86th KYTHERIAN BALL 2008

GUEST OF HONOUR

MR JAMES CASTRISSION

ADVENTURER

DATE: SATURDAY 31ST MAY
VENUE: GRAND HARBOUR BALL ROOM
3RD FLOOR STAR CITY CASINO

Bookings: Kathy Samios 9349 1849
Esther Calligeros 9344 0298

Tickets: $180 “Please Book early”

Ball Ticket Selling Dates & Times
Sunday 18th May at South Coogee Public School 5pm-7pm
Friday 23rd May at Matraville Sports High 7:30pm-9pm
Sunday 25th May at Star City Ballroom 6pm-7:30pm

AFTERPARTY

Details on page 16

2008 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (see flyer inserts)

For

KYTHERIAN ASSOCIATION of AUSTRALIA

&

KYTHERIAN BROTHERHOOD of AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 18th June 2008 at Kensington Bowling Club,
Doncaster Avenue, Kingsford at 7pm for 7.30pm

Please note—that to comply with the Corporations Act 2001, S 249X(1), we are required to have PROXY VOTING.
So if you are a financial full member and cannot attend the AGM or an adjourned AGM, then you can authorize a person to vote in your place.

This Proxy form must be received by at least 48 hours prior to the AGM or adjourned AGM.
Any inquiries please call Victor Kepreotis 0408 216 108 or Kathy Samios 0410 491 849
Editor’s Note

This past month has been a fairly uneventful one except for the visit of the Professors George Leontsinis and his beautiful wife Athanasia Glykofridi-Leontsinis. Having been fortunate enough to know them and spend some time with them away from the lecturing circuit, I can honestly say that they are not your stereotypical academics. No airs and graces, no unreasonable demands….they are simply wonderful people who possess qualities of great humility and humour. The sole purpose for their whirlwind trip here was to honour fellow Professor Manuel Aroney AM.OBE. with the Kytherian Medal of Honour on behalf of the Municipal Council of Kythera.

Despite a strenuous week of engagements, they endured their tiring schedule with charm and appreciation of all that was done for them during their short stay. Hopefully, their next visit to Australia will allow them more time to relax and enjoy the sights.

On an entirely different note, May is the month we celebrate Kythera’s Agios Theodoros. For those readers who are not familiar with the life of this Saint, Mr Peter D.Vanges’s book “Kythera” informs us of some of his miraculous powers.

Our parents’ generation will attest to the fact that as children, even though they often came across snakes on the mountains while tending to their goats or sheep, they were never afraid or hurt by them.

I would have to agree. I have never been intimidated by the sight of a snake while holidaying on the island. Mind you, the only time we really managed to come in direct contact with one, was when we accidentally ran over it with our car.

This year, the Divine Liturgy Service for Agios Theodoros will be held at the Gladesville Greek Orthodox Church on 18th May.

P.S. Wishing all our mothers a truly wonderful Mother’s Day!

PLEASE BE AWARE!!

This is the last Newsletter for those who have not renewed their 2008 membership. Renewal Form is supplied for those who have not paid for this year. Enquiries to Eleni Malanos 0417 448 271.
Renovating Kythera(-Family.net)

Our website team has been hard at work over the past few months to come up with a "relaunch" design for the Kythera-family.net site. Wonderful though the site still is, after 5 years online the functionality is starting to show its age - 5 years is three lifetimes in the world of the web... and we are keen to update the design and features. Although our team works on a voluntary basis, the reprogramming of the site - which is still to be done - is not for free as it is done by a commercial programming firm called Skygate(de). We have a 10% discount on the programmers' usual hourly rate of 80 Euros/hour - leaving us with 72.00€ an hour. All sponsors will be listed on the site as well as in the "launch-announcement" article. Below is a list of features to be sponsored - you can choose one or simply name an amount you'd like to donate.

As you probably already know, the Kythera site is totally non-profit and the payment of programming and hosting invoices is tightly controlled by the Kytherian Association of Australia as well as the Site Team Leader in Sydney, Angelo Notaras. If you're interested in supporting the relaunch send me a mail or call George C. Poulos on 02.9388 83 20 for more details. Or simply send a cheque marked "Website Redesign" to: The Treasurer, Kytherian Association of Australia PO Box A203, Sydney South, NSW 1235
James Prineas, james@kythera-family.net

Features and Programming
1a. Back-end (php-MYSQL) construction of the new basic layout: 25 hours = $1,800 = A$3,072
1b. "Cross-browser" Implementation (compatible with all usual browsers): 15 hours = A$1,843
2a. Front-End (optical) of the first 100 templates and "template-fragments". Meta-tags to enable all search-engines to evaluate each page. 28 hours = A$3,441
2b. Front-End (optical) of the last 57 Templates and Template-Fragments. Meta-tags to enable all search-engines to evaluate each page. 17 hours = A$2,089
3. New Home Page (Editorial Style) 8 hours = A$983
4. "Related Content" in the third column, alternative "Other Entries by this Author" (e.g. 2 pictures, 4 article, sorted by date). If there aren't enough entries by the author, then the system automatically shows a list of the newest entries. 7 hours = A$860
5. Lead Article implementation on the start page; either automatically drawing from the "pool" of highly rated articles, or forced by a manual selection. 5 hours = A$614

6. Most Popular Articles Section. A counter has already been installed on the site so that the most popular entries can be identified. This feature will provide a list of the most popular articles as per The Sydney Morning Herald online (www.smh.com.au). 4 hours = A$491

7. Personal-Page. It will be possible and optional for the registered members of the site to include a picture of themselves and other information which might be interesting to the community (family history etc.). This information could be displayed in the chat function or be made available on the Author Page. As soon as this function is available we would email all registered users and ask them to fill in their details and attach a picture if they wish to. 4 hours = A$491

8. "Favourite" feature: internal favourite list for each individual user so they can easily find articles they've tagged as their favourites. 3.5 hours = A$340

9. Manual Selection Feature which allows the administrators to force the use of one particular "Top Entry" (eg. an Easter entry at Easter). 3 hours = A$369

10. Sort by: the implementation of the "Most Popular" feature on all the sorting pull-downs on the site (at the moment users can sort by newest first, newest last, alphabetically and by author) 3 hours = A$368

11. A new "Top Article" link each "new entry" email which the administrators receive with which they can rank the new entry. If ranked as a Top Article this entry can subsequently be used as a leading article at the top of the home page. This leading article is changed automatically once each day from within the pool of articles collected. 2.5 hours = A$307

12. "Link to page" function which creates a clickable and copyable link - 2.5 hours = A$307

13. The Slide-Show feature which is already available to the Administrators for presenting the site will be modified and made visible to the "General User". 2.5 hours = A$307

14. Bookmark-Button for "Social Bookmarking" (Delicious.com u.a.) 2 hours = A$245

15. New picture sizes. "Size-One" conversion work - for the Lead Article - is already included in the above position. The other new size - for the enlarged column width - is still required. 1.5 hours = A$184

16. "Leave a comment" function extension. When clicked the comment-box is highlighted. 30 mins. = A$62

17. Chat Activation. The chat feature was programmed into the site some years ago. It's activation has been hampered by usability issues which are now being resolved. 30 minutes = A$62

LATE ADDITION:
18. HTML Newsletter Tool. To liven up the look of our newsletter we want to be able to use a HTML-Template which will allow us to use colour and pictures to make the letter generally more appealing. 15 hours = A$1,842

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.
The Kytherian Ladies’ Auxiliary invites you to a

MOTHER’S DAY MORNING TEA

Wednesday, 7th May 2008

VAUCLUSE HOUSE TEA ROOMS
WENTWORTH ROAD, VAUCLUSE

10.00AM – 12.30PM

Cost: $35

Includes: High Tea enjoying the beautiful Gardens of Vaucluse House.

Free parking

BOOKINGS: Rene Condoleon - 9363 5915
Paula Giaouris - 9547 2747
Mary Moutzouris - 9310 0420
Kyrranne Thomas - 9764 6636 / 0402 809 050
The Kytherian 4WD & Recreation Club
together with the
Kytherian Soccer Club
present their
Annual Charity Trivia Night
24th May 2008
Venue: Randwick Labor Club
135 Alison Road, Randwick
Time: 7.30pm sharp

Yes, it’s on again, come along for what in the past has been a
great night of fun, entertainment and a great opportunity to
catch up with old friends.

Fantastic prizes on offer (including Lucky Door Prize).

Committee Contact
Peter Tzannes 0419 993 000
Gina Ambele 0408 429 042
Dennis Coolentianos 9546 4742
Tina Economy 0421 310 150
Victor Alfieris 0417 230 743
Spiro Coolentianos 0418 213 990
Peter Poulos 0409 666 238
“Aroney” Awards 2008

The Kytherian Association of Australia again hosted the annual Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards last month. The purpose of the night was to celebrate with and acknowledge Kytherian students who had excelled in the previous year’s Higher School Certificate examinations.

This year was similar to past years with a number of students achieving excellent results in the HSC. Certificates of Achievement and prize money cheques from the N A Aroney Estate were presented to each of the awardees. The ultimate winner was Theoni T. Cassim with 98.3 UAI. Second place went to Angelis Belessis and was followed by Christina Pavlakis, Mira Tzannes (first in NSW for Modern Greek Beginners), Paloma Matis, Peter A. Conomos, Diana K. Simos, Emmanuel Cassimatis, Heimerich M. Bisterbosch, Joshua V. Kepreotis, Patricia Tzannes, Anthony J. Cassimaty and Anna Vardas (HSC 92 in Modern Greek Beginners). Congratulations and well done to all those students and others who have tried their hardest to make the most of their educational opportunities.

On behalf of the committee of the Kytherian Association of Australia, I would like to express our thanks to the Trustees of the Estate of the late Nicholas Anthony Aroney for their continuing support of our youth in their academic endeavour.

Another highlight of the night was the presentation of the Gold Kytherian Medal Of Honour to Professor Manuel Aroney AM OBE. This award recognises Professor Aroney for his efforts over many decades in encouraging and helping to preserve the ethos, culture, heritage, history and artifacts of Kythera, on the island and around the world. It also acknowledges his contribution to Hellenism, Multiculturalism and the Greek Orthodox Church, in Australia and around the world, as well as being a champion of Equal Rights for all. The award was presented by Professors George Leontsinis & Athanasia Glykofridi-Leontsinis on behalf of the Municipal Government of Kythera, who travelled to Australia especially for the occasion.

I would also like to thank those members of the Committee who were able to assist on the night and in particular Kathy Samios for all her hard work. A special thank you to those non-committee guests who assisted in folding raffle tickets and compiling our guest list.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to thank all of the guests, family and friends of the awardees for attending and to our beautiful dancing teacher, Joanna Tsakiridis for providing a dance group to showcase the wonderful dance routines that are taught to our children every Friday night.

The Association is also indebted to the sponsors and long time supporters who have donated raffle prizes. These include George Poulos who donated a George Miller caricature (won by Francis Louran), Laiki Bank, who donated a 51cm colour T.V. (won by Peter Vanvakaris), The Grand Hotel who donated a Café Roma Espresso/ Cappuccino Machine (won by Con Raissis), the Haros Family of St George Smallgoods, who donated a $250 gift voucher (won by Emmanuel Cassimatis), the Karavitiko Symposium who donated a signed Sydney Roosters Jersey (won by Annie Catling), the Karavitiko Symposium who donated 420 blank DVD’s (won by Mary Tzavaras) the Diethnes Management who donated a Diethnes Greek Restaurant Voucher (won by Anne Moutzouris), Angelo Notaras who donated “Australians & Greeks” by Hugh Gilchrist (won by Helen Raissis). The two lucky door prizes, “Australians & Greeks” by Hugh Gilchrist were also donated by Angelo Notaras and (won by Emmanuel Cassimatis and Andrew Tzannes).

I am sure that everyone attending our function would agree that we were provided with delicious food and excellent service by Theo Lazarus, owner/manager of the Twin Reception Centre in Alexandria, thus ensuring that a good time was had by all.

Victor Kepreotis
The following letter was received recently from one of our Aroney awardees.

To the Kytherian Association, Victor Kepreotis and the Trustees of The Nicholas Anthony Aroney Foundation,

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the kind donation and encouragement award I received for my UAI result on Saturday 5th April 2008 at the Twin Reception Lounge. Being acknowledged for my efforts has only increased my willingness to achieve and fulfil my aspirations at University.

Many thanks,

Yours sincerely,
Christina Pavlakis
INSTITUTE OF KYTHERAISMOS

3rd International Symposium of Kytheraismos

Hetero-Kytheraismos: The 21st century Kytheraismos
(From the Kytherian Identity to multi-cultural heterocity)

Kythera (Myrtidia, Chora, Fratsia, Potamos)
21-24 August 2008

Call for participation

Dear compatriots and philo-Kytherians all over the world,

The Institute of Kytheraismos in association with its local committees all around the world, the Kytherian Brotherhoods and other Associations, organizes in Kythera the 3rd International Symposium of Kytheraismos. The presentations must be limited to a maximum of twenty minutes long. The official languages of the Symposium are Greek and English. Those wishing to present a paper should complete attached registration form, giving personal details, the title and a short abstract in Greek and English. Please send registrations forms by 30 of June 2008 to the following address: Mr. Elias Marsellos, Institute of Kytheraismos, 81 Heroon Polytechniou Ave., Piraeus, 18536 Greece, tel. 30/2104599414, fax: 30/2104599415, e-mail: kytheraismos@gmail.com

The conference will host some cultural events and there will be a visit to the archaeological and historical sites of the island.

The chairman
Elias A. Marsellos

For those who want to participate please fill out the Participation Form accompanying this Newsletter and send it to the Institute of Kytheraismos—before 30th of June 2008.
The INSTITUTE OF KYTHERAIMOS

3rd International Symposium of Kytheraismos

Hetero-Kytheraismos: The 21st century Kytheraismos
(From the Kytherian Identity to multi-cultural heterocity)

Kythera (Myrtidia, Chora, Fratsia, Potamos)
21-24 August 2008

The thematic units of the Symposium:

A) The migratory heterocity of the Kytherians
- The first Kytherian emigrant
- The Kytherian Emigration during the centuries
- The migratory influence on the island
- The economic immigration of today

B) The Cultural Heterocity
I. Cultural Activities
- Cultural exchanges
- Kytherian Associations activities
- Kythera: Cultural Capital of Kytheraismos for the years 2008-2010

II. Intellectual Interests
- The culture of the Kytherians all over the world.
- Kytherian women in the arts
- The allegory of the island of Kythera

III. Cultural Tradition
- The traditional Heterocity
- Kytherian costumes
- Kytherian dancing
- Kytherian music
- Kytherian nick-names

IV. Cultural Heritage
- Religious culture
- Byzantine churches
- Cultural sites (castles etc)
- Cultural estates
- Cultural charities

C) Political Heterocity
- Kytherian Professional conferences
- The Kytherian Galaxy
- The public Kytherian land and its power
- The private Kytherian land and its problems

D) Economic Heterocity
- Inter-Kytherian economic area
- Joint economic investment
- International Kytherian tourist ventures business plans

E) Ecology
- Quality of life
- Environmental problems
- Local Energy subjects
- Water supply
- Pollution

F) The Kytherian Youthful and useful Heterocity
- Youthful and useful local committees of Kytheraismos
- Student mobility and training programs
- Kytherian agreements scholarships
- Modern Greek classes in Kythera

G) The philo-Kytheraismos and voluntarism
- Philo-Kytherians: more Kytherians than the Kytherians
- Informal associations
- Volunteer corps: Their incorporation to the Kytherian activities

H) The 21st century Kytheraismos (From the Kytherian Identity to the multi-cultural heterocity)
- The multi-net relationship system of the Kytherian Diaspora
- The master-plan of the next generation Kytheraismos activities
- The corpus of Kytheraismos
LUNCH WITH ELIAS MARSELLOS: DISCUSSING THE FUTURE OF KYTHERAISMOS

On my recent trip to Athens I managed to catch up with Elias Marsellos. Elias, who is the Head of European and International Relations at the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, is also the driving force behind the Kytheraismos Symposium.

At Elias’ office and over lunch we were able to discuss issues relating to the forthcoming Third International Symposium of Kytheraismos which is to be held on Kythera on 21-24 August 2008. The second international symposium was held in Canberra back in 2006 and was an unqualified success in tapping into what Elias described as the dynamic new spirit of the Kytherian diaspora.

That spirit is worth preserving and fostering. But for Kytheraismos to mean something it is essential that the Third International Conference has as one of its central themes the future of our Kytherian youth and related issues such as enhancing education and cultural studies. For Kytheraismos to survive in any meaningful way in the diaspora it is essential that the Kytherian youth in Australia and the United States can get together from time to time with their counterparts on the island and on the Greek mainland, whether physically or electronically, to establish connections, share experiences and generate ideas that will perpetuate the Kytherian ideal.

Those who attended the Canberra conference will vividly recall the contribution made by some of our younger Kytherians in papers presented at that conference. The Cassimatis sisters, Patricia and Sophia, young medical student Garyfalia Castrisios from Tasmania, Penelope Samios and Mary Londy all spoke from the heart about their feelings and aspirations. The voice of the youth must continue to be heard if the whole idea of Kytheraismos is to flourish and Elias Marsellos’ dream of uniting Kytherians across the globe becomes a reality.

George Vardas
Impressions of Kythera - A “FOREIGNER’S” FIRST VISIT. by Isidor (Sid) Papapetros

In my teens and adult years, I have always been associated with Greeks of Kytherian origin. I even married one. Indeed, other than its geographical location, I have not given Kythera much thought other than what I have heard through the grape vine. Indeed, because of other immediate priorities, one could say almost the same with my own origins of Mytilene - hence the title “foreigner”

However, in 2007, I visited Greece for the first time in 25 years and included Kythera in my schedule for reasons as explained below. So, at the last Kytherian dinner dance where the 2007 HSC graduates were presented with the N A Aroney Encouragement Award, the obvious question was asked by none other than George Vardas whose passion for Kythera (or is it Katouni) is well known by all. “As a visitor for the first time, what were your impressions of Kythera and why don’t you write something for the Kytherian Newsletter?”

In July 2007, the opportunity to have a 4 weeks holiday with my family in Greece became possible for the first time in all those years. My wife Koula had also not been to Greece for 25 years and as my son Emanuel then aged 21 years had never been, we wanted his first introduction to Greece to be with his parents.

What were my first impressions of Kythera? Paradoxically, it was one of familiarity. How can that be? Having been married to a Kytherian all these years, especially one who loves to paint many popular scenes from this classical island, as well as having many close Kytherian friends and listened to all their stories and common relationships of the various families, it was deja vu.

Yet another deja vu for me was the Katouni Bridge in Kato Livadi. In our home, we have a close up oil painting of this bridge and so for me, the Katouni Bridge in reality was more than just another picturesque scene. I was able to look beyond its scenic nature and marvel at its architectural beauty and location.

Of course, there were other impressions. Kythera was a larger island than I thought it was - that is, greater than a 30 minute walk from one end to the other - I jest of course. However, I did think that in the 8 days that we had on the island, we could see every “nook and cranny” of the island. How wrong could one be!

Now, back in Australia, we’re saying that we didn’t see this nor that and looking at other people’s photos we are forever asking “where’s that?” This translates into the necessity for several more trips in the future.

Another impression was the multitude of churches in Kythera some from Byzantine times, each with its unique and wonderful awe inspiring beauty and history. Almost everywhere we went there was a church but even so, it was only a handful of the total number on the island. Similarly, the same could be said of the beaches. We only had time to visit two and the vibrant colours and stillness of the crystal clear waters were magnificent.

For some strange reason, of the many tourist sites we visited, Kaki Lagada caught my imagination. I had to find out more about the tragic invasion and slaughter of the inhabitants of Paleohora by Barbarossa in 1537, via Kaki Lagada. Paleohora, formerly known as Agios Dimitrios in Byzantine times, was then the capital of Kythera. It was amazing what I discovered.

How many of you know that Barbarossa (red beard) was born on the island of Lesvos (Mytilene) to a Muslim Turkish father, Yakup Aga who married a local Greek girl, Katerina? Barbarossa, whose original name was Yakupoglu Hızır (Hızır son of Yakup) went on to become a revered and feared Admiral of the Ottoman Empire. Be that as it may, be assured that I have no genealogy links to Barbarossa.

Lastly, there is one more question I would like to pose. How many of you know that Kythera has its own unique liqueur? Just as Mytilene (especially that of Plomari) is famous for its ouzo, Kythera too has its own unique liqueur. There are two brands. One is in a nicely shaped squat bottle called ‘Barbarossa’ and the other is in a standard shaped bottle called ‘Fatourada’. Both of these are a kind of Greek grappa, flavoured with cinnamon and cloves.

In summary then, lasting first impressions of Kythera were very favourable. However, in order to really appreciate the magnitude of history that this small island has to offer, more trips are required. Hopefully now, having been inducted into the ranks of ‘Honorary Kytherian’ and no longer a ‘foreigner’, this won’t be too far into the future.

Editor’s note: I will take this opportunity to acknowledge the brilliant artistic talent of Sid’s wife, Koula whose landscape paintings of our beloved island are superb!
On 6 April 2008 the eminent Kytherian historian, Professor George Leontsinis, Professor of Modern Greek History and Teaching of History at the University of Athens, wound up his brief tour of Sydney with a fascinating lecture at the Hellenic Club. In the lecture, titled “The Mentor Shipwreck on the Coast of the Island of Kythera and the Operation to Retrieve, Salvage and Transport the Parthenon Sculptures to London (1802-1805)”, Professor Leontsinis sought to shed light on the actions, initiatives, and decisions of the inhabitants of the island of Kythera to retrieve the Parthenon Marbles after the vessel Mentor owned by Lord Elgin was shipwrecked on 5 September, 1802 off Port Avlemonas.

The taking of the Parthenon Marbles by Lord Elgin more than 200 years ago is generally regarded as the most celebrated case of theft of cultural property and continues to be the focus of campaigns for the restitution of these incredible treasures. And yet, in one of history’s strange quirks of fate, the first shipment of Elgin’s plunder sank off Kythera while enroute to England.

At this time Kythera was enjoying its newfound independence as a member state of the new Septinsular Republic or, as it was known, the United States of the Ionian Islands, following the withdrawal of a combined Russian-Turkish force a year earlier. The most important person who played the central role in the salvage of the marbles was the British Vice-Consul on Kythera, Emmanuel Kaloutsis (1756-1833), a Cerigote noble who had been appointed by the British in recognition of the strategic position occupied by the island on the old Venetian trading routes.

The Mentor actually carried seventeen cases in its hold, containing fourteen sections of the Parthenon frieze, four pieces of the frieze of the Temple of Athena Nike, and many other marbles, including an ancient throne, which had been given by the Archbishop of Athens to the parents of Mary Nisbet, Lord Elgin’s wife. Whilst on its way to England via Malta, it encountered bad weather and huge waves off Cape Malea and the brig’s captain was advised to seek shelter in the port of Avlemonas on Kythera. The ship came aground on the rocks off the port and sank in about 10 to 12 fathoms of water but the 12 people on board managed to escape. They included Elgin’s personal secretary, William Hamilton, and his artist, Giovanni Lusieri.

Hamilton quickly realised that in the absence of an established government on the island it would be necessary for him to remain on Cerigo to ensure the security of the marbles. In due course Hamilton came to regard his stay on Cerigo as a “banishment”.

On hearing of the sinking of a British vessel off Avlemonas, Kaloutsis was reported to have taken 6 hours to travel from Hora to to view the site of the shipwreck and he quickly sent letters off to the island of Kalymnos and other islands to find divers who may be able to assist in the salvage operation. Kaloutsis also sent letters on his own initiative to the locals and invited the notables of the island to help with the recovery, reminding them that the sunken brig was under an English flag and that Britain was a valuable ally to the Septinsular Republic. The notables were quick to reply and acknowledged their obligation to assist. The letter dated 6 September 1802 was signed by the notables Vretos Prineas, Petros Marselos, Panagiotis Kourmoulis, Pavlos Kasimatis, Theodoros Aronis, Panagiotis Stamios and Giogos Karedis.
Emmanuel Kaloutsis was much respected on the island as independent and learned and as part of the “ancient regime” of Europe. As soon as the enormity of the shipwreck became known, Elgin sent a memorandum to Kaloutsis seeking his assistance. Elgin was aware of Kaloutsis’ reputation and he was content to allow Kaloutsis to do what was necessary to salvage the sunken crates. The letter read in part: “A report having reached me that my English brig the “Mentor” has foundered in attempting to enter the Port of Cerigo, thereby request that you will afford every possible assistance, for the recovery of the said vessel and her cargo. She had on board, a quantity of cases, with stones of no value of themselves but of great consequence for me to secure.”

Kaloutsis arranged for sponge divers from the island of Kalymnos to come to Cerigo to recover the sunken treasures. The frieze of winged victory which was in four boxes was retrieved within a month but the remainder of the salvage was to prove to be a test of human endeavour. The divers returned to the island in the following spring and worked right through the summer of 1803. They were joined by divers from other islands such as Kos and Simi. Holes were cut into the decks of the Mentor in order to retrieve the cases of marbles which was still inside the sunken brig. By the end of that year five more cases out of the remaining thirteen had been retrieved. In the spring of 1804 the divers returned to the island and again worked through the summer until finally in October, more than two years after the sinking, the remaining eight cases of marbles were recovered and brought ashore.

Arrangements were made for them to be guarded. Initially it was proposed to store them in the small castle and armoury built by the Venetians in 1725 and known as the Castelli which stood at the entrance to the port but this was not done because of the poor condition of the fortifications and because the crates were also very heavy and their contents may have been damaged in moving them into the castle.

In his talk, Professor Leontsinis sought to explain the prevailing social and political reality in the early 18th century in the context of the activities of the British Vice-Consul on Kythera and to illustrate the sentiments that arose, pervading a large portion of the inhabitants, in relation to the problem of salvaging the cargo of the vessel, Elgin’s personal property, regardless of what it was and where it would finally end up. This is part of a larger study that Professor Leontsinis is working on in investigating matters relating to the mindsets, attitudes and behaviours of the indigenous population, the local and central administration of the Ionian Islands, consular authorities and other elements of the broader Greek territories, but primarily the mass of representatives of local self-government on Kythera (elected dignitaries, elders, parish priests, and many other residents) who contributed to the task of retrieving, salvaging and safeguarding the marbles on Kythera. According to Professor Leontsinis, the locals felt obliged to help their British protectors.

As to the role of Kaloutsis, Professor Leontsinis explained that Elgin had written to Kaloutsis stating that the cargo was just stones and of no value but of major significance to Elgin himself and may be not of importance to others. Elgin did not want to say much more than this because he was aware that in Constantinople not much was known about what was happening in Athens. Kaloutsis was the only person who knew what was in the crates because he had taken depositions from the ship’s captain as to what was contained in them. He was aware that they were sculptures but regarded it as his consular duty to assist in their salvage and recovery.

There was also an element of admiration towards the foreigners in the mindset of the locals. Professor Leontsinis recounted the story of a villager from Friligianika named Frilingos who had unearthed a rare sculpture whilst working on his land in around 1805. It is reported that he informed Kaloutsis of the find and that he intended to gift the sculpture to the Englishmen as they were true lovers of art and sculpture.

Hamilton would later write a letter of appreciation to Kaloutsis stating that what he had done was recognised by all on Earth and that by his actions Kaloutsis was a “citizen of the world”. He thanked Kaloutsis for his zeal, humanity and “precious friendship”.

In 1816, long after the sculptures had arrived in England and been put on temporary exhibition, Lord Elgin – by then under extreme financial pressure - sold the sculptures to the British Government which then transferred them to the British Museum where they still remain to this day: removed from their natural and historical context, languishing in a sterile museum environment. Meanwhile, in the restless waters off Agios Nikolaos Bay in Kythera, lies what is left of the wreck of the Mentor as testimony to the greed of Empire. At the conclusion of the lecture, there was interesting and animated debate amongst the audience as to the legality of Elgin’s actions, the desire for the marbles to be returned to Greece and Kythera’s small but pivotal role in the process of ensuring that Elgin’s plunder would arrive at its intended destination. Professor Leontsinis’ valuable contribution to this debate has been to show from a historical perspective how the population of a remote Greek island in the early part of the 19th century rallied out of a sense of duty and respect to assist a Great Power to retrieve “stones of no value”.

George Vardas
On 4 April 2008 at the University of Sydney during a whirlwind trip to Sydney, Dr Athanasia Glycofrydi-Leontsini, Professor of Modern European and Neohellenic Philosophy at the University of Athens, gave a most interesting lecture (in Greek) on the theme "Education and Philosophy in the Ionian islands between the 16th and 19th centuries”.

The lecture, organised by the Department of Modern Greek at the University of Sydney, the Hellenic Council for Greeks Abroad (Oceania) and the Kytherian Association of Australia, provided a valuable insight into and overview of the significant literary and cultural influences that writers and scholars from the Ionian Islands, including Kythera, had at a time when the rest of Greece was under the yolk of Ottoman oppression. What follows is an edited version of Dr Glycofrydi-Leontsini’s presentation with an emphasis on the Kytherian scholars who were prominent during this period.

The Venetian annexation of the Ionian Islands initiated in 1204 following the sack of Constantinople by the Latins when many sections of the Byzantine Empire came under western rulers. The Venetian occupation of the Ionian Islands was com-pleted during the period 1363-1684 and lasted until the year 1797. The Venetian occupation was of major importance for the islands: it resulted in them becoming a unit of both political and geographic nature and consequently caused the development of the Ionian sociocultural community.

The centuries from the beginning of the 16th until the islands' union with Greece in 1864 witnessed the emergence of Ionian culture within the framework of a Christian Orthodox society in close contact with European advancement in arts, sciences and scholarship. Significant influence also came from Crete, mostly after the sack of Candia in 1669, when many Cretans took refuge to the Ionian Islands. Moreover, the cultural contribution of various Greek schools and colleges that had been established in Italy to educate the young members of the Greek population residing there should be not overlooked. In addition, these educational institutions played a vital role in the prevention of Catholicism's expansion towards the East. The foundation of many schools during the 18th century and, most importantly, the establishment of the Ionian Academy during the British rule resulted in the systematisation of educational activity in the Ionian Islands.

During the 16th and 17th centuries a number of Greek scholars from the Ionian Islands published ecclesiasti-cal and liturgical studies, religious dogmatic and ethical treatises, commentaries on Aristotle, books on grammar and rhetoric, edifying poems and essays criticising the relationship of the Orthodox East with the western world, mainly in Venice. In particular, Ioannis Kontoleon from Kythera was distinguished as a commentator of Aristotelian texts with works entitled “On the immortality of the soul” and “On ruling”.

EDUCATION AND PHILOSOPHY IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS DURING THE 16th-19th CENTURIES
One of the most widely known Greek scholars of this period was Maximos Margounios (1530–1602), the most distinguished figure in the late 16th century's intellectual and theological history of the Greek Orthodox Church. Margounios, who was mostly based in Venice, published theological and classical texts, thus demonstrating his wide theological and philological knowledge. Although not originating from the Ionian Islands, he became a bishop (in absentia) at Kythera.

Since 1593, the thriving Greek community of Venice had established a Greek elementary school in the area of San Giorgio dei Greci, essentially the town's Greek quarters (and now the home of the influential Greek Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies). During the 17th century, the education of the Greeks received a considerable boost due to a number of scholars including the Kytherian Ioannis Kottounios (1572–1657). The Paduan Kottounian College was established in 1653 by funds supplied by Ioannis Kottounios from Kythera. The Kottounian college constituted one of the most important Greek educational institutions in the West at the time.

Ioannis Kottounios was also a significant commentator of Aristotelian text. However, he became widely known from his work “Greek Epigrams”, published in Padua in 1653 and which he had devoted to King Louis XIV of France. Through his teaching at universities, he became one of the most eminent scholarly figures of the Greek diaspora during the 17th century. A large portion of Koutounios' activities was aimed at arousing European concern for the enslaved Greek nation's troubles through successive appeals to the European rulers. Koutounios later pursued postgraduate studies at the Greek College of Rome, where he obtained his Doctorates of Philosophy and Philology. One of the teachers to follow at the Kottounian College was the philosopher Antonios Stratigos.

Ionian philosophical thought thrived during the 18th century, the Enlightenment era. This is when doubts on Aristotelian doctrines were being expressed, historical knowledge was being sought after and respect was being paid to liberal ideas, empiricism and science. During the 18th century, Ionian scholars, such as Antonios Katifhoros and Ioannis Kontonis from Zante, the Cephalonian Vikendos Damodos and Antonios Moschopoulos, Georgios Fatseas and Spyridos Vlantis from Kythera, Ioannis Litinos from Lefkas and the Corfiots Eugenios Voulgaris and Nikiphoros Thetotokis attempted to combine novel philosophical and scientific ideas with tradition. All these scholars were distinguished translators, editors and educators at various schools and universities in Venice, Padua, their homelands or other European countries.

The Corfiot Eugenios Voulgaris, the principal representative of the Greek Enlightenment, was one of the most imposing scholarly figures throughout the 18th century. Voulgaris introduced the Greeks to the works of John Locke, Voltaire and other European philosophers, mathematicians and physicists by translating or including sections of them in his own treatises. The Kytherians, Georgios Fatseas and Spyridon Vlantis (1795-1828) were translators and editors of Greek texts’ publications. In 1760 Georgios Fatseas published his essay entitled “Geographic Grammar”.

As a result of the presence of distinguished scholars actively involved in the social, political and cultural life in the Ionian Islands, Ionian intellectual production flourished during the 19th century. After the establishment of the Ionian Academy in Corfu, education acquired a more formal and systematic character. Philosophical lectures were also given by non-academics such as Konstantinos Stratoulis, the Bishop of Kythera.

Ionian philosophy of the first half of the 19th century was characterised by the introduction and efficient absorption of western philosophical trends and the systematic attempt for the creation of a national philosophy. New ideas, mainly from France in the years leading up to the 1848 revolution, were conveyed to the Ionian clubs and societies by scholars and scientists, who had been educated in western colleges and universities. European nationalism inspired the Ionian people and the aspiration for political independence grew significantly stronger.

The struggle between ideologies and philosophical schools characterising the 19th century affected the intellectual and political life of Ionian societies in both theory and practice. Scholars and philosophers underlined the historical continuity of the Greek people and emphasised the connection between political and religious unity, the importance of freedom, progress, democratic institutions and liberalism. In addition, they evaluated their cultural past, claimed a position in historic development and viewed philosophy as a tool for the regeneration of national identity as well as the definition of the Modern Greek cultural identity.

George Vardas
2008 Kytherian Ball
Debutante “After Party.”

Please join the Debutantes and their Partners to party on after the 2008 Kytherian Ball.

**Date:** Sunday 1st June 2008

**Time:** 1.30am to 5am

**Venue:** The Carrington Café
50 Carrington Street, Sydney

**Cost:** $25 per person

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Ticket includes DJ, finger food, Security at the venue and return bus trip from Star City Casino.

Tickets must be presented at the door for entry.

Alcohol available but must have ID.

Tickets must be purchased by Sunday 25th May.

Please note that numbers are limited so early purchase of tickets guarantees you a seat on the bus.

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For details, please contact:
Eleni Malanos on 0417 448 271 or Bonnie Reprecedes 0413 157 921.

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All welcome!
KYTHERIAN BALL
2008

31st MAY 2008

Matron of Honour

Fotini Psaltis

DEBUTANTES
Marissa Casimatis
Bella Cass
Kimberly Flaskas
Melanie Flaskas
Anna Malanos
Aspasia Zakos
Nicola Zarimis

PARTNERS
Jason Casimatis
Christopher Fallas
Adam Kepreotes
Daniel Kepreotes
Theodore Coroneo
Peter Farmakis
James Johnson

FLOWER GIRLS
Mattie Frelingos
Elaine Andrew
Zara Penkis
Mariel Caponas

PAGE BOYS
Andrew Karedis
George Alfieris
George Georgas
Pierce Caponas
**Social News**

**Engagements**

Congratulations to Jason Fardoulis, youngest son of Themis (Sam) & Helen of Daleys Point, on the announcement of his engagement to Maria Koupparis, eldest daughter of Steve & Jo-Anne of Bankstown.

![Engagement Photo]

**Births**

Congratulations to Saxon & Stephanie Francis of Kingsford on the birth of their daughter, Sienna Grace, a sister for Nicholas and Harrison. Proud grandparents are Nicholas and Mary Matis of Kingsford and Suzanne & Rodney Francis of Woollahra. Na sas zisi!

**Christenings**

Mina, son of Theo & Elena Sofios of Greenacre was baptised at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church at Belmore, by his godparents Angie & John Giallourakis. A celebration followed on board the catamaran Vagabond Spirit. A great time was enjoyed by all!

Congratulations to Mina & Christine Jennings for christening their 3rd child Isabella-Marie. This is the 7th grandchild to Nick & Mary Sophios.

Congratulations to Michael & Anastasia Samios of Brisbane for the christening of their third child George Michael Samios, also brother to Matina and Manny. The christening was held at St George Church at West End followed by a beautiful celebration at Kingsleys Restaurant in Brisbane. Godparents were Michael Angelo & Sophie Anastas. George Michael is the 5th grandchild of Emmanuel & Matina Samios of Bronte in Sydney and the 4th for Rose and the late George Anastas of Brisbane.

Na sas Zisoun!
Births

Congratulations to George & Emily Katheklakis on the arrival of their twins, Nicholas George and Zoe Rena. Proud grandparents are George & Rene Condoleon of Double Bay and Rena & the Late Nicholas Katheklakis of Canberra.

Weddings

Pamela Moutzouris, daughter of Gregory & Anne of Coogee, married Terry Efstathis son of Stathis & Despo of Brisbane at St. George Greek Orthodox Church South Brisbane on March 1st. The reception was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Brisbane Hilton. Relatives and friends travelled from interstate and overseas for this lovely wedding, They came from Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Tasmania, Cairns as well as Bahrain, South Africa and Greece. Sydney was well represented with 160 people of the Moutzouris family travelling to attend this happy occasion. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all! Congratulations Terry & Pamela!

Last month, we incorrectly printed Terry Efstathis as ‘Kerry’
GRADUATION

Congratulations

Congratulations to Yana Kepreotis, daughter of Victor & Kathy Kepreotis of Bardwell Valley who recently graduated from the University of Sydney with an Arts Degree majoring in Psychology and Anthropology. Yana is currently furthering her studies in Psychology at Macquarie University. Yana is the granddaughter of Doreen & the Late Leslie Kepreotis of Maroubra and John & Maria Vardas of Kingsgrove.

Birthdays

80th

Charlie Kepreotes of Maroubra recently celebrated his 80th birthday with a party given at the home of his daughter Esther and son-in-law Ashton. His wife Poppy, son John, daughters-in-law Bonnie and Maria, his five grandchildren, brother Jack, sisters Mary and Doreen as well as other family members and friends were on hand to help Charlie enjoy the occasion. A wonderful time was had by all! Na ta ekatostisis!

The following poem was written by John Kepreotes (a poet who doesn’t know it) in honour of his father Charlie’s 80th birthday.

Born in Werris Creek, a country boy at heart,
A larrikin and laid back attitude from the very start.
A move to the big city, to Maroubra Beach,
A café again but no romance in reach.
So off to Greece, a fishing trip for a wife,
Where he would find and marry the greatest love of his life.
Children and grandchildren would soon follow over the years,
But so often with joy, tragedy will strike and bring many tears.
So eighty years have passed and your experiences have been many,
We all love you dearly, so hang around for some time yet, before you spend that last penny.
Finally, to you Dad I say, the greatest compliment of all,
Is for people to say, you’re just like your Dad John, bald spot and all!
The Return of the Parthenon Marbles

HOW AND WHY THEY WERE TAKEN AND THE CASE FOR THEIR RETURN

Founder and Chairman of the International Organising Committee – Australia – for the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles, Emanuel John Comino OAM, has campaigned for 32 years for the Marbles’ return. Britain has refused to return them to Greece.

“When we speak of the Parthenon, we are speaking about the birth of civilisation, the birth of democracy and the symbol of Greece”. The Marbles were and remain an integral part of the Parthenon as a monument to the glory of Classical Greece and the civilisation it gave to the world.

Ownership might never be resolved but present intransigence attracts increasing diplomatic pressure. This presentation will look at the legality of the ownership of the Marbles, the preservation of them and the current situation regarding their return.

date: Sunday 18 May

time: 4.00pm for 4.30 start

venue: Barnet Long Room, Customs House

tickets: free entry

contact: 02 9759 0440

language: English (with Greek summary)

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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.
The Kytherian 4WD & Recreation Club

Trip Report

Turon Gates 18th, 19th and 20th April 2008

Once again our annual trip to Turon Gates proved to be an excellent event for all who attended. This year there were 10 families in attendance. As always there were plenty of activities to keep the children entertained including adventuring the nearby Turon River and the great weather experienced over the three days enabled everyone to enjoy the beautiful surrounds and the fresh country air. It was also great to see some new faces coming along and supporting the event including Dimitri & Sylvia Milis and family. As always Sophia Poulos provided entertainment for the ladies with her Coffee Cup readings. The camp was also attended by a four legged Kytherian newcomer Levendi (Louie) Tzannes. We also had live entertainment provided by the silky trumpeter and adopted Kytherian camper James Morrison.

Committee Contact

Peter Tzannes 0419 993 000
Gina Ambele 0408 429 042
Dennis Coolentianos 9546 4742
Tina Economy 0421 310 150
Victor Alfieris 0417 230 743
Spiro Coolentianos 0418 213 990
Peter Poulos 0409 666 238
Photos from the recent Turon Gates weekend.

The following email was sent by one of our young members of the Kytherian 4WD Club.

SUPPORT THE KYTHERIAN 4WD AND RECREATION CLUB!

On behalf on some of the young teenagers of the Kytherian Association I would like to say thank you to those members who had organized the trips that we grew up with. Because of this we have formed great friendships and life long friends. And I think those members should be congratulated on the success it brought. Started in 1997 strong by the members John Tzannes, John Faros, Peter Notaras, Angelo Andrew and Peter Tzannes. I consider myself to be lucky to have grown up in a family that supported this club because I have experienced many things and been on many trips that not many people my age can say they have experienced also. Trips such as Uluru, Fraser Island and many many more and this is because of those members who organized it, because of my family who decided to go along with these trips and let me experience Australia first hand. And I would like to also say thank you to the members who are still carrying it on to this day. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be the person I am today.

Katrina Faros.
Dear Fellow Kytherians,
I would like to inform you regarding any prospective travel arrangements for the Symposium in Kythera (August 21-24 2008).
Should you require any assistance, Michelle Popescu (senior consultant, Select World Travel), can assist you on all aspects of your stay with special deals on airfare and accommodation. Also $100 off either car hire, accommodation, train tickets or cruise bookings. (That offer is valid until 31 May 2008).
As it is getting closer to the time flight availability etc. is becoming more limited. However, currently, there is good accommodation availability, with a new special hotel package recently structured with Select World Travel for the Symposium in August.
For enquiries please do not hesitate to contact MICHELLE on the toll free number 1800 242 373 or michelle@selectworldtravel.com.au
Trust this is useful for you if you are thinking of attending.
With my best wishes,
Antonia Moskos (Pascalis).
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.

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)
- Ta Tessera Spitia by Jim Saltis $20
  [Jim Saltis 47 Market Street Randwick 2031]
  email saltisjim@optusnet.com.au
  phone (02) 93999767
- Katsehamos and the Great Idea by Peter Prineas $35 available Plateia Press
  32 Calder Road, Darlington NSW 2008
  email plateia@ozemail.com.au
  phone (02) 9319 1513 Mobile: 0429 322 857
- Aphrodite and The Mixed Grill, Greek Cafes in Twentieth-Century Australia by Toni Risson
  130 Woodend Road, Woodend QLD 4305.
  email: s131107@uq.edu.au -$49.95 plus postage & handling. Phone 32811525.
- 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.
- Journey to Kythera CD-ROM for Apple Mac
  ActionPoints@hotmail.com or 0417 590 194.

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:

George C Poulos
Ph: 02 9388 8320
Email: transoz@bigpond.net.au

Angelo Notaras
Ph: 02 9810 0194
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2008
for
The Kytherian Association of Australia.
&
The Kytherian Brotherhood of Australia.
to be held on
Wednesday 18th JUNE 2008
at
KENSINGTON BOWLING CLUB
Cnr Barker Street & Doncaster Avenue
KINGSFORD, SYDNEY NSW.

AGENDA
- Welcome and 1 Minute silence.
- Apologies
- Minutes of 2007 AGMs will be read
- Business arising from Previous Minutes
- Treasurer’s Report
- President’s Report
- Resolutions to be discussed and voted upon
- Discussion on the introduction of a redrafted and modernized Constitution for the Association
- Election of new Committee members for 2008 to 2010

Please note: only currently financial full members are eligible to vote at the AGM

Resolution 1 “That the membership of the Kytherian Association of Australia, give Authority to the Committee, to purchase a building, up to a Total Purchase Price\(^*\) of $3.0 million\(^**\), for the purpose of property investment, under these guidelines:

1. an independent valuation be obtained to verify the value of the property;
2. this authority is for the purchase of a suitable property up to the date of the 2009 Annual General Meeting, and is subject to annual ratification by the members at subsequent Annual General Meetings for the purpose of continuance of the Authority until a building is purchased;
3. any member of the Association or its Committee that has an interest in such a property, whether financial, contractual or otherwise, must declare that interest to the secretary of the Association and refrain from casting a vote and shall not participate in any debate, discussion or decision in respect of the purchase of that building;
4. at all times, the Committee shall act strictly in accordance with the powers and responsibilities contained in the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Kytherian Association of Australia;

this authority lapses upon the purchase of a property.”

\(\text{\* Total Purchase Price is inclusive of stamp duty and other incidentals of purchase such as legal costs etc.}
\)

\(\text{e.g. A building asking }$2.78\text{ million will attract stamp duty of }$138,390\text{ and leave up to }$81,610\text{ available to cover incidentals}
\)

\(\text{A building asking }$2.82\text{ million will attract stamp duty of }$140,590\text{ and leave up to }$39,410\text{ available to cover incidentals}
\)

\(\text{\** }$3.0\text{ million represents an equity:debt ratio of approx 80:20}
\)

Any proposed purchase that exceeds the above pricing guidelines would still need to seek membership approval at a General Meeting by a 75% majority.

Resolution 2 “That paid advertizing be allowed in the “KYTHERIAN”, being the Kytherian Association of Australia’s monthly newsletter”.

- A set of Financial Reports will be available at the AGM.
- Light Refreshments will be served after the meeting.