

Megisti Messenger

June 14, 2022 Volume 15, Issue 2

Newsletter of the
Castellorizian
Association of WA Inc.
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1st July - Happy Hour
17th July - E.G.M.
3pm
17th July - Re-Opening
4pm
30th July - Kouvenda
10am – 1pm

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to submit any articles or
social news



Extraordinary General Meeting

Sunday 17th July 2022

Arrive 2.45pm for 3.00pm start

followed by

GRAND RE-OPENING

Castellorizian House

4.00 pm

160 Anzac Road, Mt Hawthorn

(EGM notification to members – pages 4-5)

(Re-opening details - page 3)

Castellorizian Association of WA

Membership Subscriptions Now Due

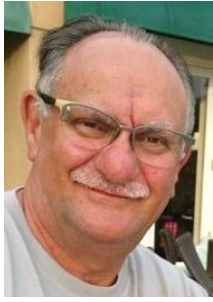
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Membership information - page 14

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Department of Local Government,
Sport and Cultural Industries
Office of Multicultural Interests

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Great News: the renovations at Castellorizian House are almost complete. I would like to thank the renovations sub-committee for their tireless work over the last twelve months. On Sunday July 17th we will be having an opening day for the Castellorizian House at 4pm. All members are welcome to attend. Those in attendance will see the improvements we have made to our premises and will be pleased with the results. Also on the 17th of July, we will be having an extraordinary meeting at 3pm to make a couple of changes to our constitution.

It was very pleasing to receive an invitation from the Hellenic Community of WA for a combined function to celebrate the Feast Day of Sts Constantine and Helene. All proceeds for the day went towards the repairs and maintenance of the Sts Constantine and Helene Church. We also made a small donation on behalf of our Association.

We were saddened to hear of the passing of one of our past presidents, Nick Houlis, in May. Condolences to his family.

Just before the release of our last Megisti Messenger, Nick Nicholas passed away. Nick has contributed so much to our Association, and in relation to my fifteen years of service, it was Nick's support and guidance that helped me understand a number of the traditions of our Association. Thus, at the opening we will also be making a special tribute to Nick Nicholas, for his contribution to the Association.

Just a final reminder to all our members that Sunday the 17th of July will be a special day, and we would like to have most of our members in attendance.

Jim Manifis (President)

Castellorizian House Renovations

The purchasing of Cazzie House in 1981 was a wise decision and we are lucky to have such a beautiful clubhouse for members to use and gather. With that comes the responsibility to maintain it. The committee has come together on several occasions recently for a busy bee clean-up and also to paint the picket fence. We are also inviting members to a garden group to plan and care for our new gardens. Let us know if you'd like to join in.





CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF WA
EST. 1912

GRAND RE-OPENING INVITATION

On behalf of the President and Committee of the
Castellorizian Association of Western Australia Inc.

**You are invited to attend the newly renovated
Castellorizian House**

Agiasmo (blessing) performed by
His Grace, Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea

**We will also be honouring our friend and Past President
Nicholas C. Nicholas**

Date: Sunday 17 July 2022

Venue: Castellorizian House
160 Anzac Road Mount Hawthorn

Time: 4.00pm

Afternoon tea and drinks provided

RSVP: 11 July 2022

Jim: 0433 165 601

Margaret-Anne: 0419 831 434



Department of Local Government,
Sport and Cultural Industries
Office of Multicultural Interests

Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting

Sunday 17 July 2022, 3.00pm
Castellorizian House
160 Anzac Road, Mt Hawthorn

Introduction

The Association's Committee has convened an extraordinary general meeting (**EGM**) under rule 18 of its Constitution. The purpose for the meeting is to seek the members' approval to amend rule 5 of the Constitution which has proven prohibitive to the Association over the years.

The nature of the proposed changes, and the Committee's reasoning for seeking them, is explained below.

Explanation

The Association's rules currently provide that the *Executive* members of the Association (namely the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer) are to be *Regular* members (Castellorizian or Descendant) of the Association (**Executive Rule**). We are finding it increasingly difficult to operate under this arrangement so wish to amend the Executive Rule so that the secretary and treasurer can be *Ordinary* members (spouse of Castellorizian or Descendant). There is no proposed change to the requirement for the president and vice president to be *Regular* members (Castellorizian or Descendant).

The difficulty in enacting this amendment arises due to a separate rule in the Constitution which provides that the Executive Rule cannot be amended without a 5/6th majority of the Associations' members present a minimum of 100 members (**Prohibitive Rule**). In recent meetings, we have struggled to attain a quorum of 100 and as a result have not been able to present the Executive Rule amendment as a motion to be passed.

In order to amend the Executive Rule, we are required to first deal with the Prohibitive Rule and then convene a further meeting to amend the Executive Rule.

This EGM has been convened to deal with the Prohibitive Rule, which is the subject of the first motion below. The second and third motions are consequential amendments which follow the amendment proposed by the first motion.

Proposed Resolutions for the amendment of the Prohibitive Rule

1. [**First motion**]: The Association proposes the following motion be passed at this EGM:

That effective from 17 July 2022, rule 5.6 of the Constitution of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia (Inc) 2018 be amended in accordance as follows:

5.6 Subsection 5.5 shall not be amended unless otherwise approved by a five sixth (5/6) majority of the members of the Association present at an AGM or EGM, ~~provided always that a minimum of 100 members are present.~~

2. **[Second motion]**: If the first motion is carried, the Association proposes the following further motion be passed at this EGM:

That effective from 17 July 2022, rules 11.1 and 11.2 of the Constitution of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia (Inc) 2018 be amended in accordance as follows:

11.1 The management of the Association shall be vested in a committee of eleven (11) known as the Committee of Management which shall consist of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, who shall be the Executive, and seven (7) other members (who may be regular, ordinary or associate members) ~~non-executive members~~.

11.2 In the event that there are less than eleven (11) eligible members standing for election to the Committee of Management, the Committee of Management may consist of all such members elected under rule 11.3.

~~*11.2 In the event that there are insufficient eligible regular members standing for election to the Committee of Management so that eleven (11) can be elected, the Committee of Management may consist of no less than nine (9), the number of seven (7) non-executive members thereby being reduced to five (5).*~~

Further proposed resolution

3. **[Third motion]**: If the first motion is carried, the Association proposes the following further motion be passed at this EGM:

That effective from 17 July 2022, rule 16.2.3 of the Constitution of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia (Inc) 2018 be amended in accordance as follows:

Together with the president and ~~secretary~~ vice president, the treasurer shall sign all deeds and other negotiable instruments and, together with either the ~~secretary~~ vice president, or the president, shall sign all authorised transactions.

Business for further EGM / AGM - Proposed Resolution to amend Executive Rule

Assuming the first and second motions above are approved by the members, the Association intends to convene a further meeting, at which the Association will propose a further motion be passed in the following terms to amend the Executive Rule:

That effective from [date to be confirmed], rules 5.2 and 5.5 of the Constitution of the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia (Inc) 2018 be amended in accordance as follows:

5.2 Ordinary members have the right to vote and be elected as secretary, treasurer or an ordinary member of the Committee of Management subject to Subsection 5.5.

5.5 The number of elected or co-opted members of the Committee of Management from ordinary and associate members shall not jointly exceed one third ($\frac{1}{3}$) of the total number of members of the Committee of Management, with the president and vice president at all times being regular members of the Association. ~~and at all times the executive being regular members of the Association~~

OUR PRECIOUS TIME WITH THE ARCHBISHOP

His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia arrived in Perth to a joyful welcome on Saturday 28th May – his fourth pastoral visit here. The busy programme began at the Holy Monastery of St John in Forrestfield and, following a monastic lunch, an assembly with the clergy was held.

That evening at the Church of Sts Constantine and Helene in Northbridge, His Eminence presided over the Vespers Service, during which he conferred upon Zacchaeus Gerovasilis the title of Reader.



PHOTO: Thanks to Robi Gerovasilis

Afterwards, Dimitrios and Marina Gougoulis were awarded the Medal of the “Order of the Christ-loving” by the Archbishop. They have volunteered their time in almost all aspects of Church life for almost 30 years.



PHOTO: Thanks to Robi Gerovasilis

Sunday 29th May began at the Holy Monastery of St John when His Eminence ordained Fr. Prodrornos Souris into the Diaconate during the morning service. At 12.30pm the Hierarchical Trisagion and Wreath Laying Ceremony was held at the State War Memorial in Kings Park. His Eminence Archbishop Makarios presided, in the presence of the Governor for WA, Mr Kim Beazley and the Greek

Consul in Perth, Mrs Georgia Karasiotou, for the Battle of Crete and the Pontian Genocide.

The official blessing and opening of the Archdiocesan District of Perth offices and St Basil's Premises occurred at 5pm with a Consecration Service where more than 200 people attended. The welcome speeches were concluded with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a supper.

On the third day of his visit to Perth, the ordination of Fr. Prodrornos into the second level of priesthood (Presbyter) took place at the Holy Monastery of St John. Later in the service His Eminence conferred upon Fr. Emmanuel Stamatiou the title of Protopresbyter of the Ecumenical Throne, the highest possible title for a married priest in the Greek Orthodox Church. His Eminence thanked Fr. Emmanuel and his wife Presvytera Mary for their many years of dedication, and for Father Emmanuel's tireless work in the Apostolic mission to bring people to the Church.



PHOTO: Thanks to Robi Gerovasilis

Continuing on Monday, Archbishop Makarios of Australia attended St Andrew's Grammar Day School in Dianella accompanied by His Grace Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea and school Parish Priest, Fr Terry Gerovasilis, to much excitement from the students.

The pastoral visit of His Eminence Archbishop Makarios to Perth concluded with a farewell dinner hosted by the Limnios' Restaurant in Northbridge. On behalf of all the clergy and faithful of the District, His Grace Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea presented His Eminence with a gift to show the deep gratitude and appreciation of the District.

SOCIAL NEWS

We welcome your input, especially your social news. Please email your wording to the editor Anita Verne anita@halmac.com.au (M: 0407 922 783) or to one of the committee members – thank you. Photos are also welcome.

VALE

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends.

- KAILIS Michael George – 28th March
- GEORGIS (nee Anastas) Katherine (Katie) – 14th April
- TSALIKIS (nee Antonas) Evdokia (Yvonne) – 18th April
- KALAFATAS Evangelia – 24th April
- CONSTANTINE Gloria – 29th April
- PANOTIDIS Van – 10th May
- PETRELIS (nee Moursellas) Despa – 10th May
- GUPANIS Mary – 11th May
- HOULIS Nicholas (Melb.) – 20th May
- PHATOURAS (nee Manolas) Magdalene – 22nd May
- XANTHIS Colin Peter – 25th May
- COUFOS Michael – 5th June

Bereavement Thank You

Nick Nicholas (Nickolite)

Passed away peacefully on 10 March, 2022.

The family of the late Nick Nicholas would like to sincerely thank and acknowledge family and friends for their attendance at the funeral, cards, flowers, phone calls, messages of sympathy in the West Australian and donations to the Castellorizian and Hellenic Ladies' Associations.

Beloved husband of Mary. Father to Con and Hannah, Desiree and John. Grandfather to Lachlan, Mia and Ella. Your outpouring of respect deeply comforted us at this time. Nick will always be remembered in our hearts, and for his service to the Hellenic and Castellorizian Communities.



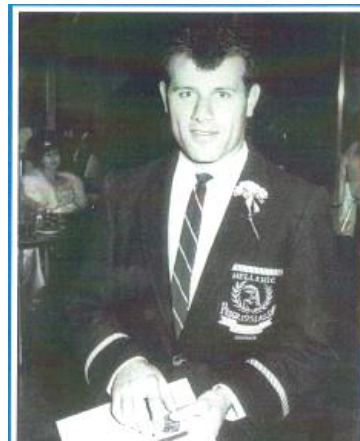
BIRTHS

❖ BELLANTONI Christian Angelo – 1st June 2022



ABOVE: Just a few hours old, baby Christian Angelo Bellantoni has brought joy to parents Lui and Jacqueline (nee Doucas). Grandparents Stacey and Greg Doucas together with Rita and Angelo Bellantoni are thrilled, and look forward to happy times ahead. Proud great grandparents Yiayia Chrissie Filmer and Nonna Elena Ierino.

Nicholaos Pantazis Houlis



We are sad to hear of the passing of Nick Houlis who was a committee member of the Castellorizian Association of WA for two years and the president in 1989-1990.

Nick was born on Castellorizo in 1940, one of 16 children, and at the age of 10 came to Perth to join his brothers. In 1967 he married Evelyn Manifis and they had three children, Pantazi, Kamaree and Dimitri.

Nick lived, breathed and played soccer for his beloved team, Floreat Athena. For most of his life he was also heavily involved in the Greek Orthodox Church as a chanter (Ψάλτης). Many of us remember him at Sts Constantine and Helene in Perth. Chanting was the passion of his life.

Nick and Evelyn moved to Melbourne, Victoria, in 2007 to join their son, Dimitri, his wife Thelma and twin granddaughters, Kamaree and Aaliyah. He will be missed.

May he rest in peace.

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following people:

George Tokas turned 84 on 22nd December 2021

85th Birthday

❖ Con G. Kailis OAM – 21st March

70th Birthday

❖ Kathy Bouhla (nee Geronimos) – 2nd April

❖ Maxine Constantine (nee Malaxos) – 17th April

60th Birthday

❖ Basil Palassis – 26th January

50th Birthday

❖ Maria Radici (nee Foundas) – 3rd April



Basil Palassis (L) & Friends – an Australia Day 60th Birthday

CAZZIES FOR COUNCIL

Castellorizians must have a particular attraction for serving on local councils. Perhaps it is their ability to listen to people, their administrative skills and their passion to give back to the community that take them in this direction. We have had Mick Michael and now Basil Zempilas as Lord Mayors of Perth.

Another Castellorizian descendent is running for council – in the current elections of the Town of Cambridge Coast Ward.



Basil Palassis is a family man who has been a local all his life. He has strong financial qualifications and experience; and has contributed to volunteer organisations. He also has board and chairperson experience that will stand him in good stead.

If you'd like to know more, Basil can be contacted on
Mobile: 0408 897 997 Email: basil@basilpalassis.com.au
FB: BasilPalassis4Cambridge

67th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations! Antonios and Maria KOUFOS – 3rd July

BOWLS

By Cathy Bouhla



Well done **Edan Manifis**, winner of the 2022 Novices Men's Club Championship, Osborne Park.

What a future you have with the correct application and approach. Seek wise counsel. Our club captain, Rolly, commented that it was a very good standard of bowls from all the entrants. "You played well and in a good spirit".

When Edan Manifis was 14 years old he accompanied his yiayia, Cathy Bouhla, to Hellenic winter indoor bowls as a spectator and was invited by the president, then Mike Litis, to try a game.

Not only did he enjoy it; he also showed talent and was approached by Osborne Park Bowling Club to become a member to play pennants. He won the 2022 Novice Competition and then played in the Champ of Champs against all the other novices in other clubs. Edan won two of the games and lost to a chap from Willetton. A novice win is a great way to commence a bowling career.

Edan has also joined the under 18s State Junior Bowling Club. He is playing summer bowls with the Hellenic Bowling Club on Wednesday nights and was runner up in the singles competition to Brian Raynor. Keep up the great work, Edan.

Cazzie Website Administrator

Would you like to help? If you have some computer skills and a few hours per month to update the Association's website from home, then your volunteering would be greatly appreciated. Mentoring provided.

**Please contact Steve Filmer on
0418 907 101**

TRAVELS TO THE EAST

No, not to exotic east Asia! Nevertheless, many of us are excited to be able to travel to the eastern states of Australia to re-connect with family and friends after our long isolation due to COVID restrictions. The environment enjoyed the pause from planes, but we love the freedom of moving around and being face-to-face once more.

A SERENDIPITOUS MEETING

A serendipitous meeting occurred when Perth Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas was ushered into the Melbourne Town Hall for the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors' gathering in early May. Three to four of these get-togethers are held in different Australian cities each year. As the Chair for 2022, Basil was led into the meeting room to ensure the audio-visual equipment was in order.

As he entered he was greeted with 'Hello Basil, I'm George Kailis. I will be looking after your audio-visual requirements during the meeting.'



PHOTO: George Kailis and Basil Zempilas in Melbourne

George E Kailis is the elder son of Stan and Lefki Kailis of Perth. He is the Audio Operations Manager of Audio Visual Dynamics, the company that operates out of the Melbourne Town Hall.

George has always been interested in sound. In 1991 he studied at the school of Audio Engineering obtaining a diploma in Audio Engineering. He cut his teeth mixing mainly original bands around Perth, leading to a permanent gig at the now legendary Mojors Bar in North Fremantle. It was this work that gave him recognition resulting in winning the 2008 WAM Best Live and Studio Engineer.

Off the back of this award, George accepted a position as Senior Audio Engineer and Production Manager of the Espy (Esplanade) Hotel in St Kilda. This was the bigtime. He got to work with artists such as Public Enemy, De Da Sol, The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion, and many more. In fact, George oversaw the operation of three band rooms and fifty bands per week!!

Moving into a more sophisticated environment, George accepted the position of Senior AV technician with Audio Visual Dynamics (AVD) at the Melbourne Town Hall. This has given him the opportunity to expand his knowledge in video and lighting. He is currently the Operations Manager, making sure everything runs smoothly. The Town Hall hosts a variety of events which George finds very rewarding and enjoyable.

By Lefki Kailis

CAZZIE CULTURE & HERITAGE CONNECTIONS



PHOTO: Stephanie Meagher, Victoria Gallagher, Voula Terzoudi in Sydney

CAWA committee member, Voula Terzoudi and Culture and Heritage committee member, Stephanie Meagher, were recently in Sydney where they caught up with Cazzie NSW committee secretary and co-ordinator of History and Archives, Victoria Gallagher.

Following great coffee and delicious bougatsa at Greek café, *Alevri – Kingsford*, Victoria gave Voula and Stephanie a guided tour of the recently completed NSW Association premises which are indeed most impressive. Sharing thoughts and exchanging ideas on ways to celebrate and promote Cazzie culture is a great way to forge closer ties between our various associations.



We look forward to working collaboratively with our eastern states counterparts and we would like to thank Victoria for her time and generous hospitality.

By Stephanie Meagher

PAST EVENTS

CHOOSING A CELEBRATION DAY

Why Did the Castellorizian Association Choose the Feast Day of Saints Constantine and Helene as its Celebration Day?

By Anita Verne

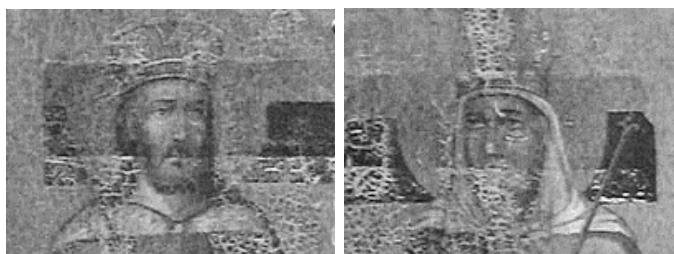
After our luncheon this year, I wondered about the inclusion of a celebratory day into the rules of the Castellorizian Association. This might seem obvious to many, but not to others. So, I set out to investigate.

THE EARLY DAYS

One hundred and ten years ago the number of Greeks in WA had grown to more than 300, mostly men. Life was often tough, and being concentrated around Perth, they felt it was time to create an official Greek organisation. The **Castellorizian Association (Brotherhood)** was established and at its first formal meeting an executive was elected comprised of Athanasios G Auguste (president), Kyriakos N Kalafatas, Antonios A Magripilis, Michael G Malaxos, Dimitrios G Manolas, Kyriakos G Manolas, Peter S Michelides, Evangelos G Petridis and Eleftherios L Pitsikas. ⁽¹⁾

Initially the Brotherhood was a casual gathering of interested men who met at members' homes. As time went by it became better organised: a set of straightforward administrative rules was developed and in 1918 its intent to incorporate was signed. ⁽²⁾

Having migrated from Castellorizo, this group of men would have felt the effects of being foreigners in Australia. They would have hung together, supporting each other and socializing together, sharing their familiar language and traditions. As the war was now over, more women were able to migrate to join the group. Their church and spiritual security would have been greatly missed in Australia where there was still no official Greek religious place of worship. Back on their island, the Castellorizians' protectors and guides were patron Saints Constantine and Helene - they were very important in their daily lives and rituals. But, why these saints in particular? What was the connection between them and Castellorizo?

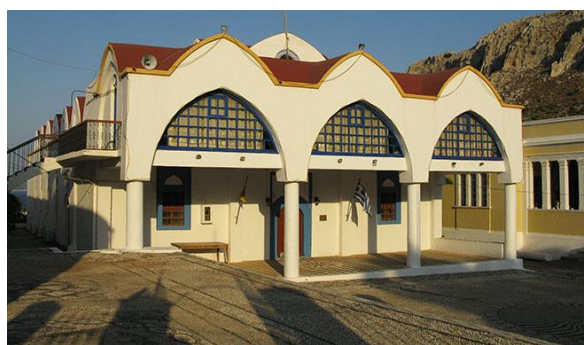


It is thought that in the early 4th century Saint Helene may have visited Castellorizo. Dr Paul Boyatzis wrote about her in *Filia*. ⁽³⁾

Tradition has it that following the finding of the Cross (in the Holy Land), whilst returning to Constantinople, Saint Helene took refuge in the safe harbour of Castellorizo in order to avoid the treacherous seas that prevailed. It is believed that the devout Christian and mother of Emperor Constantine commissioned the building of a small church on the island as a way of thanking God for providing protection. The religious significance of

the Patron Saints of Castellorizo, Saints Constantine and Helene, in the lives of Castellorizians is well known.

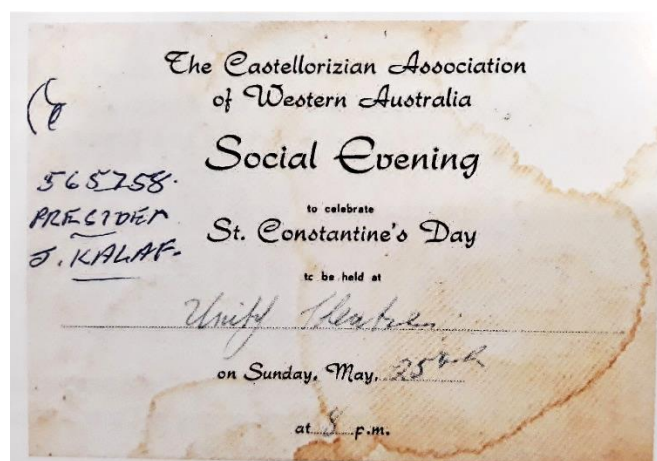
On Castellorizo the Church of Saints Constantine and Helene was an important meeting place and central to the people's culture. It was built in 1835 ⁽⁴⁾ and some think it may lie on the site of the original ancient church. The feast day of these saints was one of the most important days of the year, reinforcing the people's connection with the protectors. It was natural that this tradition would continue in the migrants' new lives in Australia.



Agios Konstantinos kai Eleni church (1835).

THE FEAST DAY

Nina Pitsikas spoke to me about attending family feast day celebrations as a child with her parents, probably during the early 1940s. She remembers that they were usually held at the Unity Theatre Trades Hall in Beaufort Street, Perth. "The entry was five shillings, drinks were provided, and you took your own mezes," she described. Nina's ticket, shown below, was from 1958 when John Kalafatas was president.



ADDING THE CELEBRATION DAY

My next question took me to Dr John Yiannakis, our knowledgeable historian, to ask when the celebration day was added to the Castellorizian Association of WA (CAWA) constitution. John suggested that the Cazzies were already meeting and feasting on this day every year. This led the executive to formalize the Feast Day of Saints Constantine and

Helene (21st May) as a clause in the constitution to create an official celebration day of the Association. This probably occurred sometime in the 1960s or 1970s.

Back to the present, this year the 21st May fell on a Saturday, so we joined with the Sts Constantine and Helene Church and the Hellenic Community to hold a wonderful luncheon on Sunday 22nd at the Hellenic Hall in Northbridge. It was a huge success attended by more than 150 guests. Thank you to distinguished guests, His Grace, Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea, Consulate of Greece Georgia Karasiotou, Reverend Father Terry Gerovasilis, Reverend Father Emmanuel Stamatiou, Reverend Father Evan Battalis, Reverend Father John Athanasiou, Deacon Nicholas Kakulas, Presidents Jim Manifis and Paul Afkos and to all those in attendance.

The lunch was a wonderful community event where many people worked together to make it a success. Thanks go to Fr. Terry Gerovasilis and the church committee, Jim Manifis, Paul

Afkos and the committees of CAWA and HCWA, and other volunteers. In particular, thanks go to Helen Anastasas for her role in overseeing the catering and hall set-up.

SOURCES

1. Yiannakis, Dr John, *Western Australia's Castellorizian Connection: the First 100 Years, 1912-2012*, (2012), Arts Naked Publications
2. Advertising (1918, November 15). *The West Australian* (Perth, WA : 1879 - 1954), p. 1. Retrieved June 2, 2022, from <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article27495844>
3. Boyatzis, Dr Paul, "Historical Findings of Major Religious Significance in Kastellorizo", *Filia*, Winter South/ Summer North 2011.
4. My Favourite Planet – Kastellorizo. Retrieved from <http://www.my-favourite-planet.de/english/europe/greece/dodecanese/kastellorizo/kastellorizo-photos-233.html>

The Feast Day of Patron Saints Constantine and Helene



Presidents Jim Manifis & Paul Afkos



Father Terry Gerovasilis



Mr Fotios Korkokios, Mrs Georgia Karasiotou, Bishop Elpidios, Mr Paul Afkos, Mr James Manifis, Mrs Anna Manifis



PHOTOS: Margaret-Anne Manifis Quinn

Drycleaning for the Feast Day of Sts Constantine & Helene donate by Larry, John, Moira & Angela Doropoulos

Thank You
NEW LOOK DRYCLEANERS
844 Beaufort St, Inglewood

DISCOVERED UNDER THE VERANDAH!

By Anita Verne

You could be excused for thinking we've staked a mining claim and these are our core samples showing the minerals discovered. Yes, these are from Castellorizian House and a secret layer was found hidden between the two strata.



PHOTO 1: Vertical cores taken through front verandah of Castellorizian House, May 2022, showing tile layer.

As the final parts of the renovations at Cazzie House began last month, some excavations revealed a picture of the history of the verandah. Several generations of steps can be seen in photo 2 and sandwiched between the top layer of aggregate and underlying concrete we can see that the verandah was decorated with coffee-coloured ceramic tiles. Are these the original turn-of-the-century tiles or are they part of a later renovation, from the era of Hawthorn Lodge?

Federation homes like Cazzie House, which were built between 1890 and 1915, used decorative tiles as a key element in their design. A tile front path, paired with a beautiful tessellated tile verandah in harmonizing colours is a classic feature of a Federation home.



PHOTO 2: Previous steps unearthed at front of Castellorizian House, March 2022 and enlargement of tiles.

Research tells me that "tile colours were restrained and inspired by nature. Think earthy tones."⁽¹⁾ Well, that fits with our tiles.

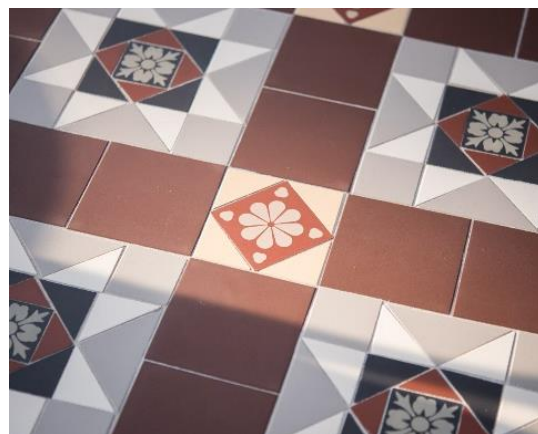


PHOTO 3: Example of a tessellated tile pattern often seen on Federation house verandahs.

The original owner, John Henry Beveridge, was from Bendigo, a city in the state of Victoria which is known for its beautiful heritage cottages. He may well have applied the house fashion from his home-town to this build. Our discovered tiles could be from the original house.

Ah well, I guess we'll never know.

REFERENCE:

- (1) Old English Tiles www.oldeenglishtiles.com.au/blogs/how-to-guides/federation-house-tiles

CONTACTING YOUR COMMITTEE

Jim Manifis (President):	0433 165 601
Helen Anastasas (Vice-president):	0421 644 163
Margaret-Anne Manifis Quinn:	0419 831 434
(Secretary)	
Steve (Sava) Filmer (Treasurer):	0418 907 101
Tony Kostarelas	
(Hall Hire and Membership):	0418 965 869

SEE IT IN COLOUR

All editions of the Megisti Messenger are available to members, provided we have your correct email address.

Type into your browser:
cazziewa.org.au and navigate to
"News"

UPCOMING EVENTS

HAPPY HOUR RE-OPENING

Everyone enjoys getting together!
Some people have “The Men’s Shed” but we have the

Men’s

Happy Hour 

Friday evenings have traditionally been when the boys get together over mezethes or a meal, watch a game of footy, meet others and have a bit of fun. Things have been somewhat quiet during COVID but we’re looking forward to re-grouping and seeing everyone again.

Come along!

Starting Friday 1st July

From 6.00 pm

**RSVP Essential: please notify Jim Manifis (M: 0433 165 601)
by the Fri. prior (24th June) for catering purposes.**

TINY ISLAND WITH A BIG IMPACT

A Remarkable Story about the Power of Culture

The Cazzie Connection provides a concept and a model that examines the extraordinary levels of success of Castellorizians in Australia. It codifies the cultural characteristics and personal attributes of this unique group of migrants into a framework of universal success principles. These principles can be applied by organisations to build vibrant and connected cultures, and by individuals to achieve success in their lives and careers.

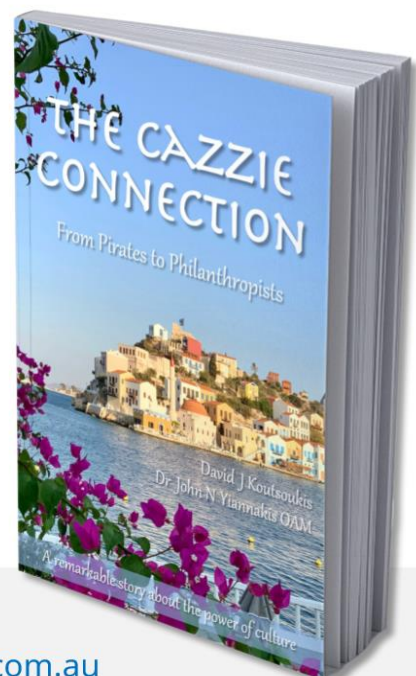
Discover how this intriguing Greek island went from being a haven for pirates to a land of philanthropists and enjoy a remarkable story about the power of culture.



David Koutsoukis is an international speaker, author and consultant who has spent more than 20 years showing leaders and their teams how to build exceptional workplace cultures. www.davidkoutsoukis.com



Dr John Yiannakis OAM is a lecturer, author and researcher who has written several books on Greek and Castellorizian migration to Western Australia. He is a Life Member of the Castellorizian Association of WA.



Book Launch Coming Soon

Register your interest at www.cazzieconnection.com.au

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Now due

In this edition of the *Megisti Messenger* individualised membership invoices are enclosed on a blue sheet.

These are due on July 1st 2022. Please be prompt with your payment, and keep us informed of changes.

If you have any queries regarding your membership please contact our treasurer Steve Filmer 0418 907 101 or email cazziewa@outlook.com.

Single membership - \$30

Double membership - \$40

BANK DETAILS

Account Name:

BSB: 066 129

REFERENCE:

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Castellorizian Association of WA

Account: 00800217

**Use your m/ship CODE so we can identify you
(or First and SURNAME with middle initial.)**

The **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP** include the following:

- The opportunity to become involved in regular events:
 - **Cazzie Kouvenda** – last Sat of each month 10am-1pm: Anita Verne: 0418 907 101
 - **Cazzie Cooking Classes** – Helen Anastasas: 0421 644 163
 - **Men's Happy Hour** – once per month, Friday from 5.15pm: Jim Manifis: 0433 165 601
 - **Castellorizian Culture and Heritage** – Thursday mornings, Stephanie Meagher: 0450 609 491
 - **Hellenes Bridge Club** – experienced players, Friday mornings, Nicholette Litis: 0408919378
- Invitations to social events such as dinners, exhibitions and book launches
- A quarterly **Megisti Messenger** newsletter both by mail and online
- Access to the Cazzie Resource Centre collection for consultation or arranged loan
- Participation in Castellorizian heritage, customs and traditions, including family history
- Access to sale items such as recipe books, children's books, history books, aprons, caps, bags and memorabilia
- Invitations to annual Castellorizian celebrations such as **Saints Constantine and Helene Day; Apokries; and Santrape**
- The support of benevolent activities such as aged care services and the provision of moral and material assistance to those in need
- Discounted hire fee for personal functions at **Castellorizian House** such as birthdays, lunches, reunions, wakes, book launches or seminars and conferences
- We would also like to start **Greek Dancing Classes, Greek Folk Singing and Art Classes** – let us know if this interests you

CASTELLORIZIAN HOUSE BOOKINGS

The House can be used for all types of purposes from exercise classes and meetings through to weddings and fully catered events. To be fair, we tailor the price according to the use, the time and your needs.

TYPE OF HIRE
Casual hire: meetings, seminars, classes etc. - up to 3 hours
Casual hire: wakes, afternoon teas, dinners, parties, reunions etc.- 3 hours plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bond • Cleaning • Tablecloths: hire & cleaning
Regular weekly or monthly hire.

- Bookings contact **Tony Kostarelas**, June to October 2022 - **0418 965 869** or E: tobeck@iinet.net.au
After October- Voula Terzoudi (M: 0452504790 after hours) or email para.con@hotmail.com

AGM: Look out for the Annual General Meeting, held in October each year, where reports, elections and awards occur. Often, something special is held after the meeting, followed by afternoon tea.

SUBCOMMITTEES: you are welcome to be part of the subcommittee system.

CONSTITUTION: find it on our website www.cazziewa.org.au under 'About Us'

FEES: The Membership Year runs from 1 July to 30 June, in line with the financial year.
Membership fees are due on 1 July each year.

As a valued member of the Association we encourage you to bring forth new ideas and to provide the committee with feedback.



ASSOCIATION USE ONLY	
Member Code	Folio

CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF W.A. INC.

Application for Membership

www.cazziewa.org.au
[Email: cazziewa@outlook.com](mailto:cazziewa@outlook.com)
MAIL:

Forward the form and payment to:
The Castellorizian Association of WA
PO Box 174
Mount Hawthorn WA 6915

EFT TRANSFER:

Account Name: Castellorizian Association of WA
BSB: 066 129
Account: 00800217
Reference: your surname

- 1. TYPE:** Application is for a SINGLE ☐ \$30 OR a HOUSEHOLD ☐ \$40
Fees are payable upon application then on 1st July of each year.

Title	Family name of primary applicant	First name/s of applicant _____	Year of Birth
MOBILE Number:		Preferred Name:	
Email:			
FOR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP AT SAME ADDRESS:			
Title	Family name of spouse/partner	First name/s of applicant _____	Year of Birth
MOBILE Number:		Preferred Name:	
Email:			
Street			
Suburb		State	Post Code
Home telephone		Business hours telephone	

- 2. CATEGORY:** (Tick box below, as appropriate.)

I make application for membership of the Castellorizian Association of WA as:

	Primary	Partner
Regular member (Persons born in Castellorizo or descendants of a person born in Castellorizo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ordinary member (Persons married to Castellorizians or to Castellorizian descendant)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Associate member (Other persons)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 3. YOUTH AFFILIATE:** Children under 18 years of age (free) - list names below:

Youth Affiliate Names	Year of Birth

- 4. APPLICANT:** In making this application I certify the above information is correct.

Signature _____ Date _____

5. NOMINATION BY CURRENT MEMBER

NOMINATOR: I, (PRINT NAME) _____ am a current financial member of the Castellorizian Association of WA and nominate the applicant for the category of membership as indicated above and certify that to the best of my knowledge that the applicant meets the requirements of that category of membership.

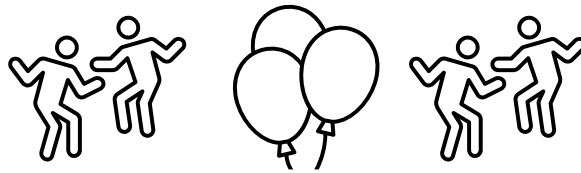
Phone No. _____ Signature _____ Date _____

(Form last updated May 2022)

ASSOCIATION USE ONLY: Application approved / not approved, at meeting held ____/____/____ Sign _____

PAYMENT: by cash / cheque (receipt number _____) or EFT, on (date) _____ Sign _____

The
KOUVENDA
is back!



Saturday, July 30th
from
10.00am - 1.00pm
at
Cazzie House
(160 Anzac Rd Mt Hawthorn)
for

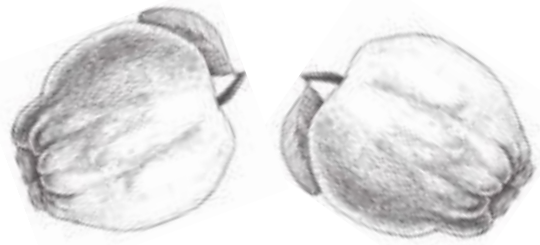
- * Greek coffee & morning tea
- * Produce & cake Stall
- * Children's Activities
- * Conversation, community ...
...and much, much more!

Everyone is welcome
Bring your friends
Please join us

11am TALK: As a special treat this time, we will have a speaker
about some of the produce at the stall.

(Produce and Cakes for the stalls are gratefully accepted.)

GREEK QUINCE PASTE



About The Maker

We all know Maggie Beer for her quince paste. But do we know our very own maker? Once a year the ripened quinces are gathered from her tree and several days of loving labour goes into making a beautiful Greek quince paste.

Pam Mistilis stirs and stirs until the delectable mixture changes colour from cream, through the shades of autumn, until it reduces and thickens to become a deep pink-red. I'm sure husband Arthur is at hand to help.

In Greece, the quince is called *kythoni* and is written κυδώνι. It pre-dates the apple, and may well have been the original "apple of eden". Greek mythology associates the quince with Aphrodite (goddess of love). And why shouldn't it be – if you've ever poached quinces you will have seen the most beautiful transformation and you would have fallen in love immediately! Tart and unpleasant when raw, it becomes sweet and luscious when cooked.

Our maker of quince paste, Pam Mistilis, has a background in food, and she knows what she is doing. She is a lady of patience and many gifts, having been a teacher of cooking for 20 years. Her favourite pastime is giving dinner parties.

We are offering Pam's totally organic quince paste for sale at the next Kouvenda, 10am – 1pm on Saturday 30th July, so this is your chance to stock up for Father's Day, birthdays or just to treat yourself.

What to do with Quince Paste

Use small squares of quince paste as a Spoon Sweet with a glass of water and a Greek coffee. Or roll the squares in granulated sugar as an After-dinner Treat.

Let's talk about three other things you can do with quince paste. The first is well-known: display it on a Grazing Plate. It can be sliced or spread depending on how soft it is. On crackers or bread, team it with a sharp cheese such as cheddar or romano, a soft cheese like brie or goat's cheese, or make it Greek with feta or grilled halloumi. Even some Serrano ham tastes good. Add some nuts such as walnuts, and fresh fruit like apple or pear.

A Deglazed Quince Paste Sauce with its tropical notes is delicious with pork. After cooking pork cutlets or a tenderloin, remove from pan and add 80g chopped quince paste and 50mL white wine and stir until melted. Add some stock and boil until reduced to a glaze, then add 2 teaspoons sherry vinegar and a sprig of thyme. Serve with pork.

A third way to use quince paste is in a Quince Jam Tart. Make a jam spread by mixing 1 cup of quince paste with ½ cup raspberry jam and 2 tablespoons of water in a saucepan, and stir to melt the sauce. Then cool it while you make a sweet pastry. Rolling it out into a flan or tart tin, saving 1/4 of the pastry to make a lattice over the top. Spread the jam on the pastry case, then criss-cross with the lattice. Cook in a moderate oven (180 °C) for 20-30 minutes.

By Anita Verne

Come along to the KOUVENDA 11am on Saturday 30th July to hear Pam talk about quinces and cooking.

CAZZIE COOKING CLASSES



**'from our GREEK KITCHEN
to yours'**

Available from:

**Christos Jewellery
172 Scarborough Beach Road,
Mt Hawthorn, WA**

**Tel. (08) 9201 1195 (Book \$45 -
Cash Only)**

**OR Committee Member Anita
Verne - email
anita@halmac.com.au
– postage options available**

COOKING CLASSES

While the renovations have been occurring, the House has been closed. We are now looking forward to getting back to our cooking at Castellorizian House.

We hold school holiday classes for children aged 10 to under 18, (contact Helen Anastasas); youth classes age 18 and above (contact Margaret-Anne Manifis Quinn); and adult classes (contact Helen Anastasas). They will be starting soon so make contact if you are not already registered and would like to participate.

**Helen Anastasas – Mobile 0421 644 163
or Email hanastasas@yahoo.com.au**

**Margaret-Anne Manifis Quinn – M: 0419 831 434
or Email ma.manifis@gmail.com**

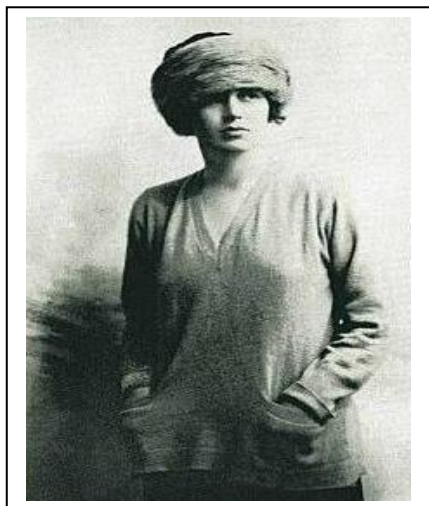
THE ASIA MINOR CATASTROPHE - 100 YEARS

As we commemorate the centenary of the Asia Minor Disaster, the story of Australian woman, Joice Nankivell Loch, is one worthy of note. It is a largely forgotten story, but one of epic proportions. Her work with refugees from Smyrna followed years of selfless dedication to other displaced populations across Europe.

By Stephanie Meagher

Joice Nankivell Loch (1887–1982)

A Life of Compassion, Commitment and Courage



By any measure **Joice Nankivell Loch** was an extraordinary woman who lived a truly extraordinary life. Born into a wealthy pastoral family on the Queensland canefields in 1887, she survived a childhood of poverty and hardship after the family fortune was lost, to become Australia's most decorated woman. The recipient of eleven international Orders for her humanitarian aid work and support for displaced refugees, she was respected internationally and revered in Greece. She died in Ouranopoulis in 1982 and the Greek Orthodox Bishop of Oxford speaking at her funeral described her as "**one of the greatest women of the 20th century**".⁽¹⁾ So, who was Joice Nankivell Loch, why was she so honoured and what was her connection to Greece?

Any overview of Loch must also include her Scottish-born husband, Sydney, who was equally lauded for his humanitarian work, in particular his initiation of aid schemes that encouraged self-sufficiency and independence for displaced refugees seeking to rebuild their lives on the land. In her definitive biography of Nankivell Loch, *Blue Ribbons, Bitter Bread - The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch*, on which this article is based, author Susanna De Vries tells the story of these two dedicated and selfless humanitarians.

Joice and Sydney, both aspiring writers, met at Melbourne University where Joice's passion for Greece was inspired by her time working in the Classics Department. They had much in common – a love of learning, a sense of adventure and a desire to write, as well as a strong sense of social justice which would ultimately determine their destiny. They married in 1919 and set off for London, seeking to embrace a life of writing and travel.

1. De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch* Pg. 37

The next few years saw Joice and Sydney in some of the most volatile trouble spots of the time. First, it was Dublin and Ireland's bitter struggle for independence, on which Sydney and Joice had been commissioned to write a book. A friend of Sydney's was one of the undercover agents sent to investigate Michael Collins, and this connection ensured the Lochs were privy to the intrigue, drama and danger that led to Bloody Sunday. Their subsequent book on 'the troubles', *Ireland in Travail*, was a first-hand account of events and led to a second joint project, *Inside Lenin's Russia*. Russia, however, was not easily accessible and the Lochs would first find themselves in war ravaged Poland.

It is at this point we see a shift of focus for the Lochs, with Joice committing to humanitarian aid work. While in Dublin, she had visited slum areas and been distressed by the appalling living conditions of the poor. She became a freelance journalist, writing to highlight social injustice and inequality, but writing barely sustained them financially and they desperately wanted to help. They also needed to fund their travels to Russia. To this end, they became volunteers with The Religious Society of Friends, otherwise known as the Quakers. For two liberal, progressive thinkers like Joice and Sydney this was quite unexpected – except when considering that a core Quaker belief to help all without political, racial, gender or religious discrimination aligned perfectly with the Loch's own values. The Quakers supported aid missions and refugee camps throughout Europe, including Russia. As volunteers, the Lochs would be able to work under the auspices of an established and effective organisation. Sydney and Joice did not subscribe to the Quakers' religious views, but they greatly admired their unequivocal dedication to helping others.

The Lochs were despatched to Eastern Poland in the autumn of 1922, another world trouble spot, which had been devastated by years of war. Millions had been displaced and once fertile land reduced to waste, with returning refugees starving, diseased and dying. The Lochs had found their calling. Joice would write: "*We ministered to the starving, to those sick with typhus and dysentery, to swarms of homeless reduced to camping in old army dugouts and trenches. Hundreds of people, thousands of people, until they stumbled into our dreams.*"⁽²⁾ Subscribing to the precept: *If you give a man a sum of money it can feed him and his family for a week – if you give him a fishing rod or a plough, he can feed his family for life*⁽³⁾, Sydney found his forte in devising and implementing farming schemes to help the refugees get back on their feet by becoming self-sufficient.

2. De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch* Pg. 187

3. De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch* Pg. 185

The Lochs did visit Russia during this period, seeing first-hand the devastation wrought by failed economic and agricultural policy as well as evidence of the political persecution that would see millions of Russians either starve, be killed in purges or sent to gulags. Joice wrote newspaper articles, but a world swayed by the romantic notion of a just society under communism was not listening.

By now, Joice had developed her varied and considerable skills. An abiding interest in medical and nursing procedures, honed through necessity in her early years of rural bush poverty in Australia, saw Joice become a highly skilled paramedic, able to perform surgical, nursing and mid-wife procedures that saved many lives. She was also able to organise and implement education programmes for women and young girls, and with her calm, practical approach, quick-thinking and ingenuity, Joice was much sought after in any crisis. As 1923 unfolded, the defining period of her life began.

Poland was recovering, and the world's attention had turned to yet another disaster – the 'Great Castastrophe' of Asia Minor which had seen the brutal sacking of Smyrna by Turkish aggressors and the subsequent forced population exchange between Greece and the newly created Republic of Turkey. Approximately one and a half million desperate and traumatised refugees streamed into Greece, and the impoverished government struggled to cope. Joice and Sydney responded to a call to arms from the Quaker organisation in London, arriving in Thessaloniki in May of 1923. Initially, life was an exhausting cycle of dealing with a relentless stream of displacement, disease, death and trauma, much as it had been in Poland and Russia. Joice worked in the delousing station, distributed clothing, assisted with vaccination and health programmes as well as establishing education programmes to teach basic life skills, reading, writing and simple math. She was also instrumental in running a breeding programme of gambusia fish to eradicate mosquito larvae and combat malaria which saved thousands of lives across the region, for which Joice was awarded the Order of St Sava from the King of Serbia⁽⁴⁾. She and Sydney had already been awarded the Polish Gold Cross of Merit and were about to receive the first of their awards from Greece, the Order of the Phoenix.

As the immediate crisis triggered by the exchange subsided, there was still the long-term problem of how to permanently settle the refugees. One government initiative saw the setting up of some 300 villages across northern Greece. Pirgos, later renamed Ouranopoulos, was one of them. Situated at the foot of Mt Athos, it was located in an isolated, malaria-infested and desolate wasteland with no piped water or sanitation. Naturally, this was where the Lochs decided to settle.



Sydney and Joice Loch

4. De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch* Pg. 256



The Loch's Tower Home, Ouranopoulos

Initially, Joice despaired at the deprivations endured by the villagers, as well as at the social disunity between the various groups who had been thrown together by destiny and abandoned to their fate of forced exile. The land was arid and waterless with no infrastructure or social cohesion and the under-resourced Greek government could do little to assist. The only support the Lochs received was from the steadfast Society of Friends, donations and money earned from freelance journalism. Joice was undaunted. While Sydney continued to assist at the Farm School in Thessaloniki and began a book on the monks and monasteries of Mt Athos, Joice became the local 'doctor' and their home the local medical centre. Over time she succeeded in breaking down centuries-old taboos and superstitions that hindered progress, gradually gaining the trust of the villagers to the point where she became indispensable.

Self-sufficiency was the only answer for the impoverished village and, given the hostile terrain, it would not be through agriculture. Joice found a solution – rug weaving. Many refugees from Anatolia had been rug weavers, with knowledge and skills passed down through the centuries. Harnessing these skills, Joice established a women's weaving collective, providing looms and organising natural hand produced dyes that she herself developed through trial and error. So was born *Pirgos Rugs*. Adamant that the rugs be distinctively Greek, Joice designed and drew the patterns herself, inspired by the motifs, embroideries and art treasures of the Byzantine Empire and Ancient Greece. A financial success, *Pirgos Rugs* provided a regular income for many families with weavers receiving two thirds of the selling price of their rug. One third covered the cost of wool and money for the girls gathering plant material for dyes⁽⁵⁾. *Pirgos Rugs* became collectors' items and today are valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars. In 1939 Joice handed over the running of the business to the women's collective. With WW2 looming, she was about to embark on her most dangerous mission to date.

At the behest of the Society of Friends, she and Sydney were once again working with Polish and Jewish refugees, this time in unoccupied Rumania. In what came to be dubbed *Operation Pied Piper*, Joice helped evacuate one thousand Polish and Jewish women and children from Rumania in an extremely hazardous undertaking that saw them travel via the Black Sea to Constantinople, then on to Palestine. Together, she and Sydney are credited with saving the lives of some 2,500 refugees through securing safe passage to Palestine. They spent the rest of the war caring for up to 12,000 Polish refugees. These efforts would earn the Lochs the Polish Gold Cross of Virtue.

5. De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch* Pg. 301

Joy at returning to Greece after the war was short-lived as civil war raged in the country, but Joice and Sydney endured and continued to devote their lives to the betterment of others. They eventually returned to their tower by the sea where they re-established their lives and lived happily for many years. Sydney died in 1954, leaving Joice bereft. She continued living in Ouranopoulis, devoting much of her time to writing, in particular ensuring that Sydney's book on the monasteries of Mt Athos was published. Joice passed away at the age of 95. Although she never returned to Australia to live, she always identified as Australian, and a little Australian flag given to her

by her mother had pride of place on her desk. In her final years Joice was lovingly cared for by devoted friends and the villagers to whom she had given so much, a just reward for her selfless dedication to others.

Joice Nankivell Loch - by any measure, a truly remarkable woman, and a truly remarkable life.

Reference

De Vries, Susanna. *Blue Ribbons Bitter Bread. The Life of Joice Nankivell Loch*. Pirgos Press (2000)

Photos from the Past

THE ANNIVERSARY

The forthcoming 67th wedding anniversary of her parents prompted Eva Magriplis to search for some old photos and with them, record the story of her parent's wedding.

By Eva Magriplis in discussion with her parents, Antonios and Maria Koufos.

Antonios Koufos and Maria Roditis were married on Castellorizo on Sunday 3rd July, 1955.

As was the tradition on Castellorizo, tables were set up for the *Nifi's brika* (Προίκα της νύφης), the bride's trousseau, to show people the linen and towels, nightwear and other items which prepared for the new home. This occurred on the Friday before the wedding, at the bride's house. Dresses were hung around the room as shown in Photo 1.



PHOTO 1: Dresses hung around the room

On the **Savatovratho**⁽¹⁾ (Σαββατοβραδο), the party for the bride and groom's families took place at the bride's house, with lots of food, dancing and of course Castellorizian wedding songs. The photo shows my dad in the middle. Dancing on his right is his father, Mr Stavros Koufos. My mum's father, Mr George Roditis, is dancing on the other side with his hand in the air.

Photo 2 shows the hair-washing custom which I will describe. This also takes place on the Savatovratho. The bride uses soap and water in a bowl called a "lakani" to wash the groom's hair. She must then give him a towel to dry his hair. The giving of the towel symbolizes "that they will share life's ups and downs together". Parents of the bride surround them singing a particular song to do with the hair being washed.

This photo shows my dad with his hair washed and my mum (Maria) giving him the towel.



PHOTO 2: The hair wash and towel ceremony

The wedding was held at 9am the next day at Sts Constantine and Helene Church. Emerging from the church after the service, the family gathered next door on the steps of Santrape Louca school where it's customary for wedding photos to be taken. Photo 3 records this moment in time.

After the photos, the newly wedded couple, along with the groom's family, proceeded to the Koufos family home for lunch. The bride's parents and their relations went to their family house for lunch. Later in the afternoon the dowry and clothes were gathered and the large group walked to the groom's family home. The celebration continued there with lots of traditional songs, dancing and plenty of food. By 8pm the party was over.

In the Koufos house lived my dad's grandparents, his own parents and sisters along with the newly wedded couple. My mum was an only child and recalls that it was great to live with so many people in one house. They were so loving towards her.

Approximately four months after the wedding my dad decided to seek his fortune and look for work in Australia, leaving behind his new bride who was pregnant by then.

My mum stayed in the Koufos house with her in-laws until after my sister was born. Then they made the journey to join my father in Perth in late 1956. That was the first time my dad saw his baby (my sister Sandra) who was only 6 months old.

Happy Anniversary, Mum and Dad!



PHOTO 3: Antonios and Maria Koufos on their wedding day outside the school.

EDITOR'S NOTE 1

Savatovratho (as explained by Marilyn and Michael Tsolakis) means the "Saturday night before the wedding" as traditionally, marriages were on a Sunday. It is the bride's last "trapeze" that is, the feast or table with her family as a single person.

[Retrieved by Anita Verne on 7 June, 2022 from <https://kastellorizo.com/savatovratho-pre-wedding-custom/>]

OUR RESOURCE CENTRE BOOK PROFILE

Profiled by Lefki Kailis

Curator of the Resource Collection

Cavafy, C.P. (2007)

**The collected poems: a new translation
by Evangelos Sachperoglou.**

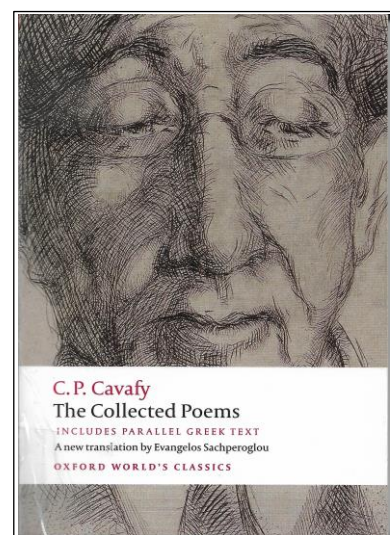
Includes parallel Greek text. Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Durrell, Lawrence (1957) Justine. London, Faber and Faber.

Our notion of the city of Alexandria, Egypt is the romantic one of fabled buildings and exotic queens but Constantine Cavafy the Greek Alexandrian poet (1863-1933) and the celebrated British author Lawrence Durrell (1912-1990) show us the raw underbelly of the place. They in their own literary style challenge us to recognise the complexity and depth of the ancient city of Alexandria.

Alexandria, beguiling Alexandria. The heroic city founded by Alexander the Great in 332BC and for nine hundred years

the capital of Egypt; the headquarters of the Macedonian Greek Royal Ptolemaic dynasty ending with Cleopatra. The city forever connected with the Greek speaking Queen Cleopatra's association with Julius Caesar and Mark Antony. We have the mesmerising imaginings of the lighthouse on the island of Pharos and the Great Library of Alexandria: the library built in the 3rd century BC that attracted scholars from all over the Arab and European world who came to study, meet and converse in this Alexandrian centre of learning.



This beautiful city, so enhanced by surrounding water, stands at the edge of the western tributary of the Nile with the Mediterranean before it and the large Lake Mareotis behind.

Its two harbours separated by a t-shaped peninsula made it an important centre of naval operations, maritime commerce and as a transit point in trade. By the middle of the nineteenth century Europeans of all nationalities as well as Greeks from mainland Greece, Cyprus and Asia Minor (including my great grandparents) and elsewhere migrated to Alexandria with its promise of success for those seeking opportunity, especially after the opening of the Suez Canal. The city increased its cosmopolitan and multicultural composition, making it a sophisticated and seductive destination.

Alexandria runs through the veins of Constantine Cavafy. His poetic eye revolves and delves into the Hellenic past but he does not recreate the heroic history we imagine. Writing with a Greek sensibility, he chooses to immortalise the city and its Greek history in a very different way. He looks back reimagining historical events, often posing as a citizen of the time. He explores the Roman world from a Greek perspective, depicting 'characters ignored or marginalized by history'. He is interested in the flawed historical character believing that it reflects contemporary society.

Cavafy enmeshes himself in the seedy, decadent night life of Alexandria. In his poems the focus is on humans, Eros is always at the side of the narrator, often as an old man remembering through a filtering prism the exhilarating experiences he had when he was young. In these poems there's a sense of loss and a longing to evoke the past. Cavafy mixes katharevousa and demotic Greek to create the rhythm and specific complex meanings he intends.

The poems that he writes in his own contemporary time are sensual, observing as an artist would, the exquisite beauty of jewels, gorgeous fabrics as well as sculptures and paintings. He describes the visual spectacle of the Greek church, the ritual, the elaborate costume and the powerful narcotic of the 'fragrances of incense'.

He writes allegorically, using symbolism and metaphor that give mixed meaning and multiple interpretations. His famous poem Ithaca is a good example and the short poem below – *The Windows*.

The Windows

Within these dark chambers, where I live through
oppressive days, I pace up and down,
trying to find the windows. – When a window
opens, it will be a consolation. –
But the windows are not to be found, or I am unable
to find them. And perhaps it's better that I don't.
Perhaps the light will be a new tyranny.
Who knows what novel things it will reveal.

Cavafy is a philosopher, interested in reanimating history from a new perspective. He adheres to Aestheticism (art for art's sake). The visual snapshot of his words on the page is idiosyncratic. He pays 'particular attention to the musicality,

rhythm, melody, and harmony of his poems.' It's such a thrill to read the original Greek with the assistance of the English translation on its opposite page. All the experts say that Cavafy's expression and play on words cannot be translated with the same power.

His body of work has been embraced by the European literary community. E.M Forster, W.H. Auden, T.S. Eliot, David Hockney the artist, Robert Dessaux and Lawrence Durrell all acknowledge and reference Cavafy in their writings.

It is perhaps Lawrence Durrell, author of *The Alexandria Quartet* who is most closely aligned with Cavafy's representation of Alexandria. Where Cavafy elicits a sense of place, Durrell magnifies it, as if the Quartet has sprung out of Cavafy's poems. Durrell makes Alexandria the main character in his Quartet.

'The city unwrinkles like an old tortoise and peers about it.'

And Justine, the main character in the first book of The Quartet blames the city for her situation –

'All this is part of an experiment arranged by something else, the city perhaps, or another part of ourselves.'

Durrell has a gift with language as well as the ability to make humidity, pathos and passion leap off the page.

Alexandria Main Station. A deathly heavy dew. The noise of wheels cracking the slime-slithering pavements. Yellow pools of phosphorous light, and corridors of darkness like tears in the dull façade of a stage set. Policemen in the shadows.'

Cavafy, a great poet and Durrell, a gifted novelist find common ground in their fascination with this most ancient of cities.

Copies of both Cavafy's Collected poems and Durrell's The Alexandria Quartet (book 1 Justine) should be available through your Local Public Library.

KCA

(Kastellorizian Council of Australia)

The KCA is the umbrella group for Kastellorizian associations across Australia.

This year, the South Australian branch of KCA have planned a weekend of activities for all financial members who would like to attend the AGM, including a wonderful talk by "Kazzie Fabrics Expert", Geoffrey Conaghan, great grandson of Amirisa (Hatziaagitou) Askitis. Contact Jim Manifis or Tina Kyros for details (tinakyros@gmail.com).

WHEN – 1st & 2nd Oct 2022

WRITER'S PODIUM

The Mystery Destination

By Lefki Kailis

This morning it's hot, humid, and raining. The smog is affecting our breathing and the heavy fumes and odours are assaulting our olfactory senses - nothing less than a heavy night at the speedway in our nostrils. Motorised rickshaws, motorbikes with four aboard, cars, buses and taxis are all steering their way through tight spaces. Just off the main street the putrid stench of rotting food hits our nostrils. There's a mishmash of shanti town housing reminiscent of stacked packs of cards along the brown canal. Adults and children are scouring the debris on the banks for valuables! Such a contrast to our air-conditioned, sanitised hotel! We're glad to be getting out of a metropolis teeming with twenty million people - Jakarta.

Our mini-bus driver Kiki has been assigned to us by our Javanese hosts together with the gift of a three-week exploration of the island. Kiki has been instructed to go to all the places we'd already earmarked when we imagined we'd be backpacking around the island, but today he has a secret destination and we're being held in suspense. Even our son who has mastered a few Bahasa words and phrases and is sitting in the front communicating with Kiki cannot extract details.

We can only be in the moment and marvel at what we see here on the southern coast of the Island – spectacular terraced rice fields following the undulations of the mountains, those great sculptures of human achievement. The Indonesians think nothing of rearranging the landscape. Along the road are teams of workmen removing or realigning chunks of mountain replacing it with parking areas.

In time the road starts to curl - purple, rich pink and white bougainvilleas spread their limbs like octopi, bottlebrushes compete, bonsai flora stay content at the base. It's a blast of colour against the now blue sky. The drive is wondrous - vendors crowd the streets selling everything from paving bricks to rattan and pottery, behind are avocado trees, mango groves, coconut husks stacked for drying, banana plantations and rice paddies. We stop for a pure pawpaw drink and stock up on oranges, bananas, and peanuts.

We begin to climb - up, up, up into the mountains. The temperature falls as mist begins to surround us, the vegetation is changing to palms, ferns, and tall trees. We pull into a large, graveled parking area and an old style, heavily timbered retreat. The tip of the mountain above us is lost in cloud. There's a roar of thunder as we get out of the car and we feel extremely cold.

It's the sound of the raging torrent of a river rumbling over boulders down the incline of the mountain. We shudder. There is an unspoken fear at the power of nature with its great force and superiority. This is our surprise destination.

We enter a large dining room where waiters bear no relationship to the local Indonesia we have come to know. They are turbaned, tailored with silver trays on their right shoulder and starched white napkins draped over their left in a most colonial manner. White and brown people are enjoying exotic food, drink, and company. Some are sitting outside on the elevated balcony overlooking a large Geneva-like-lake. It's something out of a movie. The service is impeccable.

Kiki has retreated to his own quarters. He has politely declined our invitation to eat together and his accommodation has always been in much humbler abodes than ours. After the meal we are escorted to two log cabin bungalows right next to the thunderous, rumbling river. Senses already awakened come into play. From our balconies we see fluorescent lights beaming down on the cascades of water, highlighting the immense sprays as the water thuds into large boulders. Red flowering trees bend towards the light, emitting intoxicating perfumes, ferns droop towards the water and palms dip on either side. Outside we can hardly hear each other talk inside there are welcoming fireplaces alight for us.

Shortly after we settle in there is a knock at the door. One of the impeccably dressed waiters enquires if we would like an evening tea. It arrives a short time later - four delicate fine China cups without handles served on an ornately decorated circular silver tray. The aromatics of cinnamon, clove, and nutmeg waft our way. We sip this most exotic tea and marvel at our good fortune. The conversation is animated - how unexpected an adventure!

The boys return to their bungalow. Slumber takes us even with the too close rumble outside our doors. We do sleep soundly. In the morning we unite again for breakfast.

We adults have already astounded each other by revealing our seductive, brilliantly coloured dreams of enlarged consciousness and to our astonishment our teenage boys also relate their evocative psychedelic overnight ventures.

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The Podium committee will review all contributions before publication and permission to correct spelling and grammar will be sought.

Please send your contributions to:

lkailis@yahoo.com Lefki Kailis

Kalymnos the Island of Sponge Divers

Introduction

Kalymnos, one of the Dodecanese Islands, with a population of around 12,000, is situated in the southeast Aegean Sea around 40km off the Turkish (Bodrum) coast 250km from Castellorizo.



History of Kalymnos

The past history of Kalymnos is comparable to that of the other Dodecanese Islands in that it was inhabited in pre-Minoan times. It was autonomous until they and other Dodecanese Islands succumbed to Alexander the Great and the Macedonian Empire. Following Alexander's death, Ptolemy of Egypt took charge of the Dodecanese Islands. Subsequently, visits by Saints Paul and John inspired inhabitants to take up Christianity and later Byzantium. Kalymnos thrived through the developing Byzantine period. The Knights of St John governed Kalymnos in the 14th century and erected the fortified Castle of Crysocheria for protection against invaders. From 1522 to 1912, nearly a 400-year period, Kalymnos was ruled by Ottoman Turks, then by Italians. The latter took control until nearly the end of World War 2 after which the Germans and British military fought to control Kalymnos and the other Dodecanese Islands. Ensuing battles resulted in catastrophic damage and miseries to the affected populations. Kalymnos was liberated in 1947 and joined the Greek state in 1948.

Kalymnos Island

As a volcanic island, Kalymnos, has less than 20% arable land, hence its *dimos* focussed its attention on the sea as a source of funds, through fabricating boats, fishing, and sponge diving. Sponge diving was a long-standing occupation of Kalymnians. Use of sponges collected from the Aegean Sea are referred to in Homer's epics, the Iliad, and the Odyssey.

Collecting and processing sponges

Early divers from Kalymnos, carrying a mesh bag to collect the sponges, dived naked and weighted with a stone (scandalopetra). The stone was tied to the boat and the diver on a long rope. Prior to diving they took a deep breath then dived into the water. Those that could stay underwater the longest had an advantage. They also had a scythe to cut loose the sponge.

Once collected, the harvested sponges were soaked in water, allowed to partially dry, then de-rooted and trimmed prior to fully drying. Sponge diving expanded rapidly when diving suits (*skafandro*) were introduced in 1865. At its peak over 400 ships were involved in collecting sponges.

Vessels launched from Kalymnos headed as far as Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia to collect sponges.

Medicinal aspects of sponges

Using sponges while bathing may have had some medicinal effects. Did the Kalymnians of the past know this! The live sponge protected itself from predator attacks and microbial infections by releasing defensive chemicals. Today scientists have found over 5000 chemicals from sponges that fight infections and infestations, inflammation and possibly cancer in humans.

Use of sponges

Although sponges are still available, they are mainly sold through touristic enterprises. Unfortunately, they have been replaced by synthetic alternatives. I can recall using a sponge in the bath brought to Australia from Castellorizo by my grandmother Kostantinia. Past uses of sponges included wiping down tables, as a means of trapping drinking water, padding, and even as contraceptives.

By the 1960s the Kalymnos economy, based on sponge diving, progressively deteriorated due to viral diseases affecting the sponges and availability of synthetic alternatives, causing many Kalymnians to migrate abroad including to Darwin, Australia.



Kalymnos today

Kalymnos is still recognised for sponges and their availability. Commercial fishing provides abundant fish and octopus. Tourism and ecotourism are significant. There are religious and archaeological sites and museums to visit as well as numerous safe beaches to swim. Ecotourism includes rock climbing and recreational diving in the clear Aegean Sea. Visits to small nearby islands Telendos and Pserimos are popular for water sports. The main Kalymnos capital/port Pothia, with many cars and boats, is popular for its market and restaurants.

Kalymnos cuisine

Restaurants and tavernas serve inexpensive seafood grilled or fried in extra virgin olive oil together with *Horiatiki* salad. Often squid is hanging ready to be collected for baking or grilling. Popular seafoods include scallops, mussels and devilfish. *Gemista* and roasted lamb (*mououri*) and baked potatoes are popular. Kalymnian bread, cheeses and local honey are a delight. A typical dish available in Kalymnos is *Spiniallo* prepared from marinated sea urchin meat and eaten with a squeeze of lemon juice.

A MOTHER'S LOVE

'A Mother's Love' is an ancient fable found in many cultures, including the folklore of India and Israel. What is the moral of this story? It has a message that Con Kailis would like to share with you.

Re-told by Con G. Kailis

Once upon a time a widow and her son lived by the woods in an old shanti house. The son who was a woodcutter would each morning take his axe and provide wood for the fire and also to sell and save money for food.

One day while chopping wood he was befriended by a gypsy woman who would regularly keep him company and make conversation. After a while the woodcutter fell in love and asked for her hand in marriage, which she gladly accepted. Very happy with himself he hurried home to tell his mother the good news. His mother turned to her son and pleaded with him not to marry the gypsy woman as she would not make him a good wife.

Next day the woodcutter told the gypsy woman that his mother disapproved of the marriage. But he still loved her. The gypsy woman replied, "If you still love me and want to marry me, when you go home tonight and when your mother is asleep, I want you to cut her heart out and bring it to me".

Next day he was so happy running into the woods to deliver his mother's heart. He tripped over a log and his mother's heart sprung out on to the ground. There was a silence, then a voice came from the heart:

"Oh my son. Are you alright? Did you hurt yourself?"



The Goose Story

Another submission from Con "Goose" Kailis is a piece that is regularly used by groups in their leadership talks. It was originally transcribed from a speech given by American Anthropologist, Angeles Arrien, at the 1991 Organizational Development Network, and is based on the work of Milton Olson.

Next time you see geese flying along in a V formation, you might like to consider what science has discovered. As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in V formation, the whole flock adds at least 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own. If people share a common direction and support each other, they can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are travelling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone ... and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front. If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies to the front. It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs with people or with geese flying south.

Geese honk from behind to encourage those up at the front to keep up their speed. What do we say when we honk from behind? Finally, and this is important - when a goose gets sick or is wounded by gunshots and falls out of formation, two other geese fall out with that goose and follow it down to lend help and protection. They stay with the fallen goose until it is able to fly or until it dies. Only then do they launch out on their own or with another formation to catch up their group.

If we have the same sense as a goose, we will stand by each other when we need help.



Con "Goose" Kailis with his family at his 85th birthday

CAZZIE TRIBUTE

By Anita Verne

Nicholas Constantine Nicholas



Nicholas Constantine Nicholas (Hatziyiannakis) was fondly known to many of us as “Nickolite”. He was born in Perth on September 21st, 1935, the eldest son of Constantine Nicholas and Despa (nee Papalazaros). Nick first lived at 137 Lake St, Northbridge where he met his childhood and lifelong friends “**Info**” (Leffie Gelavis), “**Goose**” (Con Kailis), “**Jackson**” (Jack Kailis) and “**Monty**” (Tony Bellos). Many colourful stories and memories were created by these young men as they grew up together. In 1958 Nick married Mary Sertis and they raised two children, a son (Con) and a daughter (Desiree). He loved his family and friends, and adored his three grandchildren, Ella, Lachlan and Mia.

Nick was always drawn towards community affairs due to the influence of his father who was involved in the Greek community especially the Castellorizian Association. From an early age, Nick was extremely proud of the Greek community and wanted to contribute and keep it together, which was important at the time, as many Greeks were settling into the Australian way of life.

The Castellorizian Association

Nick joined the Castellorizian Association of WA in 1958 and remained a member until he passed away on the 10th of March 2022, a total of 64 years. In 1983 at age 48 Nick was elected to the management committee of the Association and this was the beginning of decades of outstanding active service to the Castellorizian Association.

Nick’s managerial skills were quickly recognised and in 1985 he became president. His two years in this role (1985-1987) were very busy as the Association was approaching its 75th anniversary. Nick presided over a committee which organised a week of celebratory activities which included a “World Conference of Castellorizian Associations” and a “Gala Dinner Dance”. The event was recorded on video along with a historical record of the first 75 years published in Greek and English.

After a six-year break, Nick stepped up to the mark again when he was most needed in 1993. He returned to the position of president, to steer the Association through a difficult 10-year period where he was faced with many challenges including declining membership and financial debt. The committee of six under Nick’s presidency assumed a caretaker role and in 1994 the committee reduced to five. Despite the small committee size, this diligent group worked hard to develop the Association’s social and financial success and paid all debts within six years.

On a social level, Nick and his committee hosted a number of book launches: “Castellorizo an Illustrated History” (1994); “Embers on the Sea” and “Megisti in the Antipodes” (1995); “Orliff the Gentle Giant” (1997) and “The Knight’s Castle on Kastellorizo” (1999), with the authors in attendance. To keep the social momentum going, they held regular Friday Happy Hour gatherings with guest speakers. In 2002, the Castellorizian Association of WA successfully nominated Dr Ken C. Michael for *The Kastellorizian of the Year*. This was also the year of the first Perth Glendi, in which the Association participated.

Nick did not rest after his presidency. He held the position of Chairman of Trustees of the Castellorizian Association for 16 years (2003–2019). From 2005 to 2008 he was joint chairman of the Renovations/Finance sub-committee with Bartley Kakulas, when over \$90,000 was raised. In 1997 Nick suggested producing a book of family histories and subsequently “Commemorative Reflections” was published in time for the Castellorizian Centenary 2012 anniversary. Nick was part of the steering committee for the 100-year celebrations.

Other Associations and Clubs

Nick was dedicated and passionate in supporting the Greek-Castellorizian Community and this carried over into his sporting involvement. He joined the Hellenic Youth Association in 1951, which was a great outlet for Greek youth in that era. He played most of his sport with Hellenic groups spanning 50 years, including football, cricket (24 years), softball, golf (10 years) and lawn bowls.

In 1957 a special event occurred when the football team took the train to Melbourne where they were warmly welcomed. They played footy against the Victorian Hellenic Team and brought home the trophy to a cheering crowd.

A cherished moment for Nick was being a member of the 1960 Hellenic Football Premiership Team in the Perth Sunday League with his lifelong friends, Info, Goose and Jackson. Before the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, Nick was on the organizing committee to welcome the Greek Olympic Team who trained in Perth.

Nick was awarded **Life Membership** for the Hellenic Football Club, Hellenic Cricket Club and Hellenic Lawn Bowls Club.

In 1997 Nick Nicholas was presented with an **Honorary Life President** award from the Castellorizian Association of WA.

In 2011 Nick was selected from across the nation for “**Kastellorizian of the Year**”, the premier award given by the Kastellorizian Association of Victoria. Nick likened it to winning the “Brownlow Medal” and was extremely honoured and humbled to have received it. This honour was the ultimate

recognition for his achievements and contributions throughout so many years.

The Kastellorizian Association of WA will always remember the commitment of Nick Nicholas, his passion and his remarkable achievements. R.I.P. “Nickolite”.



WA Recipients of the *Kastellorizian of the Year* Award:
Nicholas Nicholas 2011, Ken Michael 2002, Byron Kakulas 1995, Jim Manifis 2014 (Photo taken 2015)

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	Sava & Anita Filmer	Victor Vlahos
March	Sava & Anita Filmer	Nick Nicholas
	Anthony & Jessie Zempilas	Rose Boyatzis
	Eva Boyatzis	Nick Nicholas
	Lola Tsolakis & Family	Nick Nicholas
	Theo & Loula Kakulas	Nick Nicholas
	Angelina Gelavis	Nick Nicholas
April	The family of Michael and Anne Kannis	Michael G. Kailis
	Jerry and Christine Ventouras	Nick Nicholas
	Steve & Helen Anastasas	Nick Nicholas
	Michael & Faye Manifis	Nick Nicholas
	Bartley (dec) & Nellie Kakulas	Nick Nicholas
	Con & Eva Magriplis	Nick Nicholas
	Despa McDonnell	Nick Nicholas
	Michael & Faye Manifis	Angelina Christodoulou
	Anthony & Jessie Zempilas	Angelina Christodoulou
	Eva Boyatzis	Michael G. Kailis
	Stan & Lefki Kaiis & Family	Michael G Kailis
	Katherine Kalaf	Michael G Kailis
May	Theo Mathews	Michael G Kailis
	Steve Gabriel	Michael G Kailis
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	Halikis family: Rosalind, Nick, Maureen, Georgene and children (California, USA)	Michael Tsolakis

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DATE	DONORS
October	Byron & Valerie Kakulas
November	Kastellorizian Ladies' Association (Megisti)
November	Karageorge Family

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