



The KYTHERIAN

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

APRIL 2010



**The Kytherian 4WD
&
Recreation Club**
Upcoming Event
Turon Gates Weekend Away
Camping or Cabin Accommodation
9th & 10th & 11th April 2010

(see page 4 for details).



Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards Night

This lovely Awards Dinner function will be held at :
Venue : Twin Reception Centre

560 Botany Street, Alexandria

Date : Saturday 10th April, 2010

Time : 7.00pm

Cost : \$50 Adult & \$25 Children

For bookings please call Kathy Samios on 93491849.

THE KYTHERIAN LADIES' AUXILIARY INVITES YOU TO A

MOTHERS' DAY MORNING TEA

ON

WEDNESDAY, 5TH MAY 2010

AT

NICK'S BONDI BEACH PAVILION
QUEEN ELIZABETH DRIVE, BONDI BEACH

10.00AM FOR 10.30AM START
COST: \$50



OVERLOOKING BEAUTIFUL BONDI BEACH

BOOKINGS: HELEN KANARIS 9349 8113
MATINA SAMIOS 9665 7225
KYRRANNE THOMAS 9764 6636

LIMITED NUMBERS — PLEASE BOOK EARLY



Australian Museum
nature culture discover

Amazing Backyard Adventures

Date: Friday, 16 April 2010

Time: 10.30am

Location: Australian Museum, 6 College St, Sydney

Cost:

- \$10 Adult
- \$15 Child (5 - 15 years)
- Child under 5 years free (must be accompanied by an adult)

- Event Includes:
 - Entry to General Exhibition
 - Amazing Backyard Adventures Exhibition
 - 1 hour guided activity for children (5-15 years) with Education program led by a Museum educator (details to be advised)
- Picnic lunch at Hyde Park or Museum if raining
- Re-entry to the Australian Museum after lunch



Bring your own blanket and food for picnic.

Bags may be stored at the Museum while viewing exhibits.

Recommended for families, particularly for children 8-15 years.

There are a limited number of places available for this event. Please book early.

Amazing Backyard Adventures is a family-friendly exhibition designed to encourage budding young scientists to 'see the unseen' in the natural world found right outside their door!

Take a journey inside a magnified backyard lawn and find out how it feels to be smaller than a blade of grass.

For further details and bookings, please contact Kytherian Young Mothers Group:

Sophia Poulos 0438 660412

Tina Levonis 0413 672350

Maria Notaras 0425 230991



KYTHO CALENDAR

Fridays 23rd April - 2nd July 2010

Weekly Greek dancing lessons - Term 2
(details on page 23)



Sunday 4th April 2010
Easter Sunday (Pascha).

Friday 9th, Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th April 2010

Turon Gates Weekend
Away (see page 4)



Saturday 10th April 2010

Nicholas A. Aroney Encouragement Awards (details on front page).

Friday 16th April 2010

KYMG Trip to Museum
(details on front page).

Wednesday 5th May 2010

Mothers' Day Function (see front page).

Saturday 29th May 2010

Kytherian Debutante Ball at Star City.
(details on page 6).

Sunday 30th May 2010

Kytherian Debutante Ball After Party
(details on page 7).

Tuesday 2nd November 2010

Kytherian Ladies' Auxiliary Melbourne Cup Fashion Luncheon.

MUMS & BUBS

"Mums and Bubs" outings are to be held once a month on a Friday, for babies and children up to 4 years. For more information please

call **Pamela Efstathis** on
0409 987 789.



Editor's Note



People often refer to the good old days and I must admit that the older I get, the more I yearn for the simplicity of yesteryear.

Perhaps that explains my love of Kythera. Life there is not as ridiculously complicated as it is here.

Indicative of our complex, over civilized lifestyle is how we deal with various commonplace issues in everyday life.

'Back in the day' if you had a problem, you could ring a phone number and immediately have a person assisting you with all your enquiries. Nowadays, you need incredible patience and plenty of spare time before you dial that number.

Last week I received a bank statement that had a nil balance and details reflecting many withdrawals from various ATMs during the month. This immediately raised alarm bells because I don't use ATMs (archaic...I know). My first reaction was to ring the bank. I was naïve enough to assume that this was the wisest and easiest thing to do.

My marathon phone call started with a recorded message that asked me to follow the prompts. It began with the obligatory question, "say in one word what your problem is". How does one describe possible identity theft or mismanagement of funds in one word?

Suddenly, I had a depressing flashback, to those terrible French oral exams in high school. My teacher would ask me ludicrous questions and I had to provide an immediate answer in French.

The voice on the other end kept informing me that whatever word I used (and there were many), was unacceptable. I may as well have responded in French! This was extremely frustrating for me and I think that at that point in time, I may have just invented phone rage.

After 15 minutes of attempting to navigate my way through this thick fog of technology, 'the voice' finally surrendered. A human eventually answered my enquiry and alleviated my fears of being the victim of a crime.

The bank had 'simply' made a mistake and mixed customers' accounts with other customers' transaction details. This human apologized and guaranteed that the error would be rectified. Although this was such a relief, it came too late for my elevated stress level which I had attained while I waited patiently (and trust me...patience is not my virtue) all that time on the line.

When did life become so complicated? We appear to have really lost the art of communication. Perhaps we need to take a few steps back from trying to simplify everything because it seems to me that the end result is the absolute antithesis of 'simple'.

I must admit though, that I can't imagine this system working in Greece. Knowing what a tolerant race our fellow Greeks are, it would be impossible for them to limit themselves to just one word when demanding service on the phone and unfortunately, hand gestures will definitely be of no assistance at all.

On a different note I wish all our readers a Happy Easter!

Relaunch Accomplished

After seven years online kythera-family.net was due for a visual and technical relaunch. It was made possible by the generous legacy of the late Nicholas Aroney and the insightful custodians of his Trust who have supported the site from its outset in 2003. Thanks also to the Kytherian Association of Australia and the Kythera World Heritage Fund.

The relaunched site features facebook, twitter and other social media links, displays different featured articles each day, can be easily enlarged to cater for the visually challenged, and includes a chat function for you to get in touch with old and new Kytherian friends. And much more. We hope you like the new look and features, and look forward to seeing you on the site one day soon.



kythera-family.net
your island's heritage online

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Welcome to the relaunch of Kythera-Family.net!

We hope you like the new design! There might still be a few problems which need to be ironed out - if you see something which isn't working properly please send a mail to administrator@kythera-family.net and let us know!

SUBMIT YOUR KYTHERIAN HERITAGE MATERIAL TO THIS SITE TOO!

It's free and easy and you'll be helping the world-wide community discover each other's Kytherian heritage. Help your close and distant relatives find out more about their family history by making available the photos, stories etc. in your possession! Simply [register](#) and start uploading!



Here you can Submit
to Kythera-Family



Take the Guided Tour
(coming soon)



Vintage Portraits/ People

15.09.2008 - Barbara Zantiotis

Anastasopoulos family in Perlegiannika 1938

The lady on the left is my grandmother, Barbara Anastasopoulos (Comino). She is holding my mother, Kyrani (Anna). The lady on the right is Barbara's mother, Kyrani Comino (Castrisios). She is holding her grandson, Denis. The little boy in the... [more>>](#)

Newest Entries

from 14.03.2010

- The Book of Vilah - Live B...
- Life Story of Stavroula Th...
- Looking for my Lazzareti f...
- Ploumis Angelo
- Ploumis Creasoa (rose)
- Crethar Gregoria (florrie)
- Crethar Nicholas James
- Crethar Shirley
- Crethar Victor Nicholas
- Australian Gourmet Travell...
- Super Greek. Tess Mallos. ...
- Greek Cookbook by Tess Mal...
- Koundouris Theodore
- Papanagnostou Tania Maria

[Show All Recent Entries >>](#)

The People of a Village in Kythera

02.03.2009 - Stephen Trifyllis



A Senior Statesmen of the Village of Trifyllianika past away last week Mr Janni (Gerakidi) Manea. His wife Vasiliki (far left). Mr Manea was in his early nineties he has been living in the Village... [more >>](#)

Newest Photos [all recent photos](#)



Kythera Map

[Zoom in](#)



The construction of the Platia Ammos road

24.02.2009 - Rose...



Eleftherios Tzortzopoulos is 2nd from the left with the view of Platia Ammos behind him. In 1958, Eleftherios Nikolaou Tzortzopoulos, our grandfather, was the local mayor who was responsible for the... [more >>](#)

Exterior of Greek Islands Restaurant, Chicago...

16.02.2009 - Terry Chlentzos



A little bit of Kythera in Chicago-- Located in the heart of Chicago's Greektown, on Halstead Street, Greek Islands Restaurant is one of the most popular dining venues. [more >>](#)



The Kytherian 4WD &

Recreation Club

Upcoming Event

Turon Gates Weekend Away Camping or Cabin Accommodation 9th & 10th & 11th April 2010

It's on again. Come along and join us for what is a great weekend away. Great fun for all the family. You do not need a 4WD to be part of the fun.

For anyone who has thought about going camping but didn't feel confident this is your chance to try something different.

Our committee are there to help out if needed.

Here is your chance, just do it, your kids will love it and so will you !!!!!

This trip has been run for the last 10 years and has been a fantastic success every time. Come and join us in April 2010.

Website: www.turongates.com

Telephone: (02) 6359 0142, Cabin Bookings (02) 9969 3818

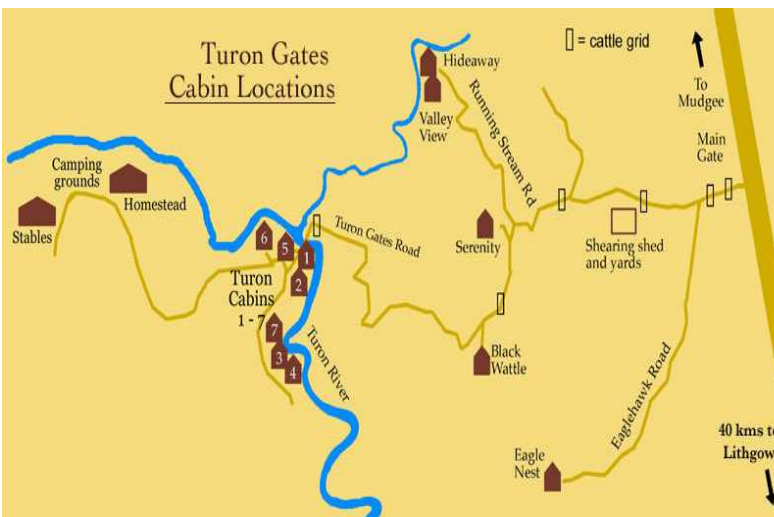
Address: Turon River, Capertee, New South Wales, 2846

How to get to Turon Gates:

At Lithgow turn right towards Mudgee. Turn off to the left just past Capertee. Refer Map below; Travel time is around 3 hours and can be travelled by conventional vehicles.

Cabins must be booked in advance.

Cabins to be booked and paid for directly on phone (02) 9969 3818. No booking required for camping however first get the best spots.



Please contact any of the committee members below if you are coming.

Committee Contact

Peter Tzannes 0419993000,

Gina Ambele 0408429042,

Tina Economy 0430357167,

Dennis Coolentianos

0417230743,

Spiro Coolentianos 0418213990,

Peter Poulos 0409666238 and

Victor Alfieris 0407909294

PERFECTING YOUR TITLE FOR THE KITHIRA KTIMATOLOGIO**By: John Tripidakis, LL.M.Ph.D.(can), Greek solicitor in Sydney and Athens****U.R.L.: www.greeklawyersonline.gr tel: 0402751102**

Pursuant to law 3818/2010 and the relevant rulings of the Greek Ministry of Environment, Physical Planning and Public Works, the Greek government has proclaimed the remaining areas of Athens and of the broad area of Attica, which have not entered yet the Hellenic National Cadastre ("Ktimatologio"), under registration. The goal of the Ktimatologio is to record all existing property rights all over Greece and their holders in a unified system of legal, technical and other information, as well as to protect the recently burnt from the fire areas of Attica. The deadline for registration of property owners has not been set yet and is expected to be set within the following months.

The period for registration is usually six months, while foreign residents are granted by law with a three month extension to the deadline set for Greek residents. Failure to register within this time frame, will result in a fine ranging from 50 to 1,500 euros (based on type and value of property right which has not been registered). An extension for the registration may be granted by three (3) months. Any person or legal entity (companies, institutions, foundations, etc..) with real estate property rights of any kind (including but not limited to ownership rights, easements, mortgages, leases for more than nine years, encumbrances) is obliged to register his/ her ownership rights to the Ktimatologio records by submitting the relevant statements and documentation before the competent Ktimatologio authorities.

If you have not yet proceeded with the notarial Acceptance of the Kithira Property from your parents, grandparents etc, in order to bring the property under your name, **you should do so immediately. Time is of the essence.**

The registration of properties to the Ktimatologio is effected in two phases: first, statements with the required documentation will be submitted, properties will be located and archived in an electronic database [up to now, the existing Land Registry (Ypothikofilakion) system consists of public registry in the form of handwritten books]. In the second phase, property rights will be legally verified and each piece of property will be precisely defined. Property rights will be posted on a list, thus giving the opportunity to property right holders to object in the event the property where they believe they own a right is listed under someone else's name or as "unknown owner".

In the first phase of the registration of properties to the Ktimatologio system, owners of property rights within the area proclaimed as under registration, are called to submit to the Ktimatologio authority the following documentation:

Statement of law 2308/1995 for the registration of a property to the Hellenic National Cadastre ("Ktimatologio");

Deed to the property;

Copy of the ID/ passport of the right holder;

Document depicting the Greek tax registration Number of the right owner;

Receipt of payment of the Ktimatologio fees.

For a more complete and accurate registration of the property right, owners of properties within the areas under registration may file a drawing of the property, certificate of registration of the Deed to the Land Registry archives, as well as copy of the Deed of Establishment of Horizontal and Vertical ownership (for apartment and / or houses).

The submission of the required documentation can be effected either directly by the owner, or through a duly appointed representative.

A necessary prerequisite for submitting the relevant application and documentation for the registration of the property to the Ktimatologio archives is payment of the required fee (such fee had been set through previous rulings of the Ministry of Environment in the amount of 35 euros per each property right in urban areas; 20 euros per property right on auxiliary areas, such as storage rooms, garages, etc). Note that in rural areas, one should pay only for two property rights regardless of the number of rights registered. Once the property right is registered in the Cadastre, the right holder will be called to pay an additional amount (a variable fee of 1 % of the property's tax value exceeding 20,000 euros, to be apportioned among the co-owners, if more than one, and up to a maximum amount of 900 euros).

An additional statement must be submitted, if the information regarding the property changes. Submitting false statements will result in sanctions, including imprisonment of 3 months to 10 years. No transactions are permitted until the property is declared, including issuance of a building permit. Said prohibitions are lifted with the submission of the application to the Ktimatologio. In the event one acquires a property right during the time period when the area is undergoing Cadastre registration, he should file an application, even if the previous owner had already done so.

Regions under registration

Community of VARNAVAS, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of GRAMMATIKO, ATTICA Prefecture

Municipality of KALAMOS, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of KAPANDRITI, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of MARKOPOULO OROPOU, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of SYKAMINOS, ATTICA Prefecture

Municipality of OROPION, ATTICA Prefecture (it includes the former Communities of NEA PALATIA, SKALA OROPOU and OROPOS)

Municipality of VILIA, ATTICA Prefecture

Municipality of ERITHRES, ATTICA Prefecture

Municipality of MEGARA, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of INOI, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of AGISTRI, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of AEGINA of the AEGINA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of VATHI of the AEGINA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of KYPSELI of the AEGINA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of MESSAGROS of the AEGINA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of PERDIKA of the AEGINA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Community of ANTIKYTHIRA, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of ARONIADIKI of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of KARAVAS of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of KARVOUNADES of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of KONTOLIANIKA of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of KYTHIRA of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture

Local District of LIVADI of the KYTHIRA Municipality, ATTICA Prefecture **(Continued on page 20)**

KYTHERIAN DEBUTANTE BALL

DATE: SATURDAY 29TH MAY, 2010

VENUE: Grand Harbour Ball Room
3rd Floor STAR CITY CASINO.

TIME: 7pm to 1am

BOOKINGS: Kathy Samios 9349 1849
Esther Calligeros 9344 0298

TICKETS: \$185 per person

(ticket selling dates to be advised in May Newsletter)

Guest of Honour: Ms. Ava Nicodemou
Matron of Honour: Mrs Lorraine Poulos



Debutantes and Partners:

Samantha Varipatis	Andrew Tzannes
Katie Kelleway	Nicholas Prineas
Elleni Cass	Alexander Passas
Erato Anagnostou	Panos Anagnostou
Stephanie Malanos	James Comino
Deana Aroney	Theo Cominos
Kelsey Feros	Jack Vallianos
Martha Kreminis	Paul Satouris
Stephanie Satouris	Nicholas Andrew
Penelope Velliss	George Calligeros
Madeline Wilson	Jack Wilson

Flower Girls and Page Boys:

Matina Samios	James Tzavaras
Vanessa Cassimatis	Billy Bourdaniotis
Deanna Samios	Emanuel Fardoulis
Christina Kokkinis	Mitchell Caponas



2010 Kytherian Debutante Ball

After Party

to be held on

Sunday Morning 30 May

1.15 am to 3.45 am

Adria Rybar & Grill, Cockle Bay Wharf

Cost \$30

Includes unlimited softdrinks, finger food , DJ,
security and party bus to and from Star City

*Pickup from 1am, return to/from
valet Drive Way, Star City*

Tickets and Payments by 22 May 2010:

Eleni Malanos 0417 448 271

Toula Varipatis 0412 610 472

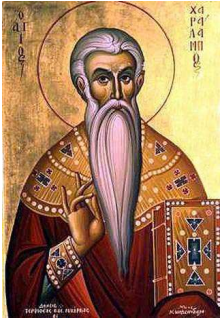
Gina Satouris 0400 587 919



Part of Nick's
Restaurant Group

ID required for alcohol purchases
Tickets must be shown at door

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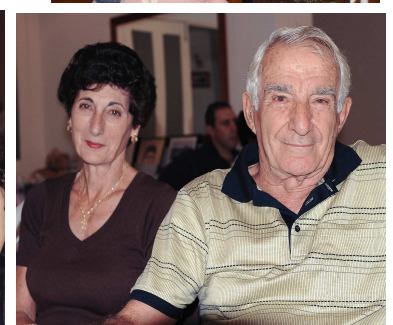


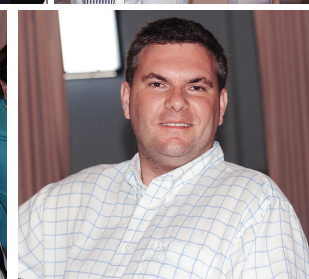
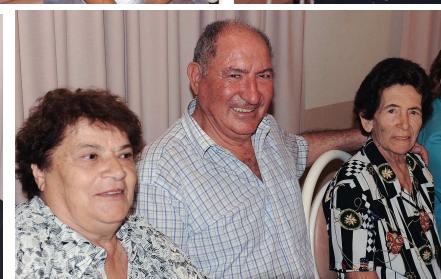
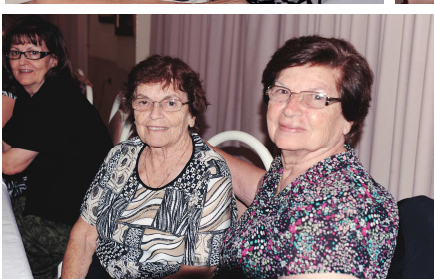
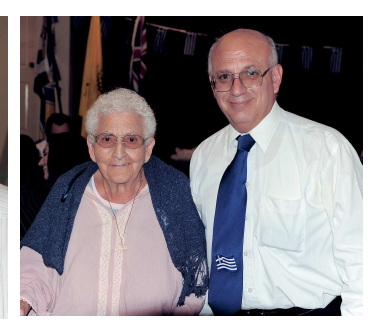
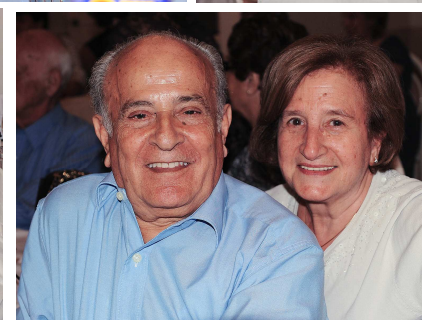
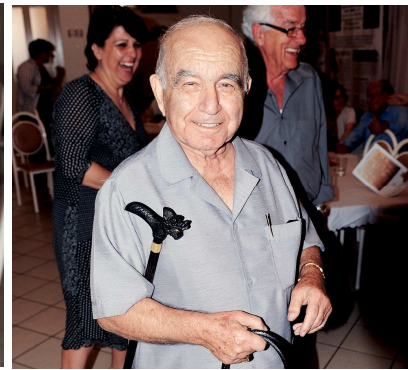
The annual Karavitiko Symposium was held on Sunday, 21st February, 2010. The Church Liturgy for Ayios Haralambos was held at All Saints Church in Belmore and conducted by **Father Christos Triandafyllou**.

The Service was followed by a lovely luncheon in the Church's hall. Raffle prizes and entertainment ensured a great deal of 'kefi' on the day.

An interesting and informative presentation was given by **John Fardoulis** on some archaeological aspects of Kythera.

A big 'thank you' to all who generously donated the raffle prizes and to **John Fardoulis** for his wonderful photos.







Social News

Christenings



Congratulations to **Stanley & Sonia Giaouris** on the Christening of their son **Geordan** (Γεωργιος) together with his Godparents **Nick & Gina Travassaros**.

The Christening was held at St Stylianos Greek Orthodox Church by **Father Constantine Varipatis** and celebrations followed at Roslyn Gardens in Peakhurst.

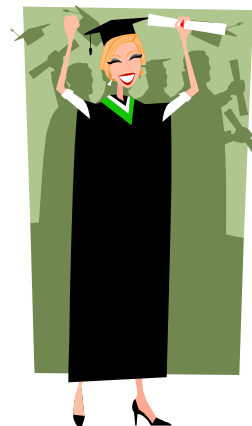
The proud grandparents are **George & Paula Giaouris** of Carlton and **Peter & Vera Jovanovic** of Penshurst.



Graduations



Congratulations to **Marianna Giaouris**, daughter of **George & Paula Giaouris** of Carlton, on her recent graduation. **Marianna** graduated with a Bachelor of Oral Health from the University of Newcastle, and we wish her every success in her future career. Well done **Marianna**!





Weddings

Christos Flaskas, youngest son of **Peter & Effie Flaskas** from Earlwood and grandson of the **Late Harry Flaskas & Eudokia Flaskas** of Campsie was married to **Karolina Orsay**, eldest daughter of **John & Magda Orsay** of Enfield on 9th May, 2009.

The ceremony was held at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church, Belmore followed by a lovely reception at Leichardt.



Congratulations

Young Leaders of the Future.

The Kytherian flame is burning brightly at Bald Face Public School at Blakehurst with the election of three Kytherian children to important school leadership positions for 2010. **Liyeri Comino** was elected girl School Captain, her cousin **William Cassimatis** was elected School Vice-Captain and her twin sister, **Yana**, was elected Carroll House Captain. Each of them had to run an election campaign, which included making political type wall posters and the delivery of a campaign speech that had to be delivered to an assembly of students, teachers and many parents. **Liyeri, William and Yana** are heavily involved in school and district public speaking and debating and this no doubt contributed to their success. **Liyeri and Yana** are the daughters of **Irene & Theo Comino** of Blakehurst and the grand daughter of **Dina Simos**. **William** is the son of **Linda & John Cassimatis** of Taren Point and the grandson of **Koula & Bill Cassimatis** of Blakehurst. Congratulations to **Liyeri, William and Yana** for helping to keep that Kytherian spirit alive!

Pictured: **Liyeri & Yana Comino** and **William Cassimatis** at the entrance to Bald Face School at Blakehurst.



Cyber bullying, obsessional online use and the Kytherian connection

In recent months we have heard or read stories about the increasingly worrying trend of cyber bullying and excessive online use amongst young people, one of the downsides of our internet and digital revolution.

Cyber bullying typically occurs through the use of electronic mediums; for example, on the internet through emails, blogs and social networking sites, as well as via mobile phones. It is similar to that of traditional bullying in that it is an intentionally hurtful act, repeated over time and conducted by someone deemed more powerful. Nevertheless, cyber bullying is a trend that concerns parents, educators, psychologists and other professionals as the element of anonymity, unlimited exposure and lack of accountability make it very difficult to control and highly damaging to the emotional wellbeing of those being targeted.

Psychological research and intervention has also indicated that children's development can be significantly impaired by excessive online gaming or internet use (e.g. disrupted eating and sleeping routines, poor social skills and decreased motivation and direction). It is an emerging global problem with statistics revealing that 1 in 10 teens are at risk of developing obsessional online behaviours, with the age of onset being around 12.

On 11th and 19th March 2010 our own **Yana** (nee **Kepreotis**) **Belogiannis**, a *Child and Adolescent Specialist and Director of the Kids & Teens Group*, appeared on Channel 7's Morning Show and was interviewed by **Kylie Gillies** and **Larry Emdur**. **Yana** was asked questions about the incidence and causes of cyber bullying and excessive online use, as well as strategies on how best to deal with these problems.

Yana emphasised the importance of addressing the underlying causes of cyber bullying and obsessional gaming or internet use; the emotional and behavioural difficulties (e.g. low self esteem, poor emotional regulation, anxiety, depression) that can manifest themselves in these online behaviours. **Yana**, who has considerable experience in dealing with youth who engage in excessive online use and victimisation, highlighted the need for parents and educators to become familiar with these online tools and maintain an open dialogue with their children regarding the prevalence and impact of online use.

Yana identified several warning signs for parents to be mindful of:

- Low self esteem
- Disrupted sleep and eating routines (e.g. substituting sleep for online gaming or internet use)
- Type of online activity (e.g. time spent engaged in online gaming as opposed to homework tasks)
- Breakdown in relationships and social interaction skills

To view the Morning Show segments featuring **Yana Belogiannis**, visit the "Latest News" section of the *Kids & Teens Group* website www.kidsandteens.com.au

If you are interested in the workshops and seminars that **Yana** runs as well as other mental health services, contact her via yana@kidsandteens.com.au

Yana Belogiannis is to be heartily congratulated for her appearance on national TV.

George Vardas





BLAST FROM THE PAST! WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?



(1)



(2)



(3)



The Kytherian Association has in its archives, copies of most ball programmes dating back to the 60's. Every month the "Blast From The Past" page will include random photos scanned from those programmes.

Answers: 1) **Angelo & John Notaras** 2) **Chrissa Vlandis** 3) **Maria (Marcellos) Whyte**

WALKING DOWN A KYTHERIAN MEMORY LANE.

Recently, I said goodbye to my beloved mother as she was taken into God's care. She has now joined the love of her life, my father, and although the pain is still so difficult to bear, I take comfort in knowing that my parents are together again. Memories came flooding back to me as I received messages of condolences for my loss, from friends and relatives from my past. This caused me to find my old "trastrio", which is the name for the bags which we buy in Greece. This "trastrio", such a simple bag, was purchased over 50 years ago and is filled with memories. Photos of loved ones are kept here with other special memories.

Searching for photos to put faces to names, most taken at my 21st birthday party, I found myself looking at them as they were then. I had not considered that the years had changed the faces I remembered so well.

Not having a photo of my mother in her latter years has played heavily on my heart and mind. I chose a photograph of her with my father as she was, a young woman, taken at my 21st birthday party. How beautiful she looked, dressed simply but smartly, as she was well known for, sitting next to my father who was as always, groomed so perfectly. I stood beside them, my hand on my mother's shoulder. The years seemed to melt away as I look at this photo, bringing back even more memories, filling my heart again with sadness as I selfishly long for my parents.

My parents sent me to the hairdresser to have my hair styled for the wonderful party which was going to take place that evening. The dress my mother had made me was ready, waiting for the evening "glendi", after days of preparing food. My mother will always be remembered for her elaborate spreads.

As my mother put the final touches to her food, my father began setting the lights which would be turned on that evening. The lights, in so many different colors, would bring the large garden and outdoor area alive, making the atmosphere so festive. I looked forward to my guests arriving, being welcomed with music and the smell of the delicacies that my mother had prepared.

My memory bag also held photographs of weddings, both of family and close friends. Photos showing myself as a bridesmaid caused me to ask after one couple, at whose wedding I had been honoured to be a bridesmaid and part of their special day. The memory had never faded, as I remembered the peach coloured dress that the bride had chosen. It was more exciting for me, as it was such a beautiful dress, but not allowed by my mother's very strict standards of what I was permitted to wear. The piece covering my shoulders could be removed, leaving them bare, thus making this day even more exciting.

My walk down memory lane faltered as it had done before. I had previously been shown photographs of faces of loved ones, whom I did not recognize. This was not whom I was searching for, forgetting that with the passing of years, their appearance would have changed from what I remembered. I turn more and more to this bag, which has weathered time and shows no sign of how far it has travelled, holding within it, its precious contents.

My koumbaro said to me recently, that when our Kytherian families come together at funerals, he is surprised to see that the many friends he had lost touch with over the years, look so much older now. He reminds himself that he too must look very different now.

My memory bag contains even more treasured memories. My mother had made me such an exquisite dress to wear to my first ball, as I was to be presented as a debutante. I had spent eight months in bed with rheumatic fever, followed by many hours of physical therapy to learn to walk again. My night was not all that I wished it to be, as I was limited to only being presented and the debutants waltz, but I was so grateful that I could attend my first ball. The memories are captured as I look through my memory bag, finding the precious photos that will live on forever. I will pass them on to my son who has asked for nothing more than the photographs that he also treasures. This is comforting as it will keep us alive in his memory long after we depart this life.

The evening began with my father having arranged for me to be picked up in a limousine and have my photos taken at a photo studio. My mother had spent so many hours hand sewing hundreds of diamantes on to the magnificent dress she made for me. As I moved, the lights picked up the diamantes, making my dress sparkle and I felt like a princess. I was presented and then had my first waltz with my partner. Flowers were delivered to our table... so many sheathes, making this a perfect evening. I was extremely grateful for being permitted to attend as I overlooked the restrictions which I had to adhere to, under the watchful eye of our family doctor. It truly was perfect. These photographs will live on forever, as they are kept together with my treasured memories.

Back in those days, we lived by strict Kytherian standards in our home and my parents were forever watchful, instilling in their daughters high standards. My father believed strongly in introducing his children to his belief of what standards he expected us to live by. Many parents show great concern that their children may be led astray by peer pressure. My father would sit at the dinner table and instead of having us drink a glass of milk with our meal, he preferred that we drink a glass of beer with lemonade or a glass of stout beer.

Each time when a special Holy day was being observed, he would bring out his treasured crystal glasses from where he kept them, in the unit that he was so proud of. He would carefully pour in the brandy, adding clove cordial and then we would raise our glasses, acknowledging the day that we were celebrating. My father's pride and joy, his magnificent unit, was a point which caused my father and my husband to differ in their opinions. My father strongly believed that the pattern on the panels of his treasured cabinet was cut from trees and part of a log with this beautiful pattern extending through the thickness of the panel.

My husband was a cabinet maker who worked with such timber since finishing high school and entering a trade school. He told my father that the panels were a veneer finish. My father refused to believe this and it was felt that it would be for the best to allow him to have his opinion.

The Kytherian community embraced my husband and recognized his talent, asking him to make many pieces of furniture for them. Even now, when I speak of Kytherian matters, he tells me how clearly he remembers many issues and insists that he is correct. I need to remind him that I was born a Kytherian, while he had married a Kytherian. He always speaks so highly of our community, having been warmly accepted.

Having both parents now in God's care, there is a loneliness which I find difficult to bare. Looking back over so many years, I remember how I introduced my husband to my family for the first time. This was at a time when it was frowned upon to consider marrying outside our Kytherian community, yet I was introducing an Australian as a son-in-law. My father and mother accepted my husband, realizing that he was a good man, who had the qualities my father expected of any man, especially one marrying his youngest daughter; a man who worked hard with his hands and had high morals and family values.

Other parents could have frowned upon their child not marrying in the Greek Orthodox Church, but my parents showed us the respect of accepting our choice to marry at The Wayside Chapel, a small chapel where I would visit daily when I worked close by, sitting quietly until it was time to return to my work place. We did not have the splendour of a Greek wedding just as we did not have a reception. There was no wedding waltz, but a simple dance together in the sunroom of our tiny flat, but it meant the world to me.

My memory of my father is one of holding his hand out to me as we arrived at The Wayside Chapel and assisting me from the limousine that he had organized, as he looked at me with such pride on his face. Then, as he stood next to me, when we were ready to enter the Chapel, the Reverend Ted Knoffs said how beautiful I looked. As I glanced at my father, I saw a look on his face which will stay with me forever. No word needed to be spoken. There are no words to describe the look I saw on my father's face at that moment, but a memory held in my heart forever.

My 'Ntendi' approved of my choice and respected me for the decision I found necessary to make, as I was not willing to have my husband change his religion, even though he was not a practicing member of the Church of England. God would bless our union no matter which church we chose. My parents had accepted this young man who had married their youngest daughter unconditionally. My father respected him as he had become part of his Greek Kytherian family and offered for us to move into the family home.

His offer was another sign of his approval, but we chose to start our life in a small flat not far from my parents' home. I found myself spending many happy hours there, as it was only a short walk away. When we welcomed our first baby, my parents lavished our child with love that only a grandparent can give. We realized though, the need to move into a larger home when we had our third child. My cousin, being a real estate agent, found a comfortable house for us. Unfortunately, it meant that we would no longer be within walking distance of my parents.

Being unable to visit my parents several times a week, just as they would visit us, was difficult as our family life was so important to us. Contact with my parents and their bonding with their grandchildren was my greatest concern, as I believe the love of a grandparent is so special. I was raised being told that grandchildren were children twice over and with this thought always, the photos that continued to accumulate as my children grew, found their way into my memory bag.

As we approach our 42 years of married life, I find myself still turning to my father's photograph on my wall each day, saying a prayer as I wake, speaking to him and also to my beloved mother now. My parents will live on in the hearts of all who loved them.

When strangers stop at the gate at the front of the family home, will they see the baby pink roses which would bloom so beautifully on the white lattice? The small pink roses became so special to me, as everyone who knows me, knows of my love for pink roses. They symbolize my father to me. Does the rockery along the side path still have the huge clam and sea shells set among the flowers that my father loved so much? I remember my mother collecting sweet peas from the fence, which extended the length of one side of the garden. Even after blooms were cut and given to guests as they were leaving, there was no sign of the missing flowers as a blaze of colour brightened this garden, tendered so lovingly by my father for as long as he was capable of doing so. Is my father's treasured garden, in which we spent so much of our life tending together still full of blooms?

I dedicate this final farewell to my parents, together once again by the Grace of God. I pray, knowing my prayers are not going unheard. The special 'feeling' which I receive when I ask for guidance from my father, my Uncle Nick, The Mertidiotisa and now my mother, is being answered.

I thank God that they are together once again.

Maria (Marcellos) Whyte
4 Trinity Crescent,
Sippy Downs Qld. 4556
maria.wwhyte@gmail.com

Greek Festival of Sydney

PRESENTS THE BOOK LAUNCH OF

Diggers and Greeks: The Australian Campaigns in Greece and Crete

AT VARIOUS FUNCTIONS:

1) Anzac War Memorial, Hyde Park, Sydney

Launched by The Honourable Bob Carr

Tuesday 6th April, 2010**6.30 – 9.00**

'Reading Diggers and Greeks, I am reminded of the remarkable rapport between the Australian army and Greek citizens in World War II: Young Australian soldiers battling to protect Greek independence against the odds, ultimately failing but achieving an unprecedented friendship between a native people and an overseas army. Maria Hill tells a compelling story of the relationship that emerged between Australians and Greeks, for the first time in the detail it deserve and with a scholar's command of the material, while not neglecting the Greek perspective but with a great feel for the emotions involved in these complex campaigns, inhabited by people both sympathetic and hostile to the Allied cause.' Bob Carr

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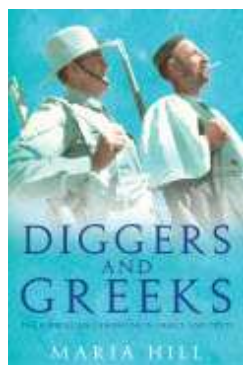
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AND

**Cretan Lyra and Lute playing by Andrew Parliaros and Angelo Goutzios and a performance
by the Dance Group of the Cretan Association of Sydney and NSW.**

*Light refreshment will be served at the conclusion of the launch.

*Books will also be available for sale on the night signed by the author

RSVP: Before Easter long weekend**Dimi Lafazanos | Festival Manager****Greek Festival of Sydney / Greek Film Festival****Phone +61 2 9750 0440 greekfestival@goc.com.au****2) Wednesday 14th April, 2010**

**Maria Hill In conversation with Helen Vatsokopoulos
*Diggers & Greeks: The Australian Campaigns in Greece & Crete***

Wednesday, April 14, 2010 / 6.30 for 7pm**Venue: gleebooks, 49 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe****Cost: \$10/\$7 conc. gleeclub welcome****Book: gleebooks - 9660 2333****Events@49 webpage:****http://www.gleebooks.com.au/default.asp?p=events/welcome4_hm**

3) Wednesday 21st April, 2010

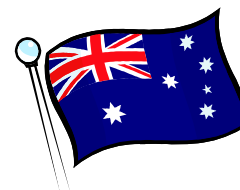
**Anzac Day Dinner
Parliament of New South Wales
Restaurant**

6pm to 10pm

Guest speaker: Attorney General of NSW John Hatzistergos

RSVP: 16 April 2010

Cost \$69.95



**Musical Performance provided by Andrew Parliaros and Angelo Goutzios
of the Cretan Association of Sydney and NSW.**

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4) Sunday 16th May, 2010

A Greek Festival event

**‘Maria Hill in conversation David Hill, former Chairman of
the ABC about the Greek and Crete campaigns’**

DAVID HILL former Chairman and Managing Director of the ABC
and
current President of the International Association for the Reunification
of the Parthenon Sculptures is joining MARIA HILL to discuss her new
book *Diggers and Greeks* on the Australian Campaigns in Greece and
Crete.



Dr MARIA HILL is a military historian and an expert on the Greek and Crete campaigns. She has an Honours, Masters and PhD in History from the University of New South Wales. Maria is the first Australian historian of Greek descent to write about these campaigns, which has ensured that a Greek perspective has been included in a narrative that often ignores Australia’s Greek allies. Currently, she is Visiting Fellow at the *Australian Defence Force Academy* in Canberra.

The discussion will be illustrated with rare archival photographs from the Greek and Australian archives and original film footage of the Australian campaigns in Greece.

Audience comments and questions will be welcomed.

Refreshments will be served at the commencement of the event

Signed copies of the *Diggers and Greeks* will be available for purchase from the Museum Shop.

**Musical interlude: Cretan Lyra and Lute playing by Andrew Parliaros
& Angelo Goutzios and a performance of the Dance
Group of the Cretan Association of Sydney and NSW.**

Museum of Sydney, Circular Quay 4.30 - 7 pm

**RSVP: Dimi Lafazanos, Festival Manager
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Phone +61 2 9750 0440
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5) Friday 21st May, 2010

The Shrine of Remembrance, Kings Domain, St Kilda Rd, Melbourne

Friday 21st May 2010, 2- 4pm

Launched by The Honourable Lindsay Tanner,

Federal Minister for Finance and Deregulation

Followed by a performance of Cretan Lyra

Afternoon Tea will be served.

Books will be available for sale signed by the author

RSVP: 18 May 2010

Major Terry Kanellos

Secretary, Hellenic RSL of Victoria

Tel: (03) 933 715 91 (W)

Email: terry.kanellos@ecobright.com.au

6) Thursday 27th May, 2010

The Gallery Courtyard, Australian War Memorial, Canberra

Thursday 27 May 2010 10.30am to 12pm

Morning Tea will be served.

Books will also be available for sale signed by the author.

Followed by performances of Cretan Lyra and Cretan Dance Group.

RSVP: Monday 24 May 2010

Shirley Ramsay

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The Australian Campaigns in Greece and Crete

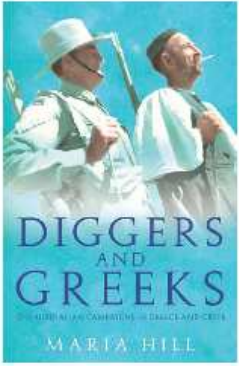
Maria Hill



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Classification >

History / Australian History



Little is known about the real reasons that Australia committed troops to Greece. Australian historians have, for too long, neglected the Greek and Crete campaigns, and what has been written until now has ignored the Greek side of the story. Never before has the impact of fifth-column activity on Australia's military relationship with Greece been investigated.

This compelling book combines details of the campaigns with an account of the response of Greeks and Cretans to the Allied forces on their soil. It reveals the personal relations that developed between Australian soldiers and Greek civilians and soldiers; these were sometimes hostile but in other cases developed into friendships that lasted decades after the war had finished. Maria Hill has trawled through archives in Athens and Canberra to show that while miscommunication between the Greek General Staff and the allied forces was frequent, the situation on the ground was far more complex. Her book also shows why the campaigns on mainland Greece and Crete compelled people to behave in altruistic ways, even when it meant placing themselves in danger. It proves that it is possible to form successful relations with people of a completely different culture in conflict situations, and that those relationships are important and should be nurtured, as they are vital to the wellbeing of all involved.

About the Author

Dr Maria Hill is a professional historian and educational consultant and the first Greek-Australian to write about the Australian campaigns in Greece and Crete. She is a former award-winning high school teacher whose publication *Federation: Inclusion and Exclusion* for the NSW Department of Education and Training earned her a Commonwealth Centenary Medal in 2003. She was also the recipient of the State and National Discovering Democracy Award in 2001 and is the author with Ian Bickerton of *Contested Spaces: The Historiography of the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (2003). Currently she is Visiting Fellow at UNSW @ ADFA: The Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra.

Endorsement

"Most studies of the Greek campaign have tended to gloss over the contribution of the Greeks. Maria Hill's book adds a completely new perspective to the campaign. She tells great stories of the interaction between Greek people and Australian soldiers." – Professor David Horner, Official Historian and Professor of Australian Defence History, Australian National University

"In *Diggers and Greeks* Maria Hill considers existing accounts of the Greek and Crete campaigns alongside the Greek version of events. She offers a new understanding of those campaigns, to an extent where I doubt that existing interpretations can be viewed as the whole story any more." – Dr Christopher Clarke, RAAF Historian and Head of the Office of Air Force History, Air Power Development Centre, Tuggeranong

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- Conclusion: Relationships in Wartime
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A wonderful friend to many of us passed away last month. This was his philosophy on life...something that could enable all of us to improve our own lives.

Go placidly amid the noise & haste & remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly & clearly; & listen to others, even the dull & ignorant: they too have their story. Avoid loud & aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain & bitter: for always there will be greater & lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble: it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity & disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue & loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees & the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be & whatever your labours & aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery & broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

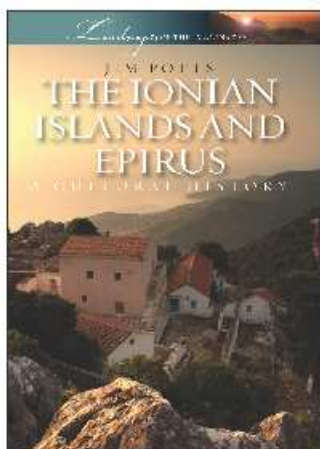
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JIM POTTS is the author of Corfu Blues, and co-editor of Swedish Reflections, from Beowulf to Bergman. He worked for The British Council for 35 years in many countries. He now splits his time between Corfu, Epirus and the UK.

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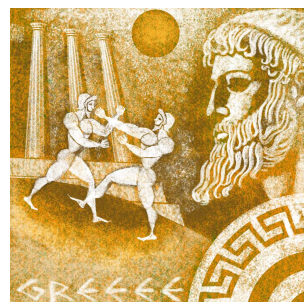
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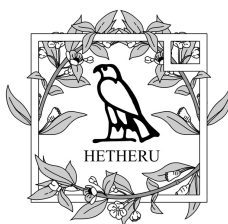
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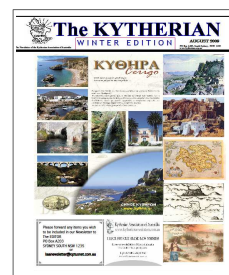
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23rd April - 2nd July 2010 (Term 2)

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<i>Infants</i>	7.00pm-7.45pm
<i>Primary</i>	7.45pm-8.30pm
<i>Junior High School</i>	8.30pm-9.15pm
<i>Senior Group</i>	9.15pm-10.15pm

Students who have finished school are welcome to attend.

Please note that all need to have current membership of the Kytherian Association of Australia to attend classes.

For more details, please contact **Kathy Samios** on **93491849** or
Esther Calligeros on **93440298**.



Kytherian Association of Australia's monthly newsletter is supported by:-



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