

THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

THE CASTELLORIZIAN NEWSLETTER

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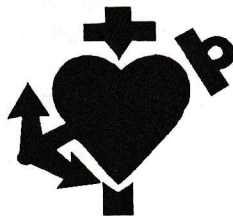
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA. "REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST - PUBLICATION No. VBH3850"

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Newsletter No. 69 April, 1990

We print Part 2 of the Castellorizo Greek Tragedy also further details of the 3rd Castellorizian National Youth Conference to be held in Melbourne from Friday June 8th to Monday June 11th, 1990.

St Constantine and Helens Day Sunday 27th May, 1990
at St Constantine and Helens Church Barry Street, South Yarra - and afterwards a light luncheon at Castellorizian Club 250 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne.

This is the **Feast Day** of our Club and is an Annual event held to celebrate the Club's name day.

All Welcome

Don't forget the Youth Conference to be held in Melbourne this June, 1990.

All details and queries from George B. Bisas telephone: 534 1951 and Leah Pavlou telephone: 598 2925.

WELFARE (Christine Dimer)

Our Welfare Officer this month made a visit to see Mrs. C. Lucas. Christine also visited Pronia Homes to wish Mrs Coufos, Mrs Jacomas and Mrs Barbaryannis a Happy Easter on behalf of the Cassies.

DO CARE

From our Welfare Officer - Christine Dimer
Christine Dimer is co-ordinator for Do-Care in the municipalities of Mordialloc, Moorabbin, Sandringham and Brighton. She is urgently in need of volunteers. If anyone is interested please call her on 592 9450.

Do-Care is a friendly visiting program for people who are over 60 years of age and are socially isolated and alone. Older people are valued members of our Community and friendship with a younger person can be an enjoyable experience for both. Do-Care volunteers are

people over the age of 17 and come from all walks of life. Volunteers visit an older person once a week to provide companionship. Regular orientation sessions are held locally for all new volunteers.

BIRTHS

On the 9th April, 1990 to Jim and Pauline Bisas a girl Jacqueline (Marika) at St. Vincents Private Hospital. First child for Jim and Pauline first grandchild for Jack and Marika Bisas, and Chris and Antigoni Apeitos, 15th great grandchild for Mrs Eva Koutsoukis.

To Nicholas and Georgia Zervos (a daughter) at St. Vincents Private Hospital. Baby's name Deandra (Doukissa) 2nd child for Nick and Georgia and grandchild for Peggy and Paul Zervos.

Born on February 15th in Canberra to Stan Piperoglou and Thenia (Papantoniou) a son Vasilios (Liam) Andreas, grandson to Rene and the late Bill Piperoglou and to Maria and the late Andreas Papantoniou of Larnaca (Cyprus).

To Kevin and Mary Zervos a daughter (Alana) 2nd child for Kevin and Mary and 4th grandchild for Paul and Peggy Zervos.

To John and Irene A. Adgemis a baby boy Anastasios at St. Vincents Private Hospital. 3rd child for John and Irene and fifth grandchild for Anna Adgemis and another grandchild for Maria and Jack N. Miriklis.

IN MELBOURNE

Visiting her mother Mrs Eva Koutsoukis from Sydney Mrs Lily Peters (Hatjikyriakos) together with daughter Gina and husband George Calopedos and baby Luke.

21st BIRTHDAY PARTY

A party to celebrate the 21st birthday party of Andrew Papadopoulos will be held at the home of his parents George and Melody (Hetrelezis) Papadopoulos on May 5th, 1990.

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY

A surprise birthday party to celebrate the 60th birthday of Herb Kyriakos was given by his daughter and son-in-law Lynette and Cameron Anderson on April 28th, 1990.

Happy Birthday Herb!!

ENGAGEMENT

Leah Pavlou to Stephen Lemke on May 6th, 1990. Leah is the youngest daughter of Jim and Christina Pavlou and granddaughter of Mrs Nina Cotis of Sydney. A family party to celebrate was held at the home of Leah's parents.

MARRIAGES

On February 10th, 1990 Basil Sakellaropoulos married Helen Haralambous at St. John the Baptist Monastery, Northcote. Reception was held at Roseville Receptions Essendon. Basil is the youngest son of Stahis and Rita Sakellaropoulos (nee Spartels) Helen is the youngest daughter of Savas and Thalia Haralambous - best man was Kyriakos Kantzipas.

On March 31st, 1990 Peter Koutsoukis married Genief Barton at the Civil Registry, William Street, Melbourne. From London for the wedding Peter's brother Dr. Michael Koutsoukis with wife Helen. Peter is the son of Shirley and the late Con Koutsoukis and grandson of Mrs Evangelia Koutsoukis, also attending the private family reception sister Lisa Koutsoukis from Hong Kong.

On Sunday May 20th, 1990 at St. Charalambos Church, Templestowe Dr Terry Bisas will marry Tracey Pryor. Terry is the eldest son of Alex and Maria Bisas. Reception will be at Argentis Receptions, best man is George A. Bisas.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Kathy S. Bisas on passing her Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at Latrobe University.

To Olga Hondros who graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Optometry. Olga is the daughter of Michelle and Bill Hondros.

OFF OVERSEAS

To Greece, Europe and Castellorizo

Mrs Anna Adgemis, Mr Steve and Christina Bisas, Mr. Con and Maria A Mangos (South Australia), Mr Jack and

Maria N. Miriklis, Mr Con and Dorothy Mangos, Mr Peter and Koula Adgemis.

In Castellorizo Mr. Paul Zervos.

Leaving South America for Castellorizo Mr Con and Chrissie Adgemis.

In Greece to visit her family (mother) Ismini Extintaris.

FAREWELL PARTY

A farewell party was held at the home of George and Kathleen Adgemis to say Bon Voyage to Con and Maria Mangos (S.A.), Steve and Christina Bisas, Mrs Anna Adgemis and Jack and Maria N. Miriklis.

In Sydney to visit her family Mrs Betty Adgemis.

From the Daily Telegraph March, 1990 By Belinda Luscombe.

Kogarah High School students may form their own Living Poets Society if Greek poet Komninos gets his way.

The unconventional bard is visiting the school this week as Poet-in-Residence and students have become infected with his love for verse.

But not everybody would recognise this poetry as the "breath and finer spirit of all knowledge" that Wordsworth knew.

"Cars, cars, cars, CAAAAAARS, CAAAAAARS," quote the students from one of Komninos poems on traffic.

"I expected it to be boring, but it's not - it's really boppy," said one student.

Komninos has published three books of poetry but doesn't use them in schools because he says they contain "language which could be considered offensive."

Instead he settles for his gentler poems - including The Baby Rap, about changing nappies and Super-Wog, about a fish-and-chip shop owner who is "faster than a squirt of vinegar".

When the students turn to composition, pens, paper and quiet reflection are discarded for poetry races and word games.

Background

Teachers at the School, which has a large Lebanese population, say the poet's visit has had a fantastic effect on the student's attitude to English.

"They feel Komninos comes from their kind of background. He's a role model," said teacher Mary Boukatis.

"Komninos has showed the kids what they can do - they are saying, 'Look we can write poems too.'"

A Memorial Service for the late Mrs Vayiani will be held at St Andreas Church, Mahoneys Road, Forest Hill on Friday May 11th, 1990 at 7.0p.m.

In Memory of the late Mrs Vayiani Bisas who died on February 23rd, 1990. The following have donated to the Castellorizian Club of Victoria.

Mr & Mrs. M. Palassis (West Australia) \$30
Con & Phylis Miriklis \$30

The following have donated to the Castellorizian Nursing home in New South Wales:-

George & Christine Kasaglis, Yvonne Pitsikas, Peter & Katy Manettas, George & Chrissie Athis.

And to the St. Spyridon Church, Kingsford Mr. & Mrs Jack Cotis.

The following in memory of the late Mrs V. Bisas have donated to the Restoration of St. Nicholas and St. Demetrios Church in Castellorizo:-

Mr & Mrs John Stabelos New South Wales \$20

Mr & Mrs S. Alexandra \$20

Mr & Mrs George & Drosia Fermanis N.S.W. \$20

Mr & Mrs Jim Kontantinidis \$20

Mr George John Adgemis \$20

Mr & Mrs M. Bogiatsis \$20

Mr & Mrs Steve Zombos \$20

Mr & Mrs John Etrelezis \$20

Dr & Mrs S. Moraitis \$20

Mrs Maria Lolatsis \$20

Mr & Mrs N. Exintaris \$15

Mr Steffanos Paltoglou \$10

Mr Jim S. Paltos \$10

Mrs Rosa Kiosoglous Brisbane \$10

Mr & Mrs Con Adgemis \$10

In Memory of the late Toni Skopelitis South Australia the following have donated to the Castellorizian Club of Victoria:-

Mrs Athanasia Hondros \$20

Mrs Anna Adgemis \$15

Mr & Mrs Toni Stabelos \$10

Mr & Mrs Steve Bisas \$10

Home after a stay in Hospital

Pino Liveris, Con Liveris and Marg Liveris.

Nina and Nick Zographou would like to thank through our Newsletter all those who visited or sent get well wishes to Nick during his recent stay in hospital.

The following have donated to the Restoration of St. Nicholas on Castellorizo:-

Mr & Mrs George & Drosia Fermanis N.S.W. \$200

Mr & Mrs John Anastasios Adgemis \$100

Mr & Mrs Nick Georgoulas \$100

Mr & Mrs Spiro Mangos \$100

Mr & Mrs Steve Zombos \$100

Mr & Mrs Terry Bisas \$100

Mrs Tasia Kalafatas \$100

Mr & Mrs Steve Bisas \$100

Mr & Mrs Evan Evangelou \$100

Mr & Mrs M.J. Miriklis \$100

Mr & Mrs B. Barboutis Brisbane \$50

Mr & Mrs Alex Mihalos \$50

ODD SPOT!!

We print a recent letter sent to Dr. L. Hadgiuannakis by the University of Melbourne -

12th March, 1990

Dr Lazarus Hadgiyannakis

Castellorizian Association

250 Dorcas Street

South Melbourne

Dear Dr Hadgiyannakis,

The University of Melbourne Library recently received a gift which has taken 20 years to reach us, but which is most welcome nonetheless.

Mrs Beryl Georgakopoulos contacted me last month to explain that she had just found the copy of Kastellorizo which you had so kindly presented to the University of Melbourne Library in 1970!

It has just reached me, and I am writing to let you know that it has finally arrived safely, and that it will be a most welcome addition to our collection. Interest in the country of origin of so many of our fellow-countrymen is steadily growing in the University and this book will be of great interest.

Thank you for thinking of us. Your interest in the University of Melbourne Library is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Juliet Flesch

Principal Librarian (Collections)

University of Melbourne

3rd CASTELLORIZIAN NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE - MELBOURNE 8/6/90 - 11/6/90 THE PROGRAMME

Friday 8th - Arrivals all day

7.0p.m. Welcome - Buffet dinner

President of Victorian Association to open conference at the Castellorizian Club South Melbourne.

9.0p.m. "Melbourne By Night"

Culminating in a visit to one of Melbourne's top night spots.

Saturday 9th

11.0a.m. Opening Forum

1.0p.m. Lunch

2.0p.m. Discussion workshops

7.0p.m. Castellorizian Theatre Restaurant Night with Live entertainment by Cassie Youth

Late Evening : Free time

Sunday 10th

11.0a.m. Morning stroll through Victoria Market

1.0p.m. Lunch in Lygon Street, Carlton

2.30p.m. Interstate Sports Day with the Perpetual Cassie Cup

7.0p.m. Greek Tavern Night - featuring The Great Debate "Cassies are the snobs of the Greek Community."

Monday 11th

7.30a.m. Queen's Birthday Breakfast at the Windsor Hotel

9.30a.m. Stroll to Captain Cooks Cottage and the "Sports Gallery" at the MCG.

P.M. Watching an AFL match at the MCG (Melbourne vs Carlton).

"CASTELLORIZO - A GREEK TRAGEDY" Part 2

We visited the war-blasted ruins of St. Nicholas Church. "St. Nicholas, who played a major part in the tradition of Santa Claus, was an important saint for the island". said my guide.

"St. Nicholas was born at Patara, a trading colony of Castellorizo. He was consecrated Bishop of Myra in Anatolia, or modern Turkey, where he died."

Still climbing, we called at the church of St. Constantine and St. Helene, which has two granite columns, from the Temple of Apollo in Patara. They were brought over from Turkey in 1835 when the church was built.

Next we walked up and along goat trails with thorns tearing at bare legs to the church of St George of the Mountains, which boasts one of the oldest icons in Christendom, date 450-480 AD.

The church has silver bas-relief depictions of St George's slaying of the dragon. The brave knight is said to have once sojourned on Castellorizo.

In this atmospheric church we lifted a stone trapdoor in the floor and, carrying candles, climbed down steps to a crypt, the bare whiteness walls of which assumed a ghostly appearance by candlelight. "In this small room the Greek Orthodox religion and Greek language and customs were taught during periods of foreign occupation," Kailis explained.

To reach yet another church, St. John's, we trekked across farmland, which barely supported gaunt cattle and healthy-looking wild goats.

The following day, with another guide, 21 year-old Dimitri Scopelitis, we climbed to the highest point of the island where a military post has been established and from where we got our reward for the enervating climb - a magnificent view of the beautiful harbour.

A call at the island's museum is full of interest to the visitor. On display was a remarkable collection of ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine and Venetian artefacts, including a Rhodian amphora of the 1st Century BC, Byzantine clay dishes found in shipwrecks around the island and Byzantine silver coins with Emperor Heraclius's head and the date 613AD.

Social life on Castellorizo is what you make it. But it usually takes the form of a long, often boozy, meal at one of the atmospheric tavernas on or near the waterfront, swapping family reminiscences of bygone days.

At Sam's Taverna run by Melbourne-born Damien Mavrothalasitis and his Cazzie-born father Savvas (Sam) and Australian-born mother Angela, we met holidaying Australian girls visiting the island where their forebears were born.

Denise Economou, of Mt. Hawthorn, whose father Agapitos was born on Castellorizo and who left the island in 1948 at 28, was on her third visit.

"My father, who died last year, never came back to the island - it had too many bad memories," said the young Perth bank officer.

"My grandfather, Peter Economou, was killed by a bomb during the British occupation and my grandmother didn't know he was dead till she returned to the island and found his bones under the ashes of their home.

"The island has a special hold on me and I like to come back every holiday."

Sydney social worker Suzy Velkon whose grandmother Maria (nee Papacotis) left the island in 1920's said she was visiting Castellorizo because "it's part of my history." We found former Sydney newsagent Steve Barboutis, a native Castellorizian, chatting with cronies over a cup of coffee at the waterfront. "I left Cazzie at the age of 14 in 1924," he said "but I've never really left the island in my heart - this is my home. Castellorizo belongs to Australia. Eighty per cent of Cazzies live in Australia. Sydney has a community of 50,000 and we have the biggest Cazzie club. Cazzies have done well in Australia. Unfortunately, there's no future here - there's no high school and no industry, except for tourism. I wish more Australians would visit here and taken an interest in the place."

Castellorizo mayor Michael Hondros told me he was confident the island would survive as a fishing and tourism resort. "We're doing our best" but we could use some help from Australia."

Michael Kailis, who is still Vice-President of the World Castellorizian Brotherhood, is determined to see the island rehabilitated and he has been working towards that end for 15 years. He initiated and was the driving force behind the island's new airport and the current building of 40 new homes away from the island's incredibly beautiful harbour.

"We had to walk for 15 minutes to find a site where nobody would lay claim to the land," he said, "and we had to blast the side of a mountain to clear the site for the homes, which we hope will encourage people to live and work here and help its rehabilitation."

(Final Part to be concluded next month)