



SS Arandora Star

80th Anniversary of the Disaster
2nd July, 2020

Robert Rossi Author

SS Arandora Star

- Built 1927 by Cammell Laird, Birkenhead
- Cruise Liner of Blue Star Line
- Commandeered by Admiralty to transport internees to Canada in WW2
- Left Liverpool for Canada 1st July 1940
- Following day 2nd July 1940 it was sunk by Torpedo from U-Boat 47
- About 1,700 on board, Italians, Germans, Jews and Crew
- 486 out of 739 Italians perished
- Majority of bodies never found
- At least 14 persons were born within the parishes of Barga
- At least another 8 had close Barga family to connections to Barga
- 2nd July, 2020 is 80th Anniversary



Robert Rossi Author

Oliviero Gualtiero Domenico Agostini

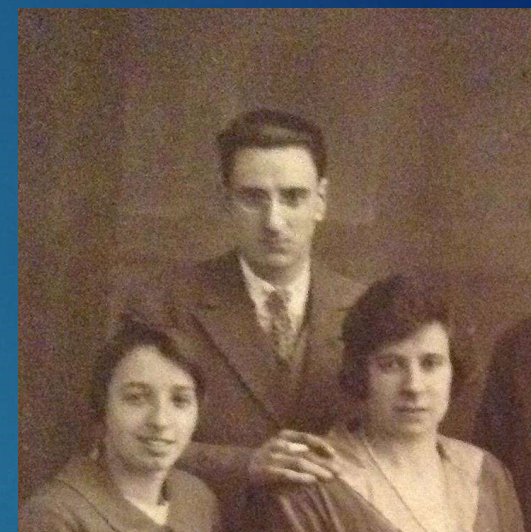


Born
29th April, 1904
San Pietro in Campo

Parents
Dario Agostini
and
Costanza Da Prato

Wife
Oliviero was single

Business
55 Princes St,
Ardrossan



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Alfie Agostini

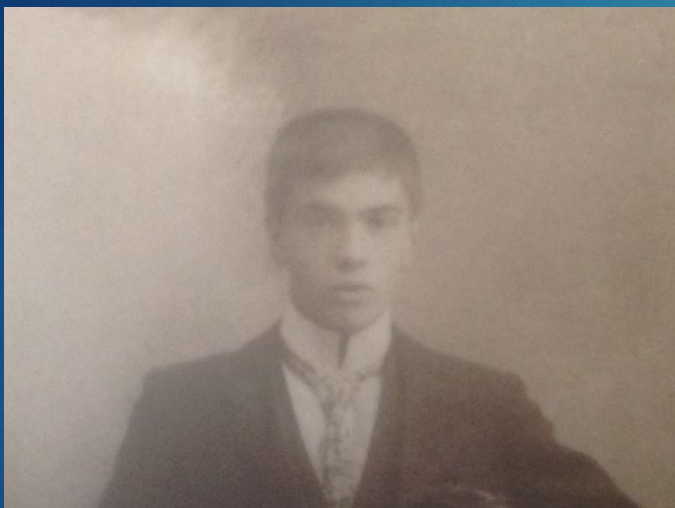
Umberto Enrico Rodolfo Alberti

Born 23rd October,
1881
Barga

Parents
Giovanni Alberti
and
Luisa Zatta

Wife
Eva Cristina Fox

Business
53 Victoria Rd,
Rusholme, Manchester



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Paul Alberti

Silvio Vincenzo Odoardo Bertolini

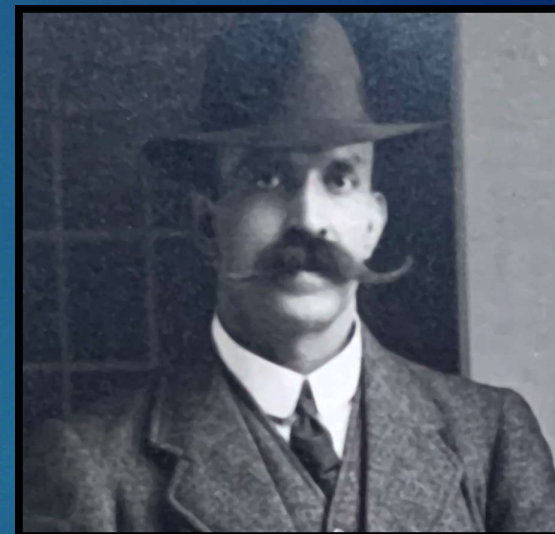


Born
14th June, 1876
Castelvechio

Parents
Massimiliano Bertolini
and
Clementina Menconi

Wife
Rosa Pieraccini

Business
495 St Vincent St,
Glasgow



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Alfonso Pacitti

Ferdinando Oreste Giovanni Biagioni



Born
6th July, 1895
Mordini, Barga

Parents
Pietro Biagioni
and
Umile Giovannucci

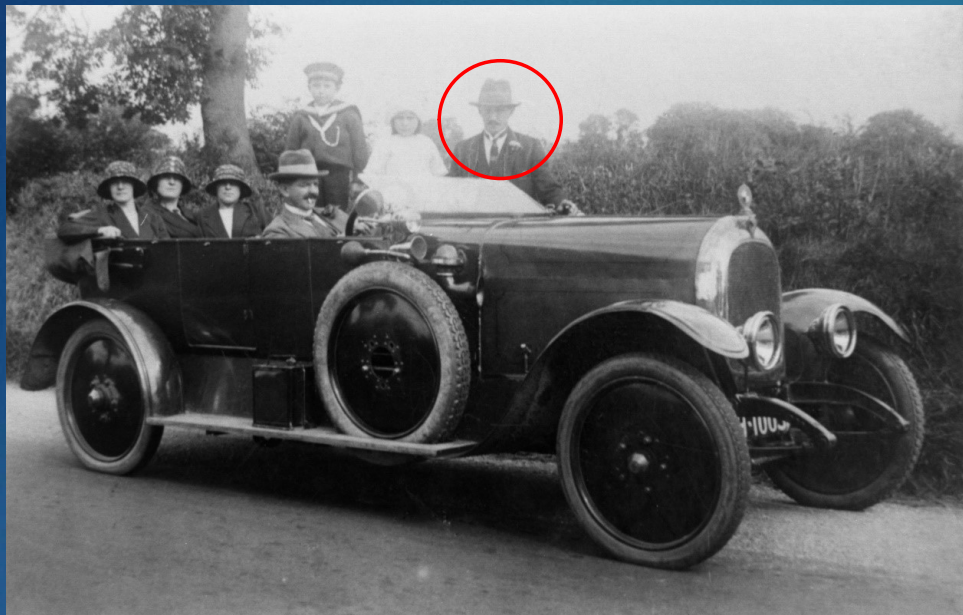
Wife
Lorenzina Barsotti

Business
273 Parliamentary Rd,
Glasgow

Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Marisa Docherty

Leonello Dario Giuseppe Corrieri



**Born 16th October,
1888
Albiano**

**Parents
Giovanni Corrieri
and
Pompilia Baldacci**

**Wife
Rosa Asti**

**Business
Carlisle and 39,
Seaview Rd, Wallasey**



Dear Daddy, I am so happy to get your card this morning, just how happy you will never know. Are you keeping well? If there is anything you want just let me know and I'll send it off at once. The weather being so nice is of course good for business. I am managing quite well, so don't worry about me. Mummy is keeping quite well and will write you a long letter tomorrow. It was signed Yolanda.

Leonello's body was identified by a letter from his daughter in his coat pocket.

Leonello's gravestone is in Magheragallon, Northern Ireland

Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Alba Asti, Paul Renucci, Mary Black

Silvio Amadeo Gio Battista Da Prato



Born
27th February, 1878
Caterozzo, Loppia

Parents
Giuseppe Da Prato
and
Maria Biagiotti

Wife
Virginia Brucciani

Business
21 Stow St,
Glasgow

Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Peter Vannucci

Leonello Ghiloni



**Born 25th December,
1909
Vicari, Loppia**

**Parents
Adolfo Ghiloni
and
Marianna Serafini**

**Wife
Leonello was single**

**Business
The Ascot
16 Clarendon St,
Glasgow**



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Paula Ghiloni

Santino Giuseppe Moscardini

Born 2nd January, 1879
Sommocolonia

Parents
Francesco Moscardini
and
Domenica Pieri

Wife
Adele Santi

Business
130 Brandon St,
Motherwell



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of David Equi

Alfredo Pietro Americo Pieri



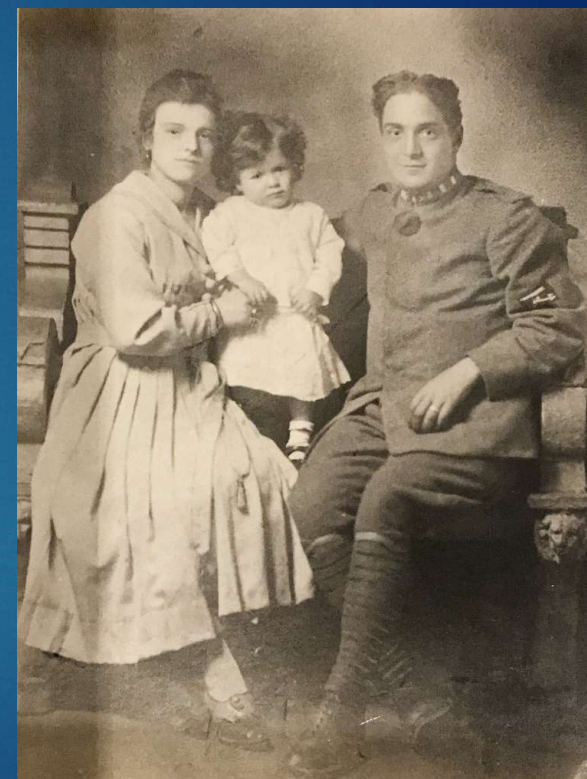
Born in parishes of Barga

Born 8th November,
1898
Barga

Parents
Giuseppe Pieri
and
Assunta Funai

Wife
Elda Pieri

Business
Carlisle



Photographs courtesy of Julia James

Amedeo Giovanni Giuseppe Poli



Born
10th March, 1896
Tiglio

Parents
Ranieri Poli
and
Angelica Gonnella

Wife
Angela Dini

Business
186 Paisley Rd West,
Glasgow

Born in parishes of Barga

Photograph courtesy of Anthony Poli

Cesare Rocchiccioli

Born 6th December, 1909
Riboscioli,
Sommocolonia

Parents
Lorenzo Rocchiccioli
and
Rosa Guidi

Wife
Cesare was single

Business
93 Portland St,
Troon



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Lawrence Rocchiccioli

Giuseppe Togneri



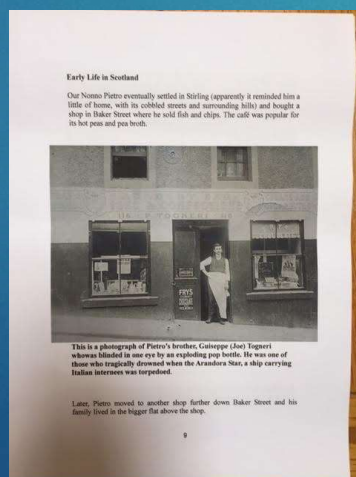
**Born 19th March, 1889
Loppia**

**Parents
Severino Togneri
and
Assunta Nutini**

**Wife
Argene Arrighi**

**Business
Lido Cafe, 131 High St,
Dunbar**

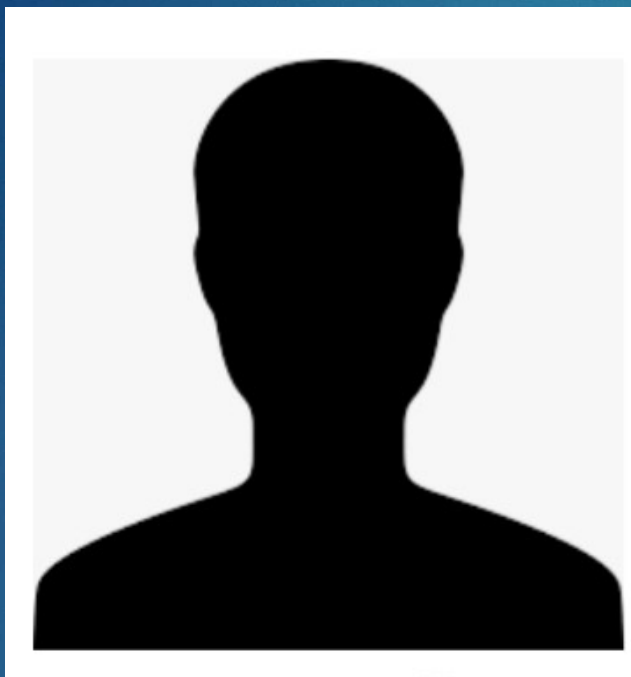
**Giuseppe (Joe) Togneri and
his wife Argene Arrighi**



Born in parishes of Barga

Photographs courtesy of Katie Mann and Elita Fanani

Giovanni Olinto Cosimini



Giovanni's photograph still remains elusive

Born 3rd May, 1880
Barga

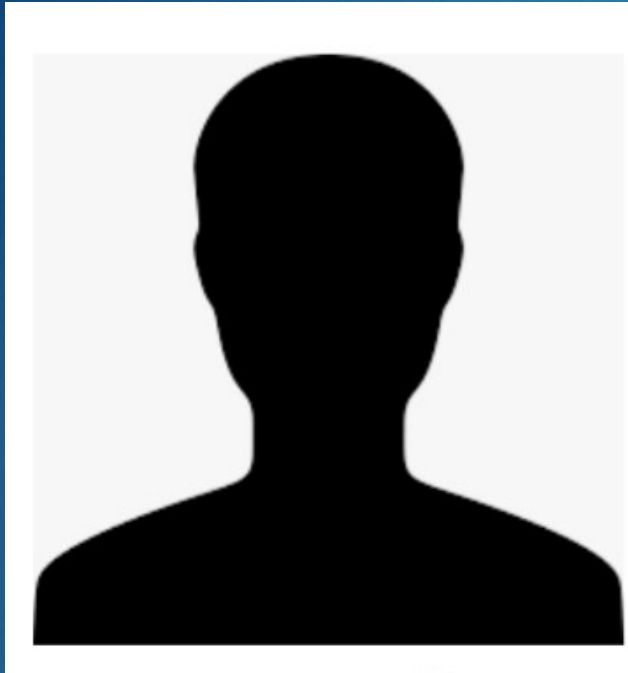
Parents
Luigi Cosimini
and
Marianna Piacentini

Wife
Assunta Chiappa

Business
11 Hamilton Rd and
4 Motherwell Rd, Bellshill

Born in parishes of Barga

Pietro Dalli



Pietro's photograph still remains elusive

**Born 10th October,
1893
Pedona, Loppia**

**Parents
Silvio Dalli
and
Teresa Riani**

**Wife
Giulia Togneri**

**Business
18 Bridge St, Ayr and
122 Caledonian Rd,
Motherwell – later Alloa**

Born in parishes of Barga

Luigi Arturo Biagi



**Born 16th Apr, 1898
Gallicano**

**Wife
Anna – married and
lived in Castelvechio**

**Business
4 Charlotte St and
Academy Café,
32 Bridge St, Ayr**



Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Boog Biagi

Giovanni Fontana



**Born 18th July, 1892
Frassinoro, (MO)**

**Wife
Ida Renucci
Born 30th Mar, 1894
Fрати, Barga**

**Wife's Parents
Pietro Renucci
and
Amabile Turicchi**

Business - Carlisle

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Paul Renucci

Quinto Santini



**Born 29th Jul, 1880
Pistoia**

**2 Daughters married
into Barga families**

**Fernanda Santini
married
Alfredo Gonnella
born 7th Oct 1899
Barga di
Giovanni Pietro Gonnella
San Pietro in Campo**

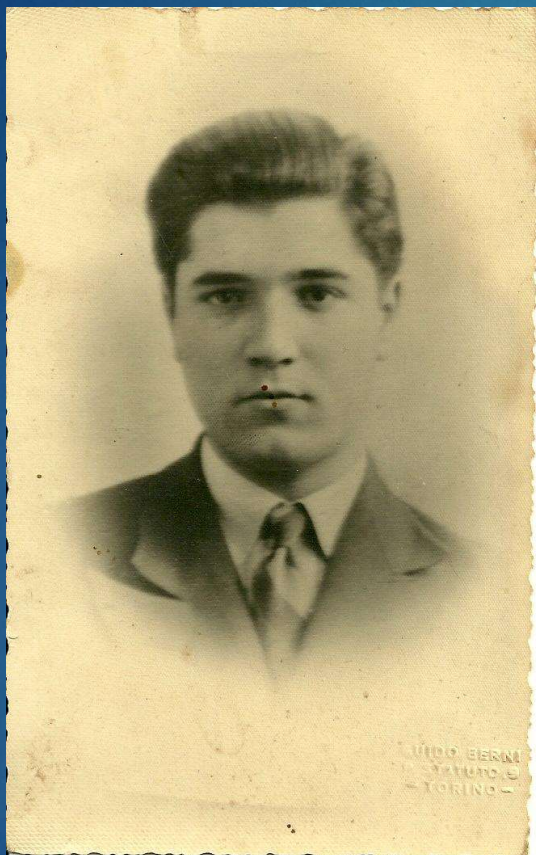
**Vira Santini
married
Renato Gonnella
born 25th Jun 1918
Glasgow di
Amerigo Gonnella
Sommocolonia**

Business - Glasgow

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Raffaello Gonnella

Oraldo Chiappelli



**Born 14th May, 1920
Pistoia**

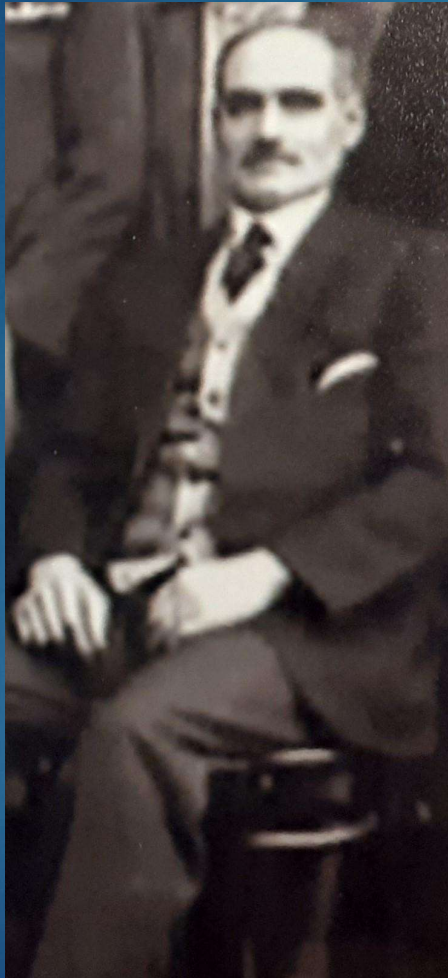
**Brother Amelio married
Clementina Marchi
born 1921 Wearside**

**Parents of Clementina :
Luigi Marchi born
30th Dec, 1869
Sommocolonia
and
Maria Amabile Rinaldi
born 12th Feb 1879
Sommocolonia**

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Dante Cassini

Simone Filippi



Close relative to Barga born

**Born 22th Oct, 1878
Pieve Fosciana**

**Daughter Caterina
married
Bruno Pieri
born 5th May, 1915
Paisley**

**Bruno's Parents :
Emilio Pieri born 21st Oct, 1875
Sommocolonia and
Edita Rocchiccioli born
2nd Sep, 1877 Sommocolonia**

Business - Ayr

Photograph courtesy of Maria Therese Filippi

Mario Filippi



**Born Mar 15th, 1910
Castelnuovo**

**Son of Simone Filippi
Brother of Caterina
Filippi, wife of Bruno
Pieri (as per previous)**

Business - Ayr

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Maria Therese Filippi

Giacinto Frattaroli



**Born 6th Sep, 1900
Picinisco (FR)**

**Wife
Giulietta Colognori
born 15th Feb, 1906
Glasgow**

**Giulietta's Parents
Andrea Colognori born
27th Oct, 1874 Barga and
Concetta Benassi born
Molazzana 10th Dec, 1873**

Business - Ayr

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Roberto Iannotti

Alfonso Pacitti Snr



Born
3rd Aug, 1887,
Cerasuolo, Isernia,
Molise

Grandfather of Alfonso
Pacitti Jnr who lost 2
grandfathers.
Silvio Bertolini (as per
previous) born Barga
was also grandfather of
Alfonso Pacitti Jnr

Business - Ayr

Close relative to Barga born

Photograph courtesy of Alfonso Pacitti



This presentation has been researched by Robert Rossi Author in collaboration with Raffaello Gonnella and Michael Donnelly. Extensive work on respective Family Trees has been done in order to locate living descendants of those who perished on the Arandora Star. Photographs have been received as far away as Australia, Canada and the Cayman Isles.

Robert Rossi was born in Glasgow. His parents were from Catagnana and Sommocolonia. Robert's life was typical of most Barga emigrants to Scotland and to the North of England who made their living in Fish and Chips and in the Ice Cream business.

Robert has been inspired by countless stories of ancestors and relatives, not least of the tragic events during World War 2 when most Italians struggled with conflicts of conscience. So the BLOOD HEART Trilogy was created.

Fictionalised novels of the classic Barghigiani emigration story have been written and published. They include fictional and personal accounts of the Arandora Star tragedy.
ITALIAN BLOOD BRITISH HEART (2019)
JEWISH BLOOD ITALIAN HEART (July 2020)
ITALIAN BLOOD AMERICAN HEART (2021)