

REPORTS

Kastellorizian Genealogy Website Report

By Allan Cresswell

The Castellorizo Genealogy Pages Website has been online since August 2007. Since that time the website has undergone numerous enhancements and a large increase in content. There are now over 18900 persons displayed on the site, represented by 6571 families, online.

A visit by me to the Victorian Kastellorizian Association in 2009 saw over 3000 persons added within a month of my visit there. I look forward again to visiting Melbourne in March 2011 and to again obtain additional family history information and family photographs. Details and information on my visit appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

Because of concerns about availability of information on people within the website, the website was fully closed to the casual viewer in 2009 and now requires a full application for access with a Username and Password before entry can be obtained. All applications for access are validated by me before processing. The unfortunate downfall in this required procedure is that Google and other search engines do not have access to the family surnames and only the homepage is indexed by these search engines. There are now over 1050 registered users to the site and over 440 various sources from which all the data has been obtained.

Numerous families from outside of Australia have accessed the records and supplied information for the website. Submissions have come from Rhodes, Athens, Kastellorizo, Cyprus, USA, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, France, Sweden, Hong Kong, Belgium, Italy, United Kingdom and elsewhere. It is amazing as to how far and wide Kastellorizians have settled over the last one hundred years and not only Australia and USA.

A Google search for the word 'Castellorizo' reveals approximately 74600 URL's. It is very pleasing the Castellorizo Genealogy Website comes up as NUMBER ONE on this search. This is because of the considerable website traffic that visits the website and that numerous other websites have a link to this site. Nicholas Pappas' Kastellorizo History Website comes up SECOND. Such is the interest in Family History these days. Since the website commenced in August 2007 a total of 41595 unique (different) computers have visited the genealogy website homepage.

Additional information for the website is always sought. Information on early generations needs to be recorded before these details are lost forever.

Already we are seeing the loss of knowledge by fourth generation Australians about their Kastellorizian heritage. I personally have spoken to two young adults who had Kastellorizian surnames but knew nothing of their Greek ancestry. In some families this information is not being passed down through the generations, especially as society becomes more of a mixed ethnic background.

You can assist to ensure that knowledge of your ancestry is preserved for future generations by visiting www.castellorizo.org then registering and providing what information is known by you and your family. I am always available on email cressie@castellorizo.org to assist or advise.

I look forward to meeting many Victorian Kastellorizians when I visit Melbourne in March 2011.

Regards Allan Cresswell

Allan Cresswell of Perth, WA has been a Genealogist since 1983. He is the Webmaster of Castellorizo Genealogy Pages Website and Vice President Kastellorizian Association of WA. In 2009 Allan presented a successful two day program in Melbourne. Below is the outline of his second program series. For venue details please refer to the social events page 7.

KASTELLORIZIAN GENEALOGY SEMINAR AND WORKSHOP #2

DAY ONE: Saturday 19th of March, 1-5pm

- 1.Introduction
- 2.Online demonstration of website – Part 1 (General)
- 3.Sourcing and compiling family history information (Booklet provided)
- 4.How to submit data to website (Booklet provided)
- 5.How to surf the Kastellorizian Website (Booklet provided)
- 6.Question Time
- 7.Collecting your family data and scanning of photographs (If not attending day two)

DAY TWO: Sunday 20th of March, 1-5pm

- 1.Introduction
- 2.Online demonstration of website – Part 2 (Looking at your family online)
- 3.Booklet handout - on sourcing, compiling, submitting and surfing (summary of day one)
- 4.Question Time
- 5.Collecting your family data and scanning of photographs

The program has been designed so that people can attend either one or both days.

For further details and RSVP please call Evelyn Salvaris 0411 464 369