

Newsletter of the
Castellorizian
Association of WA Inc
160 Anzac Road
Mt Hawthorn WA 6016
Tel: 94432110

**FORTHCOMING
EVENTS AT CAZZIE
HOUSE**

- **20 Jan. Happy Hour
Friday Dinner**
- **22 Jan. 4pm
Presentation**
- **28 Jan. 10am
Kouvenda**
- **19 Feb 6pm
Apokries**
- **26 Feb Splash
Kouvenda**
- **20 -23 Oct KCA
Perth Conference**

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to submit articles or
social news by April 2023

Megisti Messenger

January 16th 2023 Volume 16, Issue 1

NATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS

The National Kastellorizian Council of Australia Conference is in Perth
October 20 – 23 see page 10.

2022/2023 Castellorizian Association of WA Committee of Management

Front Row: Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn (Secretary), Allan Cresswell (Vice President), Jim Manifis (President), Steve Filmer (Treasurer).
Back Row: John Kotzas, Elouise Constantine, Tony Kostarelas, Voula Terzoudi, Con Magriplis, Helen Anastasas. Insert: Michael Kakulas (absent).

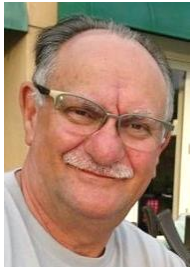


**The Great Cazzie APOKRIES BBQ is
coming...**

**Michael Anastas Bouzouki Band
and**

International Singer Apostolos Fotiadis

....see page 9 for details



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to begin by wishing all our members and their families a Happy New Year. May it be prosperous and healthy.

Since our opening of Castellorizian House on 17 July 2022 we have held a number of events and functions that have been very successful. I am sure our members are quite pleased with the improvements that we have made to our property. The opening day which was well attended by our members and our distinguished guests was very pleasing.

The City of Perth Lord Mayor Basil Zempilas launched the publication of "The Cazzie Connection" at Castellorizian House. We should be very proud of David Koutsoukis and Dr. John Yiannakis on their publication.

We have had a number of Kouvendes over the last few months and it is very pleasing to see a number of people in attendance and showing a lot of interest in the event. We also held a Kouvenda for the children's Christmas party and it was very pleasing to see so many smiles on their little faces, especially when Santa Claus arrived. The children's Christmas party was also attended by the Consul of Greece, Georgina Karasiotou, and her family.

On 23 October 2022 we held our AGM where all matters on the agenda were discussed including the changes to our constitution which were passed by our members. There were some issues which were brought to our attention which the new committee will review over the next 12 months. We have a new member, Elouise Constantine and we welcome back Allan Cresswell to the committee. The President's Award for 2022 was issued to Anita Verne for her dedication to our association in 2021-22.

We also held our own Christmas function with over 100 people in attendance which was a huge success. The music by Michael Anastas was very entertaining.

In reference to the Happy Hour which we are now holding once a month, there is a concern that the attendance by our members needs to increase dramatically for this event to continue. The Happy Hour has been operating for over 25 years and it would be a shame for this event to cease. Your support is crucial. Any member is welcome to attend and you can contact me on 0433 165 601.

Our next function, the Aprokies BBQ, is on Sunday 19 February 2023 commencing at 6pm. This event on our social calendar is a highlight for our Association. Tables will need to be reserved for this event.

The KCA Conference is definitely proceeding and will commence on Friday 20 October and conclude on 23 October. There will be a number of guest speakers and we are hoping the Archbishop will be in attendance.

On behalf of the committee and our members I wish to pass on my condolences to Jenny Zounis on the passing of her husband Nicholas, who is also my first cousin. I would also like to pass on my condolences to the Petridis family on the passing of George. Both these members were consistent in attending our Happy Hour on Friday nights and they will be sadly missed.

Jim Manifis
President



L to R: David Koutsoukis, Hon Dr Tony Buti MLA, (Multicultural Affairs); Dr John Yiannakis, Basil Zempilas (City of Perth Lord Mayor) at the launch of the book *The Cazzie Connection*.



L to R: Members Maria and Tony Koufos with His Grace, Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea on 8 January at Matilda Bay for the Epiphany Celebrations 2023.

SOCIAL NEWS

We welcome social news. Please email a photo and your desired text to the editor anita@halmac.com.au (M 0707 922 783) or to one of the committee members - Anita Verne

VALE

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of:

- PYNES (nee Gelavis) Sevie (Sylvia) 1 Sept. 2022
- CHRISTOPHER (nee Ogilvie) Lynette 2 Sept. 2022
- HALDOUPIS Sandra 8 Sept. 2022
- COUANIS (nee Liveris) Christine 17 Sept. 2022
- ANASTASAKIS Dr Agapitos (Jack) 22 Oct. 22
- LIVERIS (nee Palmer) Ethel 27 Oct. 2022
- PASSARIS (nee Strika) Gloria 1 Nov. 2022
- PALASSIS (nee Toussaint) Crystal (Jill) 20 Nov. 2022
- CAJAGLIS Manuel 28 Nov. 2022
- ANDROS Andrew (Andy) 30 Nov. 2022
- ZOUNIS Nicholas 14 Dec. 2022
- PETRIDIS George 17 Dec. 2022
- GRAMMENOS Ilias 20 Dec. 2022
- FROSSOS George 24 Dec. 2022
- MALLIS Steve (Darby) 1 Jan. 2023 Sydney
- PHATOUIROS John - Jan. 2023

BIRTHS

Dion and Allie Saratsis welcomed their second baby boy, Charlie Theo Saratsis, on Thursday, 18 August 2022. A beautiful baby brother for two-year old Jeremy Simon.

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations on your birthday:

- ❖ Sef (Persephone) Lazarakis - 97 on 12 Nov. 2022
- ❖ Chrissie Filmer - 96 on 17 October 2022
- ❖ Stella Kazazis - 92 on 13 Sept. 2022
- ❖ Katie Bellos - 91 on 1 Sept. 2022
- ❖ Marina Petrelis - 85 on 14 Sept. 2022

Milestone birthday: 80th

- ❖ Tony Elder - 80 on 19 June, 2022
- ❖ Michael Manifis - 80 on 13 September 2022
- ❖ Florence Elder (nee Manolas) - 80 on 2 Nov. 2022
- ❖ Mike Litis - 80 on 17 Dec. 2022

Milestone Birthday: 70th

- ❖ Cathy Bouhla - on 19 Sept. 2022
- ❖ Cathy Raftopoulos - on 21 October 2022
- ❖ Jennifer Kannis - on 1 Dec. 2022

Milestone Birthday: 60th

- ❖ Jacky Kyros - 60 on 30 Sept. 2022

Dr Agapitos (Jack) Anastasakis



Agapitos Jack Anastasakis

8/7/1948 – 22/10/2022

a gentle, kind & loving man,
who had a big smile & a great zest for life

Despite ongoing life-long health issues Jack made the best of his situation and grew up a fine young man. When his father died in 1971 Jack (at only 22 years of age) took on the role of living with and supporting his mother, Maria, until she passed in 1999. He married Jill in 2000 and she became a wonderful support for Jack and they had many happy years together.

Jack was a loving brother to his sister Despo and brother Jim and their spouses. He was close to and supportive of his nieces and nephews and made many friends during his life. Everyone loved Jack. He was always encouraging, caring and loving.

Jack served on the committee of our Association and was secretary during the 1990s.

Allan Cresswell (cousin)

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to:

- ❖ Arthur and Katrina VENTOURAS
- ❖ George and Soula VOGAS

Florence Elder (nee Manolas) as a child



Happy Birthday



Tony Elder

SOCIAL NEWS

97th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

For Sef Lazarakis, a special message from your family :

"Congratulations on your 97th birthday. With pride and gratitude, we send you many best wishes and lots of love. xxx"



60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Arthur and Katrina on their wedding day, 1962

Congratulations to Arthur and Katrina (Kailis) who were married on December 2, 1962, at the Greek Orthodox Church of Saints Constantine and Helene in Northbridge. Their wedding reception was held at the Embassy Ballroom.

For their anniversary they enjoyed a wonderful celebration with their children, grandchildren and great grandchild.

SURPRISE 70th PARTY for CATHY

After a beautiful holiday overseas, Cathy and Costa arrived home to a wonderful surprise 70th birthday party for Cathy Raftopoulos with her very close friends and family.



A family photo with her husband, Costa and children Joanne Georgiou and Spiro Raftopoulos.

60th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Congratulations to George and Soula Vogas.

George always said he wanted to do the Sydney Harbour Bridge climb. So, on November 4, 2022 George and Soula celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on top of the bridge. A fantastic experience for them both.

MICHAEL MANIFIS CELEBRATES 80 YEARS

Michael Manifis turned 80 years old on 13 September 2022 and celebrated with a lunch at Hamptons, City Beach with extended family. A wonderful afternoon was had by all celebrating Michael reaching this very special milestone, surrounded by family which was the greatest gift of all.



60th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS



Photo: Jacky (front) with niece Simone (left), great niece Elainie, sister Tina, and Jarrad with great niece Cameron.

The baby of our Kyros family, Jacky, turned 60 on 30 September 2022.

While we were at the Kastellorizian Council of Australian Mini Conference in Adelaide, we celebrated on her birthday night with dinner at Sol Rooftop, in the Eos casino, and with a few drinks in the days that followed.

Then, back in Perth, we went to the Epicurean at Crown Towers with family. This was a double celebration as Jacky's niece Simone, turned 40 in the same month.

MICHAEL LITIS'S 80th BIRTHDAY



On Saturday evening, 17 December, 185 family members and guests attended the Royal Perth Golf Club to help Mike celebrate his 80th birthday.

It was a joyful occasion with everyone enjoying the sounds of the Human Highway band interspersed with Greek music played by an accompanying DJ.

The mood of the evening saw many guests on the dance floor enjoying themselves and taking the evening beyond midnight, making it an unforgettable evening for Mike.

HUMANITARIAN WORK RECOGNISED

Assistant Director in multilateral policy writing, Christina Yiannakis (middle daughter of John and Angela), is an accomplished diplomat and an expert in gender and communications with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). In June 2022, she was awarded the Australian Operational Service Medal (Civilian)* in recognition of her service to the evacuation operation of Afghans after the fall of Kabul in August 2021. Christina joined a small diplomatic team in the United Arab Emirates to assist the Australian Government's evacuation of around 4,100 people fleeing the Taliban.

*The Australian Operational Service Medal is an Australian Government Honour medal recognising service by Australian Defence Force personnel on designated hazardous operations.



CASTELLORIZIAN VOLUNTEERS ACKNOWLEDGED



PHOTO: Vincent Council Mayor, Emma Cole, with Anita Verne and Steve Filmer, who represented the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia at the City of Vincent function.

Each year the Vincent Council takes nominations for "local heroes" in recognition of the volunteer work they do in the community. They are celebrated at the Mayoral Community Volunteer Christmas Sundowner, which last year was held on Thursday 8 December 2022 at the Leederville Hotel.

Jim Manifis as president of the Association was one of the people nominated and he was thanked for the building work achieved during the COVID period, in particular the Community Room which provides a specialized room for use as a meeting space and for small gatherings, and a Castellorizian culture and history library. Emma Cole said: "We recognise the people who give Vincent our people power, personality and passion. All of these Vincent volunteers have helped drive positive change in our community and we say - thank you!"

UPCOMING EVENTS

You are invited to



A CAZZIE EXPERIENCE



with world-renowned puzzle expert
and passionate Castellorizian



DR PANTAZIS HOULIS

Castellorizian House

160 Anzac Road, Mt Hawthorn

Sunday 22 January 2023 – 4pm

Dr Pantazis Houlis is a mathematician and engineer who combines his love of puzzles with his passion for Castellorizo.

Pantazis is the founder of the Megisti Puzzle Museum, member of the prestigious International Puzzle Party, and in the last 16 months has organised four Puzzle Festivals (two in Castellorizo, one in Patras and one at the Greek Parliament's Library in Athens), from which the traditional culture of Castellorizo is exported to the rest of Greece and the world.

Enjoy a unique Cazzie Experience and discover how Pantazis is gaining world-wide attention through puzzles and his passion for Castellorizo.

Light refreshments provided.

Please RSVP to Amanda Kailis 0409 656 400 by Wed 18 Jan 2023

A special thank you to the Castellorizian Association of Western Australia for their support of this event.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Cazzie Kouvendes

Back for 2023!

Join us at Cazzie House for a coffee and a chat on the **last Saturday of each month** from **10.00am until 1.00pm**

A family friendly gathering with something for everyone:

- Greek music, glyka and coffee
- Cazzie company, conversation and connection
- Children's activities – see our special ***February Summer Splash*** below
- Access to CAWA library and Community Room
- Purchase CAWA memorabilia, books and update membership
- Talks and demonstrations
- and much more!

Saturday January 28 Kouvenda (10am-1pm)



Saturday February 26 Kouvenda (10am-1pm)

Summer Splash



Lots of old-fashioned fun for kids:

Sprinklers and the hose ... buckets and spades ... cool drinks and ice cream
(bathers, hats & sunscreen required)

Saturday March 25 Kouvenda (10am-1pm)

Greek Independence Day



UPCOMING EVENTS



The Castellorizian Association of WA Inc

APOKRIES BBQ 2023



SUNDAY 19 February
6:00 pm

Under the Stars at
CASTELLORIZIAN HOUSE
160 Anzac Rd, Mt Hawthorn

Includes BBQ, Salads, Drinks
And the famous Castellorizian Katoumari

ADULTS - \$65
12 to 16 years - \$30
CHILDREN under 12 – free

Music by Michael Anastas Band and by special arrangements, the wonderful international singer Apostolos Fotiadis

Early Bookings Essential - RSVP by Sunday 12 February

Jim 0433 165 601, Allan 0413 958 500 or Margaret-Anne 0419 831 434

Please email ma.manifis@gmail.com

with the names in your group

Also advise of any dietary requirements.



Save the Date



Kastellorizian Council of Australia

Perth Conference

Friday 20th to Monday 23rd

October 2023

“HER ODYSSEY AND BEYOND”

The Kastellorizian Association of WA is hosting the 2023 Kastellorizian Council of Australia conference in Perth in October.

The objective of the conference is to recognise the important contribution made by Kastellorizian women in shaping the lives and destiny of Kastellorizians both while living on the island and around the world.

Preliminary Program

Day 1:	Friday, 20 th October 2023 <u>Welcome to “Her Odyssey”</u>	Registration and official opening followed by a casual meal.
Day 2:	Saturday, 21 st October 2023 <u>Women Who Inspired Us</u>	Speakers and a casual dinner in the evening.
Day 3:	Sunday, 22 nd October 2023 <u>Women of our Future</u>	Church service followed by speakers in the afternoon. Gala Dinner
Day 4:	Monday, 23 rd October 2023	Optional free day to see the sites of Perth – Further detail to come.

The program will be finalised in the coming months when further detail will be provided

Men's Happy Hour

A father, a son, an uncle, four nephews and five cousins, celebrating a get together at the Cazzie Men's monthly Happy Hour on Friday 23 September 2022.

L to R: Basil Mistilis, Anastasios Tzortzis, Michael Mistilis, Dean Mistilis, Arthur Mistilis, Lear Rompotis



MONTHLY MEN'S FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR

Cazzie House is the perfect place to have a get together to celebrate any occasion including birthdays, promotions and so on, with your sons, sons-in-law, grandsons and friends. On very special occasions it is customary for the celebrant to bring some wine. Menu: mezethes, entree, mains, salad and dessert prepared and served by Prokopi and Nicholette Koutlis. Drinks included. Next dinner: Friday 20 January. Keep an eye out for advice about the next Men's Friday Happy Hour in your email.



From 5.30 for 6.00pm start
Please notify Jim Manifis (M: 0433 165 601) by the Wed. prior.

PAST EVENTS

CHANGES TO THE RULES

Last year the Castellorizian Association of WA met at an Extraordinary General Meeting on 17 July and at the Annual General Meeting on 23 October where several changes were made according to the constitution rules. Trustee, Kevin Kannis, thanked solicitor Sofia Kailis who provided legal advice to the Association.

The changes were made because it was becoming increasingly difficult to operate under the requirement that all the executive be Castellorizian or of Castellorizian descent. We hope that the changes will encourage a broader group from the membership to be involved with the management of this successful Association.

Definitions

- Regular members* - Persons born on Castellorizo or descendants of a person born on Castellorizo
Ordinary members - Persons married to Castellorizians or to Castellorizian descendants
Associate members - Persons not qualified as Regular or Ordinary members.

The new rules that have been passed by members and submitted to the Associations and Charities Branch, Consumer Protection, WA Government Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, are 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.

5.6 Subsection 5.5 shall not be amended unless otherwise approved by a five sixth ($\frac{5}{6}$) majority of the members of the Association present at an AGM or EGM

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)

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.

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

AGM – Treasurer’s Overview

Steve Filmer

During the 2022 year, activities at Castellorizian House were restricted due to renovations, as we did not have use of the premises while the builder was on site. Our income was reduced, but at the same time we had to outlay funds to complete renovations and repairs that were not covered by the OMI grant. We also had water, electricity and council expenses. Hence a depletion in savings was expected.

This ended better than expected, thanks to committee and non-committee people who helped by volunteering their time

and donating to CAWA during this period. The renovations were completed, the grant was acquitted, and the Association is in a stable financial position. Our goal now is to start making use of the beautiful premises we have created.

The year 2023 will have its own challenges in getting CAWA back to full operational mode and providing members with the incentive to utilize our club premises. We should also consider opportunities that may be available in attracting people in the wider community to enjoy both Castellorizian House and our hospitality.



PAST EVENTS

OXI DAY

“Oxi” Day was commemorated on Sunday 6 November 2022 with a wreath- laying ceremony at the State War Memorial, Kings Park in Perth. The service included involvement by the Greek Presidential Guard who were visiting Western Australia.



Helen Anastasas and Allan Cresswell with the Castellorizian Association of W.A. wreath.



Evzones from the Greek Presidential Guard – changing guard and paying tribute at the memorial.

CAZZIE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

It was a full house with much revelry on Sunday 11 December for the Christmas party at Castellorizian House where members and friends celebrated with Michael Anastas’s band, songs, raffles and jokes, and the most delicious lamb-on-the-spit we have ever tasted! Followed by plum pudding of course. Many thanks to the new owners of **NEW LOOK DRYCLEANERS** for their continued support.



Michael Anastas with his bouzouki and some fancy foot-work.



The committee cheer-leaders encourage the carol competition.
L to R: Helen Anastasas, Elouise Constantine, Tony Kostarelas (MC Anita Verne), John Kotzas, Jim Manifis, Con Magriplis, Allan Cresswell.

PAST EVENTS

KOUVENDA CHRISTMAS – Saturday 26 November

Father Christmas appeared to approach Cazzie House in a helicopter this year, cheered on by our Jingle-Bells chorus and welcomed by our Beautiful Christmas Belle, Mia Gelavis. Before we knew it he was whizzing around the corner in a snow-white Mercedes Benz AMG C63 sleigh with his elf.



Santa in his sleigh driven by Xmas elf Sue Kannis.



The verandah chorus entices Father Christmas from the North Pole.



Christmas creativity – colouring and stickers
Gregory di Pietro and his cousin Julian Vlahos



The 'Sausage-Sizzle Squad' provided BBQ food of all varieties.
L to R: John Kotzas, Con Magriplis, Arthur Mistilis and Stan Kailis



Kate Magriplis receiving her gift from
Father Christmas.



WINNERS ALL

At the Cazzie Christmas Kouvenda, many people contributed to the festivities, the fun and to the stalls. It is this atmosphere of giving that makes the Christmas season so enjoyable and our gatherings so successful. We are all winners! But a special winner was **Elaine Palassis**, who won the raffle on the day. Elaine is a very deserving winner as she has been a wonderful contributor and supporter of the Kouvenda since its inception in July 2019 and has attended every Kouvenda, except for Covid. Elaine loves writing poems, so we present this one as a piece of New Year's Wisdom.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

By Elaine Palassis
(1 Jan. 2023)



The days flew faster than we could see
And again Covid brought us to our knee
What did we do with the year now past
Did we make memories that will last?
I know we made many plans
But again Covid took it from our hands
So we need to look forward and not the past
And pray Covid weakens and leaves at last
Did we travel freely? Well some did
But we stayed home as we were bid
Did we wear masks when we were out?
Did we wear them without a doubt
So we weathered that storm as best we could
And another year of this will put us off our food
So let's look to the future and ask what will it bring
For some it will be travel and that's a fine thing
Some will move house and embrace the change
For change is good and should always be in range
I like to change routines regularly
And make new connections and wait to see
Are these changes and connections good for me
Well as I said we must wait and see
So let's plan for tomorrow and live for the day
For nothing is certain but we can't delay
To live with delay stops us from moving on
We miss opportunities to have some fun
So let's look forward with hope and joy
And plan for an opportunity to say ships ahoy
Or to board a plane and fly into the blue
That's something I love - how about you?
So happy birthday to the bright new year
And be grateful we are still here
To eat and drink and to be here again
With those we love and with no pain
Lift those glasses and toast this day
For it will never again come our way
So Happy Happy New Year to all
Lift your glasses and have a ball

PAST EVENTS

CAZZIE COOKING CLASSES

Finikia

By Katie Thiveos

Since the Castellorizian House renovations were completed, the Cazzie Cooking Class recommenced on Saturday 10 September 2022. Participants were fortunate to have Rose Kalaf, assisted by her daughter Despene, demonstrating her variation of the Greek biscuits, finikia.

The finikia we made were delicious biscuits flavoured with orange, nuts, spices, and then cooled and dipped into a hot honey syrup. Rose aptly showed the group a few variations in making the finikia, including inserting nuts or a slice of date in the centre and coating the biscuits in either nuts or coconut. The finished finikia smelled, looked and tasted amazing and were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

After the demonstration, members of the cooking class enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea and the chance to catch up with each other. We also had the opportunity to admire the recent renovations and the newly established Nick C. Nicholas Community Room.

Thank you to Helen and her team for their ongoing commitment to the Cassie Cooking Class. Your energy, time and effort in preserving generations of family recipes and stories are very much appreciated.



L to R (front): Angela Elfis, Libby Colyvas, Sandra Agapitos, Despene Kalaf, Tina Kyros, Rose Kalaf.



L to R: Pam Andony, Phyllis Samiotis, Mary Raftopoulos, Rose Kalaf, Despene Kalaf, Eva Magriplis



L to R: (back) Mary Raftopoulos, Stacey Doucas, Margaret Thiveos, Tina Kyros, Katie Thiveos, Anastasia Sipsas, Siena Parissis, Stephanie Meagher, Jan Panotidis.

L to R (front): Phyllis Samiotis, Libby Colyvas, Sylvia Horner, Helen Naoum

School Holidays Cazzie Cooking Class

By Ellie Anastasas

On Monday, October 3, during school holidays my yiayia (Helen Anastasas) held a cooking class where we made Chicken Souvlakia Wraps. We came into the newly renovated Castellorizian House which looks fantastic. When everyone had arrived, we went to the demonstration table at the front where yiayia showed us how to prepare the marinated chicken for the souvlakia. Oil, lemon juice, salt and garlic are mixed with the chicken and left to marinate. We were also shown how to skewer the cut chicken pieces (the trick is to leave space between them so they cook properly and to wet your skewers so they don't burn on the grill or barbecue). Archie Andony also volunteered to show us how to cook the kebabs on the barbeque which was done outside.

While our chicken kebabs were being cooked, we went back indoors where we were shown how to thinly slice the tomatoes, lettuce, and red onion. After preparing our own vegetables, we were shown by Stacey Korovesi how to make her very tasty tzatziki. Once all the chicken kebabs were cooked, we assembled our souvlaki with the kebabs, tzatziki, lettuce, tomato, onion and oven baked chips.

We enjoyed our delicious souvlaki on the grass area out the front of the Castellorizian House.

It was a lovely idea to learn how to cook a favourite Greek food and enjoy the company of others.



Archie Andony barbecuing the chicken kebabs for the class.



CAZZIE COOKING CLASSES

Christmas Treats: Skordalia - Octopus with Ouzo - Saganaki

By Theona Mitaros

On a beautiful sunny day in early November the Cazzie Cooking Class held its final demonstration and Christmas party.

Despite the last few years of interruptions, whether that be COVID-19 or renovations to Cazzie House, the cooking class has maintained a loyal and ever-growing following. It is always such a wonderful opportunity to gather together generations of family and friends in their shared love of creating, cooking and eating food.

As we all know, food is more than fuel for Greeks and Philhellenes alike. It reflects our culture, our history and our shared experiences...it is at the heart of the Greek home.

For the final class many thanks go to Voula Terzoudi for her time showing different methods in the making of skordalia.

Amongst the usual ingredients, Voula also added walnuts and used only bread.

Thanks also to Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn who demonstrated how to prepare, marinate and cook octopus, with ouzo as the standout ingredient. Margaret-Anne also showed how to cook saganaki using kefalograviera cheese in a light beer batter.

Voula and Margaret-Anne achieved the near impossible task of teaching new ideas to a class of great cooks who truly appreciated their take on well-known classics.

Once again thank you to Helen Anastasas and her wonderful team; without you all, none of this would be possible.

Wishing you all a happy and safe New Year.



Helen Anastasas and Voula Terzoudi



Con Magriplis barbecuing the octopus for the class.



Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn demonstrating

Christina's Kouzina

Many of us these days have food intolerances and allergies. Tina Kyros has spent years changing recipes to accommodate the various food-needs for arthritis and allergies for not only herself but also for those around her. She has generously agreed to share some of her adaptations.



Savoury Red Bean and Orange Sweet Potato Keftedes

(Gluten free and dairy free)

INGREDIENTS

100g tinned red beans
1 ½ cups cooked orange sweet potato
2 Tbs finely diced onion
1 Tbs finely cut coriander
2 Tbs finely cut parsley
1 Tbs fresh dill
1 Tbs oregano
1 beaten egg mixed well
½ cup rice flour

METHOD

Mash potatoes, drained red beans, add onion, coriander, parsley, dill, oregano and beaten egg.
Mix together and add salt & pepper to taste.
Use a small spoon to make balls.
Lightly roll balls in rice flour and pan fry.

Symi, the island of Panormitis

This article continues the coverage of the Dodecanese islands. To visit these islands, even for a day, Rhodes is an excellent take-off point.

Symi is one of the 12 main Dodecanese Islands under the Rhodes regional unit. It is around 40km from Rhodes, 425km from Piraeus and only a stones-throw from the Turkish coast.



Like Kastellorizo, it is mountainous and with a harbour town (*Gialo*), also called Symi, and an upper town (*Horio*), Ano Symi. There are smaller hamlets and beaches close to the sea often surrounded by the natural landscapes and mountainous terrain. Characteristic to Symi is the multicoloured neoclassical homes of the *Gialo*.



Symi demographics

Symi has a permanent population of around 2500, much less than the 22,500 in its heyday when the economy was based around fishing and sponge diving. Today, tourism is the major industry where the population swells to around 6,000.

Gastronomy and cuisine

Symi's food is characterised as vast and flavoursome with the added pleasure of eating at tavernas and cafes taking in majestic views

Symi is recognised for its quintessential tiny shrimp, *Simiako garidaki*. It inhabits the waters of the southern Aegean Sea that surrounds the Dodecanese islands including Kastellorizo where this shrimp is also found. Both male and female shrimp are found in deep waters, but in summer, female shrimp spawn in shallower, warmer waters.

This shrimp is bright red in colour, sweet in flavour and crunchy when cooked in olive oil. They are eaten whole without being peeled. Preparation of the raw shrimp for eating includes seasoning with salt and pepper and dusting with corn starch. Olive oil is heated in a pan or deep fryer to a temperature of around 180°C in which the shrimps are cooked for one minute.

Seafood dishes abound but a must is the **deep-fried fish balls**. **Goat on the spit** with roast potatoes is a treat. **Spanakopita** is another favourite as are **chickpeas with mushrooms and dill** and **lachanodolmades** made with white cabbage. A traditional specialty dish is **gaelopita** or **atherinopita** - a pita stuffed with very small fish called atherines cooked with olive oil, onions, or eggs. **Bread rings** with Greek salad, and rusks are a popular sideline.



Sweets include **Akoumia Symiaka**, a type of doughnut. They are prepared using flour, yeast, salt, sugar, and water. Once the dough is prepared, portions are rolled flat. Boiled rice flavoured with ouzo or orange is placed in the middle, then rolled into balls. These are pan or deep fried in olive oil before being dusted with icing sugar. These sweets are celebratory and eaten after births, christenings, engagements, and weddings.

Panormitis Monastery

A visit to the famous distinctive Holy Monastery of Archangel Michael Panormitis in southern Symi is a must do! It is visited daily by Greeks and non-Greeks who yearn for good health, safety, and fertility. Possibly built some seven hundred years ago, it is home for a myriad of paintings and icons from the Byzantine period created by Nikitas and Michaelos Karakostiadis. The monastery has two museums and a library covering ecclesiastic, historic and folk topics. An annual religious festival is held at the Monastery on November 8th attended by locals and pilgrims.

All editions of the *Megisti Messenger* are available to members, who've submitted email addresses, to view in COLOUR
Type into your browser: www.cazziewa.org.au and go to "News"



The Castellorizian Ladies Association (Megisti) of Western Australia Inc.

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AWARD

The Castellorizian Ladies Association held their AGM on Saturday, 12 November 2022 and the Secretary, Mrs Betty Palioudakis was presented with an 'Honorary Life Membership Award' in recognition of her outstanding contribution and support towards our Association for the past 22 years. Betty has fulfilled the role of secretary for 16 years. Congratulations on this great achievement and we wish you all the best for your continued service!

PHOTO Right: Mrs Betty Palioudakis receiving her Honorary Life Membership Award from President Fay Katris.



CHRISTMAS CHEER AT PAGODA

The Castellorizian Ladies Association (Megisti) of W.A. held their 53rd Annual Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, 6 December 2022 in the ballroom at Pagoda Resort and Spa in Como.

His Grace, Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea, honoured us with his presence and blessed the tables. Guests enjoyed an à la carte lunch and a wonderful afternoon was had by all.

The committee contributed a great amount of time and effort in organising this event and they wish to thank all members who attended and generous donors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Wishing all our members a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and we look forward to seeing you at our next function.



PHOTO ABOVE

Committee (L to R): Elaine Palassis (Vice-President), Jenny Anastas, Betty Palioudakis (Secretary), Rose Kalaf (Treasurer), Fay Katris (President), Karen Tsapazis, Christine Drimatis, Stacey Doucas.



PHOTO LEFT Christmas Lunch

(L to R): Angela Lazidis, Arthur Katris; His Grace, Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea; Fay Katris, Father Terry, Presvitera Stamatia, Consul Georgia Karasiotou, Paul Afkos OAM; Jessie Zempilas OAM; Stavros Panaretos, Julia Panaretos

PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

We said goodbye recently to Andy Andros who was infamous as “the Pit Boss” down at Scarborough Beach around 1957 when the place first started rockin’. He was passionate about rock’n’roll. This photo from the past shows the cool milkbar on the beach where the snake pit had its roots. Andy’s parents were born on Castellorizo around the turn of last century. He left us with this poem which reveals a little of his character.



Snake Pit was THE Place to be

By Andy Andros

Way back in the Fifties, A long, long time ago, We all gathered at the Snake Pit Just to rock’n’roll.	Scarborough Beach was the place to go When it got very hot. But when the jukebox started to play, We all had lost the plot.
People used to gather there, To watch us do our thing. Jive was very popular But rock’n’roll was in.	No LSD, no ecstasy, No heroin or coke, Just good clean happy kids, Who didn’t even smoke.
Rock around the clock and blue suede shoes, Were blazing out the beat. It made you want to clap your hands, And really stamp your feet.	To all you Snake Pit Rockers, Who still enjoy the dance, Remember how fit and healthy we were, In our skin-tight pants.
So rock’n’roll was here to stay, They all enjoyed the beat. The young, the old, the middle-aged, Were packed onto the street.	So Scarborough Snake Pit though you’re gone, Your memory lives on. The happy times, the fun we had, Weren’t so very wrong.

Reference:

History of Rock’n’Roll in Western Australia, retrieved by Anita Verne 8 Jan 2023 from

<https://members.optusnet.com.au/perthrocks/History%20of%20rocknroll%20in%20Western%20Australia.htm>

WRITER'S PODIUM

NOTES ON KAZZIE DAYS

By Katherine Kalaf
September 2022



Saturday 3rd Back at the Kavo

The Blue Star Ferry took its usual three and a half hours from Rhodes to Kazzie. The trip is always thrilling for me. Such anticipation as the Turkish coast slips behind us and we round the bleached promontory of *Agios Stephanos* (Saint Stephen) before the ferry turns into that perfect horseshoe bay that is Kastellorizo. A tangle of bobbing boats and bright houses.

It has been three and a half years. My first feeling is not happiness, rather a hole of sadness at what has been missed. It will take me a day or so to settle. I have Air BNB guests in my house so I will spend four nights with Eleni till my house becomes available.

Pre COVID, my morning routine was a walk along the back lanes to the steps at the Kavo. The steps lead to a tiny flat ledge, perfect for slipping into the water without diving. At mid-day I am very happy to find I have it to myself. Moments later a nut-brown boy descends the stairs. Is he eight? Maybe.

"I always think of this as my place." I tell him. "Do I have to share it?" "Well, my Yia Yia and I are in the house above." It is true there is a house I pass on my way to the stairs.

He is very chatty and interested. He tells me his first language is Greek, but he does learn English at school. Let's talk in Greek, he suggests. He dives in and I slip into the water. It is so blue and luminous, it almost hurts my eyes. We bob around for a little before I lift myself onto the ledge. After an exchange about the quality of education on the island, he enquires if I will swim tomorrow. He is coming at 10.00 he explains. "Will I come?"

"Sometime in the morning. Not sure." "What is your name?"

"Odysseus".

I have been swimming with Odysseus.

Love from the island, Katherine

Sunday 11th The Walk to Paleo Castro

Carols and Francois called for me at six o'clock for our planned sunset walk to Paleo Castro. Paleo Castro is an ancient castle and fortification on the second highest mountain peak on Kazzie. A landmark and orientation point for all.

I have been longing to do this walk. It is always exhausting and exhilarating. Demanding when I was younger and demanding now. Up the steep hill path that winds towards the military camp. Circle the camp and then keep climbing, step by step, stone by stone in a zig zag, past the mythical Cyclopean wall of giant stones, then more steps.

Parched fields with make-do enclosures for goats and geese drop away and the great expanse of ocean, interrupted only by the island of Rho stretches before us, all the way to the sullen mountains of Turkey.

The perfect horseshoe bay is tiny now; little toy houses, bright and cheerful, follow the line of the *limani* in serried rows.

Despite being the end of the day, the heat has not fully gone out of the sun. I have to stop to catch my breath. Please know, the heart has to work very hard to walk steep slopes and steps. To plod is not to have lost the joy of walking. To halt and turn towards the view, remembering past walks, is a joy of particular intensity.

As the light falls away, the sunset haze drifts from orange to pink and yellow. We turn a corner on the Castro to catch a luminous orange sun slipping below the horizon. It is impossible not to hover, to take in the enormity of earth, sea and sun. Silence.

The walk home is all downhill.

The Days on Kazzie, Katherine KALAF. September, 2022

Thurs 15th Independence Day

Argiro makes her move early. She has turned up at my door with *psaro soupa* (fish soup). Greek cooks are judged by their *psaro soupa*'s, so I know she is on her game. We have known each other for some time. We met in 2011 when she and husband Spiros were running a tiny general store in the agora. It was the kind of place where 'use by dates' were a thing of little consequence. Despite this, I liked to shop in the food museum and gradually built up a friendship with the very sensible and religious Argiro.

In past years, the food parcel had become a small habit. Occasionally Argiro would share a little of whatever she had cooked for the day, usually with the encouragement to eat it right away. Her food is always delicious. Beans with tomatoes and olive oil, stews, small pieces of semolina cake, meat balls in egg and lemon, and now the *psaro soupa*.. 'Eat the soup for lunch while it is still warm and fresh.' she says, like a mother to a daughter. I have come to understand Argiro's capacity for the generous gesture. It is named in food parcels and her small embraces.

Earlier in the day, after my swim, I had called by her door with two packets of sweet biscuits. We sit together in the narrow lane sipping hot tea. Argiro has decided her cradle phone is a mobile. I am in the midst of explaining, phones, time zones and telco providers, when a police woman walking past lifts her arms and calls out 'Independence Day for Greece'. 'Come everyone to the square.'

The 13th of September is an important day in the Kastellorizian calendar. We have heard the President of Greece is flying in with her entourage especially for the formalities. Preparations have been in earnest. The blue and white striped canopy, flags, military rehearsals, the arrival of naval vessels, priests in abundance and of course, the school children. Ten minutes and it is all over and the crowd spreads out for coffees and lunches, in my case *psaro soupa*.

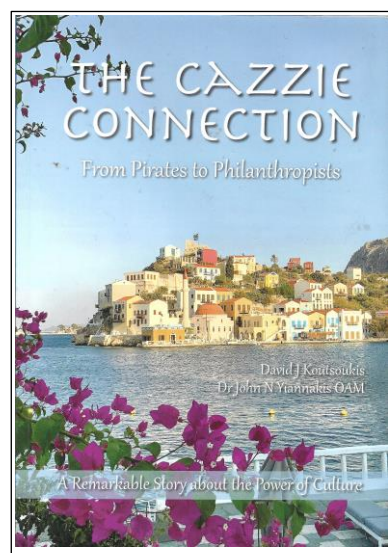
OUR RESOURCE CENTRE - BOOK PROFILE

Guest Profiler Stan Kailis

Koutsoukis D. J. and Yiannakis J. N. (2022)

The Cazzie Connection: From Pirates to Philanthropists.

Perth: Optima Press



The number of members, visitors, and dignitaries, over 100, who attended the 2-hour launch and lively discussion of *The Cazzie Connection* is indicative of the interest and importance of this new publication on Kastellorizo.

The premise is that Kastellorizians are very special so Cazzie readers will not be disappointed. It certainly is a very colourful book of images, text, and ideas. At first sight, this book appears to be a who's who, but it is more than that. Those profiled should be viewed not only for their achievements but as exemplars of typical Kastellorizians. There are more stories to tell but considering the size of the book and thousands of past and present Kastellorizians, there are obvious limitations.

The book starts with a positioning section followed by 9 chapters of diverse topics that link together as one reads through the text. The last chapter includes acknowledgements, about the authors, a bibliography, and a substantive list of resources. The text is supported with abundant images. Not only informative but it has been written with passion and belonging.

From the beginning the description of Cazzies and their strong links with the island of Kastellorizo, also known officially as Megisti, is obvious.

Although reference is made to pirates and philanthropists, the in-between years experienced by Kastellorizians are the main story for descendants of the island. The forefathers and their families working under foreign rule for hundreds of years adjusted their way of life maintaining language, culture, religion, and education, against all odds, that has been passed on to descendants. The authors acknowledge philanthropy and support that has come from individuals and organisations as well as identification and love for the island by most.

A limited number of modern luminaries are identified early in the text, but many more are identified throughout the book.

Chapter one provides an introduction and background material. This includes a thumbnail sketch of the island's past demographics and thousands in the diaspora and their achievements. The suggestion that Cazzies punch above their weight, is common! The importance of this statement is that forefathers, living in an adopted country, worked extremely hard, and although undertaking menial tasks, had high

aspirations for their offspring that allowed them to jump social and educational barriers. The authors indicate that cohesion of the diaspora played an important role.

In more recent times Cazzies have also demonstrated *filoxenia*, by sheltering Syrian refugees on the island as well as providing for the poor in Greece. The vexed question on the origin of the island is raised as well as whether it is Kastellorizo or Kastellorizo. Finally, waves of Cazzie arrivals into Australia are identified – pre-WW1, post WW1, post WW2, with reasons for their migration, together with subsequent generations.

Chapter 2 raises key questions – *Why are so many Kastellorizians connected to the island and why have so many Kastellorizians in Australia attained high levels of achievement?* Suggestions are made, but the conceptual essence is that from their sailing days with danger and entrepreneurship the Cazzies were *all captains and no crew!* And this has been passed on to the diaspora.

A substantial list of successful Cazzies follows in areas of academia, education, business, corporations, community service, health and medicine, law, politics, government, sport, arts, and media. Also, streets and buildings have connections with Kastellorizo.

Chapter 3 covers reasons for Cazzie success – *The Cazzie Connection Hypothesis* has nine components – central to these are a strong connection to the island and the opportunity to meet, mix and discuss matters of interest through family and friends, business, church, associations, and clubs and on the island itself. Food and dancing are other identified links. These items are reinforced by targeted leaflets such as Friends of Kastellorizo and Association newsletters. A number of important successful initiatives sponsored by Cazzies, and associations are identified - Ottoman Hammam restoration, archaeological digs, Empire Patrol Memorial, windmill restoration, Agora bench restoration, Passas wells, school toilet restoration project, greening Kastellorizo, Student exchange program and Beyond Borders Film Festival.

A group of heroes and heroines including images are described including Arthur Auguste, the first recorded migrant in WA who arrived in 1891. More recent award winners of the Australian Kastellorizian Awards and a further grouping of Cazzie achievement are presented.

Chapter 4 Cazzie psyche covers Cazzie uniqueness, identity, geography, history, stories, sights, and sites. A significant part of this chapter is the role of Cazzie women who preserved culture and encouraged achievement. Cazzie women exercised some power as they controlled inherited properties. Thus, dowered women could live independently from their husbands. In Australia, women in the diaspora, through education opportunities, reached high levels in business and professions. The nature of Cazzie psyche is also emphasised in this chapter such as dealing with xenophobia, the loneliness and stoicism of the Lady of Rho, the tragedy of the Empire Patrol. Language and symbolism are also covered especially the literal and metaphoric meaning of the anchor, heart and cross. Artefacts and memorabilia are a reminder of Cazzie purpose. The importance of place is exemplified by significant sites such as the Limani and the Blue Cave, schools, the old mosque, significant substantial residences, houses, monastery ruins of ancient civilisations, evidence of wars past and present.

Chapter 5 explores the culture of success. Koutsoukis and Yiannakis identify a number of examples of cultural values that promote Cazzie achievement. These include: identity, family, character, desire, courage, competitiveness, independence, confidence, fellowship, hospitality, education, hard work, assimilation, thrift, entrepreneurship, enthusiasm, role models, loyalty, faith, hope and charity.

Chapter 6 discusses how to harness the power of Cazzie energy. Here they outline suggestions on how to boost Cazzie connections. In summary this includes taking in everything Cazzie including food, chasing information on Cazzie history and genealogy, and go to Castellorizo.

Chapter 7 Summarises the essence of the earlier chapters.

Chapter 8 presents a number of historical documents including: the petition of better governance of 1920; passports, citizenship; naturalisation; and others.

Chapter 9 includes substantial resources on Castellorizo and related matters.

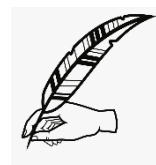
This publication is interesting, enlightening and instructive, however, an index would have been of great value to the reader.

The Cazzie Connection must be read by all Cazzies, non-Cazzie Greeks, and non-Greeks around the world to gain insight into the substance of Castellorizians who have travelled through the ages.

Available from the Castellorizian Association

Or online at www.cazzieconnection.com.au/shop

INVOKING THE MUSE IN YOU WRITER'S PODIUM



Poets, songwriters, storytellers, novelists and playwrights!

The podium is accepting of all subjects and writing forms that will be of interest to our membership. The piece can be an excerpt of a longer work but for this purpose (Megisti Messenger) it may not exceed two A4 pages of 12 point Times New Roman. The Podium committee will review all contributions before publication and have permission to correct spelling and grammar if necessary.

Please send your contributions to: Lefki Kailis

lkailis@yahoo.com

Thank you



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THE CAZZIE CONNECTION BOOK

Launches in Perth/Sydney



Following successful book launch events at Castellorizian House in Perth, and at The Castellorizian in Sydney, for the Castellorizian Association of NSW, The Cazzie Connection Book is now available online.

TINY ISLAND - BIG IMPACT

The Cazzie Connection examines the extraordinary levels of success of Castellorizian migrants and their descendants in Australia. It explores and codifies Cazzie cultural characteristics into a framework of success principles that can be applied in business and in life. 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.

"The Cazzie Connection is a treasure. It's interesting and informative to read, has many great references and is full of beautiful pictures. Bravo David and John!"

James A. Kyprios, Kyprios International Services, New York.



NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE
www.cazzieconnection.com.au/shop

CAZZIE TRIBUTE



Article by:

Jack Condous OAM

FRSASA, MSc Ed ,Dip Art Ed.

**Honorary Life member Friends
SASA, UniSA**

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Michael Hajiacomi “Great statesman of Kastellorizo Greece”

Michael Hajiacomi was born on 22 September 1924 on the Island of Kastellorizo and is one of the most respected elders of the Greek community on this Dodecanese Island. He is my uncle, known as the “blind man on the Island of Megisti”. He is the youngest surviving son of the family and has been blind from the age of 18. Nevertheless, he knows a great deal about people and the world, despite having only travelled a little. As soon as you enter the room or approach to speak, he can use his sharp senses of smell, touch and hearing to know who you are.

I was christened Jack after Uncle Michael’s father. My wife, Judy, and I often heard stories of this marvellous man from our family. Uncle Michael told me as a young boy he did his schooling on Kastellorizo and worked for the Council. He learnt Italian and Greek at school, however later in life as he worked at his shop he learnt German, Jewish, French and English from various tourists.

Uncle Michael spoke of how Mussolini was in control while he was attending school and was very harsh in the education of the young. Greek language was forbidden except for 1 hour per day, and in class they were taught in the Italian language. He also learnt English from his brother, Vasili, who was learning in order to travel to Australia. At the age of the 18, he went to Athens for two years and learned handicrafts, making chairs, straw purses, and slippers all by hand. He became a master craftsman, but unfortunately his vision had already begun to deteriorate.

My uncle was part of a large family as one of six children. His father, Jack, was a captain of shipping who traded in many countries in the Mediterranean. Sadly, he was shot in the harbour during 1943. His mother, Christina, fortunately carried on and cared for her children, living well into her nineties. Uncle Michael’s first sister, Anastasia, was also blind. She never married, and lived with her god-daughter in Rhodes until the age of 101. Next was Evangelia, my mother, the first of the family to get married. She moved to Australia with my father, but always missed her homeland of Greece. The next sister was Asimina, who married a young man and lived in the USA. Unfortunately, her husband died of natural causes. She raised three well-educated children and was a very clever business woman. We were fortunate to meet with Asimina’s family in LA. The next daughter was Angela, who married Aleco and

lived in Argentina after staying with her Aunt Zambeta in Buenos Aires. Maria, the youngest daughter, remained at home as she never married. She too was blind and lived at their home cooking, sewing and generally looking after the family. Vasili, or Uncle Bill, was the only other son and he also went to Argentina and remained there for two years. He didn’t like the humidity, so in 1940 he headed for Australia where he entered the armed services as a foot-soldier and cook with his friend Jack Economou. Eventually, he returned to Buenos Aires where he married and had two children. Uncle Michael endured all this change, as his brother and three sisters married and settled far away, beginning their new lives overseas. He recalls how his father and mother’s relatives, the nieces and cousins, all left for Sydney, Adelaide and Perth to start new lives in Australia.

On the 9th October 1943, the entire population of Kastellorizo was evacuated by the British. They were first told the evacuation was to be for two weeks. Just two weeks earlier, Uncle’s father was shot. Uncle Michael was taken to Cyprus for 6 months, with his mother and two sisters, Maria and Anastasia. They were then transferred for two years to a camp at Nuseirat set up in Gaza. In the meantime, the island of Kastellorizo was looted, bombed and essentially destroyed by the British, Germans and Italians. The Hajiacomi family returned in 1945 after WWII, where they discovered the family home had been ruined with only the external walls remaining on site. His overseas brother and sisters sent money back home in order for the family to survive and rebuild. The family slowly began to rebuild with mother, two sisters and Uncle Michael slowly cleaning and repairing the three-storey home. The Greek Government assisted the community in the rebuilding program.

In 1960 Uncle Michael went to Athens to learn braille as his sight was deteriorating rapidly. He returned to Kastellorizo in 1961, and in 1967 opened his shop which sold newspapers and cigarettes. Over the years he had many young men working for him in his shop. Yiannis Sampsakos learnt to operate the shop under Uncle’s great tuition and now runs the shop, as Uncle Michael handed it over to him in recent years.

Being blind, Uncle Michael had a very a set routine. He went to his shop in the morning and set to work. Around noon he had a break until 4pm. Closing was at 8pm. He recalls that around the 1980s his hours of work changed as more and more tourists

came from various parts of the world - came to see the beauty and charm of the island. Business for his shop grew. Sitting at his shop, he would regularly engage in conversation with relatives or friends who returned to the island to learn of the Greek culture and reclaim and rebuild their family homes.

As a family, we have visited him ten times since 1990. Our four grown children love visiting Kastellorizo with their own families and learning from their great-uncle. They have learnt of the Greek culture, the customs and wonderful food of this most remote Greek island, the beautiful Kastellorizo. In 2010 I celebrated my 70th birthday on the island with family, friends and Uncle present. We had hoped to repeat this event again in September 2020 however Covid prevented this from happening.

My dearest Uncle Michael is a remarkable man who has endured many changes throughout his life. He is an inspiration

to all who have met him, talked to him, held his hand and felt the warmth, kindness and happiness in his smile. He reminds us all of the exceptional stories and memories of the past. His life has been one of simplicity, but it has also been one of exception for 98 years. He is now the only remaining member of the Hajiacomi family and he has led an incredible life on the island of Kastellorizo.

We have all experienced his love and affection and in return he has received the care and assistance of island locals such as Anna, Nikita, Yiannis, Antoni and families. We are so fortunate that our parents married and travelled overseas, where my children have all received a tertiary education and from where my 11 grandchildren will travel to Kastellorizo to continue to learn and explore the island. An island so enriched by the wisdom and knowledge of such a wonderful person as Michael Hajiacomi.

MY MOTHER RETURNING TO CASTELLORIZO

By Allan Cresswell



My mother, Cynthia Pamela Cresswell (nee Xanthi Panayiota Karasavas/Agapitos) was born on Kastellorizo on 26 February 1923. At the age of only five years, she departed Kastellorizo with her parents and older siblings, Spiros, Maria and Zafiris in 1928 for a new life in Perth Western Australia.

She married my Aussie father in 1942 much to the horror of both her Cazzie family and her Anglo-Saxon in-laws. She then cheated the Greek naming system by naming me Allan (Agapitos) after her late father and my sister Stacey (Anastasia) after her mother. I guess she realised she was only going to have just two children, so she grabbed the opportunity to claim her parents' Christian names.

Mum always wanted to return to Kastellorizo. She still had memories of the island and even though she was only three

years old at the time, she remembered the strong earthquake of 1926. Cynthia and her husband, Ron, travelled to Europe in 1984 and visited many countries including Greece, and in particular the islands of Kastellorizo and Rhodes. On Kastellorizo the locals would not tell her where her family home was located. Remarkably it was the blind man, Michael Hajiacomi, who led my mother by the hand to the site of her ruined home located near the bakery and near his shop. Michael would have been just four years old when the Karasavas family departed Kastellorizo, yet he had an inbuilt knowledge of where the home was. My mother was amazed and so appreciative of his support and knowledge.

This is just one story of how Michael has interacted and assisted the many families returning to Kastellorizo from the diaspora.

***Thanks to Larry & John for all our drycleaning needs over the years
at Kastellorizian House.***

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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 _____

ACTIVITIES AT CAZZIE HOUSE

Those members present at the AGM in October last year were impressed to learn of the range of activities that were being undertaken by CAWA in areas such as building, cooking, culture and Kovendes as well as the use of Castellorizian House for external groups such as Hellenes Bridge Club and Tai Chi. The House is available for hire for community groups as well as private functions.

We present three of these AGM reports for your information.

CAZZIE COOKING CLASSES SUB-COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Presented Helen Anastasas (Chair)

It has been another unusual year with Covid and waiting for the renovations of the house to be completed.

The Cazzie Cooking Class assisted this year in making Greek sweets for the Saints Constantine and Helene luncheon on the 22 May and catering for the wonderful afternoon tea with savouries and sweets at the successful re-opening of the Castellorizian House on Sunday 17 July. Katoumaria were also made for this event by a small group of ladies at a workshop beforehand. A credit to all involved in both functions.

After the reopening, the Cazzie Cooking Classes resumed with adult (32), youth (16) and a recent school holiday class (19). Everyone was very keen in coming along and making each class a success. Plans are underway for a class for all age groups in November.

The Cazzie Cooking Class subcommittee have also been involved in reorganising equipment in the kitchen, recording an inventory and assisting to plan a more workable cleaning system after functions.

Plans for 2023 will be to extend the popularity of the cooking classes, look at doing philanthropic voluntary work and conducting classes outside the Association and therefore extending into the broader community.

The recipe books are still selling steadily. Shortly 10 books are to be sent to Johannesburg, South Africa for Christmas gifts.

The Cazzie Cooking Class sub-committee is made up of dedicated and very supportive members and it was a pleasure to work with them again this year. The subcommittee was formed in 2017 and some of the present committee started then. They are Nina Pitsikas, Katrina Ventouras, Mary Nicholas, Chrissie Ventouras, Tina Kyros, Barbara Pampacos, Rose Kalaf, Pam Andony, Anita Verne Filmer, Phyllis Samiotis, Eva Magriplis and Stacey Korovesi.

CULTURE & HERITAGE SUB-COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Presented by Lefki Kailis (Culture and Heritage committee member)

Our Chair Stephanie Meagher cannot be with us today. The other Culture and Heritage sub-committee members - Vicky Sertis, Anita Verne, Barbara Pampacos, Helen Kontoolas, Stan Kailis and I wish to thank her for her leadership and for faithfully recording our discussions at meetings and liaising so

positively with the CAWA committee. Our sub-committee meets every alternate Thursday morning and you are welcome to drop in.

Nick Nicholas Community room

The sub-committee has had four major priorities this year. The most important being the conceiving, planning, tendering and erection of the Nick Nicholas Community room. We thank John and Sue Kannis, and Desiree Gelavis for their advice and support over the time.

Archiving

We have pulled out all the historical paperwork from the shed – minutes, plans, correspondence, membership details etc. We have set up a proforma to record items and are in the process of archiving this history in preparation for it being recorded digitally and available for research and its cultural significance.

Resource collection

The Cazzie Library is a resource centre for Cazzie Members and the community. Its aim is to stimulate interest in and understanding of Greek culture and history. To that end we welcome everybody to read the newspapers, magazines, books and audio-visual material. The collection is in its infant stages, we will be proactively building as we identify the needs and interests of our members. At present all resources are available for viewing and use on the premises. Those with a large yellow sticker are available for loan. Loans will be on a four week basis, for example borrow the morning of the Kouvenda and return the following Kouvenda.

Membership

Kevin Kannis has taken on the formidable task of sorting historical membership records, again in preparation to retain it as digital database. He has been working closely with computer expert Steve Filmer, and membership officer, Tony Kostarelas to this end.

Looking forward

Plans are underway for two cultural events in 2023. Vicki is liaising with Melba Kanganas to set up an exhibition of paintings to honour the Hellenic Women's Art Class which Melba ran from 1982 to 2018. The exhibition will run over a weekend in May. The committee will forward more details as they come to hand. Thank you to Katherine Kalaf who has assisted the committee in its planning.

In September next year the committee plans to hold an *ikones* exhibition. Initial plans are underway. More about this initiative next year.

The sub-committee welcomes ideas and participation from members.

RENOVATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Presented by Michael Kakulas (Chair)

Members of the Renovations Sub-committee for 2022 are Michael Kakulas, Jim Manifis, Anita Verne, Stephanie Meagher and John Kannis.

OMI GRANT

The final grant report was submitted to the OMI (Office of Multicultural Interests) on 15 August 2022. All renovation

works in relation to OMI grant are now completed: the Nick Nicholas Community Room, the new roof, the front ramp and the solar cells and battery.

OTHER WORKS STATUS

Builder

The builder, Zarko Biskupic from A&Z Painting and Renovating, was enlisted for additional works not included in the original scope of the grant. This included relaying of the brick paving and ground preparation; front door and new door lock; exposed aggregate for new paths and steps; painting, rubbish removal and pedestrian gate relocation. The builder donated a substantial amount of his labour to these projects.

Reticulation and Lawn

This work was donated and completed by Greenacres Turf Group thanks to Adrian and Peter Pitsikas. In particular we thank Peter Pitsikas for his work with the reticulation.

Works done by Committee

The renovations committee, along with some committee members and Association members have volunteered their time to complete many other works on the house and ground this

year. We thank them all sincerely as this has saved a lot of money. It also created great comradery amongst club members.

These works include:

- Painting of white picket fence
- Removal of central display area and repainting it – most of this work was done by John and Sue Kannis.
- Door seals, doorbell to entry, service of bathroom taps
- Move existing plants, weed, mulch, manure and plant garden beds (an ongoing process)

Future Works

Memory Garden – light poles have been removed and pavers obtained. The design has been discussed and we are awaiting paving completion before other hardware and garden features can be obtained and this area planted.

Trees along Anzac road – these will be bought and planted when they come into stock in the nurseries.

Existing Bore – It has been agreed to fill and cover the bore. It has not worked for many years and all the plumbing has been decommissioned.



Tony Kostarelas from the Garden sub-committee, measuring himself against the ornamental pear trees that he and the team recently planted along Anzac Road.

CONTACTING YOUR COMMITTEE

Jim Manifis (President):	0433 165 601
Allan Cresswell (Vice-president)	0413 958 500
Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn	
(Secretary):	0419 831 434
Tony Kostarelas (Membership):	0419 965 869
Helen Anastasas:	0421 644 163
Voula Terzoudi (Hall Hire):	0452 504 790
<i>(on week days after 4pm)</i>	
Steve (Sava) Filmer:	0418 907 101

We welcome contributions of photos (both past and present), stories (real and fictional), social news and articles to be considered for Megisti Messenger and the Culture and Heritage archives.

**Contact the committee or
Anita Verne 0407 922 783
Stephanie Meagher 0450 609 491**

DONATIONS THANK YOU

IN MEMORIAM DONATIONS: From September 2022 to 11 January 2023

We remember with love the family and friends we have had in our lives. We look forward to planning a beautiful Memorial Garden to remember them.

DATE	DONORS	IN MEMORY OF:
December 2022	Eva Boyatzis	Nick Zounis
	Theo Kakulas	Nick Zounis
	Anthony and Stacey Kannis	George Frossos
	Jan and Peter Barbouttis	George Frossos
	Family of Michael and Anne Kannis	George Frossos
	Con and Marilyn Tringas	George Frossos
	Kevin and Karen Kannis	George Frossos
January 2023	Nicholas and Garry Spartalis	Nick Zounis
	Steve and Anita Filmer	Nick Zounis
	Chrissie Filmer	Nick Zounis
	Chrissie Filmer	George Frossos
	Chrissie Filmer	George Petridis
	Anthony and Jessie Zempilas and Family	Nick Zounis
	Despa McDonnell	Nick Zounis
	Peter and Rose Kalaf and Family	Nick Zounis

GENERAL DONATIONS

Thank you to the businesses that support the Castellorizian Association in many ways.

DATE	DONORS
September 2022	Katie Bellos
	Agapitos Kanganas
	Vange Kailis
October 2022	Theo Mathews
November 2022	Castellorizian Ladies Assoc of WA (Megisti)
December 2022	Anonymous-XMAS Lunch

Want to make a Payment?

Bank Transfers can be made to the Association for donations, membership payments, purchases, hall hire...

BANK DETAILS

Account Name:

BSB: 066 129

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Castellorizian Association of WA

Account: 00800217

REFERENCE/ MESSAGE:

For Membership payment

For Donations

For Hall hire

- Use your member **CODE** so we can identify you

- Use “**Donation SURNAME with first & middle initial**”

- Use “**Hire SURNAME with first & middle initial**”

Then send an email to let us know: cazziewa@outlook.co

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