

The KYTHERIAN

The Newsletter of the Kytherian Association of Australia PO Box A203, Sydney South NSW 1235 www.kytherianassociation.com.au

JUNE 2007

<u>AGM REPORT</u>

The Annual General Meetings for the Kytherian Association of Australia & the Kytherian Brotherhood of Australia were held on Wednesday 30th May 2007 at South Coogee Public School, South Coogee. 33 members attended the meeting. After one minute silence in memory of those departed Kytherians, we heard the minutes from last year's AGM being read and accepted, as were the financial reports which were read out by representatives of the auditors, Economos &Co.

Treasurers Report

Report on Annual Financial Accounts for 2007 delivered by Accountant, Sam Lamprinos representing Economos and Co.

The Overall result for the Association was a Gross Profit of \$116,288, which was up \$14,000 from 2005 and Tax paid was \$32,585.00.

Presidents Report

Victor Kepreotis reported that it was yet another successful year for the Kytherian Association of Australia. This was demonstrated in the success of the **2007 Kytherian Ball** held on 26th May 2007. 766 adults attended the 2007 Ball in comparison to 680 in 2006. Expected profit from the event in the vicinity of \$25-30K. The Ball Committee is to be commended for organising such a great event. Other Events held throughout the year included:-

- Ayia Elesa Liturgy, Sunday 6th August 2006 at Kogarah Church.
- 2nd International Kytheraismos Symposium held in Canberra.15th, 16th &17th September 2006 which was opened by the Prime Minister, Mr John Howard.
- **September Family Dance** Saturday 23rd September 2006 at Grand Barclay realising a profit of approx.\$800 with 355 people.
- Panayia Myrtidiotissa Service & Dancing, Sunday 24th September 2006 held at Kogarah Church
- **December Christmas Picnic**, Sunday 3rd December 2006, subsidised by KAA to approx \$1,000 for over 100 children and organised by K4WD Club.
- New Years Day Dance Monday 1st January 2007 with 220 people at Grand Barclays realising profit of approx \$520
- Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards Dinner/Dance Saturday 10th March 2007 held at Twin Function Centre with 11 Candidates this year. This function also returned a profit.
- **Kytherian Association of Queensland Mega Event.** Sunday 15th April 2007 at the Cyprus Club, with over 500 people attending in the presence of the Governor of Queensland, Ms Quentin Bryce AC.
- Agios Theodoros Liturgy, Sunday 13th May 2007 at Parramatta Church
- **Eptanisian Federation Day Liturgy** Sunday 20th May 2007 at Agios Nicholas Church, Marrickville where the KAA is currently holding the position of Treasurer.
- **85th Annual Debutante Ball** Saturday 26th May 2007 with 766 adults, 9 debutantes, 4 flower girls & 4 pageboys. George Miller (Oscar winning Kytherian director) was Guest of Honour and
- Victor Kepreotis thanked all the Committees of the KAA for their efforts during the year.

Property Purchase Update

Helen Zerefos sang beautifully.

During the last 6 months there were 2 properties which were given close attention, one at Beverly Hills and the other at Marrickville. George Caponas explained the reasoning behind the cancellation of the Proposed Building Purchase Information Evening which was to be held on 16th May 2007.

He advised that the prime objective in purchasing a property is income. A sound investment will result in a sound return. The building of interest did not entirely meet that requirement. (Problem with zoning). It was decided that it is important that an informed decision be made as the building represents our investment for future Kytherians. The main business activity of the KAA will be the acquisition of a property. Therefore **Resolution 2.** was **voted to not** be considered. After some discussion **Resolution1** was **voted for** unanimously, giving authority to the Committee to purchase a property up to \$2.8 million under six specific guidelines for the purpose of property investment.

Mr. John Prineas stood to congratulate the Committee for their efforts and for the work done by Dr George Caponas and his Steering Committee and especially the Ball Committee for a fantastic 2007 Ball.

KYTHO CALENDAR

FRI. 27TH APRIL-29TH JUNE

Greek Dancing Lessons Term 2. (details on page 13)

SATURDAY 16TH JUNE

KYMG Movie Day (see page 9)

FRIDAY 13TH JULY

Christmas in July (see page 12)

SUNDAY 5TH AUGUST

Ayia Elesa Liturgy at Kogarah Greek Orthodox Church.



Name the famous model who came to our Ball.

Answer is on the back page.

mums & Bubs

"Mums and Bubs" outings are held on the last Friday of each month, for babies and children up to 5 years, for more information please call Erenie on 0410 318 053.

Editor's Note

May was an extremely busy month for us Kytherians with various functions filling our social calendar. The highlight was undoubtedly the Ball. Judging from the many emails that we have received, we are not alone in feeling that it was a most successful Ball!

As in previous years, the venue and décor set the scene for a thoroughly enjoyable evening, full of "kefi" that was added to by the presence of our gracious Guest-of-Honour, Dr. George Miller. He is such an inspiration to all of us and shows great humility with regard to his many achievements. We were also fortunate to have as another guest, Ms. Helen Zerefos, a brilliant performer, who sang the Australian and Greek National Anthems so beautifully. Her rendition of "Time To Say Goodbye" was absolutely amazing!

Our debutantes and their partners impressed us with their dancing as did our very own Latin American dancers Christina and Peter Pavlakis with their brilliant performance.

All in all it was a memorable night that continued on for the young ones at the "after party". Those of us who stayed overnight had the opportunity to meet at breakfast and reflect on the previous evening's events. We all seemed to agree that it had indeed been a wonderful function.

My youngest son however, will tell you that the highlight of the weekend for him came at the very end when we were leaving Star City. Who should we see but Lucas Neill! For those of you who are not soccer literate....he is the Socceroos' captain and plays for my son's favourite English team, West Ham. He was very friendly and obliging in having a photo taken with one extremely appreciative fan.

On a different note, spare a thought for the hard working Ball Committee. They are now faced with the difficult task of planning next year's Ball and unfortunately for them, they have a hard act to follow!



It Must be Made With Fresh Dill

The terraced hillside that was my grandfather's garden, held a special interest for me as a small, curious child because it was a good place to explore. A tour around the garden beds may have been just a ploy to distract a bored child, but I remember pointing to the pendulous purple fruit, which grew on a bush almost as big as myself and asking, "what are they grandpa?" "Egg fruit," came the reply. In response to my puzzled expression, he added, "because they are shaped like eggs." At that age, the only eggs I knew about were the ones our chickens layed or that I ate for breakfast.

A decade and a half before, when my mother was a teenager, the same garden was resplendent with many different kinds of vegetables, herbs and flowers. A hierarchy existed – flowers and herbs grew on the sunny high side, with herbs spilling over the rocky garden edges. Vegetables were cultivated in season, along the lower beds. Mostly these were the traditional ingredients of Mediterranean cooking. There was ocra, eggplant, tomato, broad beans, artichoke, celery, shallot, lettuce, then others such as khohlrabi, chinese cabbage, snake beans, radish and silverbeet.

Grandfather turned the hard shale-like ground, common in that part of Brisbane, into productive soil with the regular addition of a home-made liquid fertiliser, the ingredients of which were supplied by his chickens. A Yates Gardening Guide was always by his side. His garden thrived and during the years of the Great Depression, amply supported a household of five. Grandfather was a qualified cook with many years of experience in both large and small commercial kitchens. He knew how to prepare simple but delicious meals.

Whenever we talk, my mother, who still cooks for herself, takes pleasure in describing the ingredients and methods she has used to prepare her meals for the day. I could tell she was excited with the results of her broad bean stew, when she told me she had set some aside for me to sample, and followed with the advise, "it must be made with fresh dill" -- the flavour was delectable.

The thought of eating home-grown fresh salads during the summer months, spurred me onto plant some salad greens in my own garden towards the end of 2006. My enthusiasm knew no bounds, but I failed to take into account the seriousness of our water

restrictions in Brisbane, a consequence of the worst drought on record. Last Spring, water restrictions had reached level 3. Now in the month of May 2007, we are on level 5, with current predictions soon placing the south east region of Queensland on level 6. No outdoor watering is allowed on level 6, even with a bucket. During the summer heat of January, unable to supply sufficient water to my salad greens, they withered and died. In grandfather's time, there was a plentiful supply of water. He could hose his garden, morning and evening without restrictions.

A love of gardens and gardening is a deeply imbedded part of our family's tradition. When we visit one-another, a tour of each other's gardens is mandatory. Fruit trees are inspected, herbs admired, vegetables picked and eaten, landscaping ideas shared, and gardening tips and plants exchanged. My sister's garden in Cairns, far North Queensland, is lush and tropical. In contrast, my son, who lives in Melbourne, Victoria, has a cool climate garden. Our gardens though diverse, are not extraordinary; they are suburban backyard gardens, with the exception of one family member who has a balcony garden, but they bind us together with a common interest.

Gaye Hegemann, gayehegeman@hotmail.com

"Aphrodite and the Mixed Grill"

NEW BOOK BY TONI RISSON

The Greek Café is a great Australian icon and a uniquely Australian phenomenon. It is also a shared chapter in the histories of Greece and Australia, because cafés and milk bars enabled generations of Greek immigrants to settle in Australia, and these shops became a vital part of the social fabric of their adopted homeland.

Toni Risson is a UQP children's book author, Ipswich historian, and University of Queensland Medallist. This book is the culmination of four years of research. Beautifully produced in a matt cello-glazed soft cover, its 240 A4 pages are jam-packed with sepia photographs of early cafés and their proprietors.

To order, send a cheque or money order for \$60.50 (includes postage and handling within Aust.) to:
Toni Risson, I 30 Woodend Road, Ipswich
Queensland, Australia, 4305.

Enquiries re. overseas postage or bulk orders: email: t.risson@uq.edu.au, phone: 0439664291 or 0419760861

You are the authors! Kythera-Family.net - the online cultural archive for Kythera - aims to preserve and reflect the rich heritage of a wonderful island. Members of the community are actively invited to submit their family collection of Kytherian stories, photographs, recipes, oral histories, and home remedies etc. to the site. Uploading directly to the site is easy and free. Thus we can help make available valuable and interesting material for current and future generations, and inspire young Kytherians to learn more about their fascinating heritage.

Kytherian Ball 2007

Our annual Debutante Ball is the major fundraising event on our social calendar. This year's Ball was held at Star City on 26th May, 2007 and once again, it was a night that did not disappoint. This occasion allowed family and friends to celebrate with the beautiful debutantes and their handsome escorts as they were presented to society.

There was an element of elegance and ceremony, fabulous food, entertainment and plenty of "kefi". By all reports, everyone had a most enjoyable time including our Guest of Honour, **Dr George Miller**, who was given the opportunity to become reacquainted with many lost relatives. **His Eminence**, **Archbishop Stylianos** was again represented by **Father Constantine Varipatis** and **Presvitera**, while the Greek Government was represented by the Consul General, **Mr Ioannis Raptakis** and his wife, **Polixeni**. We also were fortunate enough to have the wonderfully talented **Ms Helen Zerefos** to enchant us with her beautiful singing. Congratulations were offered throughout the evening to the lovely **Matron of Honour, Mrs Kathy Samios**, who along with other members of the Ball Committee and all the debutantes, their partners, flower girls and pageboys endured many hours of preparation for this "night of nights". Kathy is our extremely hard-working Vice President of the Kytherian Association and it was wonderful to see her relax and enjoy the evening.

Congratulations also to the young ladies and their escorts, who looked sensational and along with the Matron of Honour, entertained us with wonderful dances that were choreographed and taught by our expert dancing teacher, Joanne Tsakiridis. Well done also to the flower girls and pageboys who presented themselves perfectly while still managing to look so cute. We also thank those who supported our raffle by either donating prizes or buying tickets. Through your efforts, a cheque for \$5,000 was donated by the Ladies' Auxiliary to Scleroderma Research. Another cheque of \$5,000 was presented by the Kytherian Association to ESTIA, to assist in the respite care for people with disabilities and their families. Also a pledge of \$5,000 was made towards the restoration of Agia Triada in Mitata, Kythera. On behalf of the *Kytherian Association*, our gratitude goes to the following for their generosity; Paul & Helen Dracakis of Dracakis Jewellers, Kytherian Ladies' Auxiliary, Peter & Christa Satouris of Peter's of Kensington, Bridgeclimb, Peter & Chrissa Vlandis, Cos and Toni Psaltis of Centennial Hotel, Kytherian Young Mothers Group, Tina Feros of Hairbiz, Kytherian 4WD & Recreation Club, Tulipanna Florist, Star City and Roses Only. Congratulations to all the winners of the raffle prizes and our appreciation goes to all the advertisers in this year's excellent Ball Programme for your continuing support.

On behalf of the debutantes, their partners and all the guests, I would like to thank the Laiki Bank, Fardoulis Chocolates, Con & Peter Gavrilis from Astor Base Metals for their adorable fridge magnets that were provided to everyone, and Peter & Helen Magiros of Frutex /Spicemasters. Our gratitude also goes to Emmanuel Alfieris who did an excellent job as M.C. for the evening and to Rene Samios and Peter Calligeros and Matina Samios who assisted the Ball Committee members to coordinate the whole evening. Finally, as I said on the night, a special thank you to all the members of the **Ball Committee.** for their hard work that enabled us to organise such a gala event. However, the success of the evening is not only measured by the elegantly arranged décor, the delicious food and excellent service from **Star City** or the entertaining music from **Angelo of Black Express** who produced great "Kefi". Neither is it measured by the very modern floral arrangements by Tulipanna Florists that adorned the Grand Harbour Ballroom. We can measure the success by the multitude of compliments, especially "I had a great time Mum" and "I can't wait until next year". Our gratitude goes to the 766 guests, whose support has once again ensured that the 85th Anniversary Ball was an overwhelming success.

The following are the prize winners of the night:

SILENT AUCTION:

Trivett Motors: M. Satouris

George Miller Caricature: John & Irene Faros Desperate Housewives: Maria Mihailidis

LUCKY DOOR:

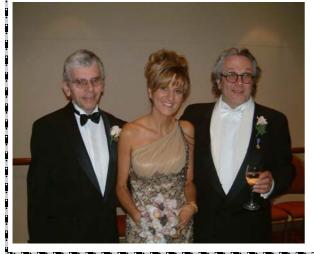
- 1. Star City Overnight Accomodation Michelle Cassimatis
- 2. Priscilla tickets Kieren Konstandinithes
- 3. Roses Only unknown ticket no. 019

RAFFLES:

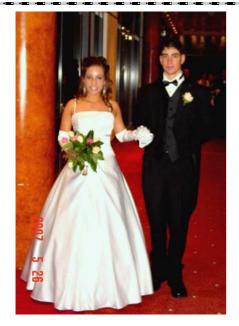
- 1. Ticket no. 01204 Chrisanthy Stutz (Comino), QLD
- 2. Ticket no. 05290 Nick Psaltis, Maroubra
- 3. Ticket no. 06337 unclaimed
- 4. Ticket no. 01269 G. Dennis, Riverstone
- 5. Ticket no. 15260 unclaimed
- 6. Ticket no. 03402 George, Penrith
- 7. Ticket no. 04782 Marianthe Stratis
- 8. Ticket no. 14749 Despina Kaklamanis
- 9. Ticket no. 10516 Marea Fatseas, Canberra
- 10. Ticket no. 02173 Phillip George, Bondi

For unclaimed prizes please contact Victor on 0408 216 108









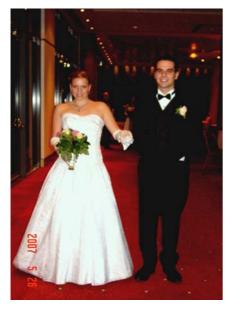
Marianthe & Stratos Varipatis



Persefoni Ambele & Marcus Svinos



Effie & Ross Psaltis



Alysee Lynch & Peter Samios



Tina & Peter Andrew



Stephanie Magiros & Emanuel Comino

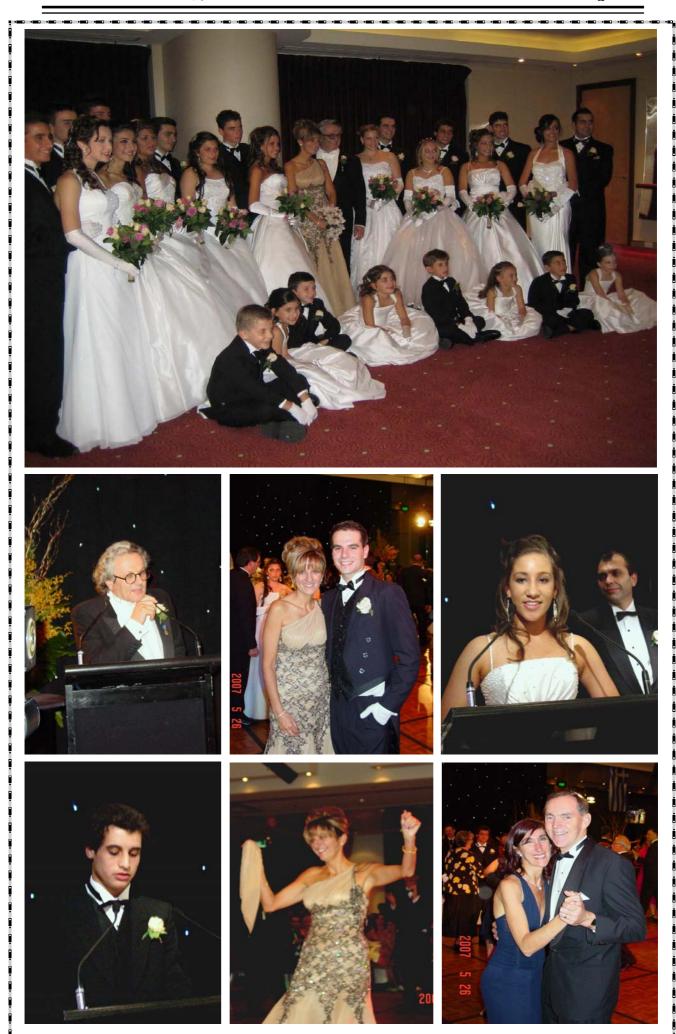


Anastasia Mihailidis & Phillip Anastasiou Stephanie Skyllas & Christian Passas





Maria & Marc Calokerinos



Prime Minister Karamanlis' visit to Australia

As most of our readers are aware, Greek Prime Minister Constantinos Karamanlis spent a day in Sydney while on his recent historic trip to Australia. Many Kytherians including members of the KAA committee (as seen in the photos below) were invited to a cocktail party in his honour at the Sheratonon-the-Park as well as attending a meeting of thousands of Greeks at the Sydney Town Hall. However, few got "close up & personal" as two of our former senior dancers, **Heather Pappas & Joshua Kepreotis**. As captains of their schools, St Spyridon College and All Saints Grammar respectively, they were fortunate enough to be included in all of the Prime Minister's hectic programme during the day. The day began with a Doxology Service that was conducted by His Eminence Archbishop Stylianos at the Archdiocese. From there, they travelled to the official opening of St Basil's new complex in Miranda before visiting St Spyridon Parish and Primary School where **Heather** delivered an excellent speech in Greek. They were then transported to Circular Quay as part of the Prime Minister's entourage, for an organised harbour cruise. During the day, they were able to meet other visiting politicians such as Mrs Dora Bakoyiannis and Mr Theodore Kassimis. This enabled them to gain a greater understanding of Greek politics and appreciate the fact that many politicians come from families that have a truly rich political heritage.

Both **Heather & Joshua** appreciated this wonderful opportunity and thoroughly enjoyed themselves on the day. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that neither of them will forget.



















Kytherian Young Mothers Group Movie Day

TIME: Afternoon session

(to be confirmed)

PLACE: Hoyts Cinema

EASTGARDENS

Westfield Shopping Centre Level 2 (opposite Big W) 152 Bunnerong Road

COST: Adults \$10.00 (ticket only)

<u>Children \$15.00</u> (includes small popcorn & drink-water or coke)

NB: Children under 12 years must be accompanied by an adult!

BOOKINGS & PREPAYMENT REQUIRED BY 10 JUNE 07

CONTACTS:

Maria Coolentianos 0409 639 897

Kyrranne Thomas 0402 809 050

Stella Preneas 0402 296 100 Maria Notaras

0425 230 991

Gina Satouris

0400 587 919

SOCIAL NEWS Christenings

<u>Births</u>

Congratulations to Willam & Monica **Notaras** on the birth of their daughter Alexandra, a sister for Mariana. Proud grandparents are **Angelo & Mary Notaras** of Bellevue Hill.

Congratulations to George & Patrisia Tzoukas on the birth of their 3rd child, a daughter **Tiana** Fay and sister to Evan and **Jonathan**, aged 6 and 3 years. **Tiana** is the 5th grandchild for John & Dina Karedis of Kingsford, although she is their 1st granddaughter. **Tiana** is also the 10th grandchild for **Angelo &** Melba Tzoukas of Redfern and has been named after her Yiayia **Kostantina** and her belated great grandmother Fotini. Tiana was born 4 weeks premature and spent 18 days in special care. She finally came home on her father's birthday, giving him the best possible present!

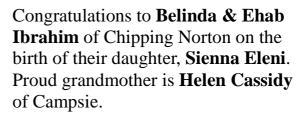
Congratulations to **Theo & Elena Sofios** of Greenacre on the birth of their son. Mina is the first grandchild for both Mick & Gloria Sofios of Belmore, and Pierre & Anastassia Beirouthy of Greenacre.

John & Marina **Venetoulis** of Maroubra christened their daughter Paris (Paraskevi), sister to Nicholas, at St Spyridon, Kingsford. Godmother was **Maria Ventoulis**. A party was held at Le Sands Restaurant, Brighton-Le-Sands. Proud grandparents, Michael & Carol Mallos of Maroubra and Nick & Vicki Venetoulis of Sans Souci.

Andrew & Anna Sofios of Canberra christened their daughter Mia (Maria) at Saint Dimitrios, Queanbeyan. Godfather was **George Pappas.** A party was held at The Crown Plaza, Canberra. Proud grandparents Katerina Bountouris of Canberra and Nick & Mary Sofios of Gordon.

<u>Births</u>

Congratulations to Mina & Christine Jennings of Berowra on the birth of their daughter Isabella **Ash-Marie**, sister to Jacob and Nicholas. **Isabella** is the sixth grandchild of Nick & Mary Sofios of Gordon.



Christenings

was held at St Michael's
Greek Church at Crows Nest for
Christos & Alexandros, twin sons of
Nick & Leslie Dracakis of Balgowlah. Maria Cardomatis was Godmother to Christos and Anthony
Politis Godfather for Alexandros.
A luncheon followed at the C Side
Beach Restaurant at Kyeemagh.
Proud grandparents are Paul & Helen
Dracakis of Seaforth, who now have
six grandchildren, and Christos &
Poppy Cardomatis of Parramatta
who now have three.

<u>Fngagements</u>

Pat & Colin Nichols of Constitution Hill and Theo & Maria
Cassimatis of Rydalmere, are delighted to announce the engagement of Anthony & Erene.
Both families wish them a wonderful lifetime together.



Christos & Alexandros

Congratulations to **Nicholas John Economos** of Strathfield who graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Construction Management and Property BCMP from the University of NSW. Nicholas is the eldest son of **John and Catherine Economos** and grandson of the **late Peter Comino**, past president, and **Helen Comino**, and **Nicholas Economos**, long serving committee member, and the **late Irene Economos**. A celebratory dinner was held at the Athenian Restaurant with family and Godparents, **Manuel and Terase Calligeros**.

The Kytherian Young Mothers Group Proudly presents

Christmas In July

The team that presented Halloween last year is back and has planned an exciting and merry night of games, presents and prizes, for primary school aged children (Kindergarten till Year 6).

When: Friday, 13th July, 2007

Where: Santa's Workshop

Francis Drake Bowling Club Barton Street, Monterey

5ime: 6.00pm till 9.00pm.

Includes: 3 fun-filled hours of Christmas themed activities

Sumptuous Yulefest Pizza Feast

Christmas Present and Prizes to take home.

Cost: \$25 per child

Dress Code: Festive Chic



Tickets to this event are strictly limited.

Bookings: Matina Coolentianos 0404 369 631 Maria Coolentianos 0409 639 897 Maria Notaras 0425 230 991 Stella Treneas 0402 296 100

Kyrranne Thomas 0402 809 050

Reservations & pre-payment essential Ho! Ho! Ho!

Books & CD's for sale can be purchased from the Kytherian Association of Australia:

- History of Kythera by Peter Vanges \$30
- The Greeks in Queensland-A History from 1859 to 1945 by Denis A Conomos (RRP \$49.95)
- Journey to Kythera CD-ROM for Apple Mac ActionPoints@hotmail.com or 0417 590 1941
- Katsehamos and the Great Idea
 by Peter Prineas \$35 available Plateia Press
 32 Calder Road, Darlington NSW 2008

email <u>plateia@ozemail.com.au</u> phone (02) 9319 1513 Mobile: 0429 322 857

- Expectations and Achievements by Peter Haniotis \$39.50 [Peter Haniotis 40 Eastern Ave, Kingsford NSW 2032]
- By George, Harris George. Life stories by Harris Tzortzopoulos, parents born Karavas, Kythera. Naval Officer later prominent solicitor in Maryland, USA. Available George Poulos \$35
- A Touch of Greece. The Greek Café Owners of Junction St., Nowra by Robyn Florance.

phone: 44293564 (BH) Email:rflorance@shoalnet.au

\$17.50 including handling & postage.

Contact Victor Kepreotis on 0408 216 108 for details.

Please forward any items you wish to be included in our Newsletter to The EDITOR PO Box A203
SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235

or

kaanewsletter@optusnet.com.au

Please Note:

Those submitting articles to this Newsletter are advised that these articles may appear on the *Kythera-Family.net* website.

The deadline for articles is the 23rd of each month.

Greek Dancing Classes

TERM 1 Friday Nights 27/4/07 - 29/6/07

Matraville High School

cnr

Anzac Pde & Franklin Sts,

Matraville.

Class Times:

Infants 7.00pm-

7.45pm

Primary 7.45pm-

8.30pm

Junior High School 8.30pm-

9.15pm

CULTURAL ARCHIVE WEBSITE FOR KYTHERA

Kythera-Family.net

http://www.kythera-family.net

Donations can be sent directly to:

The Treasurer

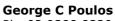
Kytherian Association of Australia
PO Box A203

Sydney South NSW 1235

Cheques should be made out to:

Kytherian Association of Australia Kythera Family Website Account

More information about sponsorship can also be obtained by contacting:



Ph: 02 9388 8320

Email: transoz@bigpond.net.au

Angelo Notaras Ph: 02 9810 0194





Answer to mysterious model on page 2. Tara Moss