



Megisti Messenger

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Newsletter of the
Castellorizian
Association of WA Inc.
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

*29th May
Sts Constantine and
Helene Lunch

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2021/2022 Castellorizian Association of WA Committee of Management

Back (L to R): Con Magriplis, Tony Kostarelas, John Kotzas, Michael Kakulas
(insert Steve Filmer, Treasurer)

Front (L to R): Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn (Secretary), Helen Anastasas (Vice-
president), Jim Manifis (President), Voula Terzoudi, (insert Anita Verne)



SAVE the DATE

Castellorizian Association's Celebration Day
Sts Constantine and Helene Lunch

Sunday 29th May

We hope to give you a sneak preview of our new Community Room
Compliance with COVID regulation current at the time will be a requirement
Further information closer to the date will be emailed to members

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to submit any articles or
social news

NOTE –NATIONAL CONFERENCE NEWS

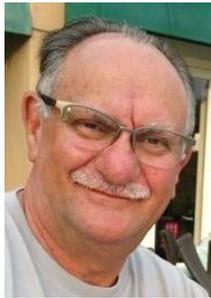
The National Kastellorizian Conference has been deferred until further notice.

Supported by



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

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Firstly, I would like to wish all our members and their families a Happy New Year and hopefully it is prosperous and healthy.

On November 21st we held our AGM at the Hellenic Community Hall which was very successful with a number of our members in attendance. The President's Award for 2021 was awarded to Stephanie Meagher. This is the second occasion that Stephanie has received this award for outstanding services for the Castellorizian Association of WA. Stephanie was the person who initiated the application for the OMI Grant and the submission compiled by Stephanie, John Kannis as architect and Anita Verne was superbly documented and presented, receiving the highest grant of all applicants. I must also make mention of the Renovation Committee and would like to thank Michael Kakulas (Chairman) for his contribution in relation to the renovations.

I would like to congratulate **Dr. John Yiannakis** for his nomination for life membership. John's contributions over many years to the association makes him a worthy life member. John is still very involved in the association and has been a member of many sub-committees.

On conclusion of our AGM, we held a special afternoon tea to honour Michael Tsolakis and Con Karageorge, two past presidents and life members of our association whose contributions over a long period of time are a reason our association is where it is today. I would like to thank both Marilyn Tsolakis and George Karageorge for their presentations on their beloved fathers, and thanks also for the attendance of family members.

I am pleased to announce that the renovations at Castellorizian House have progressed significantly over the last few months, although the train derailment led to further hold-ups of building materials. We are hoping that the completion will be in April. I need to thank all those who have been involved with the renovations.

Unfortunately, we needed to cancel the Apokries function due to renovations not being completed and also the complication with COVID. We are hoping to have a major function to celebrate the opening of our premises.

It is with regret that the Kastellorizian Council of Australia (KCA) conference sub-committee has decided to defer the Western Australian Conference until such a time as our environment is predictable and safe from COVID. Further in the future we hope to have delegates and speakers from all across Australia – and what a conference it will be!

The committee is now starting plans on a lunch for our Association's celebratory day – Saints Constantine and Helene. Please save the date of Sunday 29th May, and you will be able to get a sneak preview of the completed renovations.

Some very sad news has just come through, as the magazine is about to go to print. An eminent member of the Castellorizian Association, Nicholas Constantine Nicholas, has passed away and his loss will be felt throughout the Association. Our deepest condolences to Mary, Con, Desiree and the families.

The committee will be planning a special tribute at a time when we can get together to honour our friend, Nick "Mr Castellorizo" Nicholas.



Jim Manifis (President)

Castellorizian House Renovations

By Anita Verne

When we hear of the many difficulties that the building industry has faced recently, including a boom in the industry, an increase in costs, the demise of some building companies, adverse weather conditions and the delay of supplies due to the train derailment in South Australia, we consider ourselves lucky to have progressed as much as we have.

Our especial thanks go to architect John Kannis who has donated a huge amount of his time, going above and beyond in his overseeing of this project – literally - as the photos show. John's dedication to this project has guaranteed its successful outcome. With the Community Room and roof nearing completion, only installation of the accessibility ramp, paving and solar energy equipment remains, all of which are well underway. We welcome any offers of assistance as we approach the final clean-up of the premises – please feel free to contact a committee member.



SOCIAL NEWS

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

VALE

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends.

2021

- ECONOMOU Barbara (nee Koumbiadis) – 6th November
- MANGOS Dorothy (nee Zervos) Melb. – 14th November
- LEKIAS Dr Michael S. – 26th December
- KAMBOURIS Magda (nee Hondros) – 10th December
- GEROVASILIS Glykeria (NSW) – 20th December
- KAILIS Irene (nee Richardson) – 24th December

2022

- KANGANAS Rose (nee Coufos) – 3rd January
- BOYATZIS Rose (Philitsa) nee Stamatoglou – 22nd January
- BARBOUTIS Rene (nee Gravas) – 27th January
- GREGORY Paul (Melbourne) – 4th February
- VLAHOS Victor – 22nd February
- CHRISTODOULOU Angelina (Vangy) – 1st March
- NICHOLAS Nicholas C. – 10th March

BIRTHS

- ❖ BOEKEMAN Michael Benjamin – 8th February 2022
- ❖ KOTZAS Christian John – 4th November 2021
- ❖ KOURTESIS Edward Antony Denis – 14th May 2021
- ❖ MAGRIPLIS Konnor Samuel - 2nd November 2021
- ❖ THEODOROPOULOS Beckett - 26th October 2021

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following people:

- ❖ Tony Koufos turned 93 on 19th February 2022
- 90th Birthday**
- ❖ Katina Kakulas – 14th November 2021
 - ❖ Joy Loukas – 2nd February 2022
 - ❖ Kathleen Malaxos – 27th February 2022
 - ❖ Chrys Anastas (nee Diamantis) - 29th February 2022
- 80th Birthdays**
- ❖ Katina Asvesti – 18th October 2021
 - ❖ Taki Stratos - 10th September 2021
- 70th Birthdays**
- ❖ Karen Kannis – 12th December 2021
 - ❖ Yvette Manifis – 21st January 2022
 - ❖ Tony Samiotis – 7th February 2022
- 60th Birthday**
- ❖ Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn – 25th December
- 50th Birthday**
- ❖ Maria Tringas (Nee Fotinos) – 8th January 2022

56th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations! Jean and Allan Cresswell - 5th Feb 2022

Tony Samiotis – 70th Birthday

BELOW: Tony Samiotis celebrating his 70th birthday at Sienna's, with a little help from his grandson Tycen. "Congratulations Tony! Lots of love and special wishes from your proud family. Xxx"



Birth Notices

KOURTESIS: George and Courtney (nee Trengove) welcomed Edward Antony Denis into the world on the 14th May 2021. This darling boy is the first grandchild for Antony and Janice Kourtesis who are very excited to be grandparents. Also, third grandchild for Tania and Laurie Trengove. Congratulations!

BOEKEMAN: Chrisafina (nee Tsolakis) and Ben Boekeman are happy to announce the safe arrival of Michael Benjamin on the 8th February 2022. Baby Michael is named after his great grandfather Michael Tsolakis (dec.) who would have been so proud and delighted by this thoughtful gesture to honour him. Great grandmothers Lola Tsolakis and Nina Stamatou are overjoyed, together with grandparents Max and Rosalyn Tsolakis, and Stuart and Megan Boekeman.

GRANDPARENTS APLENTY on the CAZZIE COMMITTEE

KOTZAS: Nikita and Elena welcome with much love and happiness a beautiful son, Christian John, on the 4th November 2021. A brother for big sister Valentina. Proud grandparents John and Gina (nee Koufos) and Mira Savinovska. Also, great grandparents Tony and Maria Koufos.

MAGRIPLIS: Steven and Leah (nee Pantelis) welcomed their darling son, Konnor Samuel, into the world on 2nd November 2021. Grandparents Con and Eva Magriplis and Savas and Katrina Pantelis are delighted. The little boy is a Cazzie thoroughbred, having great grandparents Antonios and Maria Koufos, and Despo Magriplis to dote on him. We are saddened by the recent passing of great grandparent Magda Kambouris, at the age of 85, who only had a short time with her great grandson.

THEODOROPOULOS: Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn is happy to announce the arrival of her third grandchild, Beckett, to her daughter Mia Theodoropoulos and partner Devin McFarlane. The gorgeous baby boy was born on 26th October 2021 and is a baby brother to Brooklyn.

Vale Paul Gregory



Paul (Apostolos) Gregory was born in Perth on 27th November 1942 to Greg Gregory and Eftihia (nee Palassis). He and his brothers Stan (dec) and Peter had a very happy childhood in South Perth surrounded by many uncles, aunts and cousins. Paul was particularly close to his grandmother Chrissoroy Palassis (nee Petridis).

After his primary education at Kensington Primary, Paul went on to high school at Kent Street, also attending Greek School three times a week. At the University of Western Australia, he majored in biochemistry and microbiology, graduating with honours, and in 1979 graduated with a Master of Science from the University of London, with distinction.

Paul met Connie Antonakakis of Melbourne in 1968 and they married in 1969. Two sons followed – Jason in 1973 and Thomas in 1975. The family relocated to Darwin from Melbourne in 1983 where Paul took on several academic roles.

When their sons moved to Perth to complete tertiary studies, Paul and Connie decided to retire and move back to Melbourne, Connie's birthplace. In Melbourne Paul was involved in voluntary work, particularly Rotary and the Kastellorizian Association of Victoria.

Paul died with his wife and sons by his side on 4th February 2022 at the age of seventy-nine. His spirit lives on through Connie and in his sons Jason and Thomas, grandchildren Zoe and Max; Kiaran, Oscar and Gracie; and baby great-granddaughter Cora.

Adapted from the printed eulogy at his funeral on Thursday 10th February 2022.

Bereavement Thank You

Marilyn Tsolakis

The family of the late **Michael Tsolakis** would like to thank family and friends for their expressions of sympathy on the passing of their dearest and much loved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather on 22nd July 2021.

He was 99 and in his 100th year; born on 22nd October 1921 on the island of Kastellorizo, Greece. Lola, Max, Marilyn, Ian and families would like to thank those who attended the funeral on the 11 August 2021 and for messages of sympathy in *The West Australian*, phone calls, cards, flowers and donations to the Kastellorizian Association of WA, the Cathedral of Saints Constantine and Helene and Evangelismos Church.

The outpouring of love and respect helped to comfort us, knowing that he touched people's lives in so many ways. While life is not the same without him, his example of how to live life will always guide us in our daily lives.

Always in our heart.



The wonderful contribution made to the Association by Michael Tsolakis can be found in the Megisti Messenger magazine editions dated Aug 20th 2009 (Cazzie Tribute), August 2nd 2021 and October 12th 2021.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

We have received some corrections to the item on page 4 of the October 2021 edition of Megisti Messenger along with some extra information about the organisation and their achievements.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is a community event that raises vital funds to make a difference for ALL cancers.

In 2005 in Perth a committee was specifically formed to host Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. It was named the **Women of the Greek Community Committee** and is comprised of representatives of six women's groups within our community, being AHEPA, CASTELLORIZIAN LADIES' ASSOCIATION (Megisti), CHRISTIAN LADIES (Evangelismos), HELLENIC WOMENS' ASSOCIATION, NOLA PILKADARIS, and THE CENTRAL PHILOPTOCHOS of ST TABITHA. During the organisation of the event, the members of this steering committee report back to their respective associations. It is a wonderful example of our Greek community coming together to work for an important cause.

Since its inception in 2005, the women of the Greek community have raised a total of \$158, 804 and the committee would like to thank the many individuals who have contributed to its success. We all look forward to another fun morning tea this year in May.

CONGRATULATIONS

The Association congratulates Mary Mangos and Anthony Michael Kannis from the Castellorizian community who were recognised in the Australia Day Honours in January.

Mary Mangos (nee Anastasas) of Adelaide received an Order of Australia for services to the Greek community in South Australia. She has been a frequent visitor to Perth as she has many relatives and friends here. Mary is 94 years old.

Anthony Michael Kannis received a Meritorious Award for outstanding public service to transport and infrastructure in Western Australia. This edition of Megisti Messenger has chosen Anthony for its *Cazzie Tribute* – see page 21.

Announcing the awards list, the Governor-General, David Hurley, said: “Congratulations to the outstanding Australians recognised in today’s Honours List. Collectively, the recipients represent the strength and diversity of Australia. It has been a challenging couple of years and the recipients announced today are a reminder and reflection of the richness of spirit, selflessness and good in our community.”

LEAP into a HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY

Chrys Anastas (nee Diamantis) celebrating her 90th birthday at Kailis Restaurant Leederville with her family, friends and Opera Company friends. Chrys is a leap year baby born on 29th February 1932. She has 8 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren. Best wishes from all her friends and family.



CHRISTENINGS

PALIOUDAKIS Lila

Betty and Tzanis Palioudakis are proud to announce the christening of their granddaughter Lila.



Their son Stelios, his wife Iantha and their grandson Theodore celebrated together with Iantha’s parents, Catherine and Peter Hristopoulos, and the godparents and family at Lupolab Restaurant in Mt Hawthorn.

BELOW: Baby Beckett Theodoropoulos, new grandchild for Margaret-Anne Manifis-Quinn, with his brother Brooklyn.



TABORSKY- DOUBLE



It was well worth the wait for the double christening of **Alexander Barry** and **Chloe Maria**, children of Elisia (nee Doucas) and Matthew Taborsky which took place at Saints Constantine and Helene Church on 27th December 2021 in the presence of proud great-grandmother Chrissie Filmer, and grandparents Stacey and Greg Doucas, and Sina and Robert Taborsky.

The family was delighted that **Christina Yiannakis** was able to be back in Perth to be the godmother to Alexander and Chloe.

Christina has been away for 3 years, working for Foreign Affairs in Canberra, Lima and now in Geneva, as Assistant Director, Multilateral Engagement Strategy. Her parents John and Angela Yiannakis were grateful that she was able to spend two months here visiting family and friends.

AXIOS!

Ordination of Mr Nicholas Kakulas

By Anita Verne

The Archdiocesan District of Perth rejoiced on Saturday the 15th of January when it gained another energetic person to the ranks of the clergy. Nicholas (Neal) Kakulas was ordained into the Diaconate by His Grace Bishop Elpidios of Kyanea at the Greek Orthodox Church of Saints Constantine and Helene.

As part of his words of advice to the new deacon, His Grace Bishop Elpidios noted that "...the servant chosen to minister the church must not only be spiritual, but also full of the wisdom necessary to manage the duties they are called to undertake. A clergyman is not an employee within the parish but a minister who with great love, sacrifice and devotion attends tirelessly to the spiritual needs of the faithful." Deacon Nicholas has worked as a civil engineer, specialising in structural engineering in the mining sector for the last 22 years.

The deacon's wife, Dimitra and their five children were in attendance to share in the special service. Also in attendance was Mr Nicholas Kakulas (senior), who together with his late wife Anastasia, were great benefactors of the Monastery of St John in Forrestfield. The deacon is the brother of Michael Kakulas, Renovations Chairperson on the Castellorizian Association Committee.

The Castellorizian Association of WA extends its congratulations to Deacon Nicholas – AXIOS!

Source: VEMA News Article <https://vema.com.au/ordination-of-mr-nicholas-kakulas-by-his-grace-bishop-elpidios-of-kyanea/>



Photo by Robi Gerovasilis



WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

GOSS - MANIFIS

Our president's son, Dean James Manifis, married Francine Goss on the 27th of November 2021 at the church of Sts Constantine and Helene in Northbridge, where the service was conducted by Father Terry. Later, a beautiful reception was held at Fraser's Kings Park Reception Centre which was enjoyed by family and friends.

PAST EVENTS

AGM Afternoon Tea 2021



IN OUR LIBRARY

Moving speeches about two of our past presidents were made at the AGM last November by Marilyn Tsolakis (on **Michael Tsolakis**) and also by George Karageorge (on **Con Karageorge**). These will be housed in our new Library and Community room for all to access and from which we can all find inspiration.

The Tsolakis Family



The Karageorge Family



SANTRAPE MEMORIAL SERVICE



The memorial service of Loukas and Anastasia Santrape was held at Saints Constantine and Helene Church on the 24th October 2021, close to the feast day of Saint Luke the Evangelist.

This is the time each year that Castellorizians acknowledge the Santrape's great contribution to life on the island of Castellorizo more than a hundred years ago.

CAZZIE COOKING CLASSES

YOUNG ADULTS CAZZIE COOKING CLASS

Helen Anastasas demonstrating how to make *Yiaprakia*



By Siena and Sasha Parissis

It was a warm Saturday morning and my sister and I grabbed our aprons and containers and sped off to the Cazzie Cooking Class. Very enthusiastic and hungry! We were fashionably late which did not go unnoticed... we were running on Greek time! Nevertheless, we threw ourselves into 'yemista mode'.

The first Masterchef was Marilyn Tsolakis who demonstrated *lahanodolmades* and put Nigella Lawson to shame! She imparted all her family secrets and hot tips into the willing ears of the Greek youth. We filled cabbage leaves with a homemade mince mixture and rolled them into little scrolls. Then we dressed the cabbage rolls with tomato salsa and drizzled them with lemon juice. They reminded us of Vietnamese rice paper rolls.

Next on stage was cooking wiz, Helen Anastasas, who wielded her wooden spoon like a magic wand. She brought with her a *sakouli* full of home grown, sun-kissed vine leaves. With nimble fingers she stuffed and rolled them into small cigars. Filled vine leaves are best firmly rolled so the filling doesn't spill out. They can be referred to as *dolamdes (filla)* or *yaprakia*.

For the finale we had Chrissie Ventouras, who showed us how to make the age-old, summer classic, *yemista*. She decapitated the tomatoes and beheaded the capsicums leaving their heads aside, before filling the cheeky vegetables with a beautiful rice and mince combination. We were given the insider secret to sprinkle a little bit of sugar and salt inside the fleshed-out tomato and capsicum. After they were filled, we put their heads

back on. Alas, we had run out of time so the cooking genius, Chrissie, instructed us on how to cook them at home.

Our partner-in-crime, Annie Karageorge, volunteered to sample the freshly cooked dolmades. She licked her lips and went back for seconds!

Before leaving we washed up, gossiped and then left smiling with the thought of having the knowledge on how to impress our future Greek partners!

Cooking Classes contact Helen Anastasas on 0421 644 163 or email hanastasas@yahoo.com.au

Marilyn Tsolakis and Chrissie Ventouras



PAST EVENTS



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

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SECRETARY

Betty Palioudakis
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By Rose Kalaf

AGM

The Castellorizian Ladies Association AGM was held on Saturday 13th November 2021. The new committee from left to right, consists of: Christine Drimatis. Elaine Palassis (Vice President), Jenny Anastas, Karen Tsapazis. Fay Katris (President), Betty Palioudakis (Secretary), Rose Kalaf (Treasurer), and Stacey Doucas.



**BELOW Back L to R: Anti Hajigabriel, Belinda Kouroulis, Stacey Kouroulis.
Front: Esther Coufos, Marguerita Maounis, Lauri Bennett, Yvonne Stamatis, Maria Maounis, Hariklia Hajigabriel, Zoi Kouroulis.**



CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Castellorizian Ladies Association (Megisti) of W.A. held their 52nd Annual Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, 7th December 2021 in the ballroom at Pagoda Resort and Spa in Como. Guests enjoyed an à la carte lunch and a wonderful afternoon was had by all. One of the highlights included a special performance by Isidoro Mazzella, a Neapolitan Tenor who at the age of 84 continues to wow audiences with his incredible voice.

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



Consul of Greece Georgia Karasiotou, Fay Katris & Jessie Zempilas.



Nicolette Litis, Despa McDonnell & Elizabeth Mustard.

PAST EVENTS

Fun at APOKRIES Over the Years

At Cazzie House, the Castellorizian APOKRIES Barbeque is usually our biggest event for the year. It marks the last day for eating meat. However, sadly this year we were unable to hold it on Sunday 27th February due to the Omicron variant and the incompleted renovations at Castellorizian House.

Instead, we can remember back to previous years' fun with Tony Koufos dancing and singing around the tables, and the wonderful bouzouki music of Michael Anastas and his band under the stars of a balmy night. And a very special comradeship.



Michael's band 'Bouzoukia' is popular around Perth and consists of the musicians Michael Anastas on bouzouki, Arthur Stathopoulos on guitar, George Mathews on keyboard, Spiro Politis on guitar and Nick Netis on bass. A new vocalist, Apostolis Fotiadis, has an amazing voice and has worked with Michael recently on several shows. Hopefully we'll be able to hear them again soon at Cazzie House.



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BouzoukiaPerth

Nistisima!

By Anita Verne

With the opening of our borders, we are being asked to be more careful during the next few weeks. To me this means fewer social events, less hugging and kissing, and less shopping trips. To accommodate “less going out” it seems like the perfect time for more home cooking and to include more of the “Mediterranean Diet” into our life, especially with Lent here. I’m glad this coincides with Lent. *Nistisima* is a term that will be heard often in the Greek community – it refers to Lent-dishes without meat, eggs and dairy.

So, I’ll be pulling out my notes written hastily when watching aunties cook. My Greek recipe books will be close at hand. The huge variety of packets of dried legumes and beans will appear from my pantry and I’ll be tending the herb patch and greens growing in my garden. It’s time to share and swap garden produce with friends.



Our table will be full of beautiful traditional dishes: bean soups, braised vegetables with dill and rosemary, greens with lemon and oil, revithokeftedes and fakokeftedes with delicious mint dip. In our house, cutting down on sugar will be high on our priority list. There’ll be a more conscious effort to fast and exercise and we’ll be feeling healthier and happier with this cleansing of body and soul.

The Mediterranean diet was the food of Greece before World War Two... the diet of our healthy grandparents. It would be better renamed the “Mediterranean Lifestyle” as it includes not only dietary elements but also exercise and gardening, sociability and sharing, and fasting.

I love this time of year!

The perfect Mother’s Day gift



‘from our GREEK KITCHEN to yours’

✠ Nistisima recipes are identified in the index with a cross.

Make sure you have a spare book in your gift box.

EDITOR: Helen Anastasas
CO-EDITORS: Anna Gelavis, Anita Verne-Filmer, Marilyn Tsolakis, Georgia Bullock

Available from:

- ❖ Committee Member Anita Verne - email anita@halmac.com.au – postage options available
- ❖ Christos Jewellery
172 Scarborough Beach Road,
Mt Hawthorn, WA
Tel. (08) 9201 1195 (Book \$45 - Cash Only)
- ❖ Kakulas Sister – Market St., Fremantle
- ❖ The Storehouse – Hampton Rd, SouthFremantle

THE ASIA MINOR CATASTROPHE – 100 YEARS

As the world is confronted by another refugee crisis with the Ukrainian-Russian war, we also think back to an event a century ago. Last December, the Greek Ministry of Culture announced that “it would dedicate 2022 to the anniversary of the Asia Minor Catastrophe and to the promotion of the memory and identity of refugee communities.” (Source Greek Reporter Dec. 22, 2021). The following article written by John Yiannakis for Megisti Messenger gives us some detail of this tragic event.

The Graeco Turkish War of 1921-22 and the Smyrna Catastrophe

Dr John N Yiannakis OAM

This year marks the 100th anniversary of Greece’s disastrous Asia Minor war with Turkey, culminating in the burning of Smyrna in September 1922. Subsequently, the Treaty of Lausanne ended nearly 3,000 years of Greek settlement and presence in Anatolia with a population exchange. This catastrophe impacted Castellorizo and its neighbouring coastal colonies economically, politically and demographically. The 1921-22 Graeco-Turkish War was fought between Greece and the Turkish National Movement during the partitioning of the Ottoman Empire following World War One.



This map can be seen in colour online. The Greek Kingdom and the Greek diaspora in the Balkans and western Asia Minor (in yellow), according to a 1919 Greek map submitted to the Paris Peace Conference

The Greek campaign was launched primarily because the western Allies promised Greece territorial gains at the expense of the recently defeated Ottoman Empire. The armed conflict

began when Greek forces landed in Smyrna (now Izmir), on 15 May 1919. In January 1921 the Greek army, despite its lack of equipment and its unprotected supply lines, launched an offensive in Anatolia against the nationalist Turks, who had defied the Ottoman government and would not recognize the Treaty of Sevres. Although repulsed in April, the Greeks renewed their attack in July. The Turks, however, commanded by the nationalist leader Mustafa Kemal (Kemal Atatürk), defeated them at the Sakarya River (August 24–September 16, 1921). The Greek front collapsed with the Turkish counter-attack in August 1922, and the war effectively ended with the recapture of Smyrna by Turkish forces and subsequent great fire. By then, thousands of homeless Greeks were already looking to escape Asia Minor.

The Smyrna Catastrophe (Καταστροφή της Σμύρνης) refers to the fire deliberately lit four days after Turkish forces entered and captured the port city. The fire completely destroyed the Greek and Armenian quarters of the city. Its Muslim quarters escaped damage. According to Katherine Elizabeth Flemming, in 1919–1922 the Greeks in Smyrna numbered 150,000, forming just under half of the population, outnumbering the Turks by a ratio of two to one.¹ Alongside Turks and Greeks, there were sizeable Armenian, Jewish, and Levantine communities in the city.

The fire was started September 13 and extinguished September 22 in 1922. On the night of September 13, 1922, five days after the Greek army had retreated, the Turks allegedly set blaze to the residential district, which spread rapidly, forcing the inhabitants to swarm to the port to escape. Turkish troops per eyewitnesses systematically cordoned off the quay to contain the Greeks and Armenians within their fire zone quarters and prevented them from fleeing.

The estimated Greek and Armenian deaths resulting from the fire range from 15,000 to nearly 100,000.² Eyewitness reports describe panic-stricken refugees diving into the water to escape the flames and that their terrified screaming could be heard miles away. Bertram Thesiger, a British captain on the *George V* at the time, recounts the scene as follows: “It was a terrifying thing to see even from the distance. ... Many did undoubtedly jump into the sea, from sheer panic. ... Mothers with their babies, the fire going on over their heads, and many of the bundles of clothes also on fire, and the people all screaming.”³

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burning_of_Smyrna#cite_note-Fleming-21 accessed 21 January 2022

² The number of casualties from the fire is not precisely known, with estimates of up to 125,000 Greeks and Armenians killed. American historian Norman Naimark gives a figure of 10,000–15,000 dead, while historian Richard

Clogg gives a figure of 30,000. Larger estimates include that of John Freely at 50,000 and Rudolf Rummel at 100,000.

³ M. Llewellyn Smith, *Ionian Vision: Greece in Asia Minor 1919-1922*, University of Michigan Press, pp. 309-310.

The Graeco Turkish War of 1921-22 and the Smyrna Catastrophe

Greeks and Armenians were forced to remain on the docks under harsh conditions, having already suffered atrocities from before the outbreak of the fire. The slaughter at Smyrna occurred as warships of the great powers stood by - the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy. However, according to a *New York Times* article, September 18, 1922, "There were [also] six steamers at Smyrna to transport the refugees, one American, one Japanese, two French and two Italian. The American and Japanese steamers accepted all comers without examining their papers, while others took only foreign subjects with a passport." After the Smyrna Catastrophe the Greek city founded nearly 3,000 years earlier, ceased to have Greek residents.



The Great Fire of Smyrna as seen from an Italian ship, September 14, 1922

The Greek government accepted the demands of the Turkish National Movement and returned to its pre-war borders, thus leaving East Thrace and Western Anatolia to Turkey. The Allies abandoned the Treaty of Sèvres to negotiate a new treaty at Lausanne with the new Turkish government. The Treaty of Lausanne (concluded July 24, 1923), recognized the independence of the Republic of Turkey and its sovereignty over Anatolia, Istanbul, and Eastern Thrace.

The Greek and Turkish governments agreed to engage in a population exchange. The exchange was based on religion rather than ethnicity and resulted in approximately 1.3 million Orthodox Greeks of the Ottoman Empire relocating to Greece, in exchange for roughly 356,000 Muslims living in Greece going to Turkey. The Muslims of Western Thrace and the Greeks of Constantinople were exempt from the exchange.

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Entry of the Turkish army commanded by Mustafa Kemal Pasha to Smyrna (Izmir) on September 9, 1922

Close to two million people were uprooted. The refugees would have their own trials and tribulations to endure. According to historian Thanos Veremis, the Anatolian Greeks were taken to a country (Greece) with a lower standard of living, leaving behind their property, successful businesses and other activities which secured them a high standard of living, to end up living in poverty and humiliation.⁴ The ethnic composition of Greece, particularly in the north, would be dramatically altered. A number of Australians would serve with distinction in the resettlement of refugees, including George Treloar and Joice and Sydney Locke.

As noted in an article in the *Megisti Messenger*, October 2021, following the Asia Minor disaster, the Dodecanese islands, inclusive of Castellorizo, became Italian possessions. For now, these Greek speaking islands near the Turkish coast were not to be a part of the modern Greek state. The *Megali Idea* was dead.

For Castellorizo, there was a slight increase in numbers following the population transfer; from approximately 2,000 persons in 1917 to 2,742.⁵ Access to the Anatolian market for supplies and sales was cut, ruining the economic well-being of many Castellorizians. As life became even more difficult on Castellorizo, migration continued. In Greece, the war was followed by a successful military coup against the monarchy.

⁴ "Parallel Lives",
<https://www.ekathimerini.com/culture/140489/parallel-lives-population-exchanges-1922-1924/> accessed 21 February 2022

⁵ N. Pappas, *Castellorizo: An Illustrated History*, Sydney, 1994, p. 134.

Culture and Heritage

Oral Histories: The Life and Times of ...

By Stephanie Meagher

One of the long-term activities being undertaken by Culture & Heritage is the curating of stories which chronicle the life and times of Castellorizians, both on Castellorizo and here in Perth. A recent interview with Vicky Sertis revealed the adventurous younger years of her grandfather, Kyriakos Simou Simonides, following completion of his studies in Constantinople and Jerusalem in the early 20th century. Below is a brief excerpt from *The Life and Times of Kyriakos Simou Simonides*...

Perhaps in response to years of dedicating himself to study and discipline, Kyriakos now sought a life of adventure and travel. Family legend has it that he spun a globe of the world with finger poised, intent on journeying to the country on which his finger landed. Another story is that he boarded a ship, content for it to take him wherever it was going. Whatever the truth, Kyriakos left Castellorizo in 1908 and found his way to Java. He would not return for over a decade.

The exotic Far East was attractive to Kyriakos at this point in his life as there was plenty of opportunity for a capable young man of ambition to make his fortune. Having no doubt observed the vibrant market economy of Castellorizo as a young boy growing up in the prosperous and bustling seaport, Kyriakos would have been not unfamiliar with the demands of trading: the sourcing of goods for barter and the skills necessary for successful deal-making. He travelled the trade routes between the islands of Java dealing in sponges, tobacco and alcohol. His success encouraged his brother, Andonis, to join him and together they established a lucrative business.

Unlike the predictable and structured way of life on Castellorizo, the Orient exposed the brothers to a vastly different culture and lifestyle. No doubt they enjoyed adventures aplenty and, luckily, some have been preserved in family lore, passed down through the generations. Vicky recalled three particularly interesting anecdotes with which her grandfather regaled his family and there is no reason to doubt their veracity...



The Orient, early 20th Century

You will be able to find out more about Kyriakos' adventures in Java and how his life unfolded upon his return to Castellorizo in 1920 when Cazzie House reopens and our monthly **Kouvendas** resume. The newly refurbished Library and Resource Centre will be open, with access to our hard copies as well as digital collections via our dedicated Culture & Heritage laptop available to all. The story of Kyriakos Simou Simonides is part of our collection. The **Kouvenda** is held at Cazzie House between 10.00 and 1.00 on the last Saturday of each month. Re-opening date to be advised.

We welcome any stories you may wish to preserve and share. Please contact a committee member for further details.

Lefki Kailis: 0439 899 010, Vicky Sertis: 0423 055 370, Barbara Pampacos: 0417 173 288,
Anita Verne: 0407 922 783, Stephanie Meagher: 0450 609 491

DISCOVERED BEHIND THE CEILING!

By Anita Verne

Yes, a pot of Gold would have been very useful, but alas that was not found. However, we did get an inkling of how the house originally looked. Behind the store-room ceiling was discovered a patch of brickwork in all its tuck-pointed glory.

In the first decade of last century, Castellorizian House, or "Fairview" as it was named then, was one of the earliest houses in the area. At this stage, with so few houses built, the postal

system did not use property numbers. Instead, the house name or occupant's name sufficed.

It was a large property with beautiful gardens and some years later tennis courts were installed. Many community fund-raising functions were held there. 'Fairview' must have looked splendid in all her Federation elegance.



PHOTOS FROM THE PAST

Early Visitors to Castellorizo

Karen Tsapazi:

"While doing my memory book on the Tsapazi family I came across this photo that your members may be interested in seeing. I have marked my husband (deceased 2013) Panayioti Tsapazi. It was taken on 3rd August 1956 on Castellorizo."



Dr Paul Boyatzis has kindly provided the following information:

"The well-dressed lady in the black suit on the left is Mrs Krystalla Kannis. She is my aunty (my father Elias' sister) from Melbourne who visited Castellorizo with her husband, Michael, in the 1950s. I remember their voyage well as the liner passed through Fremantle and there was much excitement amongst the Perth relatives. After all, such a voyage was unusual in those times. I would think they may almost have been the earliest Cazzie Australians to visit Castellorizo post war."

SUGGESTIONS FOR NAMES from Facebook 'Castellorizo Genealogy'....

Back L to R (1st) Evangelia Pitsonis; (5th) Panayiota Karpathios; (6th) Krystalla Karpathios; (10th) Panagiotis 'Peter' Tsapazi; next to him is Dimitris Asvestis. Woman in black: Krystalla Kannis (nee Boyatzis); with the teacher in the centre.

Do You Know Anyone in this Photo?

Dr Stan's Mediterranean Corner

M: 0414271644

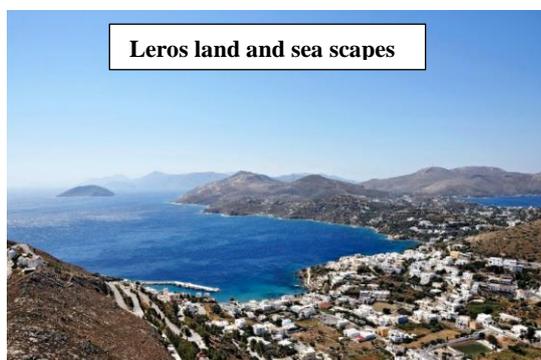
e: stan.kailis@y7mai.com

Today's edition continues the theme of Dodecanese Islands with a review of the Island of Leros.

The Island of Leros - the Island of Artemis

Leros, a Dodecanese Island in the southern Aegean Sea, off the coast of Anatolia, is of exceptional beauty. Goddess Artemis, the guardian of Leros, was not only immortal, but accurate with a bow and arrow. She had the capacity to transform herself into other forms as well as healing and controlling nature.

Leros is less than 35km from Turkey, but over 300km to Piraeus. It is accessible by ferry and plane, having a population of over 8 thousand that nearly doubles during the tourist season. Leros has had a dramatic history, having been overtaken by many groups in the past. More recent pressures included the World Wars 1 & 2, the establishment of a national psychiatric facility and detention of substantial numbers of foreign refugees.



Today the major income of the island is generated through tourism, fishing, and health related activities. These are the essentials of a Greek island desperately wanting to welcome tourists.

Geography: Leros is within sight of Patmos to the northwest and Kalymnos on the southeast. It has an area of 53 square km, a long mountainous ridge, and a rugged coastline with many coves and bays. Its deep waters have provided excellent harbour conditions during war and peace. There are numerous somewhat well-watered plains that have made this island appealing and habitable.

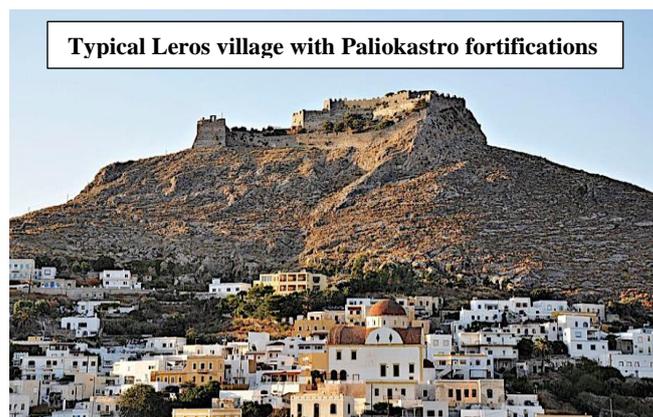


History: Historically Leros dates as far back as the stone and early bronze ages, around the 4th millennium BCE. Its inhabitants included Phoenicians and Dorians (11th century BCE) followed by the Ionians from nearby Miletus on the Anatolian coast. During the 5th century BCE Leros underwent significant social and cultural development including fortification. It played an active role during the

Peloponnesian War (431-404 BCE) and ultimately was ruled by the Spartans, and then the Persians.

Later the island came under the control of the Romans and Byzantines. During the 13th century AD, Leros was occupied by the Genoese, followed by the Venetians, Knights of St John (1309 to 1523) then the Ottomans. After participating in the Greek Revolution of 1821, they enjoyed a short period of liberation that was reversed by treaty to the Ottomans in 1830. The fiercely Greek inhabitants enjoyed a partial autonomy and self-government under the Ottomans.

Built environment: Leros has several settlements with a commercial centre at Agia Marina. Its architecture is mixed, ranging from archaic to modern structures.



Italian occupation: Italy essentially occupied the Dodecanese Islands from 1912. During the First World War, the British used Leros as a naval base. The new Italian regime endeavoured to Italianise the Dodecanese, curb Greek activities, incentivise locals to take up Italian citizenship, and make the Italian language compulsory. Furthermore, they transformed Leros with new style buildings that still exist. Leros became a crucial Italian base for the domination of the eastern Aegean Sea. From 1940 when Italy came into the Second World War, Leros was consistently bombarded by the British. After the Italians capitulated in 1943, British troops arrived at Leros, but were soon defeated by the Germans who continued occupation until the end of the war. After German evacuation, Leros was administered by the British until 1948 when it was handed over to Greece.

Mental facilities: In 1959 a National Mental Institution for around 1000 inmates was established at Lepida. This was an ill-fated endeavour that came under scrutiny regarding management and inmate care. With EU help, numbers were reduced and remaining inmates moved from the institutional setting to more humane chalet style living. During the Junta dictatorship of Greece (1967-1974), political prisoners were exiled to the site. Post 2015, a refugee reception centre for 1000 persons has been established near the mental institution site.

Agriculture and fishing: Most of the rural districts are sparsely populated with great areas of land uncultivated. Sheep, goats, and cattle are farmed providing meat, and milk for yoghurt and high-quality cheese. There is evidence of past terracing on hillsides where substantial farming activity would have occurred. In the past, fruits including figs, oranges, pears, quinces and pomegranates, almonds and vegetables were grown in the valleys. Along the hillsides, olive trees, carob trees to feed the animals and grapes for Lerosian wines were planted.

Gastronomy: Leros gastronomy is a fusion of traditional dishes, as well as Greek and Italian cuisine, the legacy of the Italian occupation. Like all Dodecanese islands, partaking of the Mediterranean Diet is evidenced by fresh seafood, salads, vegetables, white cheese, ouzo and traditional Greek coffee. Small fish, *maridakia*, are grilled or fried in olive oil, while octopus and stuffed squid are grilled or cooked in wine.

Comestibles typical to Leros

- **Gavafes** – an aromatic guava like fruit
- **Hard mizithra** cured with wood ash, oregano, brine and red wine
- **Thyme honey** from wild mountain thyme
- **Pougakakia** – a sweet dessert prepared with sweet and bitter almonds parcelled in pastry
- **Soumada** – a sweet icy cold slightly bitter drink made from sweet almonds and a few bitter ones (a type of almond milk)
- **Local wines** – red and white
- **Pasto kolio** – salted mackerel drizzled with lemon.

YOUR OLIVE TREE

The olives on your olive tree in January were a grassy green colour. They are not ready to process as green table olives yet. When their colour turns yellow to green probably around mid-March, squeeze a few with your fingers and if you get white creamy juice, they are ready. If you only like green olives, pick and process all the olives. Now you should be getting your processing containers ready. You can use any size container, but 2kg glass or plastic jars with screwcap lids are the best. You can either process the olives whole, slit or cracked (tsakistes).

Method

- **Make up a 10% salt brine (100 grams of cooking salt per litre of tap water).**
- **Fill the jars with olives and rinse them with tap water.**
- **Drain the water**
- **Add 2 tablespoonfuls of white vinegar to the olives**
- **Fill the jars completely with the 10% salt brine**
- **Partly screw on the cap (one week) to let out gas**
- **Screw on the lid tightly and leave for one or two months then check the olives for taste.**
- **If still bitter keep going.**
- **When ready add some olive oil, lemon, garlic and herbs to taste**
- **Use the same method for black ripe olives.**

WRITER'S PODIUM

The Birthday Gift

By Lefki Kailis

One balmy summer's evening, on her birthday, a mother and son decided to celebrate by strolling down to a local café strip for their evening meal. The pre-twilight golden sun was descending over the ocean, streaking the blue sky with splashes of red, yellow, and grey promising another hot day to follow. As they came closer to the water, cool air embraced them.

It seemed everybody, like them, was enjoying the outdoors. The malls were full of couples, families, and groups, promenading and socialising, creating a holiday atmosphere.

Tables were occupied inside and out at the café they had chosen, but a place became available on one of a double-strip of tables filling the footpath outside and they eventually sat down and ordered.

Groups were leaning towards each other across the table deep in conversation or pushing back their chairs in laughter. There were couples, their heads close, their hands touching, there were little children running hither and yon and teenagers strolling arm in arm.

The mother and son were talking small talk when a buxom woman carrying a large basket of flowers approached moving from table to table offering rosebuds for lovers and loved ones.

The mother averted her eyes indicating that she had no interest in buying the wares but to her surprise her young son raised his hand and called softly 'I'd like a red rose please'.

The mother was taken aback by her son's forthrightness but on reflection was impressed that this young man had thought to make such a lovely gesture on her special day.

She smiled at the irony when he asked her for five dollars, he had no ready stash of cash. So, he selected his flower, stood up and with graceful dignity presented the long-stemmed rose to a young woman across the way! He bent over and said something to her as she looked up accepting his offering.

The mother was absolutely astonished. Who is this young woman? How would my son know her? Perhaps we know her? Why has he done this?

He returned, sat down calmly, and smiled at his mother. Her confusion was mollified when her son explained 'Mum, I saw that lady was very sad and I wanted to give her something so she wouldn't cry'.

What an extraordinary boy I have?

Adapted 19 January 2022

OUR RESOURCE CENTRE BOOK PROFILE

Profiled by Lefki Kailis

Curator of the Resource Collection

February 2022

Hale, John R. (2009)

Lords of the sea: the epic story of the Athenian Navy and the birth of democracy.

N.Y., Penguin Books.

I am always pleased and more than energised with the characterisation of Έλληνες as complex beings. We know we exude the qualities of θιλοζενία (hospitality) and φιλότιμο (respect and honour) but it is satisfying to be reminded that we are also capable of ευφροία (ingenuity) and επινοητικότητα (resourcefulness). I'm not sure if we have *all* inherited these complex characteristics but we remember that Homer credits Odysseus and his fellow warriors with sophisticated skills in the defeat of the Trojans in the Iliad.

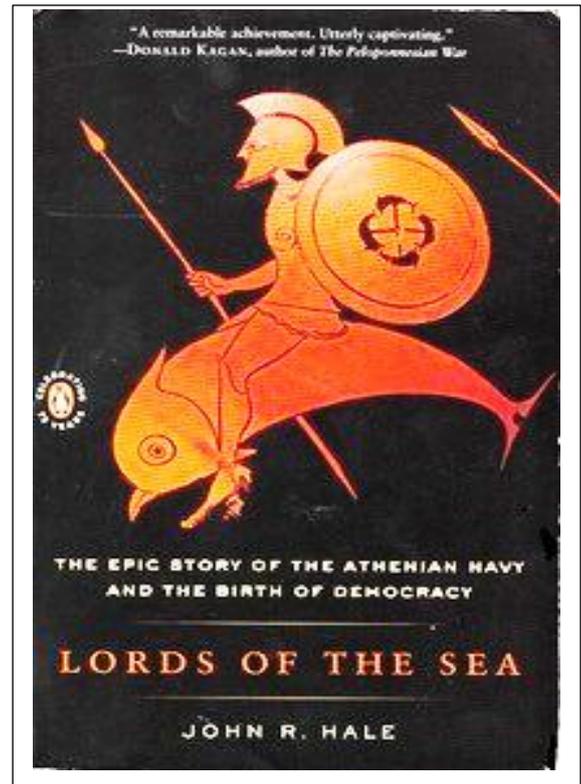
American archaeologist and historian, Professor John R. Hale, demonstrates that μῆτις or mêtis, as he translates it, was certainly a key element in the waging of the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars (483-311BC). A person with mêtis was a person who used 'craft, cunning, skill, intelligence, the power of invention and the subtlety of art.' For Greeks to have *mêtis* is considered a personal gift. We shall see how the change in strategy from land hand-to-hand combat to sea warfare sharpened the focus of the Greeks.

The Phoenicians and the Minoans from early times had mastered sea travel in the Mediterranean. Gavin Menzies in his treatise *The Lost Empire of Atlantis* advances the theory that the Minoans during the Bronze Age rowed and sailed in their triremes (three tiered) further afield to Cornwall, England for copper and even to Lake Superior, Canada. Suffice to say, Minoans, Mycenaens and early Mediterranean people had sophisticated knowledge of weather systems, the stars, coastlines, rowing and sailing.

Much later, around 500BC the grand Persian Empire conquered the eastern Mediterranean, including Samos, Lesbos and Chios. It found fault with Athens and its Greek allies for supporting these islanders when they rose up against the empire. King Xerxes of Persia was furious and determined to look west and occupy Thessaly and Attica. A couple of failed incursions saw the empire withdraw and appear to forgo further ambitions.

However, Themistocles, chief magistrate of Athens in 493BC was convinced that it was just a matter of time before Xerxes or one of his descendants would be on the march again. Themistocles believed the way to out-manoeuvre the Persians was at sea. He convinced the Assembly of Athens that the port of Piraeus should be fortified and that Athens should prepare for an invasion by the Persians even though previous attempts by the empire had been foiled.

Themistocles envisioned a thalassocracy: a city that had dominion over the seas. Athens, more than other city states, was wedded to the sea. When the Persians did declare war again, Themistocles, with allies from other city states, lured the enemy



under King Xerxes (480BC) into the Strait of Salamis. Themistocles had to use all his mêtis here to convince the huge Persian navy to trap themselves in narrow waters that favoured the Greeks. The Persians took the bait. They limped home defeated and demoralised. After Salamis, the Greeks under the Spartan leader Leotychidas, sailed east and destroyed the Persians at Plataea, and hence Persian control of the Ionian islands (Chios, Lesbos, Samos, Delos and others) in Asia Minor. These two successes proved to be decisive victories for the Greeks.

What had happened was that, even though the Persian fleet was triple the size of the Greek alliance, Themistocles' strategy and ingenuity determined the form and outcome of the battle. His notion of warfare had proved that the design of the war ships and intelligent planning, manoeuvres and resourcefulness were more important than body power and hand-to-hand combat.

The outcomes of this shift in emphasis were dramatic for Athens. Its reputation grew, it became a leader in sea power and this resulted in wealth for the city. Athenian allies paid taxes to Athens. The three layers of rowers on the triremes were thetes (landless citizens). They were paid. They were not slaves. There was pride in serving for the Athenian navy.

The elevation and greater acceptance of this section of society that had lacked wealth and influence, enhanced its standing in the community. These citizens were the demos, the *people* at the heart of Athenian democracy. The general Athenian population in these times was born into a society that was "active, adventurous, restless and proud of their exploits".

Wealthy Athenian citizens contributed significantly to the building and maintenance of the triremes. The ships were kept in prime condition. They were able to travel further and further afield bringing back goods, stories and new ways of doing

business. "A life linked to the sea bred an open spirit of experimentation and free inquiry". Athens welcomed foreign merchants. Liberal thinking, rare elsewhere, spread through the community. Sparta and other city-states were much more insular, more conservative, xenophobic and wary of change.

All lives were touched by the navy. Enlightened thinking blossomed. The philosophers Socrates, Plato and Aristotle flourished in this time. Thucydides was inspired to write about the Persian and Peloponnesian Wars and become the western world's first historian. Playwrights such as Sophocles, Aeschylus, Euripides and Aristophanes were encouraged to create tragedies, dramas and comic plays with special festivals and competitions that ensured there were abundant rewards afforded the contributors. Phidias, the sculptor, created works that immortalised the city of Athens, and Hippodamus of Miletus became famous as the first European professional urban planner. This extraordinary flowering was enhanced with the convergence of Athenian *mêtis*, sharing of the wealth that victory brought and the power of permitting free thought. The accomplishments of the navy gifted themes for poets, artists, dramatists, historians, politicians, philosophers, and legal experts.

In all these battles the gods and goddesses Zeus, Poseidon, Athena and the Oracle of Delphi were consulted and respected. Sacrifices were made. Wars were lost at times when the gods' advice was or was not followed. In the long distant past the Delphic oracle had foretold that Athens was *unsinkable* and this was a basis for the city's great belief in itself. It was the prominent Athenian general and statesman Pericles who, after a great victory and with money in the coffers, directed the erection of a grand new marble temple to Athena on the southern side of the Acropolis, the Parthenon. A magnificent bronze Phidian sculpture of the goddess herself graced the inside of the building.

At the same time Pericles believed in the age of reason. He set out to inform his citizens "that science must prevail over superstition". His intention was to inform and educate the Athenian community. He invited the enlightened to debate and give presentations. Historians, city planners, philosophers and military engineers stressed knowledge as a basis for decision-making. There were schools for public education in political science, rhetoric and philosophy. Pericles was not a warmonger; his dream was an educated, democratic society.

Over generations though as some theorists, Plato amongst them predicted, the focus on the sea and the wealth that emanated

from it would lead to "...greed and unrighteous power." Prominent leaders such as Alcibiades demonstrated what power, wealth and arrogance could do. This young, handsome paragon of hubris saw high points of success but a lowering of the standards that had developed at the height of the Golden Age, particularly *φλότσημο*. It led him into disastrous escapades that contributed to the demise of Athens as a great leader. "Democracy unchecked by reason proved as violent and unjust as any tyranny," as Hale puts it.

Who would have thought that a blow-by-blow description of every battle both on land and sea told as a naval/military history and not a social history would grip an anti-war reader and have her scurrying back to *The Illiad* and *The Odyssey* to verify stories and consolidate ideas? Hale describes breakfast, clothing and location but there is no discussion of the impact of these ongoing wars on women, on families and of what is left in war's wake!

It's the author. Hale is a brilliant storyteller. He is interested in the narrative. He loves the detail of the battles and one can imagine him pouring over a large ancient map moving the pegs representing the Persians and the Greeks around as on a chess board. He is able to captivate even us, who are normally disinterested in the strategic details of warlords. Hale writes as if the reader is thirsty for his descriptions of the battles. His intimate knowledge of every conflict is impressive. The maps are uncluttered black and white illustrations that show very clearly the relevant places of battle and the strategic moves of the warring parties. His chronology is invaluable, the glossary useful and the references confirm he is a dedicated scholar of the original classics.

It's a seminal work.

The Greeks have a deep ancestral connection to the sea through seafaring, fishing, sponge diving and coastal trade. Our Kastellorizian forebears were connected with the shipbuilding and associated trade boom of the mid nineteenth century. This long sea history gives great depth to our sense of belonging.

But the warning is there:

"Where there is hubris and self-will, know this:

The city, after a fair voyage, in time will plunge to the bottom."
Sophocles

This book is available through the State Library of Western Australia and on inter-library loan.

INVOKING THE MUSE IN YOU

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:

lkailis@yahoo.com Lefki Kailis

The Kastellorizian Association is supported by

lotterywest

EMPIRE PATROL

A Poignant Recollection

and WEBSITE UPDATE

By Allan Cresswell

A great email was received from Ann Caine of the United Kingdom in response to the Empire Patrol website which has also seen other past contributions from the sailors on the rescue ships and submarine. The email is as follows:

“My father, Arthur Bushnell, was in the Royal Navy during World War II. Throughout his life, he often related a story about jumping off the flight deck of an aircraft carrier to rescue people drowning in the water. In his later years he suffered from memory loss, but he never forgot the story, repeating it so many times that I could relay it verbatim.....”and the call went up - ALL SWIMMERS UP ON DECK! We went up and were told, “Over you go lads - save who you can!” and then he told of the long drop down into the sea and how he thought he'd never reach the surface again. He saved a 12-year-old girl and a lady by swimming them to the rafts that had been put down from the ship. He used to say how exhausting it was (he was a 23-year-old fit rugby player) and how he could barely get back up the ladder himself following the rescue.

Throughout his life he remained very upset at the thought of bodies floating in the sea and the hymn "For Those in Peril on the Sea" would reduce him to tears. My dad died on 26th October 2017. He was 95. A few months later there was a post on Facebook by the daughter of a gentleman who had been on H.M.S. Trouncer, asking if any of his shipmates were still alive. I replied with information about my dad as did many others. One person included a link to your website.

I was amazed to see the pictures and realised they were the same as the ones in my dad's photo album. I pulled out one of them, and sure enough, in my dad's handwriting, was confirmation that these photos were of H.M.S. Trouncer going to the rescue of the Empire Patrol!!

I was absolutely fascinated to read the whole, sad story about the poor people from Castellorizo who perished when they should have been returning home. Until then, I hadn't realised the significance of my dad's story as he'd never given any details other than of the experience of jumping off the carrier into the water, etc. It was such a shame that I didn't see this when he was alive as he would have loved to read it all. I felt so proud to know that he had saved two people from drowning. The 12-year-old girl he saved might still be alive.....? ”



Arthur Edward Bushnell - H.M.S. Trouncer

I have attached a photo of my dad. I have looked at pictures of Castellorizo since. What a beautiful place!

The story is a sad one, even though Trouncer saved 420 people. However, I am very proud of my brave Dad.”

The Empire Patrol Disaster website has been recently updated with additional information and photographs. The website can be viewed at:
<https://www.empirepatrol.com/>.

One of the updates comes from Doctor Paul Boyatzis who has provided the survivor passenger list for the Empire Patrol ship enroute from Egypt to Castellorizo. It makes very interesting reading, and the listing can be viewed by going to the section titled 'Perished and Survivor List'. Many of the surnames are anglicised and not often as the way the surname is usually spelt today. Also included are the ages of the passengers and each family appear to be listed under each individual family group. Those who perished are on a separate list.

Also, this website has been updated with a second article by Doctor Paul Boyatzis, together with eight photographs of the memorial service of the 75th anniversary of the Empire Patrol disaster held at Saints Constantine and Helene Church in Perth. The service was held on Sunday 4th October 2020 but the article and photos were only recently uploaded to the website. They can be viewed at the section titled 'Commemorations'.

CAZZIE TRIBUTE

By Allan Cresswell – compiled from various websites



Anthony Michael Kannis

Anthony Michael Kannis is the youngest child of Michael and Anne (nee Passaris). He is married to Stacey with two sons Michael and Jack. Anthony is proud of his Castellorizian heritage, a member of our Association and in his younger days captained a team in the Hellenic Cricket club as well as being a past president of the Hellenic Youth Association.

Anthony has worked in the public sector for over four decades in a range of roles including Deputy Chairperson of the Western Australian Treasury Corporation, Western Australia Police, the Western Australian Planning Commission's Infrastructure Coordinating Committee, the Western Australian Government nominee on the Infrastructure Australia Board and most recently as the Program Director of METRONET.

On the 8th February 2022, Planning Minister Rita Saffioti announced Anthony Michael Kannis' appointment as Director General of the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. This appointment follows Anthony being awarded the **Public Service Medal** and being named in the **COVID-19 Honour Roll** in the Australia Day Honours List this year. **The award was recognition for outstanding public service to transport and infrastructure reform, particularly through METRONET.**

In 2017, Anthony was appointed Project Director (now Program Director) of METRONET, Perth's largest investment in public transport. Since that time, he has driven and implemented the agency's robust governance framework, critical to the State Government's economic response to COVID-19. He has amassed multiple achievements including early release of remaining METRONET planning projects to market to assist with economic stimulation, creating a strong pipeline of work and jobs for WA and championing the METRONET Aboriginal Engagement Strategy.

During his time as WA Police Executive Director, Anthony contributed significantly to the Frontline 2020 reform program. He also championed gender and equity reform in his portfolio, greatly increasing the number of women in senior positions.

The Castellorizian Association of Western Australia salutes you, Anthony, for your longstanding service, achievements, recognitions and awards received and ongoing contributions to the public sector of the State of Western Australia. Bravo Anthony!

Calling Garden Gurus

We would like to form a group of enthusiastic people interested in assisting with the **gardens and grounds** of Castellorizian House.

You may have ideas, you might be able to provide morning tea, or you might be handy with secateurs or a spade or reticulation. You may have some good fund-raising suggestions. Green thumbs not a prerequisite - we welcome all input.

Our first project is to tidy up the grounds after the renovations, followed by a call for creativity as we work on the design of special areas of garden and communal spaces. When and how often to meet to be discussed.

Please contact Anita Verne on 0407 922 783 or Tony Kostarelas on 0418 965 869, or any member of the committee if you'd like to know more.



Castellorizian Association Member's caps \$20 each



These caps have only recently become available, but we only have 200 left, so contact committee member for yours

SEE IT IN COLOUR

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

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

CONTACTING YOUR COMMITTEE

Jim Manifis (President):	0433 165 601
Helen Anastasas (Vice-president):	0421 644 163
Margaret-Anne Manifis (Secretary):	0419 831 434
Steve (Sava) Filmer (Treasurer):	0418 907 101
Voula Terzoudi (Hall Hire):	0452 504 790

(Hall hire - If a week day, after 4pm please)

DONATIONS THANK YOU

From October 2021 to March 2022

Everyone appreciates the donations made by members and in particular the 'In-Memorial Donations' to honour either a deceased Castellorizian Association member, a family member or friend. Many people choose this avenue instead of placing a notice in the newspaper.

The donation is made direct to our association through contact with the treasurer. The family of the deceased receives a letter advising the name of the donor. The donor also receives a letter of thanks which doubles as a receipt for their gift.

BANK DETAILS

For queries, please contact Treasurer Steve Filmer email cazziewa@outlook.com OR mobile 0418907101

BANK: Commonwealth Bank of Aust.
Account Name: Castellorizian Association of WA
BSB: 066 129 Account: 008 002 17

BANK REFERENCE:
It is important that you use your m/ship CODE, or member NAME with middle initial. Otherwise, we can't identify you.

IN MEMORIAM DONATIONS

DATE	DONORS	IN MEMORY OF:
November	Anthony & Jessie Zempilas	Dorothy Mangos
January	Eva Boyatzis & Family	Rose Boyatzis
	Anthony & Jessie Zempilas	Rose Boyatzis
February	Stasha Antonas	Rene Barboutis
	Jessie Papamatheos	Paul Gregory
	Sava & Anita Filmer	Victor Vlahos
March	Sava & Anita Filmer	Nick Nicholas

GENERAL DONATIONS

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

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Cazzie Website Administrator

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

Please contact Steve Filmer on 0418 907 101

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