



Kazzie Nea

December 2017

Newsletter of Kastellorizian Council of Australia INC.

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Message from your President:

Dear Members,

Following our AGM in November, I would like to welcome a new team from Victoria. Congratulations to Nik Spartels on his new role as the President of the Victorian Association and we look forward to working with all new KCA delegates from Victoria.

With the delay in our building development here in NSW, we have now **postponed the KCA Conference**. This event will now be on the **Australia Day long weekend in 2019 (25-27 January in Sydney)**. The **new Castellorizian Clubhouse in Sydney** is an exciting new venture for the **Castellorizian Association of NSW** which will be completed in December 2018. We hope to share our new premises with **all Kazzies from around Australia**. More information about the KCA conference will be released throughout the new year.

In light of this delay, I would like to invite all members to our **next KCA committee meeting in May 2018** which will be held at **Castellorizo House in Perth**. We would like to show our appreciation and thank the **Castellorizian Association of WA** for accepting to host the meeting and the accompanying social functions. We look forward to seeing many Kazzies at the meeting in Perth (more information will be sent to all members in the new year).

The main focus for KCA in 2018 will be our Kazzie youth. We are currently asking all State associations to nominate three young Kazzies (age 18-25 years old) per State. The goal is for the youth

to meet via Skype to be able to plan events within each State and to make interstate connections. We must start to help our youth relate and connect with their Kastellorizian heritage and culture, as without our youth, we have no future.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and Merry Christmas.

George Pizanis
President



**Happy New Year
2018**



News from New South Wales

By Victoria Kazaglis (Committee member Castellorizian Association of NSW & K.C.A. Delegate)

Gala Dinner Dance



It has been a busy time for our board members in Sydney. We held our Gala Dinner Dance at the **Australia Turf Club, Randwick**. Over **300 Castellorizians** enjoyed celebrating the achievements of our Past Presidents and sharing our vision for the future. We recognised Presidents of our Association (both male and female) who served on the Board of Directors and the Ladies Auxiliary. It was a very proud moment for many who celebrated the work of their parents, grandparents and for some even great grandparents. We were fortunate to have many Past Presidents in attendance who were able to celebrate the evening. The event also showcased our vision of the current building project. We launched our **“Let’s Rebuild Pledge”** and we have started collecting donations from passionate members and friends who want to see a building for our future generations to enjoy.

If any interstate Cassies would like to assist and be part of our future we would also appreciate your contributions. All donors will be acknowledged on our **Contributors Wall** for all members and guests to view in our new premises to be completed in 2018.

Castellorizian Youth Affiliation Halloween Night



We the board of directors are very thankful that we have such an active youth society. Our very hard working team of young Cassies and friends organised a **Harry Potter Themed Halloween Night** at the **Phoenix Hotel Woollahra**. The event was well attended with over 100 guests. Our CYA is always looking for new committee members and interested youth that wish to attend functions.

Melbourne Cup Luncheon



Centennial Parklands was our place of venue for our **2017 Melbourne Cup function**. As always, the **Cassie Belles** did not disappoint, wearing stunning dresses and elaborate hats. The ladies and gentlemen in attendance all looked the part and helped us celebrate the **‘Race that Stops a Nation’**. We would like to thank our members for their continued support and we trust they enjoyed the opportunity to share in a little of the fun that accompanies the event.

News from Queensland:

By Betty Yanardasis (Committee member Kastellorizian Association of QLD & K.C.A. Delegate)

Kassie Cultural Afternoon

10 September 2017



Left to Right: Leanne Comino wearing the traditional Kassie costume and Ann Kyranis making her presentation.

The inaugural Kassie Cultural Afternoon was held at **Riverdeck in Brisbane**. All members were welcomed with the traditional sour cherry drink served on special occasions called **byssinada**. Our members thoroughly enjoyed the presentation by **Ann Kyranis**. Her speech focused on the cultural significance of the garments and jewellery that constitute the traditional female Kastellorizian costume. Afterwards, Ann along with **Angela Panagaris (who was born on the island)** responded to audience questions. From the Q&A session, it seems Kassie descendants are very eager to learn about their heritage and old Kassie traditions. This was followed by a lovely Kassie style high tea.



Left to Right: Zephie Barbouttis with her son, Jack.

Another highlight of the afternoon was the cooking demonstration by **Zephie Barbouttis and her son, Jack** who was a very entertaining compere. Zephie demonstrated the making of the

traditional and unique Kassie sweet – **Katoumari**. There are many steps involved in the making of this very tasty sweet. However, anyone who has tasted Katoumari would agree that it is worth the effort.

A very delicious sweet. The audience was privileged to taste freshly cooked Katoumari as well as Nifi's halva and baklava on the day. It was a wonderful afternoon full of goodwill, joy and sumptuous food. All money from ticket sales will be used to buy medical supplies for the people of Kastellorizo. The medical donations will be taken directly to the island.



Katoumari Cooking Demonstration with Zephie and some help from Ann Kyranis.



Left to Right: Mary Vorgias, Jack Barbouttis, Olga Barbouttis, Christy Passaris, Zephie Barbouttis, Nicholas Barbouttis, Chrissa Passaris and Basil Barbouttis.



Left to Right: Helen Licourinos, Florence Kalgeros, Marea Patounas, Leanne Comino, Markella Patounas and Chrissy Kyprios.

News from South Australia:

By Stephen Finos (Committee member Castellorizian Association of SA & K.C.A Delegate)

Ancient Wine Making

The South Australian Castellorizian Association was very proud to have **Dr Norman Ashton** make a presentation on **Ancient Greek Wine Making with an emphasis on Castellorizo** on the 15th October. A special treat for guests was free wine tasting from Hardys Wines. **Thomas Hardy** was at the presentation to oversee the tasting of wines. He very generously donated 40% of the sales of wines back to the club. Everybody that attended was totally spellbound by the stories told by Norman Ashton.



Above: Norm Ashton making his presentation

Special Celebrations

George Kostoglou celebrated his **90th birthday on the 7th of October** with family and friends at the Cazzie Clubrooms of South Australia. George's eldest son Peter and his family travelled from Melbourne to share in this very special occasion.



Mary Mangos unveiled a seat in front of the **Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel** to celebrate 80 years since the foundation of the Greek Ladies and Women's Association. Mary is the oldest member, serving over 40 years, as well as being past President of this Association. Mary honoured the women including her mother **Katholiki Anastasas** who founded the committee which assisted in the building of the **first Greek Orthodox Church in Franklin Street, Adelaide**. It was great to see Mary be recognised for her contribution as well as many other hard working volunteers of the Greek Orthodox Community in Adelaide.



May they rest in peace.



Deepest sympathies to the Foundas Family on the passing of Christina and to the Savas Family on the passing of Jim.



On behalf of the President of the South Australian Castellorizian Association, Nick Scopelitis and his committee wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas and a Happy New year!

Remember to view our website:

www.kazziecouncil.org.au

News from Victoria:

By Nik Spartels (President of the Kastellorizian Association of Victoria & K.C.A. Delegate)

A Special General Meeting of the Kastellorizian Association of Victoria (KAV) was held in November to elect a new committee. The new committee comprises:

President: Nik Spartels

Vice-President: Peter Coates

Secretary: Justin Mastores

Treasurer: Christine Mastores-Davidson

General Committee members: Phillippa Adgemis, John Anastasiou, Lena Coates, Thena George, Maria Georgoulas, Kathleen (Mangos) Grosso, Vivienne Kostoglou and George Stabelos.



Above: The New KAV Committee at its first meeting

The KAV building in South Melbourne has a heritage overlay and the previous committee commissioned an appraisal of the building to ascertain what repairs were needed, especially to the front section which was a former Baptist Church. The membership voted to proceed with repairs in stages. The new committee will initially focus on repairs that are deemed urgent.

KCA Delegates

At its first meeting in November, the new committee proposed three delegates to the Kastellorizian Council of Australia (KCA): **Peter Coates, Kathleen Grosso and Christine Mastores-Davidson.**

Annual KOY Dinner – October 2017

This year the KOY dinner was held at the clubrooms. The starry night theme was reflected in excellent décor including hundreds of little lights and candles draped in wisteria and beautiful place settings. It was a memorable evening and the clubrooms looked amazing. The event was catered by well-known **Greek Restaurant, Salona.**

The star of the evening was of course **Christine Dimer**, who was presented with the **award of Kastellorizian of the Year 2017**, by President **Dr Nick Lolatgis**. Christine was accompanied by her husband George Dimer and their extended family.



Christine Dimer (left) gave a most gracious acceptance speech and particularly praised her husband for his unstinting support of her pursuit of higher education and her career path which has led to her continued involvement as a volunteer with the Justice Department's Office of the Public Advocate.

Christine also spoke of her involvement with the KAV over many years, including her presidency of the Kastellorizian Senior Citizens Club for the past decade. **Ms Christina Simantiraki, Consul General of Greece in Melbourne** congratulated Christine, and spoke warmly at the event, generously praising Kastellorizians and the KAV.

The event was organised by KAV committee members **Anne Lolatgis, Cynthia Scotis and Peter and Lena Coates, with Thena George** stepping up to join them. They are to be congratulated not only for their hard work but also for their creativity in presenting a first-class elegant event.

For full details of Christine Dimer's achievements see KazzieE-bulletin, September 2017, located in newsletter archive under the "news" button on the Kazzieclub.com website.

The Inaugural President's Award 2017



George Verginis (right) pictured with his son **Nicholas**, is the recipient of the inaugural President's Award in recognition of his long-standing service to the Kastellorizian community in Victoria.

News from Western Australia:

By Anita Verne (Secretary of Castellorizian Association of WA) & Allan Cresswell (Treasurer of Castellorizian Association of WA)

The Castellorizian Association of WA has a new committee to announce. Allan Cresswell did not seek re-election as President and Stan Kailis has been elected as the new President. The Vice-president is Jim Manifis, Secretary is Anita Verne and Treasurer is Allan Cresswell. Other committee members are Sion Xanthis, Angela McGrath, John Gelavis, Helen Anastasas, Steve Filmer, Stephanie Meagher and Prokopi Koutlis.

An Honour!

A celebratory afternoon was held by the Castellorizian Association of WA after their AGM on 29 October to honour a group of special Castellorizians. **Two new Honours Boards were unveiled in Castellorizo House by Jim Manifis and Allan Cresswell.**

The first was the Australian Honours Board to acknowledge Western Australian Castellorizians or their spouses who have received an **Order of Australia or a Most Excellent Order of the British Empire since 1970 – it listed 34 awards.** More than 100 people attended, including many of the award recipients and their families. The second unveiling was for Castellorizian of the Year – Western Australian Recipients; six people hold this honour.

Here Come the Brides!

One beautiful week early in November, Perth people were treated to **The Castellorizian Brides Exhibition.** It opened on **Sunday 5th November in Castellorizo House** where 320 large wedding photos were displayed, with more than 100 of them depicting **Castellorizian weddings on Castellorizo, Brazil, Rhodes, USA, Egypt, Palestine and Athens.** This was not only weeks of work by **Allan and Jean Cresswell** to produce the photos but, as many of you know, a culmination of years of research into Castellorizian Genealogy by Allan.



The official opening was by President Allan Cresswell who spoke on the importance of such an exhibition to commemorate, record and acknowledge our ancestors. This was followed by a series of speakers. **Jacqueline Bellantoni gave a talk on Castellorizian Wedding Traditions; Allan Cresswell spoke**

on Wedding Dowry Contracts; Stan Kailis spoke on Castellorizian Weddings in Perth in the 1950s and 1960s and Helen Anastasas spoke on Wedding Sweets.

An extra special atmosphere was created during the afternoon by people wearing genuine antique wedding gowns. **Nellie Kakulas** provided her treasured family bridal costume for her granddaughter **Tiana Glasgow (pictured above)** to wear and **Pam Andony** wore her family's gown. The "icing on the cake" was the warm **Nifi's Halva** served straight from the pan, which filled the room with the aroma of spices, thanks to **Helen Anastasas and Tina Kyros.**

During the following week, many attendees to the exhibition were moved to tears as they recognised familiar faces and recalled past times, not only in the photos, but in the visitors around them. Younger family members gained an understanding of the strength of their culture and were inspired to find out more. Most visitors stayed for a cup of tea and chatted to each other about wonderful memories. We received many words of gratitude and it was a truly lovey experience. Our thanks go to the Museum and Archives sub-committee.

Edited by Betty Yanardasis