

Forthcoming Events & Projects

By Allan Cresswell

Our next function to be held is the St Constantine and Helene Luncheon and the venue is the Hellenic Community Centre. See the box at the bottom of page 1 and the article on page 3 for details. Last year we had a successful luncheon and we have planned another one for this Sunday week. Contact any of our committee for tickets.

A group trip to travel to Castellorizo next May is proposed and please do read Jim's article on page 4 and return your expression of interest form which is on page 5. This is a great concept and should be a wonderful lead up to our centennial celebrations for 2012.

In two weeks time removal of the remaining front fence and the erection of a new fence should commence. There may be some minor inconvenience for front door access during this time.



**Feast Day of Saints Constantine and Helene on Friday May 21st 2010
Luncheon to be held at Perth on Sunday May 23rd 2010**

Your contributions for the commemorative book 'Life and Times of Castellorizians' should start to be considered over the next few months. This wonderful concept will record your family stories and anecdotes in a book to be published in 2011. The closing date for submissions is only ten months away so do start planning now. See page 6 of the *Megisti Messenger*.

In September 2010 we will be holding a photographic display day at Castellorizian House where members of the public are invited to display photographs from their private collections. These photographs will be considered for placing in the forthcoming Castellorizian Centennial History Book that will be compiled by Dr John Yiannakis in 2012. See page 4 of the *Megisti Messenger*.

In This Issue

Forthcoming Events & Projects	1
Social Announcements	2
Book - Kastellorizo: My Odyssey	2
President's Report	3
St Constantine & Helene Luncheon	3
Castellorizian Trip 2011	4
Photographic Exhibition	4
Expression of Interest Form	5
Family History Book 2011	6
Pier Street Re-union	7
Article from Brazil	8-9
Empire Patrol Monument Project	10
Empire Patrol – Website	11
Hellenic Bowls Report	12
Photos Good Friday Service 2010	13
Myra and Antifilo	14-15
Hellenic Bowling Function	15
Cazzie Tribute – No. 8	16

NEED TO CONTACT THE EDITOR?
NOTE CHANGE OF DETAILS!

Allan Cresswell
TEL/FAX: 93057954 Mob: 0413958500
EMAIL: castellorizo@bigpond.com
ADDRESS: c/o 160 Anzac Road
Mt Hawthorn WA 6016

**HELLENIC COMMUNITY WA INC
&
CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION
OF WA INC**

**Cordially invites you to the
ST CONSTANTINE & HELENE LUNCHEON**

**To be held at
The Hellenic Community Centre
20 Parker Street Perth WA**

**Sunday 23rd May 2010
Commencing 12.00 Midday**

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON PAGE 3

SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prepared by Allan Cresswell

Every issue of *Megisti Messenger* will display details of Birthdays, Engagements, Anniversaries, Marriages, Deaths, Get Well, Congratulations, Travelling Abroad/Interstate and other announcements of interest to the Castellorizian community. It is **not** a requirement that a person be a member of our Association. Please contact the Editor or a Committee Member to advise of the event so it can be included in the next newsletter.



GET WELL SOON

To Bartley Kakulas who we all hope to see back at the association soon as his health continues to improve.



VALE

Deepest sympathy to the families and friends of Con Michael Constantine (Beigeorgi), Clara Simeon (nee Fermanis), Harry Malaxos and Kerry Simonides. Our thoughts go out to family and friends of Ann Barbouttis (nee Hetrelezis) and Michael John Koutsoukos both of Sydney.



ANNIVERSARY - CORRECTION

Congratulations to Spyros and Mary Halikis (nee Kailis) who celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2009. A cut and paste error gave Mary the incorrect Christian name in the last *Megisti Messenger* – apologies for this error.



CONGRATULATIONS

To George Moulatsiotis in winning the Hellenic Bowls Singles Championship. Also well done to the runner up Brian Raynor. Congratulations also to the Hellenic Bowls for a very successful season.



BIRTHS/BAPTISMS

Congratulations to Nerelle and Greg Champion on the birth of Eli James Champion on May 2nd 2010. Grandson to Florence (nee Manolas) and Tony Elder. A brother for Mia Anastasia.

Kastellorizo: My Odyssey

AN ILLUSTRATED CHILDREN'S HISTORY

The story of Kastellorizo, from ancient Greece to the present, is told by the island itself because only the island has known and seen every generation that has lived on its rocky shores. The Dorians, ancient Greeks, pirates, ships captains, traders, knights, the Ottomans, and conquerors from around the Mediterranean. Kastellorizo has seen them all. This is the story of a great odyssey, tragic and exciting, dramatic but hopeful, of a little island in the far eastern Mediterranean, and its indomitable people.

"Kastellorizo: My Odyssey is not only a beautiful and informative book, but also a wonderful and innovative concept. The island speaks to us and engages us, touching our hearts and our minds. This excellent work will delight and educate all ages."
Dr Norman Ashton

"I can think of no better way for a young child to learn, and to re-learn, Kastellorizo's fascinating history than through the pages of this book. Engagingly written from the island's perspective, its poetic tale will draw children across the sweep of centuries in an almost fairytale way, while also re-kindling our own memories of stories heard from proud grandparents many years ago."
Nicholas Pappas

\$39⁹⁵
Limited Edition

Written by Marilyn Tsolakis and Andrew Johnson
Illustrated by De Pieren Alsou

Email
coordinator@australianfriendskastellorizo.org
for further information

Australian Friends of Kastellorizo is launching an illustrated children's book, *Kastellorizo: My Odyssey* in November 2010. It is a bi-lingual book suitable for children and teenagers. It will engage their interest because of the beautiful words and pictures. The land tells the story because it was present throughout its history from the ancient to the modern period. Imagine reading this delightful picture book to your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and godchildren. They may ask questions about their history and if you can't answer them the book will. That is why it is being written; to dispel the myths and present the facts, through the power of storytelling.

To purchase a copy of this limited edition, you can pre-order by contacting the AFK Coordinator, Marilyn Tsolakis. Phone: 93871681 Email: coordinator@australianfriendskastellorizo.org

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Written by President Jim Manifis

It is amazing how time flies, we are already in the month of May, and there have been a number of events that have occurred for our association. The Aprozokratiko Day which was held on the 7th of February 2010 at the Castellorizian House, was once again well patronised by our members. I would like to thank all those who attended. On the 25th of March 2010 we celebrated Independence Day where I attended a church service at Evangelismos Church and followed by the laying on the wreath at the War Memorial at Kings Park. I was a little disappointed by the attendance of the members of our association and also the Greek community.

The next major event will be the Feast Day of St Constantine and Helene which falls on Friday the 21st of May 2010. In conjunction with the Greek community we will be having a luncheon on Sunday the 23rd of May 2010 commencing at midday. Following the success of the luncheon in 2009 our committee believes combining the two associations for this auspicious occasion was in the best interest for our groups. We believe we will have over 250 people in attendance; therefore you will need to purchase your tickets quickly.

The planning of the 2012 centenary year is progressing to the extent that we believe all activities will be a highlight for our association to be seen by all. In all the Megisti Messenger in the future will include an insert solely devoted to the events of 2012. There has already been interest shown by our members in a number of the functions and events that will be held. We have commenced planning a commemorative book on families of Castellorizian's in WA. For all details contact Nick Nicholas. Dr John Yiannakis is also writing a book on the history of Castellorizian's in WA. The event which has also created a lot of interest amongst the community is our trip to Castellorizo in the year 2011. An article on pages 4 and 5 highlights the details for this once in a lifetime opportunity for Castellorizian's in Australia to spend time on the island as a group. There are also many activities which will be occurring in the lead up of 2012 which you will be informed of in due course. It is my wish that all Castellorizian's both in Western Australia and Australia wide participate in these events.

Finally I would like to remind you again of the St Constantine and Helene Lunch on Sunday 23rd May 2010, tickets are available from all committee members.

ST CONSTANTINE & HELENE LUNCHEON MAY 23rd 2010

HELLENIC COMMUNITY WA INC & CASTELLORIZIAN ASSOCIATION OF WA INC

**Commencing 12.00 midday at The Hellenic Community Centre
20 Parker Street Perth WA**

Tickets available from:

Jim Manifis:	Ph 0433165601	Michael Paul:	Ph 92042064
Allan Cresswell:	Ph 0413958500	Tony Samiotis:	Ph 93441634
Kevin Kannis:	Ph 94485312	Peter Kalaf	Ph 92715595
Michael Palassis:	Ph 0407286227	Con Kannis	Ph 93877434
Michael Spartalis	Ph 93816961		

**Entry is only by pre-purchase of tickets
Seating is up to 10 persons per table**

**COST: \$35 Adults Children Under 12 \$15
Refreshments Provided**

2012 CELEBRATIONS – PAGE 1

LAUNCH OF CELEBRATION CASTELLORIZIAN TRIP MAY 2011

Written by President Jim Manifis

When the idea was first expressed to me that we should consider launching our celebrations on the Island of Castellorizian, I instantly thought it was a great idea. Over the last five months I have had numerous meetings with Nick Missikos from Harvey World Travel on the planning of this trip. Many of our members including Castellorizians in the eastern states are already showing immense interest. This will be a one off opportunity for Castellorizians in Australia to spend time together on our home land. There are various options which Nick Missikos has considered; we are leaving it fairly open to make it convenient for our members.

The Castellorizian Association of WA would like extend an invitation for you to join us on a five day tour of Castellorizo to commemorate the centenary celebrations. Our intentions are to be on the Island for Saint Constantine and Helene on the 21st of May 2011. You have the opportunity to extend your holiday to Greece and Europe. This can be arranged with Nick Missikos. As the trip is in early stages of planning we are asking who would be interested in joining this tour. Obviously we cannot give an exact cost for 2011 but we can give an approximate estimation based on 2010 prices and if we can get an idea of how many of you would be interested we will be able to get firm prices.

At the moment we are offering the following options:

- 1) Group airfares to and from Athens approximately \$2199 each including taxes
- 2) Five nights pre-booked accommodation on Castellorizo from approximately \$300 per person

Please return the **Expression of Interest Form** to the Castellorizian Association of WA **160 Anzac Road Mt Hawthorn WA** or email **Jim Manifis** at whitfordcitynews@hotmail.com by the 31st May 2010. We stress that this is purely an expression of interest at this stage to give the organisation an idea of approximate numbers and this will not bind you into a definite travel arrangement.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION SEPTEMBER 2010

A photographic exhibition of the 100 years of Castellorizians in Western Australia is planned for September 2010. It will be held at Castellorizian House and additional details will be advertised in the next *Megisti Messenger*.

The theme of the exhibition is for the public submissions of photographs, by both our members and the community at large, depicting one hundred years of the Castellorizian Association and one hundred years of the Castellorizian community of Western Australia. This will be in the form of photographs of individual Castellorizians, various committees, functions, outings, sporting events, special occasions, past commemorations and of early days in the Castellorizian Association and community of Western Australia.

Selected photographs will be included in the forthcoming Castellorizian Centennial History Book that will be compiled by Dr John Yiannakis for release in 2012.

So dig out your old photographs and let Allan Cresswell know about them (contact details on cover page). Further details will be announced in the August 1st newsletter.

2012 CELEBRATIONS – PAGE 2

PLEASE PHOTOCOPY, SCAN OR REMOVE THIS FORM AND FORWARD TO:

The Castellorizian Association of WA

160 Anzac Road

Mt Hawthorn

Western Australia

whitfordcitynews@hotmail.com

Ph: (08) 9344 4574 after hours

Castellorizo Trip May 2011 Expression of Interest

If you may be interested in joining us in Castellorizo in 2011 please complete the form below and return to 160 Anzac Road, Mt Hawthorn, WA or email to whitfordcitynews@hotmail.com by 31st May 2010.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Contact: _____

Email Address: _____

Total number of people interested from your family: _____

Travel Agent:

Nick Missikos
Harvey World Travel East Perth
Shop 1/113 Royal Street
East Perth, 6004

Tel No: (08) 9221 9977
Email: eastperth@harveryworld.com.au

WE WANT YOUR FAMILY HISTORY

“Life and Times of Castellorizians”

Written by Nick Nicholas and Kevin Kannis

As part of the centenary celebrations planning is underway for a commemorative book where families will have the opportunity to publish a snap shot of their family story.

We are informing you now so you can start preparing your family’s story and you have plenty of time before submissions close in January 2011. The “special issue” will be a magazine sized (A4) quality product.

There will be many wonderful histories, stories and anecdotes to relate that should not be lost and you should be proud to include in this Centenary publication.

As well as events, the other key ingredient is the people and this is where we all come in. We have been blessed with many Castellorizians who in their special way became the life blood of the association and in the end it always revolves around people and the contribution they make.

Naturally the cost is going to be a factor and publications of this quality will be a permanent reminder of our people and we are asking for an amount of \$200 per A4 size page of approximately 400 words and photo’s may be included. Provision will be made to accommodate half pages and all will be printed on a uniform template and uniform font and print size.

All contributors will be given copies of this “Commemorative Centenary Issue” included in the \$200. Two copies per A4 and one copy for a half page. Additional copies will be available for purchase and it will also be sold to visitors and the general public.

A sample of the type of material we are hoping for is available on request, we will be providing further detail in the next Messenger but it is important to start thinking about what you would like to include.

If you would more detail before then please call:
Nick NICHOLAS (08 9387 4981) or Kevin KANNIS (0418 904 848)

PIER STREET REUNION

By Despa McDonnell (nee Papastatis)

It was a great day on a Wednesday in April 2010, when twenty odd people who grew up in Pier Street in the 30's and 40's, gathered together at Kailis's Fish Restaurant to reminisce on their younger days.

This function was arranged and hosted by Michael George Kailis. Everyone had happy memories of these times and many funny stories were bantered around. Some of the tales were about attending the Pier Street Kindergarten, playing games in the street, climbing the old mulberry tree and of the numerous characters around Pier Street at the time – Spiro the ice-cream man, May Evans who had the corner shop and Sam the Chinaman who ran the laundry on the other corner.

Members of the following families were in attendance: Antonas, Hondros, Kailis, Kikiros, Kontoolis, Kounis, Papadoulis, Papastatis, Petrelis, Pispinis, Spartalis and Yiannakis.

Sincere thanks are extended to Michael for arranging a very special and memorial day for everyone present.



From Left: Despa McDonnell (nee Papastatis) Rose Verevis (nee Spartalis) and Magda Kambouris (nee Hondros)



From Left - Standing: Michael Papadoulis and Steve Kikiros
From Left - Seated: Paul Kounis and George Pispinis



Standing: Nina Pitsikas (nee Yiannakis)
From Left – Seated: Mary Halikis (nee Kailis) and Katrina Ventouras (nee Kailis)



From Left: Michael G Kailis and Peter G Kailis



From Left: Stella Kazazis (nee Petrelis), Manuel Petrelis, Katie Bellos (nee Petrelis) and Angie Gelavis (nee Kailis)



Bill Spartalis and Stella Kazazis (nee Petrelis)

YES, ALBERT EINSTEIN IS “RIGHT”!

By Cristián Andrés Carranza of Natal, Rio Grande do Norte State, Brazil

On February 1st 2010 volume # 3 edition # 1 of the *Megisti Messenger* was released, with an article about my father in law, Constantino Miguel Spyrides. I've received with satisfaction a message from Allan Cresswell on February 10th, giving feedback about reader's opinions. He mentioned “Eva Athans (nee Komninos)”, born in Brazil at that time.

Mistakenly associating “Eva” with “Evangelia”, I've asked my mother-in-law, Kyrana Constantino Spyrides (nee Cristóforo/Christofi) about Evangelia Komninos, but she told me that have no memories about someone with that name born in Brazil.

After a thorough inspection of the huge genealogy tree at Castellorizo Genealogy Pages (<http://www.castellorizo.org>) I've found no records of “Evangelia Komninos” born in Brazil, so I decided to ask Allan about this fact.

On February 17th, Allan replied telling me that “Eva” is the nickname of Eudocia Athans (nee Komninos). When I told that to Kyrana, she remembered that she had a cousin with that name, daughter of uncle Theodosio Komninos, brother of her mother, Maria. She became very excited, and in tears told me about her cousin, their brief friendship and about the last time she saw her ... 63 years ago!



Figure 2: João George Cristóforo, Maria Apóstolos Komninos and Kyrana.



Figure 1: Teodócio Komninos; Maria (nee Boyatzis), Eudocia and Apóstolos.

As soon as I was able, I've sent a message to Allan, asking for Eudocia's email address. On March 1st, I've received Arthur Athans' email address and finally on March 14th, I've sent a letter to Arthur, introducing myself and attaching a letter from Kyrana to Eudocia and some photos.

Next day the reply arrived. It begins with a fantastic: “We were thrilled to hear from you and cousin Kyrana, thanks to Allan Cresswell who arranged the contact.” Simply AWESOME!

On March 23rd Eudocia and Arthur phoned Kyrana (but I was not at home!). Finally, on Sunday 25th, Kyrana saw her cousin Eudocia for the first time in 63 years thanks to the Internet and Skype.

Continued on Page 9



**Figure 3: Skype video snapshot:
Above: Arthur and Eudocia (Eva) Athans
Below: Kyrana Spyrides and Cristián**

There are no words to describe this moment. Amazing perhaps? Flabbergasted? Totally awesome?

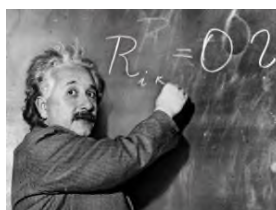
How good is to unite people! How important these kinds of things are for everyone that has a family, especially when their members are spread across this huge planet!

But now I realize that all this is so simple to do but also so very important. An Internet connection and Skype or Microsoft Messenger, well tempered with patience, determination and time. With patience and determination for research and not giving up, to exchange ideas in forums like Nick Pappas' Castellorizo Forum (<http://www.castellorizohistory.com>) and Allan Cresswell's Castellorizo Genealogy Pages at <http://www.castellorizo.org>, to write several megabytes of e-mails until you find a clue.

Take your time and do it. Search for relatives; find grandparents, great-grandparents, cousins and distant cousins. Post your question on the appropriate forums and do it until you find them.

I have the strong conviction that Allan Cresswell, Arthur Athans and myself made an important thing on March 25th.

Albert Einstein is completely right ... Space and Time are relative.



EMPIRE PATROL MONUMENT PROJECT

By Marilyn Tsolakis



Photograph Courtesy Byron and Val Kakulas

The photograph is part of the *Empire Patrol* monument being sculpted by Alexandros Zygouris, the resident artist of Kastellorizo, to commemorate the lives of the 33 Kastellorizians who perished on September 29th, 1945 on their return from Palestine to Kastellorizo.

Upon completion, the monument, with the names of all 33 people listed, will be located on the harbour of Kastellorizo near Aghios Giorgos tou Pigadiou (St George of the Well) church and will be officially unveiled at the 65th anniversary ceremony in September 2010.

Alexandros has used white marble. The sculpture stands 90 cm high and about 50cm wide x 50 cm deep. It will be placed on a plinth about one metre high.

AFK is assisting with the raising of funds for this project and is aiming to collect AUD\$10,000. Please note these funds will be paid direct to the sculptor and we are pleased to advise that we have already received some generous donations from Kastellorizians wishing to commemorate their loved ones.

If any of you would like to make a contribution, especially if your family was involved in this tragedy and to honour their memory, please contact the AFK Co-ordinator, Marilyn Tsolakis at coordinator@australianfriendskastellorizo.org or 93871681

You can learn more about the *Empire Patrol* disaster at the following link which has been created by Allan Cresswell, Dr Paul Boyatzis and Nicholas Pappas at www.empirepatrol.com

For your reference we have included the names of the 33 Kastellorizians who died.

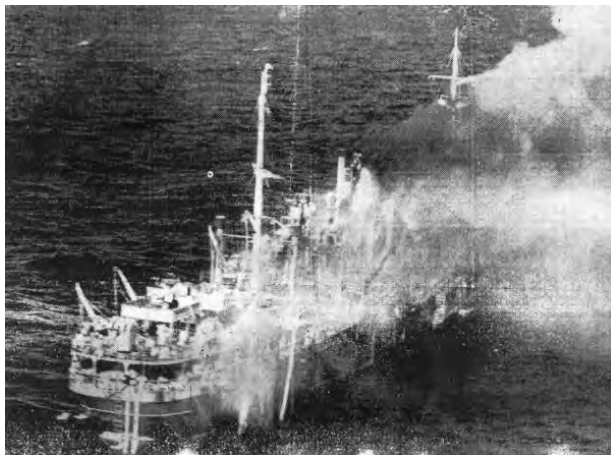
Alayalli (Evangelia, Maria and Stamatia),
Amigdalou, Katina
Andreou, Evangelia
Christodoulou (Andreas, Christos and Despina),
Christofi, Kerassia
Diamantara, Christina
Exindari, Zambetta
Fermani, Chrissanthi
Hazipanteli, Evangelia
Kandilafti, Asimina
Karpathiou, Kristalla
Kyzala, Marianthi
Koungra (Despina, Evangelia and a newborn),

Koutsoukou, Evdokia
Livssiani, Evangelia
Mandali, Evangelia
Mihalakis, Michael
Mirikli (Katerina & Kristalla),
Mistillis Stavros
Nitis, Ioannis
Samioti, Asimina
Sava, Doukissa
Tsafouri (Maria & Sofia),
Tsigarou, Maria
Zacharia, Eleni

THE STORY OF THE EMPIRE PATROL - ONLINE

www.empirepatrol.com/

By Dr Paul Boyatzis



Aerial shot of the Empire Patrol on fire

The name “Empire Patrol” in recent years has become familiar amongst Castellorizians and their descendents in Australia and in other parts of the world. One hears the name being mentioned periodically in the wider community by persons with contacts with those who have links with the tiny Greek island, Castellorizo.

Empire Patrol is the name of the British ship that caught fire and sank in the Mediterranean on 29th September 1945. The ship was repatriating refugees from camps in Gaza (Palestine) to their home island, Castellorizo, at the cessation of the Second World War hostilities. From the 497 passengers consisting mainly of women and children, 33 passengers and 2 crew perished in the tragedy.

The circumstances and consequences of the disaster are documented in the book *Embers on the Sea* by Nicholas Pappas and me. The publication of the book coincided with the 50th Anniversary Commemorative Service which was held at the Monastery of Saint John of the Mount, Forrestfield, Western Australia and was extensively reported in the Australian press, television and radio.

The sinking of the *Empire Patrol*, which in effect was returning the island’s total post war population to their homeland, spelt the end of Castellorizo’s future, due to the subsequent migration of the disheartened islanders to other lands in search of a better life. Only some 250 residents remained. There is hardly a Castellorizian family that was not affected, in some way, by this tragic event, with the loss of life, spirit or material possessions. It changed Castellorizo forever.

The book, the extensive media reporting and the well attended Commemorative services, had the effect of capturing the imagination of many, Castellorizians and others alike. Of interest was the contact made, as a result of the above, with persons connected in some way with the event and in particular those involved in the rescue operations.

It became evident to me that there was more to the “story” than that which had been recorded. In this, the 65th year of the disaster, a further “Empire Patrol” project was timely appropriate. In 2010 the internet was the medium of choice. This decision was confirmed with the willingness of my friend Allan Cresswell to join me in creating a website dedicated to the Empire Patrol Story. Allan’s ability in recording history and use of the internet is well known. The third person to approach for the project was obvious. I am happy to say that Nicholas Pappas readily agreed to join us. His involvement and enthusiasm in “all that is Cazzy” makes his recent award of Castellorizian of the Year well deserved.

The internet project is now completed. I invite you to visit the site and respond to the Webmaster’s request with your stories and contributions. www.empirepatrol.com/

HELLENIC BOWLING CLUB OF W.A. – 25 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

The year 2010 sees the Hellenic Bowling Club of W.A. celebrate its 20th season since the Club's inception in January 1990. Formation of the Club resulted from Con 'The Goose' Kailis' passion to provide a sporting interest for the next phase of our ageing community population. In previous years, many of Perth's Greek sportsmen had participated in more strenuous activities such as football, rugby, tennis, softball and the like. Lawn bowls was the obvious sport that could accommodate our ageing sportsmen. Con has gone beyond our borders and has been the instigator towards the formation of Greek Bowling Clubs in Victoria and New South Wales. The HBC of W.A. is planning a visit to Sydney in March next year with the objective of a bowls challenge between the three states.

South Australia is also in the throes of forming a Greek Bowling Club leaving Queensland as the only main state not involved in the process. I would imagine Con will not rest until he has a Greek bowling team in all mainland states towards realising his dream of a true National Greek Bowls tournament being played on a regular basis.

The Club has been fortunate to be part of Perth's premier bowling Club at Osborne Park which is recognised as having the best grass greens in the State, all of which are floodlit to allow night bowling. The Hellenic Bowling Club of W.A. has its own clubrooms at the Osborne Park links and players of Greek origin now make a significant contribution to the pennant squads of the parent Club.

The Club continues to prosper with the season just past recognised as possibly the most successful one since the Club's inception – a healthy sign for the future. The men's club is delighted to see the ladies Club also enjoying good times which augers well for the continued growth of both Clubs.

The men's membership exceeded 70 members for the first time with 10 new members recruited last year and weekly attendances at an all time high with nearly 45 players attending every Wednesday night session. The increased attendance and support from Members of all bowling and social activities has resulted in a very successful trading result for the year leaving the incoming committee with the pleasant duty of how best to 'give back' rewards to the Members.

The past season's highlights included:

- Handover of our new club uniform from outgoing President, Leo Panegyres.
- The allocation of our own club room by the Osborne Park Bowling Club.
- Very successful bowls nights with the ladies of the Hellenes Bowling Club of W.A.
- A family night where 135 bowlers accompanied by wives, partners and family members created great camaraderie, and, from close observation, a lot of fun on the greens.
- A father and son's night involving nearly 100 bowlers where teams of four players made up of fathers, sons, sons in law and grandsons enjoyed some friendly rivalry.
- A corporate bowls night where 16 Greek business houses each sponsored a team of 4 players as a very successful fund raising evening for the Club.
- A very popular and enjoyable visit to Port Bouvarde where the local bowling Club played host to our Members.
- Visits to the Stirling and Yokine Bowling Clubs where friendly challenge matches were played against the Croatian and Maccabie Members.
- Traditional challenge matches against the Police Social Bowling Club and also against non Greek Members of the Osborne Park Bowling Club.
- The Captain's introduction of pairs, triples and scrounger competitions on social bowls nights to vary the traditional fours format.
- The highlight to the bowls action was the playoff to determine the singles champion for 2010. A keen dual was fought between past champion Brian Raynor and first time challenger George Moulatsiotis with George finishing stronger to claim this year's title.
- The first ever joint venture between the Hellenics and Hellenes bowling clubs in arranging the Greek Social Night held at the Osborne Park Bowling Club. 180 Hellenic and Osborne Park Members feasted on a banquet dinner entertained by a live Greek band and also by members of the Saint Andrews Dance Troupe.

Should anyone want preliminary information on any aspect of the Club, particularly prospective membership, please contact the author on any of the contact numbers below.

Mike Litis
President / Secretary
0418 957 806

9368 1489

litis@bigpond.com

PHOTOS - GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE 2010

Photos Courtesy Tony Samiotis



REMINISCENCES OF MYRA AND ANTIFILO

Extracted from the archives of the Centre for Asia Minor Studies, Athens on 24 November 1998 by Nicholas Pappas who has kindly allowed the article to be reproduced in the *Megisti Messenger*.

This article and many other wonderful historical articles and photographs can be viewed at the Castellorizo History website at: www.castellorizohistory.com/. The website includes History, Literature and Forum (Family History discussion) sections. Nicholas Pappas is the administrator of this website.

MYRA

Vlassios Antonas (interviewed 15 October 1970)

There were 400 Christians living in Myra. There were no Turks. The main activities were in trade and agriculture. Everyone in Myra originated from Castellorizo. They had come to Myra to find better opportunities. The language spoken was identical to the Castellorizian idiom.

Myra was about 1 hour's walk from the sea. It lies on a fertile plain. Before arriving in Myra from the coast one crosses this beautiful plain irrigated by three rivers – the *Tsaï*, or *Myros*, the *Anthami*, and the *Limnionas* or *Vromolimnionas*.

Outside the town, there were no roads, only this broad plain. In the town, there were no *mahaladhes*. We knew exactly where everyone lived.

All the roads radiated out from the central crossroads in the middle of the town. These 2 main roads had been built by the Russians in my grandfather's time, in about 1830. There was only 1 square - *Plateia ton Myron* – which had shops, 3 cafes and a market.

There were 2 churches in Myra – *Ayios Nikolaos*, where the saint's tomb is to be found, and *Ayios Sion*, which was a subterranean chapel.

Ayios Nikolaos is located 1 kilometre from the centre of the town. It was built by Theodosius II. The town's cemetery was located here.

There was also a small primary school that catered for about 30 students up to year 4. After 4th class, we completed our studies on Castellorizo.

I remember that the *mouhtar* was chosen from the Christian population. I recall 2 names: Yiorgios Marsélos and Yiorgios Paltóglou. The office of the *mouhtar* was in his home - it is there that he received people. The *mouhtar* had to be over 40 years of age and he also had to be fluent in Turkish to be selected.

I worked with the abbot of the monastery which was attached to *Ayios Nikolaos*. I remember Kyrillos Romanos, who was the last abbot.

I left Myra in 1914 to avoid conscription in the War. The Turks tried to get all the young Christians in the Ottoman army. My parents sent all the male children to Castellorizo. I went and stayed there - my family owned 3 houses. The Turks punished my family. My father became sick. They brought him to Castellorizo, but he didn't improve. He was taken to Athens, but died there.

The War closed all the ports. The Turks had their eyes on our properties. They secretly placed all these weapons in our well and then accused my mother of storing them there to help the French who were occupying Castellorizo. They arrested her and sent her to Aidin where she was imprisoned. I eventually arranged for her release.

I stayed in Castellorizo for the remainder of the War. After hostilities ended, I returned to Myra and found our house in ruins. I was called to the office of the Turkish military commander and told to leave Turkish soil in 4 days. I was told to take a small Turkish rowboat and leave. As I was sailing back to Castellorizo, they started firing at me. I realized that they wanted to kill me.

Continued on Page 15

ANTIFILO

Antifilo was a mixed town. It had a beautiful church, *Panayia I Vangelistra*. There was a primary school for children up to 3rd class. There was a central square with 3 coffee shops.

Despina Sideri (interviewed 24 February 1965)

There were about 100 families in Antifilo. About 80 were from Castellorizo, the remainder from Livisi. There were many rich Castellorizians there. I remember one *Kapetan Vangelis* – he had many boats and large houses in Antifilo and on Castellorizo. And then there was Pitpazaris – he was rich too, another Castellorizian.

Castellorizo and Antifilo were like “mother and child”!

Most Castellorizians, especially the rich ones, had houses in Antifilo and on Castellorizo. Often, they were empty, or a relative was staying there. They were always coming and going. They always had their weddings on the island. Namedays, too, were celebrated on Castellorizo.

I remember when the Castellorizian shipowner Pissás died. He lived in Antifilo, but he had a large home on Castellorizo. When he died, they put his body on a boat and took him to Castellorizo where they buried him. I remember every night in Antifilo some ten or so Castellorizians would come over with guitars, *mandoles*, and *laouta* and they would stand in front of the warehouse of the late Pissas and they would sing *mirologhia* to him. For 10 days we heard these *mirologhia* every night!



THE HELLENISTIC THEATRE AT KAS
(modern day Antifilo or Antiphellus)
with Castellorizo island in the background.

Photo Courtesy Allan Cresswell

HELLENIC AND HELLENES BOWLING CLUB

of WA invite members and guests to help celebrate their 20th and 15th year anniversaries, respectively.

DATE: SAT 24th July 2010 **TIME:** 7.00pm until late

VENUE: Stirling Bowling Club – Jones Street Balcatta WA

PRICE: \$50 per person (Tables of 10)

Excellent menu and entertainment. Drinks can be purchased from the bar.

DRESS CODE: Smart Casual

TICKETS: Available from

Con Kailis: Ph 94469746

Michael Litis:

Ph 93681489

Tony Bellos: Ph 92454404

Telli Yiakalis

Ph 94469320

CAZZIE TRIBUTE



Compiled by Allan Cresswell

NICHOLAS GEORGE PAPPAS – 2010 CASTELLORIZIAN OF THE YEAR

It gives me great pleasure to announce to our Western Australian Castellorizian members that the 2010 Castellorizian of the Year is Nicholas George Pappas of Sydney. The award will be conferred on May 23rd 2010 at the Kastellorizian Association of Victoria clubrooms when they celebrate Sts Constantine and Helene Day. This annual award is managed by the Victorian Association.

As a child in the 1950's I grew up knowing very little of the history of Castellorizo, my mother's birthplace. In my quest to learn more about the island I searched the atlases but the island was not there. The encyclopedia Britannica gave a few lines but said little about the people or the history of the island. It would be over forty years later before I was to learn more. The WA launch in July 1994 of Nicholas Pappas's wonderful book, *Castellorizo - An Illustrated History of The Island and its Conquers*, answered my many previously unanswered questions about Castellorizo and about my heritage. Little did I know that more was to come.

Nicholas George Pappas was born in 1961 at Sydney NSW to George Nicholas Papanastasiou and Marina (nee Georgouras). He obtained his law degree at the University of NSW and commenced practicing as a lawyer in 1984. He subsequently established his own law firm, Nicholas G Pappas and Company, in 1996, and he went on to also obtain a PhD in Economic History from the University of Sydney.

In 1995 Nicholas teamed with our very own Doctor Paul Boyatzis to write the story of the *Empire Patrol* disaster of 1945 - *Embers on the Sea*. This wonderful book recounts the horrors of a ship on fire and the subsequent loss of many Castellorizians.

Nicholas has been a longtime supporter of the NRL team, the South Sydney Rabbitohs. He was the legal advisor for this club during its battle for reinstatement to the NRL after it was excluded from the competition at the end of the 1999 season. Upon appeal to the Federal Court in 2001 the Rabbitohs won re-admission for the 2002 season. In 2003 Nicholas became Chairman of the Rabbitohs and later supervised the takeover in 2006 by the actor, Russell Crowe, and the businessman, Peter Holmes a Court.

During these busy years of the early 2000's Nicholas also completed a book in 2002, *Near Eastern Dreams - The French Occupation of Castellorizo 1915 - 1921*. This great book involved extensive research by him in obtaining a snapshot of seven years of the island, outside of living memory.

During the years that followed Nicholas has researched the repositories, newspapers, books and other sources in Athens, Rhodes, Paris, London and elsewhere to compile numerous historical articles on Castellorizo. An example of the research by Nicholas can be seen in this edition of the *Megisti Messenger*, on pages 14 and 15.

In May 2007 Nicholas created an online Castellorizo History and Genealogy Forum. This forum currently has 376 members, who correspond and exchange information on family history, literature, photographs and general discussion about Castellorizo. Nicholas is the Administrator of this excellent website. Access is by going to: www.castellorizohistory.com/.

A new book produced by Nicholas and Nicholas Bogiatzis, *An Island in Time: Castellorizo in Photographs 1890 - 1948*, is due out this year and will be a wonderful pictorial coffee table book for all to admire.

During 2010 Nicholas joined with Doctor Paul Boyatzis and Allan Cresswell to place the story of the *Empire Patrol* disaster online as an ongoing project to capture some of the many undocumented stories and photographs of this tragedy. It is a work in progress and contributions continue to be received. See page 11 of this edition of the *Megisti Messenger* for additional information.

Nicholas has had many other achievements, in addition to those listed above, and they include:

- President, Board of Trustees, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney (since 2003 and Trustee since 1999)
- Chairman, Laiki Bank Australia (since 2006 and Director since 2001)
- Governor, The Steve Waugh Foundation-Australia
- Secretary, Archdiocesan Council, and Trustee, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia Consolidated Trust

Nicholas is married to Eleni (nee Kalithraka) and has two children, George and Marina.

Nicholas, all your family, including your late parents, together with your friends and associates, would have been so very proud of all your ongoing achievements and contributions throughout the past twenty five years. This award to be bestowed on you as 2010 Castellorizian of the Year acknowledges, documents and highlights all those remarkable achievements. We all do appreciate your wonderful continuing contributions to the Castellorizian community and the community at large. Bravo Nicholas!