



The Newsletter of the Kytherian Association of Australia

The KYTHERIAN

SUMMER EDITION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2009

PO Box A203, South Sydney, NSW 1235
www.kytherianassociation.com.au

Καλή Χρόνια

Happy New Year and a healthy and prosperous 2009 for all our members. Welcome once again to the special summer edition of *The Kytherian* (including the Summer Crossword) for your holiday reading and entertainment.

KALADI

KYTHERIAN

ASSOCIATION of
presents

AUSTRALIA

Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards Night

We are inviting students of Kytherian descent to submit their Year 2008 HSC Results and UAI scores for the Nicholas A. Aroney Encouragement Awards.

Closing date for applications:
13th February, 2009.

This lovely Awards Dinner function will be held at:

Venue: Twin Reception Centre,
560 Botany Street,
Alexandria.

Date: 28th February, 2009

Time: 7.00 pm

Cost: \$50 Adults &
\$25 Children

Please send copy of HSC marks & UAI results to:

Nicholas Anthony Aroney
Encouragement Awards,
c/- The Kytherian Association of
Australia,
P.O. Box A203,
Sydney South 1235

Any enquiries should be addressed to Victor Kepreotis on 0408 216 108 and for bookings please call Kathy Samios on 93491849.

Editorial

Eleni: Ladies and Gentlemen do not be alarmed, merely brace yourselves.

The summer edition of the Kytherian Newsletter has been hijacked by none other than Josh Kepreotis (first cousin/partner in crime) and me. Josh and I joined forces this summer maximising our combined brain power to successfully create this powerful weapon of mass publication. During this process, we also accomplished other things including some witty repartees, an overdose on apple juice, reaching level *hard* on Guitar Hero and comparing people within the Kytherian Association to Harry Potter characters. Do not ask how and why we got away with being in charge of this edition; Josh and I have certain societal connections and we'll leave it at that.



Josh: Let's be honest Eleni the word "nepotism" certainly comes to mind but hey we have connections and we are proud. It seems our parents (the dynamic duo of George and Kathy) have passed on the necessary traits to tackle such a mammoth project, however we know it will be a difficult assignment in wrestling the newsletter from their grasp in the future. We are also aware of the tidal wave of support they have amassed in the previous issues with faithful Kytherian 'baby boomers' and the challenge we face in convincing you, the reader, that our contemporary views are more enticing. Having said that, we do really appreciate the work and sacrifice they have put into 'The Kytherian' to make it the success it is today. A true pillar in literary society.

Eleni: Thank you Josh for the random vent. Now, with the holiday season upon us, I would like to share with you all something that has changed my life over the Christmas/New Year period. It involves an ordinary human girl, a dark and mysterious vampire and the Romeo and Juliet-like storyline that follows. Best selling novel turned movie *Twilight* is the crazy phenomenon that has been sweeping the world, many converting to the new religion of *Twilightism*. Whilst women seem to be generally more excited and eager about *Twilight*, I have it on good authority that there are certain men within the Kytherian Association who have been to see the movie and I quote, "loved it". Of course, these men cannot be named due to privacy and reputation reasons.

Josh: And in the next edition of 'The Kytherian' I will divulge those names for a reasonable price. I'll give you a hint, they are prominent Kytherian patriarchs, some Four-Wheel Drive members and others who contribute heavily to this newsletter... for example, the crossword (hint hint). We truly feel privileged to have been given the reins for the production of this newsletter. It certainly has come a long way since its birth decades ago and that is largely thanks to the readership. Kytherians alike have forged a great reputation for themselves in the wider Greek community as a foundation migrant group with great success and the newsletter is just another example of that. Until next time readers.....

Eleni: All in all, we have had a wonderful time co-editing this newsletter and hopefully we will be given the chance to work on future editions together (if our literary license has not been revoked by then). Wishing you and your families all the best for the year ahead, and that you enjoy the summer while it lasts!!

Eleni Vardas & Joshua Kepreotis

Kytho Calender 2009

Friday 30th January Greek Dancing starts. Free.

Sunday 15th February..... Karavitiko Symposium Luncheon

**Saturday 28th February..... Nicholas Anthony Aroney
Encouragement Awards Dance.**

Sunday 19th April..... Easter Sunday (Pascha)

Saturday 30th May.....Kytherian Ball at Star City Ballroom

What it means to be a second generation Kytherian

“Home is not where you live but where they understand you” (Christian Morgenstern). This quote, I feel, best captures the relationship that the vast majority of this newsletter’s audience has with our beloved island, Kythera. Although geographically removed by half a world, each reader maintains a unique connection to the island as a circumstance of either age or gender. The bond we share is as a result of communal migration to a land that represented a progressive lifestyle. We are constantly indebted to our grandparents for sacrificing all they had to venture south in search of a better existence for their children. Many spent long and arduous years acclimatising to a harsh climate both physically and socially.

Contemporary Australia is a mere shadow of its former self in terms of multiculturalism. 21st Century society can claim to be an accepting civilization, yet it is far removed from its ruthless and at times cruel predecessor. Integration would have required years of perseverance, when hope was merely a dream.

My Papou has a saying which he feels best articulates the difficulties he faced when migrating to Australia. He claims the journey was as hard as it would be to travel from Kapsali to Ayia Pelagia on your knees. It gets lost a bit in translation but the bare essentials are clearly evident, with a trip diagonally across Kythera’s rugged terrain not at all simple. It is inevitable that as a particular group feels ostracized from the mainstream, one tends to congregate with those who they share a unique bond with. Our ancestors therefore created their own microcosm here in Sydney, to maintain their cultural connection that they were in fear of losing after countless years away. They wanted to create their own sense of place, to feel comfortable in a foreign land and this culminated in the Brotherhood that has acted as the central hub for the majority of our social connections for close to a century.

Our links are unique, however what remains the same is the inexplicable place Kythera holds inside of us. Whether the individual is a young Friday night dancing frequenter, an elegant debutante nervously entering society or a ninety year old retiree having served decades of loyal Kytherian Association service, the strong bond with one’s ‘home’ is everlasting. When asked what it means to be a teenager of Greek heritage my answer is unwaveringly simple. I am proud to be born in a country such as Australia, synonymous with liberty and unity and yet I have the freedom to feel equally proud of my cultural heritage with a history so rich with posterity and originality. To find a happy medium is where I feel most comfortable. I believe the fact that I have had the opportunity to be so heavily immersed in the Greek culture, in particular Kytherian (but for the sake of our adopted and half-blood Kytherians let’s say Greek culture), is why I can proudly pledge my allegiance equally to two countries and two ‘homes’.

I thank the Kytherian Association and our forefathers for maintaining this great tradition, for the hard work that has ensured the survival of our cultural heritage and as a consequence has played a major role in shaping us as the individuals we are today. We are descendants of the same Greeks who maintained a civilization during 400 years of Turkish occupation by secretly speaking the language in underground Ecumenical Councils. Some of our grandparents left at such tender ages never to return again but like their ancestors, had the single goal of preserving a culture in an atmosphere that only lent itself to assimilation.

The term “oasis” is quite malleable as it cannot be defined in a finite manner. The term stands alone and is given life by the individual with a distinctive meaning. Kythera is my oasis. It may not encompass all the intricacies that are associated with an oasis by many, but to me it is the exact interpretation of a land so perfect in landscape and significance. An oasis is often associated with a hallucination and the sad truth is that for many of our grandparents it will remain only a vision for the rest of their days. However, that is the true beauty of the island as its image will never fade.

Joshua Kepreotis



Παμε στο Καραβιτικο!!

You are invited to come along and enjoy a superb four course meal to celebrate **Agios Haralambos Day** at the

Annual Karavitiko Symposium Luncheon on Sunday 15th February 2009

Venue: Venus Reception Centre
(next to Kogarah Greek Orthodox Church)
20 Belgrave Street, KOGARAH
www.venusreception.com.au

Time: 11.30am - 4.30 pm

Cost: \$55.00 Adults, \$35.00 Children (under 12)

Early Bird Special \$50.00 Adults , \$30.00 Children

Special Guest: Governor of Kythera

Bookings: Theo Poulos 91509069, 0409449927

George Poulos 93888320, Peter Poulos 0409666238





Greek Australian-Peloponnesian Cultural, Food and Wine Festival

18-31 January 2009, Sydney

Ok. I have to declare an interest here. In fact, a passion. I married a *xeni*, specifically, a girl whose family hails from Kiato near Corinth in the Peloponnese. Now there are other Kytherians who have also married Peloponnesians and so I am no Robinson Crusoe.

But in many respects Kythera is more a part of the Peloponnisos than it is of the Ionian Islands. Although the island historically belongs to the Ionian Islands, and its Byzantine and Venetian and English influences are shared in common with the other Eptanesian Islands, geographically and geo-politically speaking, Kythera is closer to the Peloponnese. And many travel books feature Kythera when discussing the Peloponnese because of the geographical proximity.

In August 2008 I actually got back to Athens via Gythion (and an Athens taxi) quicker than if I had taken the flight (which was full) from the island, but that is another story. The point is that the Peloponnese is a beautiful part of Greece, from the ruins of Ancient Corinth and Acrocorinthos, the haunting memorial in Kalavryta to the victims of Nazi atrocities during WWII, the Venetian castles in Methone and Korone, the majestic splendour of Olympia, the beachside promenades from Kiato to Xylocastro, to the castles and architecture of the Mani region, and so on.

Well, we now have a great opportunity to savour the sights, flavours, sounds and culture of the Peloponnese in Sydney from 18-31 January 2009 with the inaugural **Greek Australian-Peloponnesian Cultural, Food and Wine Festival** being staged by the Peloponnesian Confederation of NSW. The aim of the Festival is to promote cultural, social and economic cooperation between Australia and the Peloponnese region of Greece. A flyer with details of all the events is included with this Summer Edition of the Kytherian newsletter.

Some 30 separate Peloponnesian Associations have got together to stage this event and everyone is invited to attend. The festival will feature a golf tournament, lectures, a 2 day carnival, food and wine tasting and more. I urge our members to support this worthwhile initiative and attend some of the events.

George Vardas

NEW YEAR'S DAY DANCE

Our New Year's Day Dance at the Grand Barclay Reception Centre was once again a very successful evening. The lovely venue, good food, and great music by our resident DJ provided all that was needed for a wonderful night!

I am sure all the parents, relatives and friends of our Kytherian Dancers would have been very proud of the children's dancing performances as selected by our very talented dancing teacher, **Joanna**.

As always, there was plenty of "kefi" on the dance floor!

Congratulations to all the lucky prize winners and especially to the winner of the gold 2009 coin,

Emanuel Sofios.

Kai tou xponou!

Victor Kepreotis
President



RAFFLE PRIZES... NEW YEAR'S DAY FAMILY DANCE THURSDAY 1ST JAN.

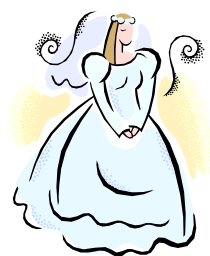
- 1ST PRIZE JVC Everio 30 GB Hard Disc Camcorder (donated by **Kytherian Association of Australia Committee**, valued at \$750) and won by **Emanuel Sofios**.
- 2ND PRIZE St George Smallgoods Gift Voucher (donated by the **Nick & Kathy Haros**, valued at \$250) and won by **Marianna Giaouris**.
- 3RD PRIZE Laiki Bank Account Voucher (donated by **Laiki Bank**, valued at \$250) and won by **Maria Andrew**.
- 4TH PRIZE DVD Player (donated by **George & Lorraine Poulos**, valued at \$100) and won by **Anneleisa & Christiana Alexakis**.
- 5TH PRIZE Natio Beauty Products (donated by **John & Marina Venetoulis of Maroubra Family Pharmacy**, valued at \$100) and won by **Gus Alexakis**.
- 6TH PRIZE Diethnes Greek Restaurant Lunch or Dinner Gift Voucher (donated by **the Management - John & Hellan Ventouris**, valued at \$100) and won by **James Alfieris**.
- 7TH PRIZE Travel Hair Care Products & Babyliss Pro Mini Straightening Iron (donated by **Hairbiz**, valued at \$97) and won by **Martha Fardouly**.
- 8TH PRIZE Vase from "Psonia" on Rocky Point Road San Souci, (donated by **Maria & Natassa Andrew**, valued at \$80) and won by **Jim Castrissios**.

LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

Bottle of Ouzo (donated by Grand Barclay), won by **Anna Katsoukis**.

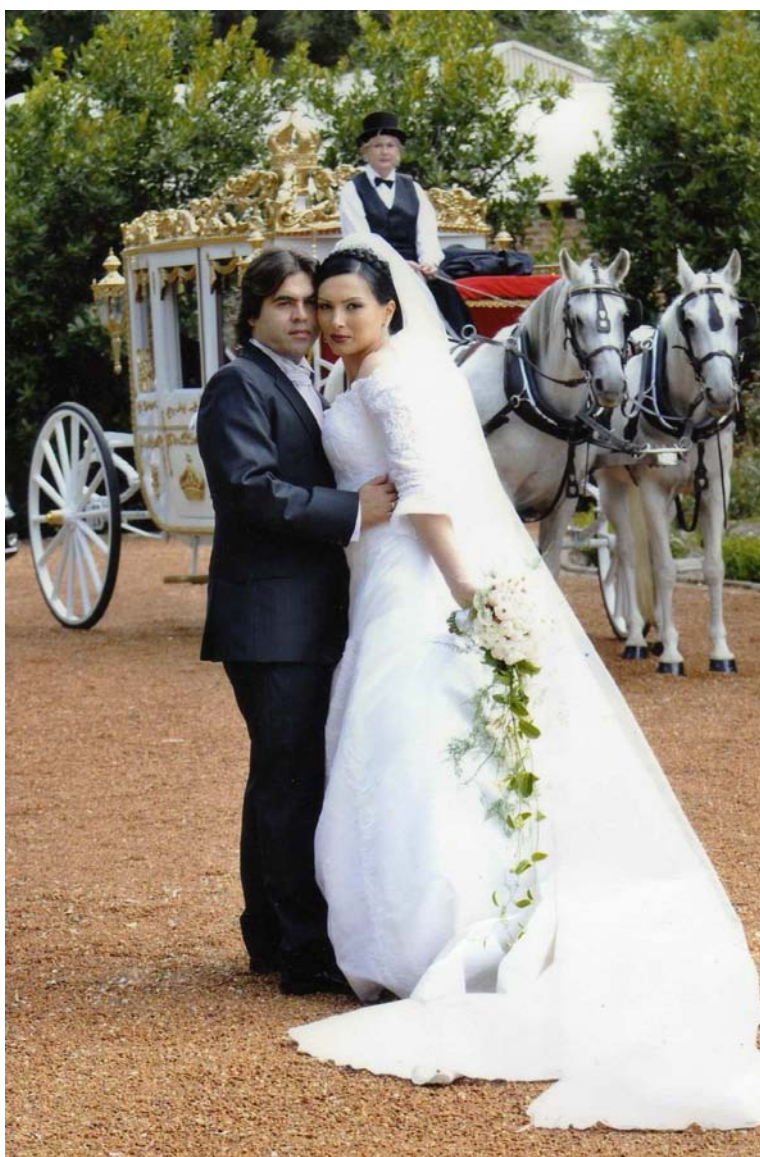


Weddings

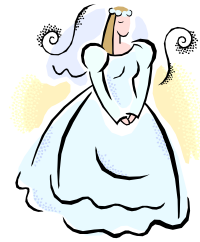


Eudokia Flaskas, eldest daughter of **Peter & Effie Flaskas** from Earlwood and granddaughter of the **Late Haralambos Flaskas & Eudokia Flaskas** of Campsie was married to **Savvas Barmakellis**, the youngest son of **Apollo & Mina Barmakellis** of San Souci. The wedding took place at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church Belmore. A reception followed at the Conco'Doro, Classic Ballroom in Riverwood.

Na Zisete!



Weddings

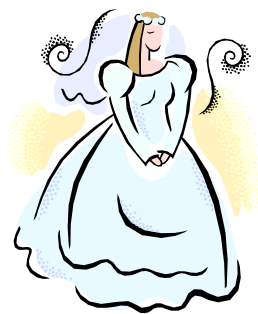


Congratulations to **Jonathan Lloyd Waters** and **Nicola Magiros** who were recently married on Nai Yang beach, Phuket, Thailand. It was such a beautiful ceremony that even the sky was shedding tears of joy! The service was followed by an intimate reception at the Indigo Pearl Resort. Friends and family came from Australia, Greece, America and the UK to give loving tributes to the new couple and share in their happy day. **Jonathon** is the son of **Elizabeth & Andrew Austin-Hancock** of Southampton, England and **Ian Waters & Jane Huntbach** of Bristol, England. **Nicola** is the daughter of **Antonis Magiros** of Kapsali and **Georgina Mentis** of Blakehurst. **Nicola's** grandparents are **Mary & the Late Nick Mentis** of Hurstville and the **Late Papa Spiros & Maria Magiros** of Drimonas.

We wish Nicola and Jon all the happiness and love for their future!
Na Zisete!



Weddings

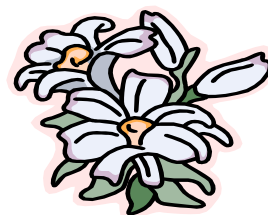


Jason Fardoulis and **Maria** celebrated their wedding at St Euphemia Bankstown. **Jason** is the youngest son of **Themis (Sam)** and **Helen** of Daleys Point. **Maria** is the eldest daughter of **Steve** and **Joanne Koupparis** of Bankstown. The reception followed at Fontana Amorosa at Liverpool.

Na Zisete



Engagements



Christos Flaskas youngest son of **Peter & Effie Flaskas** from Earlwood and grandson of the **Late Haralambos Flaskas & Eudokia Flaskas** of Campsie has announced his engagement to **Karolina Orsay** eldest daughter of **John & Magda Orsay** of Enfield. We wish them well!



Kythera Homecoming



In the 19 August 2008 edition of *The Australian* newspaper, Luke Slattery travelled to Kythera, Lemnos and Kastellorizo. This is what he wrote about our island under the heading "The homecomings".

Our plane bound for Kythira stands on the tarmac encased in a film of dust. The seats are vintage 1968. The right propeller shrieks alarmingly and the windows are as clear as milk. But this battered twin-engine shuttle does the job, and an hour out of Athens we bank around the great paw of the southern Peloponnese, bounce jauntily through an updraft and I am delivered, with all the thrill of a rodeo ride, to Aphrodite's isle.

I remark on the entertaining flight to the woman across the aisle and she shoots back excitedly:

"You from Melbourne?"

"No," I say. "Sydney."

"You Greek?"

"I'm afraid not."

"But your parents? Greek?"

I have no Greek ancestry but the question, or should I say assertion, of parentage is something I will hear time and again during the coming weeks as I hop from Kythira to Kastellorizo via the northeasterly isle of Lemnos: three extreme outposts of Greek-Australia. I have the jet lag and the hole in the wallet to prove I've left home. But in so many other respects I haven't.

The busy bird of a woman from the plane approaches as I stand waiting for my luggage.

Anxious to ensure I'm not fleeced by a taxi driver, she brokers a deal with one, then spins around to survey the family reunion behind us. "See this flight," she says, splaying her fingers.

"Twenty from Melbourne. Including a priest. All Greek."

After a 45-minute drive south to the hilltop capital of Chora along a main road as wide in parts as a donkey track, I arrive at the Hotel Margarita as the afternoon wind whips up. The Aphrodite suite, a lovely room with high ceilings and views across an uncharacteristically steely Aegean, is mine, as is the hotel this early May, the start of the wintering season for Kythirean-Australians.

Most retreat to their ancestral cottages or renovated Helleno mansions. The tourist migration is still months away and the island feels, in early spring, as if its sun shines for a fortunate few.

Hotel Margarita is a charming 19th-century villa, its whitewashed walls a checkerboard of blue shuttered windows splashed with bougainvillea.

I take my chair to the veranda and look across the wind-blasted maquis to a roiling ocean and a tiny egg-shaped islet. Up here at eagle height the air has a medicinal scent of sea salt and wild thyme, but the fine ocean view puts me in mind of a harder age.

The islanders of old, ravaged by pirates, settled these cliffs out of fear.

By morning, word of my stay has reached the ears of the hire car company's owner, Pete from Swan Hill. He wants to share his loneliness -- the kids are in Oz and they don't care for Greece -- and to rent me a vehicle at a family rate.

So I set off in a mechanised tin can across a largely unpeopled landscape of gorse brocaded here and there with stands of spring wild flowers: poppies, marigolds and violet hyacinths. For all its raw beauty this is a landscape that looks as if it misses company. The island's 1907 population of 13,000 was reduced to 3000 in the course of the past century.

Lunch at a roadside cafe named Maria's is a generous affair: a Greek salad piled high with three varieties of cheese, home-made corn bread, olives, oil and eggplant dip, followed by barbecued red snapper. As I fall upon a dessert of yoghurt with lemon zest and preserved grapes, a Dutch couple takes up the next table. Inhabitants of low, flat countries, we three discover a shared aversion to the more vertiginous experience of driving in Greece.

The conversation is not so much about things to see as things not to. The woman offers a beautifully condensed explanation of why, each year at the same time, she returns to Kythira: "Because it is the last truly Greek Greek island."

It was famous in antiquity as the birthplace of Aphrodite, even though the Cypriots stake a rival claim. The Homeric hymn to the love goddess more or less invites dispute as it has Aphrodite conceived in sea foam off Kythira (aphros means foam), then borne across the sea to Cyprus. Despite suggestion in the chronicles of an Attic temple to Aphrodite, and the roots of a Minoan settlement on the east coast, it is not rich in antiquities. Byzantium left a more durable stamp with fairytale frescoed chapels and medieval stone villages such as Paleochora, the island's 11th-century capital.

Traditional Kythirean architecture has a split personality. The red-tiled roofs of the western half evoke its years of Venetian rule, while whitewashed Chora and the sugar-cube east coast village of Avlemonas dream of the Cyclades. Avlemonas sits in a gentle cove, a short stroll from a broad beach bookended with sea-hollowed rock formations. The ocean here, its smooth skin caressed by an onshore breeze, is chilly when I wade in. But the sun is warm, as are the shingles underfoot. There's not a soul around. No haute cuisine or hotel suite could offer a more intense hour of pleasure.

At Avlemonas I find Anastasia's, an outdoor cafe just gearing up for the season ahead. A few rosy little barbounia arrive at the table lightly battered, encircled by salad, dips, and beans in red sauce, the whole constellation revolving around a chilled bottle of aromatic white.

It's to this seaside cafe that I return on my last day in Kythira. Two visits and I'm a regular: this time Anastasia wants to share her stories; the local fisherman, too. As I drive slowly away from Avlemonas for the last time I glimpse a group of teenagers linking hands in a folk dance, spinning though a pool of green-gold light beneath a pergola canopied with vine leaves.

A week earlier the woman at the airport had flapped her arms as I closed the door to the taxi, shooing me away like a mother hen. "Off you go," she said. "You're a Kythirean." It's only now as I wait to board the same plane, which carries the name Homer in archaic lettering on its fuselage, that I get it.

Though not Greek, I'm the next best thing. I've come a very long way to visit her birthplace. I have her blessing. So I've become, for the duration of my stay, part of the extended family.

The full article can be accessed at:

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,24169173-5002031,00.html>

George Vardas

Twilight: The Movie (Review)

About three things I am absolutely positive about *Twilight*. One, I can shamefully admit that I am unconditionally and irrevocably obsessed with the 17-year old vampire Edward Cullen. Two, the dreamy heartthrob donning an Edward Scissorhands/James Dean appearance has made women world wide swoon with desire, and three, not only has Edward Cullen forced me to have unrealistic expectations in men, I can also candidly reveal that as an avid twi-hard, I would like him to bite me.

The cult sensation and publishing juggernaut *Twilight* by Stephenie Meyer tells the story of ordinary human girl Bella Swan living in the small town of Forkes with her father. It is there that she meets the mysterious and alluring vampire Edward Cullen, whom she begins to fall in love with. The tumultuous Romeo and Juliesque love story that follows is almost exhilarating in that the love they share is futile; their irretrievable addiction to one another is somewhat fascinating. Danger lies ahead of them, choices must be made and life as Bella knows it takes a thrilling and terrifying turn.

Edward's addiction to Bella is surprisingly sexy with an innocent edge in that whilst he wants to love and protect her forever, there is also a dominant part of him that wants to suck her blood. So quite ironically, as put so cleverly by Stephenie Meyer, the lion falls in love with the lamb. When you can live forever, what do you live for? With stunningly breath-taking characters and a dark and ominous backdrop, the story itself is intoxicating: teetering on the edge of eternal love and danger and the movie's premise is riveting enough to keep movie-goers clinging onto the edge of their seats with shortness in breath. Sure, Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings created worlds outside of the normal human realm that made them universally appealing, but the Twilight Series has created a parallel world that seems to exist within the confines of the normal human world as we know it. Meyer has cleverly taken ordinary everyday people, placed them in the midst of life-threatening danger, and made them blissfully unaware about it, cleverly capturing young love at its most compelling and purest form.

Edward Cullen's character is most impressive. His rich history, supernatural powers, wisdom and chivalrous attitude, his cars, strength, intelligence, talents and intense devotion to the love of his life, Bella Swan ultimately makes him the fantastical fabrication of every girl's dream love. The consumptive pallor and his darkly enigmatic demeanour is awfully overwhelming. And let us not forget his perfect profile. Piercing golden eyes that make your heart melt, a dreamy crooked smile, dazzling white teeth and facial expressions that send a funny feeling dancing throughout your body. Edward Cullen epitomizes perfection. Not only has he made chastity glamorous, he has also turned kissing into an extreme sport. Granted, a man's opinion could be quite different I suppose. My idiosyncrasies do tend to get the better of me.

What is it with the un-dead? They just won't die. Ever since Bram Stoker snuck an erotic masterpiece in the form of a horror story past the moral guardians of Victorian England, the vampire has been with us. And no amount of garlic, holy water, or overexposure to UV rays seem to be able to get rid of it. The traditional conventions have been totally subverted in *Twilight* with Meyer's vampires referred to as "vegetarian" living off the blood of animals, and instead of withering away in the sunlight, they simply sparkle. No fangs, no coffins and no gothic mansions. Meyer has truly re-vamped her vampires in *Twilight*, humanising them to a certain extent so that the boundaries of immortality that mere humans can never reach seem a lot closer.

Twilight is an impossible, drug like state. It is hard to let go of and wake up from. I've only seen the movie 5 times and I'm not too sure about how others feel, but it seems to me that it only gets better and better.

I truly recommend this movie to everybody, whether they be young or old. Combining love, hate, romance, drama, danger and all the juicy parts in between, *Twilight* is more than a movie. It's a lifestyle. I can only hope that as I slowly emerge from Meyer's imagination, other's will succumb to it.

Eleni Vardas



ACHIEVEMENTS

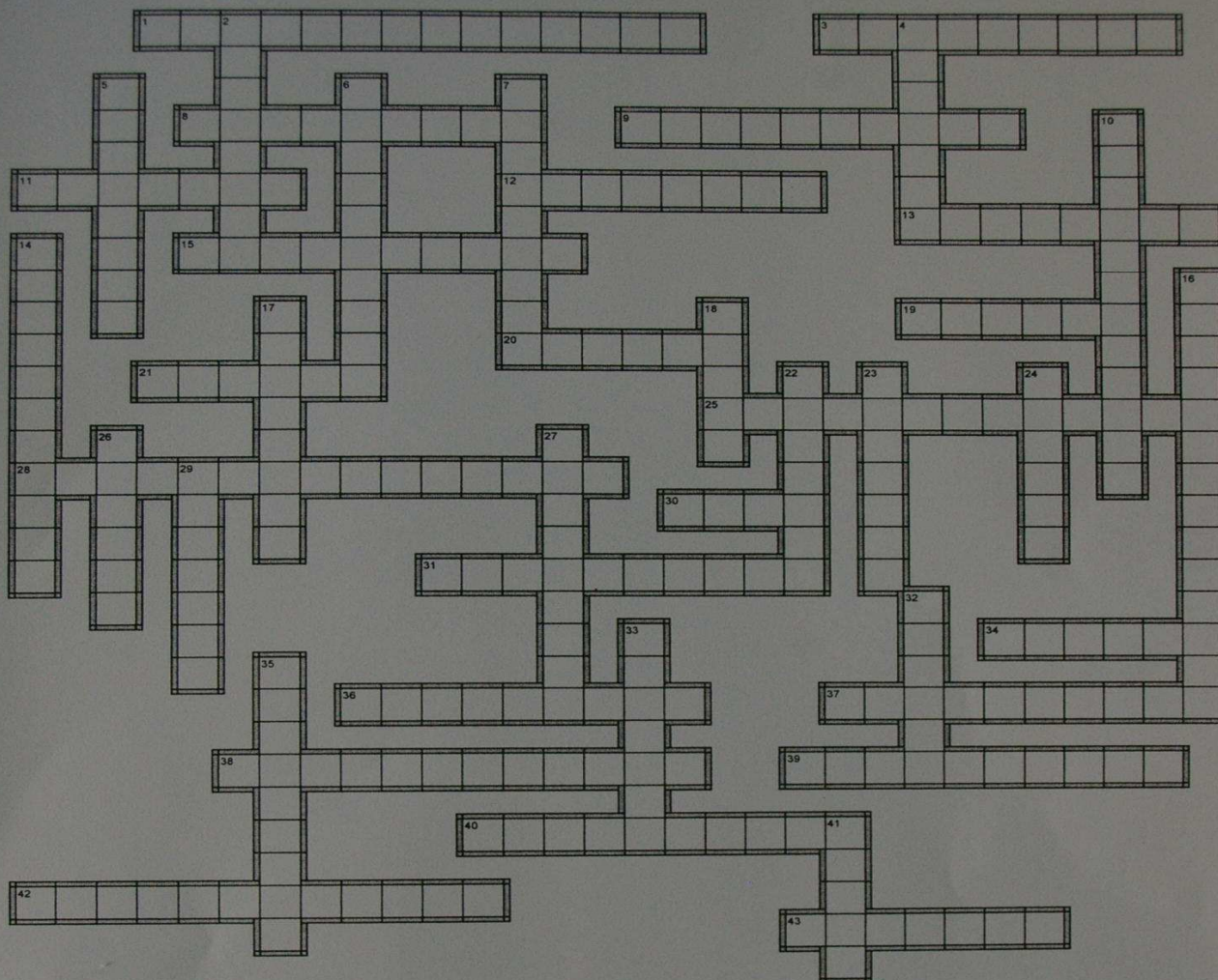
We congratulate **Arthur Conomos** who has been selected to pose for construction and warning signs throughout NSW. Here Arthur is pictured in the Illawarra warning of the risk of falls. Life certainly can imitate art.





KYTHERIAN 2009 SUMMER EDITION BUMPER CROSSWORD

George Vardas



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

1. Village in Kythera starting with the letter "Z"
3. The Greek Orthodox faith has its roots in this particular period of history
8. A well-lit bar and café recently opened in Hora (2 words)
9. Famous Kytherian Australian naïve artist
11. Yacht named after ancient town on Kythera finished second in 2008 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race
12. The shipwrecked Nordland can be seen near this sandy beach and port
13. The movie "Mama Mia" was filmed on location on this island
15. Largest island in the Ionian group and the setting for Captain Corelli's Mandolin
19. Wednesday night markets are now held in this town on Kythera
20. Town in Turkey infamously destroyed by fire in 1922
21. Greek Consul-General in Sydney
25. Resident archaeologist on Kythera
28. Traditional venue for Kytherian Ladies Auxiliary Melbourne Cup functions (3 words)
30. Famous Greek-American reporter and author of "Eleni"

Across

31. Highest peak on Kythera
34. The compiler of this crossword is obsessed with this structure in Katouni
36. Saint honoured each May
37. Ecotourism in Milopotamos features a visit to these long-abandoned structures
38. New Greek land titles registry
39. Theme of 2008 Kytheraismos Symposium
40. Traditional weekend away venue for Kytherian 4WD and Recreation club (2 words)
42. Editor of Kytherian Ball Program (2 words)
43. Famous son of Rosa Cassimatis and Major Charles Hearn was born on this Greek island



Down

2. Turkish extermination of Greeks and Armenians
4. Famous Greek-Australian singer
5. The Metropolitan of Kythera
6. Saint celebrated by Karavitiko Symposium
7. Tilting at these potential renewable energy sources on Kythera
10. Last bastion of kafenion culture in the Sydney CBD (2 words)
14. Guest of honour at 2008 Kytherian Ball and adventurer
16. The passenger ferry that replaced the "Myrtidiotissa" last summer in the Athens to Kythera run (two words)
17. New cultural centre and arts complex in Kapsali
18. Venetian name for Zakynthos
22. Eparchos of Kythera
23. Two Parthenon fragments recently returned to Greece on loan from this State
24. New UN Special Envoy to Cyprus and former stocking-clad Australian foreign minister
26. New boutique hotel and restored windmill can be found in this town on Kythera
27. Professor George Leontsinis has unveiled new cultural centre in this town
29. Greek Minister for Culture
32. According to legend the revered icon of Myrtidiotissa was found on this tree
33. Greek-derived word used as adjective for wind energy and Coleridge's poetic harp (named after Greek god)
35. Curator of the Fatseas photographic collection and other photographic initiatives on Kythera
41. The number of arches in the stone bridge at Potamos

Santa Witnesses Father's Day Grudge Match

Many in our extended Kytherian circle would agree that the annual Father's Day picnic is the real showcase piece in the Kytherian calendar. However, they would also agree that the term 'picnic' implies a tranquil setting with open blankets and an assortment of cheese and crackers. Supposedly, Father's Day represents a small window of the year where sons and daughters commemorate the trials and tribulations involved with being a patriarch. This brotherhood slightly subverts this notion and gives the 'old timers' that once in a life time opportunity to salvage remnants of pride from their more youthful counterparts. Bragging rights is the prized outcome, with both sides fiercely competitive and stringent on the amount of good nature on offer.

This year the picnic was done in true Kytherian style, combining Father's Day with Christmas, what can we say, we are economically savvy and proud of it. Before Santa handed out presents to his adoring fans, fathers and sons commenced a grudge match of epic proportions in the background. The game was an eclectic mix of wisdom against might, old legs against youthful exuberance and trickery against honesty. These binary opposites pretty much sum up all facets of this titanic struggle and it goes without saying which side represents which. After a successful season, culminating in the Minor Premiership and promotion to a higher tier of Eastern Suburbs football, the Light Blues (All-Stars) were supremely confident entering the fixture, with a clear intention of putting on an exhibition of stylish football. Things went according to plan in the first half with the All-Stars taking the game to the "Legends" and clearly dictating the pace with relative ease. A comfortable 1-0 lead was taken into the break with a hint of more to come in the second half. The boys sat together on one side of the field no doubt discussing the exiting events of the previous nights, while our opposition schemed about a Lazarus-like resurrection. The faithful had gathered round their beloved husbands to offer what we assumed was sympathy and condolence, yet unsuspectingly to our innocent eyes, they must have contrived a mythical substance from Yiayia's left over cooking to rejuvenate the tired legs.

A Raissis led attack, or as we boys called him Ephialtes, commenced the second period with renewed vigour and a sense of purpose we had assumed was lost to the ages, never mind the 30 'nianiara' (as we labelled them) being subtly let onto the field one by one. At one stage our goalkeeper was replaced by what can only be described as a decrepit looking crate and our defence was left to be marshalled by the lone figure of Peter Tzannes with a sea of 10 year-olds bearing down on him.

Excuses? Perhaps.
Bitter? Certainly.

The score is debatable, a repressed memory for me, yet rumour has it that it was in-fact a 5-5 epic draw. Unsurprisingly, the scorecard was completed by an elder and therefore a 5-4 loss is what we will have to deal with for a long and laborious year. At least we know the future is bright for Kytherian football as the little ones ran riot out there, exposing defensive frailties that Queens Park and Sydney Uni alike could not capitalise on.

It was clear that the boys missed our coach and inspirational leader Emmanuel Alfieris who must be commended on the sterling job he has once again done for our club, with relatives Nick and Victor making up a triumvirate of managers to rival the very best.

The New Year is upon us which signals another season of exciting week to week football. However with that said it also signifies the commencement of pre-season beach runs and circuits to rectify the extra 40 kilos worth of food that our Yiayiathes lovingly, and strategically, force-fed us with. Currently the transfer window is open so we are hoping to hold onto the current crop of talent at our disposal for another assault on the competition, whilst the so called bigger clubs will no doubt be circling from above.

Also if there is anyone available for roughly a 2 month guest stint around July/August, it would certainly be helpful as our team will no doubt be on hiatus, decimated by the obligatory pilgrimage back to our promised land. Preliminary talks are in place with the Easter Suburbs FA for a home game outside the Kastro in Hora, on the sand at Diakofti or even through the streets of Livadi, with the archways of the famous Katouni Bridge acting as perfect goal posts. The seed has been planted and the possibilities are endless!

Looking forward to a successful season ahead boys!!

Joshua Kepreotis



End of Year Greek Dancing

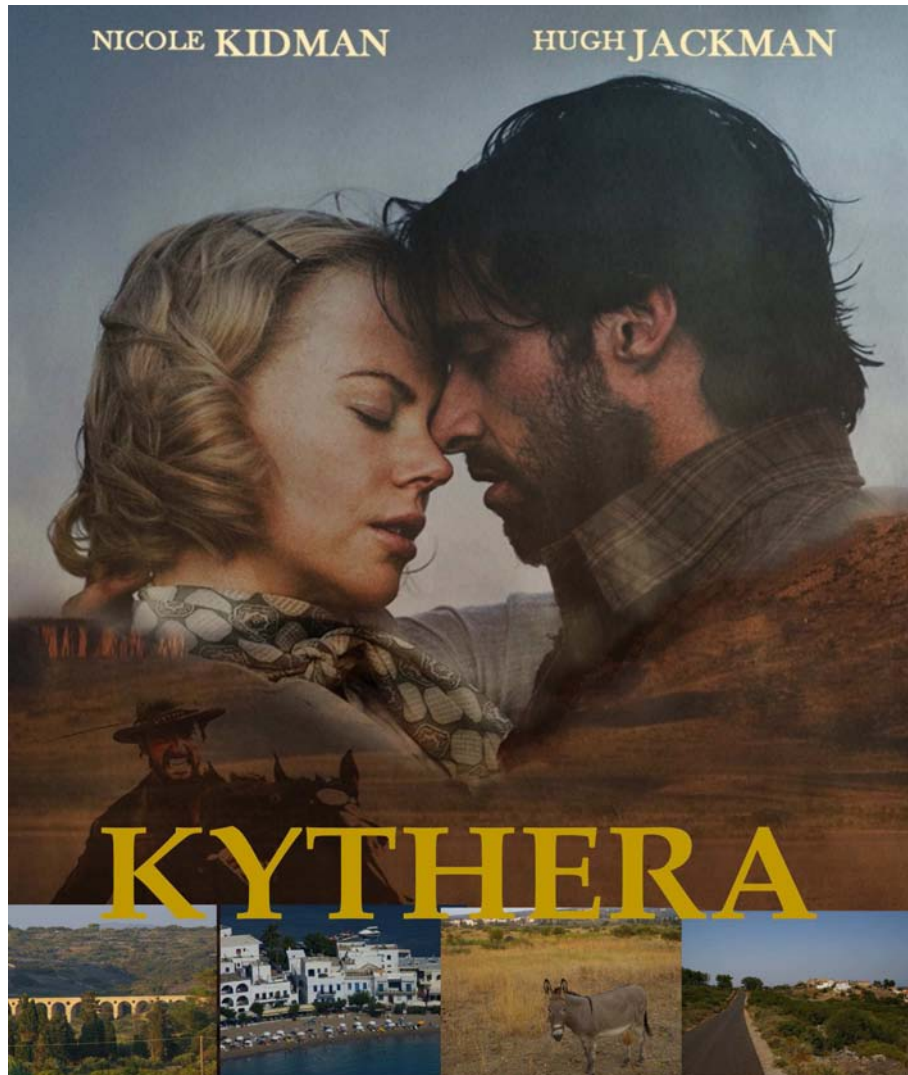
Another year of Friday night Greek Dancing came to a close to the disappointment of the faithful. The night was celebrated with the traditional pizza party to cap off a successful year. Many thanks must be extended to our adopted Kytherian, Greek Dancing teacher, **Joanna Tsakaridis** for her unrivalled efforts in moulding our youth into high quality dancers. A big 'thank you' must also be given to **Penelope Samios** for her continued assistance to **Joanne**. We all look forward to a great 2009.



BROTHERHOOD PICTURES

presents

Kythera: the Movie



Baz Luhrmann has teamed up with George Miller to produce a new epic in Australian-Greek filmmaking. The year is 1940, somewhere in the Aegean. It is the gripping story of unbridled love during a time of great hardship. Nicole Kidman stars as Sarah Tasakis, the Australian wife of a deceased milk bar proprietor who travels to a desolate Greek island called Kythera to discover that the boundaries of her late husband's property have somehow mysteriously moved. She meets a handsome young goat-herder, Drovass, from the village of Katouni, played by Hugh Jackman, who helps her to move back the stones and to reclaim her rightful property. They then set off with her flock of three sheep and a goat and guide them through a hostile *exo dimou* before they can be loaded on to a ship waiting off the port of Agia Pelagia. Along the way, they endure the wrath of jealous villagers and never-ending *kotsobolio* as they attempt to adopt a local orphan girl named Loula. Back in Livadi, Sarah and Drovass continue their relationship, meeting each night under the famous bridge at Katouni. When the island is invaded by German forces their relationship is threatened because of a secret Nazi plot to blow up the bridge. Will their love survive? What will happen to Loula? More importantly, can the bridge be saved? If there is one film you must see this summer, it has to be **Kythera: The Movie**. Coming soon to a theatre near you.

George Vardas



I was going over the early issues of our newsletter which was published as the Kytherian Club News back in the 1980s. The February/March 1984 edition was the 25th newsletter put out by the now defunct Kytherian Social Club. Almost 25 years later, it is interesting to look back on some of the items from that edition.

The passing of Kytherian Social Club director, Peter Andrew (father of Angelo and John) was solemnly reported. It was noted that Peter, although not well, had regularly attended committee meetings and had put in a lot of hard work to help the Kytherian cause. As stated then, he will never be forgotten.

The Kytherian Youth Association held a Harbour Cruise on 17 March 1984 on the "Proclaim". On 20 March 2004 the "energetic Ladies' Auxiliary" (yes, I did in fact write that) held an exclusive fashion parade at the "new Regents Hotel" (now the Four Seasons Hotel) featuring fashions from several of Australia's leading contemporary designers. Finally, on 24 March 1984 a Mitata/Viaradika night was held at the Kytherian Club to try to emulate the success of the Karavitiko.

On the social news front, it was reported that Club director George Cassim had announced his engagement to Irene Calligeros. The newsletter went on to proclaim that George was the "fifth club director in the last 2 years to become engaged or married" that club had a lot to answer for.

And finally, the newsletter reported that the fund-raising target of \$100,000 had finally been reached to pay off Kythera House.

Going through early issues of the newsletter is certainly nostalgic. I even came across a certain irreverent version of the April 1985 edition of the newsletter which caused some controversy at the time. It is hard to believe that almost a quarter of a century has passed by oh, for the memories.

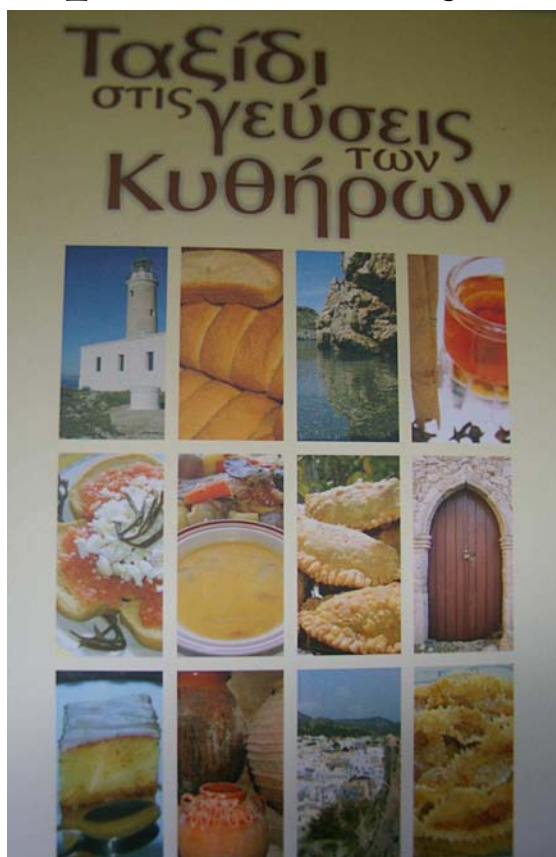
George Vardas

The Archbishop of Kythera, Metropolitan Serapheim.

The Archbishop of Kythera, **Metropolitan Serapheim**, regrettably has advised us that he will not be able to travel to Australia in February, as previously advised in the December newsletter.



Recipes from Kythera



During my recent trip to Kythera I came across a quaint new publication titled “*Journey Through the Tastes of Kythera: Traditional Recipes and Products*”. Edited by Konstantinos Pavlakis, the book, which is available in various bookshops and arts and crafts shops on the island, features a number of local recipes interspersed with photographs of the island and delicious pictures of the various delightful recipes. Although in Greek, it is easy to read and to follow.

One of my favourite recipes is for *bizedes* (or meringues). The ingredients are:

- 6 egg yolks
- 2 cups of sugar
- 1 teaspoon of lemon juice
- 1 lemon grind
- Coarsely-crushed bleached almonds

Into a pot over a low heat you beat the egg yolks and the sugar together until the mixture stands. You then pour the lemon juice and grind and switch off the heat.

You then place oil paper inside a *tapsi* (shallow baking tin) and you make the meringues to the size you desire. You then pour the crushed almonds over the meringues and leave the oven on low heat for about 30 minutes. When they start to “sweat” they’re ready. Kytherian *bizedes* to complement a good espresso coffee (*Illy*, of course).

George Vardas

An American friend recently posted this on the net.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT.... TO ALL THOSE WHO SURVIVED THE 1920's, 30's,
40's, 50's, 60's & 70's.**

First, they survived being born to mothers who smoked, drank or took aspirin when they had a headache, while they were pregnant.

Then after that trauma, babies were put to sleep on their tummies in cots painted with bright coloured lead-based paints.

There were no childproof lids on medicine bottles, doors or cabinets and when kids rode their bikes, they had no helmets.

Infants & children would ride in cars with no booster seats, seat belts or air bags.

They drank water from the tap or garden hose and not from a bottle.

They ate lollies, cakes, white bread with real butter and drank cordial made with sugar, but weren't overweight because they were always playing outside.

They ate food and drank drinks with no expiry dates but somehow used common sense to know when things had gone off.

They slept on hot summer nights with windows open, to be able to appreciate the cool breeze.... not knowing what air conditioning was.

They did not have any of the following; Playstations, Nintendos, X-boxes, video games, cable TV, video movies, DVD's, surround-sound, CDs, mobile phones, personal computers, Internet with its chat rooms.....they had friends and went outside to find them!

They would spend hours building go-carts out of scraps and then rode them down the hill, only to find out that they forgot the brakes. After running into the bushes a few times, they learned how to solve the problem.

They fell out of trees, got cut, broke bones and teeth and there were no lawsuits from these accidents.

They rode bikes or walked to a friend's house. Not everyone had cars.

Sports had tryouts and not everyone made the team. Those who didn't, had to learn to deal with disappointment. Imagine that!!

The idea of a parent bailing their kids out if they broke the law was unheard of. They actually sided with the law!

These generations have produced some of the best risk-takers, problem solvers and inventors ever!

They had freedom, failure, success and responsibility, and they learned how to deal with it all. How times have changed!!!

If YOU are one of them..... CONGRATULATIONS!

Kathy Kepreotis

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) 9399 9767
- *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 3281 1525.
- *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].

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.



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 -
 Kytherian World Heritage 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

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*



Kytherian Association of Australia
www.kytherianassociation.com.au

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Keep up-to-date with all the latest KAA news & information
as well as details of our upcoming events.

Logon now & tell us what you think:
feedback@kytherianassociation.com.au

Enquiries: Peter Samios

GREEK DANCING CLASSES 2009

**FRIDAYS 30th JANUARY - 3RD APRIL
(TERM 1)**

Matraville High School Cnr Anzac Pde & Franklin
Sts, Matraville.

Infants 7.00pm-

7.45pm

Primary 7.45pm-

8.30pm

Junior High School

8.30pm-9.15pm

Senior Group

9.15pm-10.15pm

