



“Hard work and diligence”: George Vardas at home in Oatley. Picture: Jane Dyson

# Relaunch of rare migration handbook Good Greek advice

By Kevin Sadlier

WITH migrants and migration constantly in the news, George Vardas of Oatley said the advice aimed at Greek migrants 93 years ago still held true today.

Mr Vardas, the son of Greek migrants, said those early arrivals, many of whom came from the island of Kythera, were advised to practise virtues such as hard work, honesty and diligence.

The advice was contained in the first book published in Greek in Australia, *Life in Australia*, a book so rare that it is believed only a few copies have survived.

But now *Life in Australia* has been reprinted in Greek and English by the Kytherian World Heritage Fund.

Mr Vardas, whose own parents came from Kythera, said the rare book included 150 pages listing the names and photographs of Greek

migrants from that era.

“Many Australian Greek families from 2009 could recognise ancestors in these pages,” Mr Vardas said.

The book, which was officially launched at the MacLaurin Hall in the University of Sydney last night, can be ordered from the Kytherian World Heritage Fund, PO Box 519, Rozelle.

Details: [transoz@bigpond.net.au](mailto:transoz@bigpond.net.au).

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