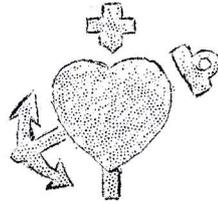


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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA.  
"REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST - PUBLICATION No. VBH 3850"

This Newsletter No 18 contains details of our St Constantines, Helen Day Function and details of an art exhibition to be sponsored by your Society in July. The artist, Castellorizian born Evangelos Sakaris was born in Castellorizo in 1950 then lived in Rhodes for nine months. In 1983 he married Faye Voglis. Evangelos Sakaris has just completed an exhibition in Carlton where he exhibited forty-four of his original paintings.

We print an article by George B Bisas on Greek Easter in Australia, by courtesy of the Neos Kosmos Newspaper, and there is also a report on our Youth Club's activities. We regret that there is no profile ready for this month's Newsletter, I just have not had the time to prepare one.

Once again we find it necessary to appeal to our members for newsitems, stories, profiles or historical material for inclusion in our letters. Closing date for all items is the 23rd of each month. The task of collecting and printing newsitems is a time consuming one and it would be of great assistance if members could write or telephone items for inclusion.

We also like to ask members to notify us in writing of a change of address or the name and address of any Castellorizian who is not receiving this letter. I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Board of Directors to apologise to members for any spelling, typing, or printing mistakes that occur from time to time.

#### W E D D I N G S

SUNDAY 10th JUNE - In Sydney Andrew Caripis will marry Christine Constanti. Andrew is the son of Michael and Lucy Caripis. The reception in Sydney will be held at Torwood Lounge Sans Souci. The wedding ceremony is at St Nectarios Church, Burwood N.S.W.

SUNDAY 16th JUNE - Mark Josephidis will marry Thespo Theoti at St John's Church, Lygon Street Carlton. Reception is at Bellevue Receptions Bell Street Coburg East. Mark is the youngest son of Forde and Roza Josephidis.

#### B A P T I S M

The baptism took place at "Timeos Stauros" Church, Box Hill on 20th May 1984 of the son of Michael and Marcia Miriklis, grandson of Jack and Katina Miriklis and Elefterios and Katie Chrysochoos who were in Melbourne for the baptism.

Over 300 people attended a party at Meteora Receptions, Ashwood. From Adelaide for the ceremony were the great-grandmother Mrs Despina Kandilafitis, Marcia's brother Steve and sister Despina. Marcia's auntie and uncle Jack and Anna Kandilafitis with daughter Despina, were present as was George and Eva Kostoglou with daughter Angela and son John, Mick and Angela Kotsoglou with family Valerie, Peter and George, with the godfather being George M Miriklis.

#### H O L I D A Y S   H O L I D A Y S   H O L I D A Y S   H O L I D A Y S   H O L I D A Y S

- John Voyage back from a trip to Greece, England and Hong Kong.
- Herb and Maria Kyriakos on a World Tour.
- Maria and Kevin Kominos back from Fiji.
- In Melbourne from Darwin, Mrs Lillian Gomas and daughter Mary-Anne. Lillian is the daughter of John and Mary Jordan who were formerly of Melbourne.
- In Melbourne visiting her daughter Christine Pavlou, Mrs Nina Papacotis, together with Mrs Nina Doratis of Sydney.
- In Queensland visiting their daughter, Zefi and Basil Barboutis, Nick and Maria Patientis of Melbourne.

B I R T H S

Just back from Sydney Nick and Betty J Adgemis to celebrate the birth of their third grandson Michael, born to Thespo and Angelo Hatzatouris. Thespo is the only daughter of Nick and Betty Adgemis.

- To Tasia and Andy Ioannidis a son (Nickolas) at Mercy Maternity on 28th May 1984. Tasia is the eldest daughter of Spiro and Margaret Moraitis. Congratulations to Margaret and Spiro on their first grandchild.

NEWS FROM INTERSTATE - QUEENSLAND

We congratulate the newly elected committee of the Castellorizian Association of Queensland.

PRESIDENT - J A Tattis  
FEMALE V/PRESIDENT - D Elstathis  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY - A Panagaris  
ASSISTANT TREASURER - R Chakalakis

V/PRESIDENT - G Papadinos  
SECRETARY - K Lakerdis  
TREASURER - C Ellis  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS - H Kontos, J R Tattis,  
G Yanardasis and N Chakalakis.

- NEW SOUTH WALES

To celebrate its 60th birthday, the Castellorizian Club of New South Wales will be holding a dinner dance at the Club Rooms on the 10th June. Mr C Vertzayias, the President of the NSW Association, has invited all state Presidents to be their guests to celebrate the occasion. We congratulate the Sydney Cassies on their 60th birthday. The Victorian Club was established in 1925.

E N G A G E M E N T -

Maria (Lemonia) M Kailis to Jim Bacopanos of Sydney. Maria is the daughter of one of our Life Members Michael George and Patricia Kailis of Perth W.A.

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS

An exhibition of paintings by Castellorizian born painter "EVANGELOS SAKARIS" will be held at our Club Rooms on a date in July. The exhibition will feature original paintings by Evangelos including many painted of and on the Island of Castellorizo.

Evangelos, who has just completed an exhibition of his paintings in Carlton, will be present at the exhibition. We will notify members in our next newsletter of the final dates and times for the exhibition.

F U T U R E F U N C T I O N S . . .

BOUZOUKI NIGHT - (DATE TO BE ANNOUNCED).  
POKER MACHINE BUS TRIP TO ALBURY - 29th JULY.  
ART EXHIBITION BY EVANGELOS SAKARIS - EARLY JULY.  
COCKTAIL PARTY FOR BISHOP EIZEKIEL - AUGUST TENTATIVE DATE.  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 26TH AUGUST 1984.

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HELLENIC FREEMASONS - Hellenic Freemasons Association of Victoria. We congratulate the Hellenic Freemasons on their 50th Anniversary. A special function to celebrate the event was held at E.E.A.M.A. on Sunday May 27th.

V A L E

The death occurred in Melbourne of Doris, wife of Peter Polites. The Board of management of the Castellorizian Society extends its deepest sympathy to Peter on his sad loss.

MEMORIAL SERVICE - A Memorial Service was held at St Catherine's Church East Malvern in memory of the late Harry Gregory, who died on 1st May 1983.

Y O U T H N E W S - Those of you who attended last year's combined Disco with the Lemnians and the Egialians will be pleased to hear that another one is coming up, this time also including Lincoln Institute Greek Club.

This one promises to be bigger and better. Those of you who missed the one last year (and were sorry you did) have a chance to go this time round.

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G R E E K T A V E R N - Y O U T H N E W S C O N T

On the 26th May 1984 we had a very successful and enjoyable evening at "The Greek Inn". Youth Youth Committee was very excited to note the number of people who attended, 58 in all. This also meant many new Members. This is most encouraging and we hope that it won't stop here. Thanks to all those who attended!

Coming up are football matches and a live band night. KEEP YOUR EYE OUT FOR FURTHER DETAILS!

The Castellorizian, Egialian, Lemnian and Lincoln Institute Greek Youth Clubs present to you a combined

D I S C O

\* Sunday 10th June at 7.30 PM

\* "GUNGA DINS" 266 Collins Street MELBOURNE (Enter through Australia Hotel)

\* Only \$7.00 including supper

\* PRIZES FOR EVERY 50TH PERSON THROUGH THE DOOR

I N D O O R C R I C K E T

Many of our younger members are engaged in the playing of Indoor Cricket. Indoor Cricket is one of the fastest growing games in Australia and nearly 500 clubs are already registered to play in Victoria alone. The competition is under the control of the IICC.

INTERNATIONAL INDOOR CRICKET - The team for which some of our members play is called "The Greek Gods". They are at present leading their grade 1 (C) open competition.

THE TEAM COMPRISES OF - George Adgemis, Alex Mihalos, Vince Papeleo, George Theodore, John Symeopoulos, Anothony Adgemis, John A Adgemis, Con Gioves, Harry Kalatzis, Nick K Miriklis, and Michael Vlahos. We wish them luck in their future games and finals.

G E T W E L L . . .

- Mrs Anesta Paltoglou in Alfred Hospital
- John M Miriklis in hospital
- Mitso F Karageorge - GET WELL!

ST CONSTANTINES AND HELENS DAY - A very successful function was held at our Club Rooms on Sunday 27th May following a most impressive Church Service conducted by the new bishop of Melbourne and Victoria, Bishop Eizekail. The Bishop in his address to the congregation spoke very highly of the contributions Castellorizians have made to the Greek Australian Community, the beauty of their Island, and their family and religious beliefs.

At our Club Rooms, over 70 members were addressed by Father Basil re the significance of St Constantines and Helen's Day. We are indebted to Father Basil for his attendance and talk and thank him for his message of congratulations from the Bishop.

Thanks once again to Dianne Spartels for her first-class catering arrangements. The Bishop has expressed a wish to meet as many Castellorizians as possible during his stay in Melbourne. Your Committee will be holding a Cocktail Party as soon as possible to allow as many members to meet the Bishop.

We will keep you notified of the date when we have finalised all arrangements.

E A S T E R D O W N U N D E R (C O N T . F R O M P A G E 4)

Neither the Church nor its Archbishop can really answer all questions of faith for the individual. What it can hope to do is offer some guidance one would think, lead the way. To what extent the Greek Orthodox Church is doing this for members of its congregation I suppose could be answered differently by each member of that congregation. It certainly is not doing enough.

Easter in our Church is a time for the many thousands of Orthodox followers to return to their religious obligations. A packed Church, overflowing into the streets and roads outside is the scene for Easter Friday and Saturday nights. Compare this to the regular Sunday and Evening services where only a fraction of this crowd are in attendance. This shows us two things; one the failure of the Church to meet the every day needs of its congregation and secondly, the popularity of Greek Easter down under.

## EASTER DOWN UNDER

BY GEORGE B BISAS

Easter has again passed and for about one million Australians for the first time in a couple of years, it was celebrated over the holiday period. I speak of course of the members of the Orthodox faith. How does the Church cope with Easter in Australia? What are the problems faced in being an Orthodox Greek in a new society? What is the meaning of a Greek Easter down under?

Like many of my friends, I was baptised in the Greek Orthodox Church but the exact meaning of this and my own obligation and involvement was and still is not very clear. The greatest stumbling block then was of course the language of the services, the Greek of the New Testaments and Byzantine times. My religious instruction at public school was always with the Church of England students and it was not until 1975 that Greek Priests were finally allowed into the classroom to instruct in the Orthodox faith. Efforts at my own school, Melbourne High, showed that the law in fact only allowed certain religions to be taught in government schools and this had to be changed to allow the introduction of the Orthodox faith.

Despite my own heavy involvement in the Orthodox Church as an altar boy, my comprehension of the Church at the very best, left a lot to be desired. One important memory that I do have of my involvement with the Church is Greek Easter. We always enjoyed "Christos Anesti". It is a period where the family together can involve itself strongly in the Church and its teachings. Whether this is for spiritual reasons rather than traditional family customs is unclear. The interpretation of Easter and its special importance in our Church is a point open to discussion. Some of the most dramatic and impressive moments for the Orthodox Church take place in the week leading up to Easter, the Holy Week, included are the procession of the EPITAPHION (the figure of the dead Christ laid out for burial) through the streets on the evening of Good Friday, inevitably causing traffic snarls and complaints from neighbours and always in inclement weather; and the lighting of the candles and the combined singing of the Resurrection hymn which signifies the Resurrection of Christ at midnight Easter Saturday. These events together with our own family customs brought the Church close to the family. As one of our most important religious events it serves as a way of bridging the gap but it is only once a year and for many people attendance at Church over this period has become more a traditional family outing than a way to spiritual fulfilment.

What more can the Church do to involve its congregation throughout the year? Before attempting to answer this question, if we can at all, I think it is important to know a little bit more about the Orthodox Church and its teachings. For example, how does it differ from other versions of Christianity? Archbishop Stylianos said in an article published by the National Times that he felt that there should be no differences. "It should not have a different message to the others while we are all united in the same gospel and Christian message. Unfortunately, as soon as we try to interpret this message we differ."

Archbishop Stylianos goes on to say that "the Catholic and Protestant Churches have a greater sense of the practical aspects of life. They are more rationalistic. They have the intention, the ambition if you like, more to understand, to explore, to explain all the possibilities and details of the message of the gospel ... Many people think that the Church is not always prompt in answering modern social questions. This is a great misunderstanding. Our Church has a great and deep respect for the conscience of the individual. It tries to develop mature individuals.

"We believe strongly in the co-operation of the human with the divine. That's why in answering problems of a social nature - for example, birth control, while there are some Churches and denominations which say yes, you are allowed to do so, to use this or that method to avoid conception; and others which say no, you are not allowed; our Church says morals are not mathematics. Only mathematical problems have yes or no answers. Morals have an extremely personal character. Moral problems are unique for every person. We say God has given you the brains to organise your life responsibly according to your conscience".

Reading what our Archbishop has had to say is quite an illuminating experience. I, like many, have tended to compare the legalisms and staid conservative absolutes of the Catholic Church with our own Church. These are the personal beliefs of the leader of our Church. They are how he perceives its role should be in Australia, in a new society. How well does it filter down through the Church structure to the priest and his congregation? I think not very well. Religion and one's faith of course is very private and individual thing.