



# Kazzie Nea

**July 2016**

**Newsletter of Kastellorizian Council of Australia INC.**

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## Message from your President:

Welcome to another edition of the KCA Newsletter. You will notice that the newsletter is now called **Kazzie Nea** and it has incorporated some changes.

The **Kazzie Nea** was initially edited by Catherine Papanastasiou but given her commitments she has handed the baton over to Betty Yanardasis in Brisbane. We extend our special thanks to Catherine for her assistance with the development of the newsletter so far. Betty has undertaken not only to edit the newsletter but provide assistance in setting up our website. You are most welcome to submit entries to our editor and she can be contacted on [b.yanardasis@optusnet.com.au](mailto:b.yanardasis@optusnet.com.au)

One key initiative that came out of the KCA Convention in Brisbane was the call from our youth to be a part of this organisation. I am delighted to see that this call has initiated measures in other states. We all have demands on our time and this effort to engage our Kastellorizian youth will remain a challenge and ongoing consideration.

I am delighted to announce that the next KCA Convention will be held in Sydney in January 2018. Our fellow Kastellorizians in Sydney have offered to organise yet another stimulating programme and I am confident that it will be a very exciting event. People who missed the Brisbane Convention will be able to plan ahead and attend the Sydney Convention. We thank our Sydney Kazzies and look forward to another outstanding Convention with

prominent speakers and the same warm friendly experience we shared in Perth and Brisbane.

Our organisation is barely three years old and already we are attracting a great deal of interest. As we move forward, we aim to refine our procedure and processes so that we can communicate more fully with the wider community within Australia and beyond. The Board is currently organising a review of our governance in line with our constitution. News of these developments will be sent out at a later date.

If you have any questions or ideas, I would be only too happy to discuss these with you and can be contacted on [gpanagac@bigpond.net.au](mailto:gpanagac@bigpond.net.au)

Enjoy the articles in this edition of the **Kazzie Nea**.

With best wishes,

Yvonne Panagacos  
President (KCA)

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## News from New South Wales:

*By George Pizanis (President Castellorizian Association of NSW & KCA Delegate)*

On 3 April 2016, the members of our association elected a new Board of Directors:

**President:** George Pizanis  
**Vice-President:** George Manettas  
**Vice-President Social Events:** Christine Omeros Birnbaum  
**Secretary:** Dianne Voyage Roditis  
**Treasurer:** Stace Vallianos

John Barbouttis  
Nick Anastasas  
Victoria Kazaglis Gallagher  
Angelo Elliott



Stepping down from the Board are Nicholas Malaxos, Tasha Vanos and Costa Vertzayias. On behalf of the board, we would like to thank them for their invaluable service over the last two years and we hope they will continue to support and share with us their experience and knowledge especially in the area of history and archives.

We welcome Stace Vallianos and Angelo Elliott to the Board, both of whom have been with us from day one of our journey to resurrect the Castellorizian Club, now the New Castellorizian Association of NSW.

The main question the community is asking is 'What's happening at the new premises at Kingsford?' Plans for the new building and restaurant have been lodged with Randwick Council and a local Building Certifier, and we are waiting for approval. This is a slow and very complicated process but we are working hard to deliver the best outcome for the community. In the meantime, we are in the process of interviewing prospective restaurant operators.

By late next year, we envisage opening our very own Castellorizian Cultural Centre. Our new home will house mementos from our establishment in 1924 through to the 'old Cazzie Club', as well as displaying our recent highly successful 'Forgotten Warriors' and 'Saint Sophia Bride' exhibits. The auditorium upstairs will be a meeting place ready for bingo, the introduction of Greek dancing classes and small functions. We as an Association will be investing heavily in this building to produce what we believe to be the pinnacle of all Greek Association houses in Australia, as we were before.

In order to ensure that the wider Greek community knows that the Kastellorizians are still very much active and united, the Board has attended various functions held by the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW, taken part in the Greek Festival of Sydney and laid a wreath to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of The Battle of Crete as well as at the Anzac Day ceremony at St. Spyridon Church.

On Friday 27 May, our younger set committee (CYA) held a Trivia night at our premises which was a sell out and a highly successful event with many of the young attendees becoming members.

On Wednesday 15 June, our social committee held a charity luncheon event at Café Del Mar, Darling Harbour. A successful but more importantly lovely afternoon was had by all and a donation from profits made on the day was forwarded to the most appreciative Sydney Neurological Oncology Group (SNOG). A huge thank you to those who supported and attended, and to the tireless committee for once again putting together a great event.

On 24 September, we will be holding our 63rd Debutante Ball at the Sofitel Wentworth Hotel and an invitation is extended to all members and the broader community to support us by attending this wonderful evening.

***Our beautiful debutantes and their handsome partners are:***

Florence Georges partnered by Jack Lucas  
Erin Giaris partnered by Nicholas Frazis  
Barbara Laliotis partnered by Michael Afaras  
Kaitlin Lucas partnered by George Dovellos  
Maree Salerno partnered by Yiannis Anastasiadis  
Sophie Tsakonas partnered by James Matis

***Our delightful flower girls and page boys are:***

Mariella Constantinidis  
Gabriella Gouveros  
Eve Koutros  
Antonia Pizanis  
Olive Russel  
Georgia White  
Michael Caredes  
Ryan Lynch  
Jordi Omeros

*Our lovely Matron of Honour is Mrs Athena Mavros.*

Ball tickets can be purchased by contacting Christine on 0411 651 596 or Eva on 0418 297 687 or by emailing us at cazzieball2016@gmail.com. Tickets are \$200 per guest for members and \$220 per guest for non-members.

As Life, Ordinary and Associate Members, it is important that we all consider our future as an association so we can leave a legacy for our children and grandchildren. Please support our quest by annually renewing your memberships and attending our social events. We will endeavour to keep all our members informed and if possible follow us on Facebook where our page is regularly updated.

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### News from Queensland:

*By Betty Yanardasis (Committee member Kastellorizian Association of QLD & KCA Delegate)*

### Our 70th Anniversary Luncheon



Above: Nina Conomos and Michael Boubaris (QLD President) cutting the cake for the 70<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> May 2016, our annual St Constantine and Helene Luncheon was held at the Greek Club, South Brisbane. This year was a significant milestone and celebration – our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It was an enjoyable day with great food and lots of storytelling about the ‘good old days’ amongst our members. These conversations were inspired by our photographic display of the history of our

association in Queensland (refer to the photograph below). It was wonderful to see so many Kazzies at the luncheon.



Above: Photographic Display.

In the early days, the goals of the association were simple: to preserve our Kastellorizian traditions, organise functions, stayed connected and help other Kazzies in need. These basic ideals are still the cornerstone of our association. The association commenced with its first meeting held on 2 June 1946. As a result of this inaugural meeting, the members resolved to establish trustees of the Kastellorizian Association of Queensland.

*The honour of trusteeship was bestowed upon:*

**Mr M. Karlos, Mr M. Koutoupides and Mr N. Yanardasis**

*Present at this inaugural meeting were:*

**Mr S. Kafkaloudis, Mr J. Kanaris, Mr M. Karlos, Mr A. Kontozouglos, Mr M. Koutoupides, Mr G. Kritikos, Mr N. Palassis, Mr G. Passaris, Mr P. Passaris, Mr D. Penklis, Mr M. Souvlis, Mr P. Souvlis, Mr C. Yanardasis, Mr N. Yanardasis and Mr N. Zistis.**

We the committee of 2016 would like to acknowledge and give thanks to our beloved pioneers who had the courage and commitment to form the association.

### ‘Moving Forward with our Youth’

In July, the first Kassie youth forum will be held in Queensland. The aim of this meeting is to allow the youth to discuss the issues that are significant to them in 2016. The association has assigned two mentors (QLD President, Michael Boubaris and KCA Treasurer, George Yanardasis) to assist them to establish the youth sector of our association. It is time for the association to connect with the youth

in order for them to see us as relevant and essential.

***We must realise that we are only as strong as our future – the youth!***

#### **Staying Connected with Kazzies from North Qld:**

There is still a strong contingent of Kazzies living in North Queensland, in particular, around Innisfail. The first Queensland Kastellorizian Brotherhood was established in the 1930s in Innisfail. This was prior to the Kastellorizian Association of QLD forming in 1946 in Brisbane.

Our main goal this year is to explore the possibility of our association establishing closer ties with Kazzie families from North QLD.

**Photographs from the 2016 KCA Conference will be available for viewing from the end of July at [www.kassieq.com.au](http://www.kassieq.com.au)**



KCA Conference: Katina Yanardasis, Leanne Comino and Matina Samios

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#### **News from South Australia:**

*By Liz Philippou (Committee member Castellorizian Association of SA)*

Palm Sunday celebrations were conducted at the Kazzie club rooms this year. There was a wonderful turn out as guests took part in the traditional fish lunch followed by an abundant selection of traditional Greek sweets.

St. Constantine and St. Eleni celebrations were held at the Kooyonga Golf Club rooms on Saturday 21st May. There were 130 guests who enjoyed a sumptuous three course meal with live Greek music and dancing throughout the night. The

evening was a spectacular success and a great night was had by all people.

Allan Cresswell presented a very informative seminar on Kazzie Genealogy at our clubrooms on Sunday 3rd July. The South Australian Kazzie community were mesmerized by Allan's wealth of knowledge, and he captured everyone's attention throughout his session. Allan's presentation was not only educational but very entertaining. This talk was well attended with over one hundred people present. Allan and Jean enjoyed some local South Australian Kazzie hospitality over the whole weekend.



Left to Right: Allan Cresswell with committee members of the Castellorizian Association of SA:

Michael Scopelitis, Kristen Demetriou, Adam Philippou, Nick Scopelitis, Allan Creswell, Stephen Finos, Irene Antonas, Despina Moschou, Liz Philippou

Front Row: Maria Fountas & Despo Lucas.



Above: People attending Allan Cresswell's seminar on Genealogy.

Stephen Finos received a prestigious Rotary International Award at the Rotary Club of Unley. This was their 4,000th meeting. Stephen was presented with a Paul Harris Fellowship Medal for services to the Unley community. Congratulations, Stephen! I'm sure the Finos, Miriklis, Scarvelis families and indeed all Kastellorizians applaud your



achievement, along with all the other community service work you do as Unley Road Chair and Secretary of our Castellorizian Association of SA. Well done!

The South Australian Castellorizian Association welcomes the addition of two new committee members: Adam Philippou and Jason Brincat. Adam and Jason are part of an initiative to introduce a youthful exuberance that has been sorely needed by the association. They have already made a positive impact, and we hope this will inspire others to become more involved with our club in order to keep the Kazzie heritage alive.



Memorials:

Steve Economos  
Renee Bolkus  
Lambros Karavis

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### News from Victoria:

*By Dr George Stabelos (Committee member  
Kastellorizian Association of Victoria & KCA Delegate)*

### President's Younger Kazzies Cocktail Party – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016



Left: Younger Kazzies Event Special Guest - TV personality & Masterchef judge, George Calombaris

Right: The opera singers were a surprise, thanks to the generosity of our President Dr Nick Lolatgis (pictured in background) and wife, Annie.

### "It moved and shook" or was that the cocktails?

Described by some as the "Victorian Kazzie function of the year", the President's cocktail party got underway Friday night 6pm at the beautiful home of our President Dr Nick Lolatgis and his wife Annie and their family in Toorak.

Special guest speaker was TV personality George Calombaris, Australian chef and restaurateur, and a judge of the Network Ten series MasterChef Australia. In 2004, the Global Food and Wine Magazine voted him as one of the Top 40 chefs of

influence in the world.- George inspired the eager crowd of 80+ young Kazzies and their partners with his story of success and the ingredients behind it which no doubt have contributed to the notoriety of his seven Melbourne restaurants including Hellenic Republic, Gazi and The Press Club. His flagship Melbourne restaurant, The Press Club, was awarded The Age Good Food Guide "Best New Restaurant 2008" with Calombaris named 'Chef of the Year 2008'. George draws on his Greek and Cypriot heritage for inspiration.



Above: Younger Kazzies listening to George Calombaris' inspiring words of wisdom and tips for success.

His tips for 'making it' included hard work, creativity and striving for excellence in one's field. The messages resonated with the crowd, most of whom were in their 20s-40s and eager to hear some tips for career, corporate and entrepreneurial success. Many commented on the passion with which George spoke, and he also reflected on the support of his family and elaborated on his experiences in travelling back and forth from Greece. This included his upcoming trip to the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, for the World Chef's Congress and Expo in September this year, where tens of thousands of the world's leading chefs will share knowledge and experience with the beautiful city of the White Tower as host.

This was a terrific start to the party; however, there was more to come. Our President Nick Lolatgis was giving his welcome speech to the crowd, when an apparent pizza delivery by a middle aged Italian accented man, turned out to be a covert opera performance! After a few recitals, when our male Italian opera singer was just about to finish thrilling us with his superb voice, he was confronted by a

young woman, seemingly keen to usher him away for interrupting the President's speech. When she broke out into the most elegant soprano voice, we realised this was also part of the act. Needless to say, the place was buzzing with excitement and this set the background for an awesome party.

The party rolled on and evolved into even better things, thanks to tantalising cocktails and champagne, great company and conversations with many. The superb finger food was prepared in the kitchen in front of us by the Calombaris chefs and their accomplices, as proof of the success of the Calombaris-Gazi formula. There was lots of mingling, re-discovery of lost friends and relatives and connecting with some new ones. What a great crowd this was, with a lot of interesting, intelligent, talented and well qualified young Kazzies and their partners (should we be surprised given the stock they come from!!). Pleasingly, even some of the young non-Kazzies were inspired and keen to promote and get on board with Kazzie Culture in its new modern form, in the context of sharing heritage and creating and benefiting from 'community'.

One committee member commented. "This is the new Kazzie Club". I replied. "I hope so". At this point, the committee has collected the contact details of the attendees and we hope to form an interest group of Young Kazzies to help take the club to the next level and into the future.

We were moved and inspired by our interaction with and the response of the young Kazzie attendees, by the special guest speaker, the opera singer entertainers, the superb food and refreshments, the beautiful venue. Thank you to President Nick Lolatgis and Annie for being our hosts. Let's hope these young Kazzies shake the very foundations of the Kazzie Club and show us all the way to go.

**Visit our new and improved website at [www.kazzieclub.com](http://www.kazzieclub.com) for more event pictures and Kazzie stuff.**

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## **News from Western Australia:**

*By Christina Kyros (Secretary KCA)*

We have been busy in WA since returning from the very successful Inaugural KCA Conference in Brisbane in January.

Apokrias Celebrations were focused around family and getting our younger generation involved. A great alfresco evening was held with over 217 people including 37 children and youth. A live Greek band, Greek Charisma, and The Hellenic Dancer Group entertained us, while consuming a sumptuous meal. A highlight of the night was a magical mural produced by some of the younger children under the guidance of the older girls.



The latest edition of Megisti Messenger was in April with the next one due out in July. These can be viewed at <http://castellorizo.org/newsletter>.

St. Constantine and St. Helene Luncheon was held at the Kailis Leederville Function Rooms. A four course meal was served specialising in Greek delicacies and was enjoyed by everyone. Music by Michael Anastas on the bouzouki and Arthur Stathopoulos as support was played throughout the day. Our Parish Priest, The Very Rev Father Elpidios, Bishop Nikandros of Dorileou, two monks from The Monastery of St John of the Mountain, The President of The Hellenic Community of WA and the Greek Consul of WA were all guests of the Castellorizian Association of WA.

The Kastellorizian Cooking class under the direction of Helen Anastas, are on course to produce a quality Greek traditional cook book. While most of the recipes are Kastellorizian, handed down from our Yia Yia's and mothers, it will include other Greek recipes. Helen and her committee have been working tirelessly for months trying recipes, working with food stylists and photographers to ensure a world class production. It is hoped it will be ready later this year.



Above: Members attending the Cooking Class.

We are gearing up for another Glendi on 23<sup>rd</sup> October this year. If you are planning a trip to Perth, book this date in as we will have several Kastellorizian stalls including the Cooking Class Sweets.

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June, on behalf of the Greek Consul of Perth, Mr Antonios Koliadis, we hosted a lecture on **'The Leaders in Global Shipping. The rise of Greek owned shipping, 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present day'**.

The lecture was presented by Professor Gelina Harlaftis from the Ionian University. It was an extremely interesting and informative evening. The Greeks have dominated the world shipping trade throughout all world crises and are still dominant in the world today. In fact, Greeks own three times more ships than any other country in the world.

Kastellorizo was featured, with many ships being built on the Island. The names of Greek ship owners and Captains from Kastellorizo were included in the research. My Great Grandfather "Captain Michael Emanuel Kailis" and one of his ships the "Evangelistria" were included.

The Friday night Happy hour is as popular as ever with our members, and we have some exciting guests speakers scheduled throughout the year.

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## Saint Constantine and Saint Helene



Saint Constantine was born in the year 273A.D. He was the son of Constantius Chlorus, Ruler of Gaul, and Saint Helene, a deeply religious woman. Saint Constantine became an army officer and won many battles. Much later he became sole ruler of the Roman Empire. He showed great tolerance for Christianity, primarily because

of his mother, Saint Helene, and because he had seen the Sign of the Cross in the sky prior to his battle with Maxentius.

Saint Helene at the age of eighty, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Her mission was to discover the cross on which Christ was crucified. She had seen the place where she would find the cross in her dreams. Tradition claims that on her way to the Holy Land, she sought shelter from the heavy seas and storms on Kastellorizo. To thank the Lord for protecting her, Saint Helene built the original church where the church of Saint Constantine and Saint Helene now stands. Later, to honour her visit, a gold coin was minted, showing Saint Constantine and Saint Helene holding the cross. Many of these coins are still in circulation all over the world.

***The feast day of Saint Constantine and Saint Helene is celebrated on 21 May.***

***Congratulations to everyone who celebrated their Name Day on this day.***

*Edited by Betty Yanardasis*