did object to a waiter (especially in a restaurant of such calibre) leaning across two people to pour my cold coffee. I feel that neither the meal nor the service justified the £16.50 (including aperitifs, wine, tax and service) charged per head, although I am still not sure, neither is my host, that this included the whole bottle of wine, accidentally spilt by the waiter, that totally his wife's skirt. To conclude, in view of the above circumstances it is not at all surprising that Trust House Forte Group showed such a profit last year.

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NOTA BENE !!

"BACK HILL" would like to take this opportunity to inform you all that on Palm Sunday 3rd April the Annual Passion Play will once again be performed in the Italian Church of St. Peter's, Clerkenwell, at 7.30pm.

An event not to be missed.

"BACK HILL" vi invita tutti, in nome della Chiesa Italiana di S. Pietro, Clerkenwell, alla rappresentazione della Passione del Nostro Signore, Domenica delle Palme, 3 Aprile alle 7.30pm.

Non mancate.

.....

LA COLLINA DI CLERKENWELL

Questo sarebbe il nome, tradotto letteralmente, della zona di Clerkenwell nella quale si stabilirono gli Italiani della "vecchia emigrazione", cioè quelli che arrivarono in Inghilterra tra gli anni 1880 e 1930. Gli Inglesi chiamarono questa zona di Clerkenwell "Little Italy", cioè "Piccola Italia", ma quegli Italiani che ci abitavano la chiamarono (e la chiamano ancora) "The Hill" - in italiano "La Collina". Riferisce in particolare a Back Hill, che era la colonna vertebrale del quartiere.

Per questi Italiani della "vecchia emigrazione" e per i loro figli "The Hill" era una vera e propria comunità. Quelli che abitavano nei dintorni del "Hill" facevano una vita dura, ma se lo godevano lo stesso. Così dicono riguardo allo spirito di fratellanza che esisteva fra di loro: "tutti si conoscevano", "tutte le porte erano aperte". Il quartiere era come un paesetto dell'Italia, con tutti i vantaggi - e gli svantaggi - di una tale comunità familiare.

Pero' la vita non era tutta rose e fiori: la gente era povera, lavorava molte ore al giorno solo per avere il necessario per appena mantenere la famiglia - quanto e' diverso per noi oggi!

Comunque non c'è più quella comunità di emigrati e dei loro figli nei dintorni del "Hill". Infatti poche famiglie di origine italiana vivono nella zona di Clerkenwell. Però quelli che ci vivevano hanno i loro ricordi che tramandano ai figli, ai nipoti e ai figli dei nipoti.

Non c'è più la comunità in quel quartiere, però lo spirito della comunità rimane nei cuori di molti, e si potrebbe trasmetterlo ai cuori di tanti altri.

Per gli Italiani della "nuova emigrazione", cioè quelli che arrivarono dopo la Seconda Guerra Mondiale e che non ebbero esperienza del "Hill" - e' proprio per loro che scriviamo questo articolo in italiano, sebbene ci sia già un articolo su "The Hill" in inglese. Vogliamo portare loro ogni mese qualche esempio dello spirito di comunità di quei primi emigrati, nella speranza di ricreare un po' di quello spirito nella comunità italiana di oggi.

SPRING FASHION

Your taste, your imagination, your sense of colour, proportion and coordination are constantly evident in the way you dress. So step into Spring '77 with zest and zeal, and be adventurous, with soft silky billowed tops and full fluid skirts. Remember, softness is the order of the season.

Try a straight shirt-dress in a cool muted stripe, with stride-free skirts; or a kimono tunic in silk. Be soft and easy in slender blouson knit dresses. But above all, be fascinating and remember that you must choose what suits you!

So for your Spring Roman holiday step onto the Via Appia with soft slender elegance; you will be noticed among the ruins.

- Just a foot-note: strappy sandals with slim high heels are a must.



Patricia Cini

"THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT"

FILMS: (especially if you've already seen them).

THE SWEENEY (X):- You might be a bit disappointed by this full-length film of those flying crimebusters Regan (John Thaw) and Carter (Dennis Waterman). Yes, it had action, violence, tension and the usual dose of sex, but contrary to what a large part of the film-going public seems to expect nowadays, these ingredients do not automatically make a good film. The film appeared contrived in that the makers seemed to feel obliged to find something really sensational to put into it in order to distinguish it from one of those one hour 'stints' on ITV on Mondays.

Regan's investigation (after having been suspended from duty) into a murder covered up by the Minister of Energy's press officer who is himself working for a ruthless international oil concern, leads the Inspector into very deep and turbulent water. Regan comes out on top but there are mightier hands than his manipulating events.

SILENT MOVIE (A):- I'm afraid Mel Brooks' film only made me laugh once; I started laughing at the beginning and didn't stop till the end. (Not an original comment but it suits present purposes). An absolutely hilarious silent comedy about the noble endeavours of a 'has-been' director called Funn (Mel Brooks) and his associates Eggs (Marty Feldman) and Bell (Dom De Luise), to make a silent movie "In this day and age?" - 100% for originality.

In the funniest of fashions they set about by signing up the big stars: Burt Reynolds, James Caan, Liza Minelli, Anne Bancroft, Marcel Marceau and Paul Newman (as themselves). The Liza Minelli sequence - in armour - was side-splitting to a painful degree. Mel Brooks stretches each situation for every possible laugh.

At the same time Funn & Co. have to foil the attempts of the wicked Eufulf and Devour to wreck their film. But it's a 'happy-ever-after' story. Great!!

Two pieces of advice: see the film and read the captions carefully. Who said slapstick was dead?

F.G.

(P.S. I hope you're following the Clint Eastwood profile on BBC 1)

THE ENTERTAINMENT

POP MUSIC (what about that Classical stuff?)

ALBUMS

'Love on the Airwaves' (A&M) Gallagher & Iyle - unfortunately since the deserved acclaim won with "Breakaway", a fine album, G. & L. don't seem to have progressed at all. If anything they've taken a step backwards. The album tends to be a bit insipid although it does contain one or two very good tracks.

'Evita' (MCA) Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd-Webber's follow-up to "Jesus Christ Superstar". Some excellent hit singles are possible from it such as 'Dangerous Jade' and 'Another Suitcase in Another Hall' - (Barbara Dickson's haunting rendition); apart, of course, from the already successful 'Don't Cry For Me Argentina'.

Julie Covington (who you can see in 'Rock Follies') is excellent throughout but she was the only one of the little ladies who could sing anyway. Hank Marvin's guitar playing provides some really bright spots in a very good album.

'White Rock' (A&M) Rick Wakeman. Well, it's the best thing he's done since 'Six Wives'. It returns to keyboards with minimal percussion. Not an impressive L.P.

ABBA at the ALBERT HALL

ABBA's first appearance in London was a sell-out a year ago. But any group that has sold 30m. singles and 14m. L.P.'s must be fairly popular.

Money had been well spent on presentation; lighting backing band, sound system and slinky white costumes for everyone on stage. The group's formula stole the evening as they churned out those hits with their neat lyrics, rhythms and melodies.

It was difficult not to enjoy those 'catchy' numbers but after a while one became aware of a certain coolness or calculation in ABBA's music, as if the figures on the balance sheet were more important than the notes of their music, keeping emotional and intellectual content to a minimum. Still, an enjoyable publicity machine: the evening was pleasant yet hardly enthralling. "Girl with the Golden Hair" the story of a starlet's tough road to the top, got a bit boring. M.R.

SPORT

Football

"The facts are such at the moment that entertainment and skill are not enough" said Willie Bell after Birmingham had defeated Norwich 3-2. Clearly Mr. Bell didn't read the first issue of 'Back Hill'. Perhaps Don Revie should have got Willie to preach his gospel to Johann Cruyff & Co. before they played at Wembley (and won 2-0).

Football-wise it's a bad time for London. Spurs are at the foot of Div. 1 (did I hear a whisper that Dave Mackay might be coming back to London?) West Ham, Fulham and Orient are all fighting relegation; no London club is left in the F.A. Cup. What's more, do I detect a crack in the Chelsea armour of late? Let's hope not - London needs some success.

So who is going to win the Cup? 'Back Hill's' prediction for the semi-final: Everton, Leeds, Middlesborough and Man. Utd. For the final: Leeds v Man. Utd. Sorry Derby, I don't think you'll make it. It's a pity, I would dearly love to see Colin Murphy at Wembley - he deserves it for the way he's been treated. Clearly the Derby board didn't read the first issue either! Shame, maybe we should aim for a wider circulation. Oh and send a copy to Gordon Lee as well. If you don't know what I mean, hurry for your first copy of 'Back Hill'.

Rugby

Spare a thought for poor Alistair Hignell - blasted by many for England's narrow 4-3 defeat by France. England's pack was superb but with their amount of ball, it really shouldn't have had to depend on Hignell for victory and the Grand Slam. Let's see what the outcome of the Wales match is.

Cricket

One up for London in Middlesex winning last year's County Championship. What's more, Middx's captain Mike Brearly has played a leading part in England's test series win in India. Let's hope for a win in the big one: the Centenary Test against Australia (March 12th-17th).

- Any readers interested in cricket? - Let's hear from you on all sports in 'Back Hill' (address elsewhere). How about a reader's sports letters column! - See you next month!

Richard Evans.

STOP A MOMENT !!!

Yes, stop a moment. Look at this magazine, value eh! No!

Okay fancy pants could you do better?

You can't can you?

Oh you can! Well why don't you drop us a line?

Perhaps you would like to voice your opinion on say:

Religion (yes, that boring subject), tell us why
without being boring, necrophilia, obesity,
football, knitting and those damn Italians.

You'll find the address on the letters page.



RIGHT YOU 'ORRIBLE PEOPLE

YOUR EDITOR

NEEDS

YOU

RECIPES -- RICETTA...

Soft Bread Without Yeast

1lb. self raising flour
1 teaspoonful of salt
1 egg (beaten)
1oz. butter (melted)
just under 1/2 pt. of milk
.....

Put flour and salt into basin.
Make a well in the centre.
Mix egg into milk and butter.
Pour into the flour.
Work into a soft dough, then
turn onto a floured board and
knead for a few minutes.
Shape it as required or make it
into rolls, brush it with a
beaten egg or milk.
Place it into greased baking
tin and bake for about 35 mins.
Reg. 7, middle shelf.
(Rolls - 20mins.)

Bossulan (like nonna used to
make.)

3/4lb. flour
3oz. melted butter
4oz. sugar
1/4 pt. milk
2 beaten eggs
1 level teaspoon bicarbonate
pinch of salt
grated rind of lemon
2 tablespoons of any liqueur
or white wine.
.....

Place in a bowl: flour, sugar,
bicarbonate, lemon rind & salt.
Add butter, eggs, liqueur & milk.
Mix thoroughly with wooden
spoon and place into a greased
tin (preferably with hole in
centre).
Sprinkle with a little sugar.
Bake for c. 40mins., Reg. 5,
middle shelf.

Pane Senza Lievito di Birra

1lb. farina- self raising
un cucchiaino di sale
un uovo (sbattuto)
1oz. di burro (sciolto)
un po meno di 1/2pt. di latte
.....

Mettete farina e sale in un
recipiente.
Aggiungete uovo sbattuto nel
latte e burro.
Mescolate tutto con forchetta
finche avete ottenuto una pasta
morbida.
Versatela sul tavolo infarinato,
e lavoratela per qualche minuto.
Formate un pane o dei panini e
spennellate con un poco di uova.
Mettete in una lastra imburrata.
Fate cuocere nel forno Reg. 7
per 35 minuti.
(Panini - solo 20minuti)

Bossulan della Nonna

3/4 lb. farina
3oz. burro sciolto
4oz. zucchero
1/4pt. latte
2 uova sbattute
un cucchiaino di bicarbonato
un pizzico di sale
raschiatura di limone
2 cucchiaini di liquore o vino
bianco.
.....

Mettete: farina, zucchero, sale,
bicarbonato e raschiatura di
limone in una terrinetta.
Aggiungete: burro, uova, liquore,
latte e mescolate bene con un
cucchiaino di legno.
Versate tutto in uno stampo
imburrato e infarinato.
Cospargetelo di zucchero.
Fate cuocere nel forno Reg. 5
per 40minuti.

Signora M. G.

The recipes that I will give you each month are simple ones that a
busy, working housewife and mother can cope with. They should,
however, be popular with all the family.

"BACK HILL" PRIZE QUIZ

More Italian wine to be won. The first three correct entries opened by 20.3.77, will win a bottle of wine. Please send your answer to:

THE EDITOR,
c/o VINCENZO PALLOTTI HSE.
136 CLERKENWELL RD.
LONDON E.C.1.

HIGHEST, LARGEST, LONGEST.

Which is the:-

1. Largest island (excluding Australia),
2. Highest mountain,
3. Largest ocean,
4. Largest sea,
5. Longest river,
6. Highest waterfall,
7. Largest gorge,
8. Largest inland sea,
9. Largest desert,
10. Largest mountain range.

GOOD LUCK

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTHS QUIZ.

1. Marche
2. Toscana
3. Sardengna
4. Puglia
5. Val D'Aosta
6. Emilia
7. Marche
8. Lazio
9. Campania
10. Veneto (We wish to apologise for the error in last months quiz, the date should have been 1956)

There was only one correct entry received, and a bottle of Italian wine will be sent to Mr R. Belli for his correct answers.

PROSSIMI EVENTIMENTI - FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

MARCH -

- Sun. 6th - C.L.I.C. Disco at the Cafè Royal W.I., 7.30pm
- Sat.12th - Cena del Circolo Veneto, Plaza Restaurant,
4, Cathedral Place, E.C.4.
- Cena dei Trentini (numero limitato)
- Sun.13th - A.G.M. of St. Peter's Catholic Youth Club, 5.30pm
- Sat.19th - Cheese and Wine, Casa S. Vincenzo Pallotti, 7.00pm
- Sat.26th - Serata Sociale - Scuola Italiana di King's Cross,
Blessed Sacrament School, N.1 8.00pm
- Combined Dinner Party, Casa S. Vincenzo Pallotti,
7.30pm.

APRIL -

- Sun. 3rd - 'Passion Play' alla Chiesa Italiana di S. Pietro,
7.30pm - Siete tutti invitati -
- Sun.10th - C.L.I.C. Disco at the Cafe Royal, W.I. 7.30pm

Se desiderate che gli avvenimenti del vostro circolo o
associazione vengano pubblicati su questa pagina, per
favore inviateli al direttivo. Saremo contenti di
includerli.

If you would like the events of your particular club
or association included on this page don't hesitate
to contact us. We shall be only too happy to insert
them.

