



# The KYTHERIAN

The Newsletter of the Kytherian Association of Australia  
PO Box A203, Sydney South NSW 1235  
www.kytherianassociation.com.au

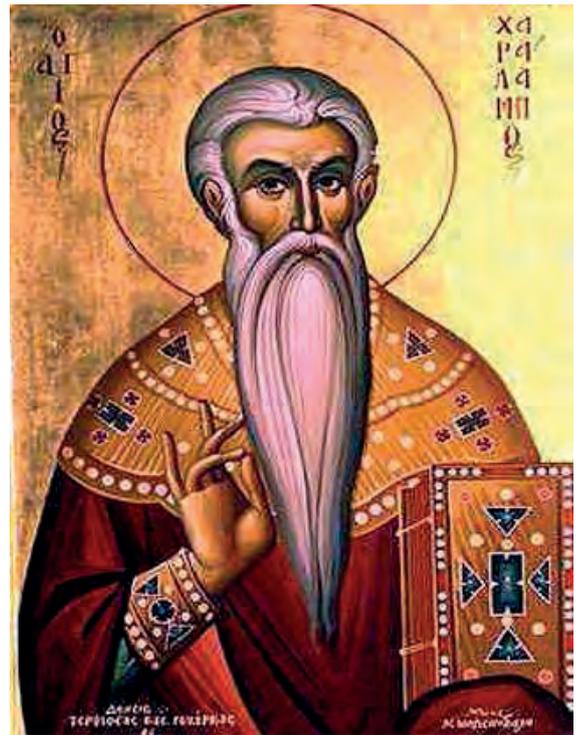
FEBRUARY 2010



## Παμε στο Καραβιτικο!!



**The Karavitiko Symposium**  
invites you to come along and enjoy a  
superb luncheon to celebrate  
την ημερα του Αγιου Χαραλαμπου



**Date:** Sunday 21st February 2010  
**Venue:** All Saints Greek Orthodox Church  
& Hall, Cnr Isabel & Cecilia Sts Belmore  
**Time:** Morning Church Service  
(Icon procession approx. 9.45am).  
Luncheon - (in Church Hall)  
11.30am - 4.30 pm  
**Cost:** \$55.00 Adults  
\$35.00 Children (under 12)



**Bookings:** George Poulos 93888320  
Peter Poulos 0409 666238  
Theo Poulos 0409 449927, 91509069



## KYTHO CALENDAR



**Fridays 5th Feb - 26th March 2010**  
Weekly Greek dancing lessons - Term 1

**Change of date:**

**Sunday 21st February 2010**  
Agios Haralambos Church Service and Lunch (details on front page & flyer).

**Change of date:**

**Saturday 10th April 2010**  
Nicholas A. Aroney Encouragement Awards (details on page 3).

**Sunday 4th April 2010**  
Easter Sunday (Pascha)



## MUMS & BUBS

"Mums and Bubs" outings are to be held once a month on a Friday, for babies and children up to 4 years. For more information please call **Pamela Efstathis** on **0409 987 789**.



## Editor's Note

Happy New Year Everyone!

I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and that 2010 will be a year full of good health and happiness for all of us.

Like most people, I always make a resolution or two at the start of the year and of course, again like most people...I tend to break it well before January is over.

This year, my resolution was (notice the past tense) that I will be more tolerant and not whinge about things in general. Unfortunately, it had little chance of success as we spent the early hours of the year at Mrs. Macquarie's Chair. The photo below reflects the view of Sydney's spectacular midnight fireworks display from where we sat. We watched them with friends and had a lovely time. However, it occurred to me that I



really enjoyed myself because of the company...not the fireworks. Personally, I think that they are such a total waste of money! Imagine what millions of dollars could do for people in need, not to mention that pyrotechnics are not exactly beneficial for the environment.

Also, New Year's Eve really brings out the best and worst in people. Everyone is so friendly but once the fireworks end, the dynamics change. People are less tolerant and easily annoyed (especially yours truly) when caught in the crush of thousands of tired people trying to battle their way home.

Hence my resolution suffered an extremely early demise this year. As far as the fireworks go...been there, done that, tick it off. Next year I will be definitely be watching them on Sky or CNN.

On an entirely different note, we would like our readers to know that we have changed printers. We are now producing the newsletter in colour at only a slight increase over the cost of printing in black & white.

Consequently, we will continue with colour. The only drawback is that the printing process is now substantially longer. Therefore, the cut-off date for articles to be submitted is now the **18th** of each month. This is to ensure that the newsletter is mailed out early in the following month.

Note: For the printers to achieve maximum clarity, please send your information and photos by email.

PS. I would like to thank Kythera-Family.net for the use of some of the beautiful photos that are uploaded on its site (Stephen Trifyllis and George Vardas in particular) as well as my son Josh, who took over the reins of the "Summer Edition" last month, thus allowing me to take the month off.





## CHANGE OF DATE



# Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards Night

We are inviting Students of Kytherian descent to submit their Year 2009 HSC Results and UAI scores for the Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards.

This lovely Awards Dinner function will be held at

**Venue : Twin Reception Centre**

**560 Botany Street, Alexandria**

**Date : Saturday 10th April, 2010**

**Time : 7.00pm**

**Cost : \$50 Adult & \$25 Children**

Please send Results ( copy of UAI result and Higher School Certificate marks ) to:

**Nicholas Anthony Aroney Encouragement Awards**

**c/- The Kytherian Association of Australia**

**PO Box A203 SYDNEY SOUTH NSW 1235**

Any enquiries should be addressed to Victor Kepreotis on 0408 216 108 and for bookings please call Kathy Samios on 9349 1849.

**The closing date for applications is 26th March 2010.**

### **BIOGRAPHY OF NICHOLAS ANTHONY ARONEY** (article courtesy of Peter Vanges' book "Kythera-A History").

**Nicholas Anthony Aroney (Anastasopoulos)** was born in Aroniathika, Kythera, on 14th February 1899. An only child, his mother died very early in his life; his father was far away in America. For some years Nick was in the care of his grandmother in Kythera; but it was a life of poverty. In 1914, at just fifteen years of age, he boarded a German ship bound for Australia. War intervened and they were to go no further than Batavia in Java. Nick was forced to find another ship to take him to Sydney. The long and tortuous trip was to end in 1914 in the small country town of Warren in New South Wales where he took up employment working for an uncle. Times were difficult; wages were very low, but through hard work and frugality, Nick was able to accumulate some capital. In 1919, he bought, together with his first cousin Nicholas Aroney (Papadominakos), the "New York Cafe" in the town of Nowra, 161 kilometres south of Sydney. Years later, in 1936, they were to move to Wollongong, 80 kilometres further north, as proprietors of the "Spot Cafe". This, in turn, was sold in 1940 and Nick Aroney moved to Sydney where for some years during the war he was employed in the famous "Hotel Australia". He became the senior partner in a number of businesses in Sydney, notably the "Coronet Restaurant", the "Chicken Grill", and "St James Milk Bar"; he acquired as well substantial real estate interests. Somewhat late in life, in 1962, Nick married Natasha, a lady of beauty, style and culture who had grown up in Vienna. Together they ran a small clothing manufacturing enterprise. It was a very happy marriage. They built a fine home in the prestigious suburb of Pymble and they made several trips to Greece, visiting on each occasion the beloved island of his childhood. Nick Aroney died in Sydney in 1986 at the age of eighty-seven. Nicholas Aroney left behind a trust fund, which since his death has funded dozens of important projects related to Kythera and Greece.



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for the world-wide Kytherian Community



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## The Great Walls of Kythera

You can't have visited Kythera without having noticed the incredible stone walls in fields, along mountain ridges, in the old houses now in ruins... You might even have a few interesting photos of them in your albums - I know I do. How many thousands of hours were spent removing the stones from the fields and using them in walls to demarcate the boundaries or simply to create an enclosure for the precious animals almost all Kytherian families used to keep? They are as much a part of our Kytherian inheritance as the houses and olive trees. It might sound a bit far-fetched, but I think they have the potential to put Kythera on the cultural map (yet again) in the form of photographs in an exhibition and/or a book. So here's my offer: If we can get together at least one hundred high-class pictures of those beautiful walls over the next year, I will personally see to it that it is put together in a book called "The Great Walls of Kythera". If you're handy with a camera you've still got a year to take some great pictures of them, but perhaps you already have some. Or if one of your relatives dabbled in photography, go through their old slides and find The Walls. I've just created a new category in the Island Photography section of the site called "Great Walls", to which you can (easily) upload your pictures. After a year we'll see what we've got and contact those whose pictures we'd like to use for their permission (and for high-resolution versions of the pictures - the one's on the site won't do for the printed page). Everyone whose wall picture(s) appear in the book will receive a few free copies of the book. If you think I might have had too much sun in Greece this year and gone wall-nuts, then I can assure you that the walls have huge aesthetic potential. I've uploaded a few pictures to the site already and you can see for yourself what I mean: [Great Walls](#). I look forward to seeing your pictures posted soon. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at [james@kythera-family.net](mailto:james@kythera-family.net).

## The Kythera Power-Tower-Dump Saga Continues

2010 will probably be the year when the government and authorities in Athens decide upon whether Kythera will become a giant industrial wind-power station or not. While the rest of Europe is discontinuing the subsidisation of electricity generated by wind because of its unreliability - see [The Problems with Wind Power](#) - the energy corporations are turning their attention to Greece where the penny still hasn't dropped and millions in subsidies are on offer. While it would be negligent not to pursue alternatives to the current CO2 producing power plants, it would be foolhardy to replace one environmental problem with another - more about that below.

One environmental group on the island is distributing posters and stickers opposing the proposals, others are preparing to mount a legal challenge if the regulatory body gives the go-ahead to the major corporations vying for the millions in subsidies on offer. At the same time a small group of us investigated the possibility of creating an energy company in Greece which would also utilise Kythera's ample wind and sun to produce electricity for Kythera on a scale appropriate to the size of the island - the previously mentioned industrial wind-farms would consist of upwards of two-hundred towers each more than 80 meters high while Kythera's own energy needs require only 5 towers of that size. Unfortunately the regulatory body (RAE) which decides who can put electricity into the grid, only allows the "big players" into the game. Small-scale environmentally sensible (for Kythera) utility companies are blocked out completely. When I left the island in December the RAE hadn't even put Kythera on the list of locations where private homeowners could put the energy from their solar-modules into the grid. Hopefully that will change one day soon but until then we have to remain vigilant that our island isn't turned into one big power-tower-dump.

There are two pdfs to download which can help you become active in opposition, if you are so inclined. The first is a newsletter by the Kythera Action Group led by John Stathatos who plan to commission a study of migratory birds over Kythera, a study which they believe the most effective weapon against the whirling-circus corporations.

So far they have raised more than half of the €6,000 (A\$10,000, US\$8,650) needed to complete the study. Your donation to the fund can make a real difference: only one hundred more donations of \$50 will do the trick. Read more about their plans and how to donate in the [KAG Newsletter](#).

The second pdf is one which I have created which maps the 10 sites already under threat of "tower-dumping". It also lists the official RAE submission with a link to the original documents on the RAE website. For all those still in denial about the real threat to the island, those documents unfortunately verify the seriousness of the plans.

We are also putting together a new info-site at [SaveKythera.com](#) on which we will gather all the information we have regarding the proposed industrial wind-farms. One of our aims is to analyse the "energy equation" and we need help with that. Experts in other countries have calculated that some wind-farms actually require more energy to construct and maintain than they ever produce in their life-times. For example it takes about 2 years before one wind-generator produces enough energy to cover what it took just to create the pieces in it - that doesn't include the transport, the huge amounts of concrete needed (each ton of concrete creates one ton of CO2!) in the foundation, the construction and materials to create new roads and even a new or modified port which can handle the 30-meter pieces of the wind-towers - imagine them trying to get something that long up the current roads from Diakofti or Pelagia to a mountain-top west of Logothetianika. Add to that the digging, the maintenance, the new cables to the central Peloponnese where the high-voltage electricity has to be delivered to go into the national grid, and, last but not least, the energy needed to clean up the mess when the towers are obsolete mammoth rusty hulks, and the "negative-energy" scenario might just apply to Kythera. Wouldn't that just be the icing on the cake: the island's skyline is desecrated in the name of green energy, and the whole fiasco actually produces more CO2 than it saves? You might wonder why the energy companies would even consider building ecologically inefficient wind-farms in the first place? I can only guess, but the answer might well be that they couldn't care less: they sell the energy produced at an exorbitant price subsidised by the Greek tax-payer, and their initial costs are subsidised by the EU. The fat-cats at the top pocket their yearly bonuses (probably determined by how many towers they've managed to have constructed) and are long-gone when it's time to clean up the mess. So if any of you are adept at the calculation of such "equations" and are willing to crunch numbers with me, please let me know. And by the way, if you'd like to, we'd appreciate it if you would sign our [SaveKythera Petition](#).

## A Reminder

Kythera-Family.net is all about linking-up and informing the Great International Kytherian Family. In case you've forgotten, the platform was designed to allow you all to easily upload your Kytherian-family-heritage material so your family and cousins - no matter how distant - can share in that heritage (and you of course can see their submissions). Pictures, stories, letters, family trees and much much more are on the site - 14,921 of them at last count - and in 2009 there were more than sixty-thousand visitors on the site who viewed just over a million pages of Kytherian heritage - see the stats sheet included below. If you have some material - even just a single group photo of Kytherians from the first 50 years of last century - putting it on the site could cause ripples of elation being felt across the globe. It's fast, easy and free and you can view the step-by-step guide.

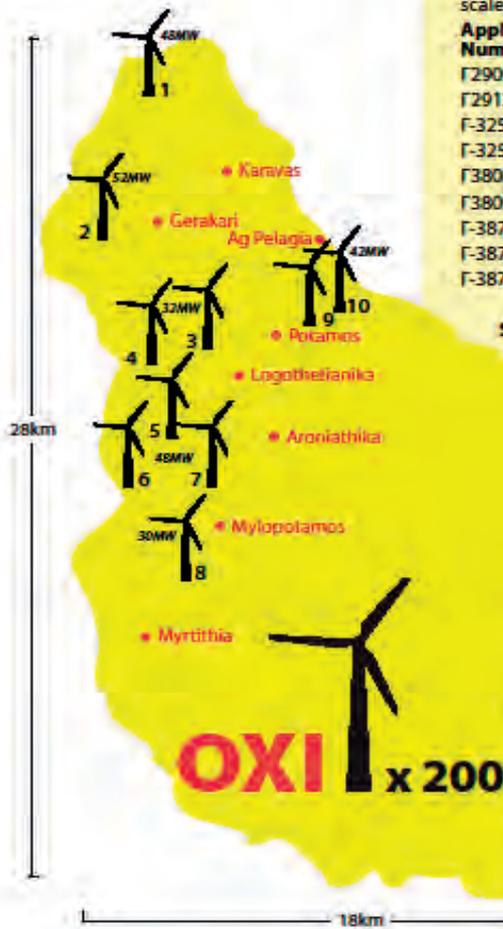
Once again, all of us at Kythera-Family.net wish you a wonderful year,

**James Prineas**

Team Leader Europe (currently in Australia)

## More than 200 Mammoth Wind-Generators on Kythera?

Applications have been received proposing wind-parks on ten sites on Kythera from five major corporations. Millions in long-term Greek government and EU subsidies are at stake. The Island's pristine nature will be spoilt and more harm than good done to the environment!



The following applications have been received by the Greek Regulatory Authority for Energy for the construction of industrial scale wind-farms on Kythera. **And this could be just the beginning!**

Application Number	Date	MW*	Location
Γ2909	10.10.2007	30	Foinikies (4)
Γ2913	10.10.2007	30	Merminagares (8)
Γ-3251	08.02.2008	48	Krotiria (5), Kefalovouni (7), Pyrgos (6)
Γ-3250	08.02.2008	42	Krotiri (10), Kefalakia (9)
Γ3808	10.02.2009	48	Kserokampia (1)
Γ3809	10.02.2009	52	Korthelithes (2)
Γ-3876	10.04.2009	32	Karvounolakkos (3), Finikies (4)
Γ-3877	10.04.2009	18	Mermingares (8)
Γ-3879	10.04.2009	21	Krotiria (5), Kefalovouni (7)
<b>Total MW:</b>		<b>321*</b>	

See the official Dept. of Energy Webpage listings yourself at [www.rae.gr/lic/lic\\_mainc.htm](http://www.rae.gr/lic/lic_mainc.htm) \* MegaWatt.  
If 1.5MW Generators are used 321MW = 214 Wind-generators

**The proposed Wind-Generators will be visible (and audible?) from these and neighboring villages:**

Agia Anastasia, Agia Pelagia, Aroniathika, Areoi, Chrisoforiana, Diakopoulia, Dourianika, Gerakari, Kato Hora, Karavas, Kousounari, Lianianika, Logothianika, Mylopotamos, Perligianika, Petrouni, Pitsinathes, Platia Ammos, Potamos, Progi, Rizes, Stavli, Tryfilianika, Vouno.

**Your family village not on the list?**

*Don't get too smug – these applications might only be the beginning. Even the approval of one wind-park on the island will make it easier for the rest of Kythera to be re-zoned for industrial use. You might then see wind-towers and factories and dumps spoiling the view from your spitaki...*

**Green Energy?** The construction of an industrial wind-generator requires as much energy as the generator produces in 2 years. Add to that the enormous amounts of energy needed to build new ports and roads to enable the huge structures to be transported to and on the island, and thousands of tons of cement imported, trucked and poured for the foundation of the power-station-towers. Hundreds of kilometres of new cable and major power-masts are needed to connect them to the closest relay station in the central Peloponnese. Will the proposed industrial wind-parks on Kythera ever produce enough energy to cover what they required to be set up? Is it worth the visual pollution of two-hundred towers to find out? And who will clear up the mess when most of them are useless wrecks in 20 years?

**Stop the madness! Sign the petition at [www.SaveKythera.com](http://www.SaveKythera.com)**

The Future Skyline of Kythera?



*A photo-simulation of what the proposed 80m towers over the seaside village of Pelagia would look like. Corporations have applied to build forty-two megawatts - at least 21 towers - right there above the road leading up to Potamos. You can see many more photo simulations at [SaveKythera.com](http://SaveKythera.com) on the "How Will it Look" page.*



# NEW YEAR'S DAY DANCE



Our New Year's Day Dance on Friday 1st January, witnessed the return to a favourite haunt of the Kytherian Association...the **Crystal Lounge** (formerly known as the Grand Barclay Reception Centre and now under new management). The dance was once again a successful evening and the kefi on the dance floor was proof of that! I am sure all the parents, grandparents, relatives and friends of our Kytherian Dancers would have been very proud of the children's dancing performances as selected by our very talented dancing teacher, **Joanna Tsakiridis** with her assistant, **Penelope Samios**. Congratulations to all the lucky prize winners (as listed below) and especially to the winner of the gold 2010 coin, **Spiro Tzannes**. Kai tou xponou!

**Victor Kepreotis**  
President

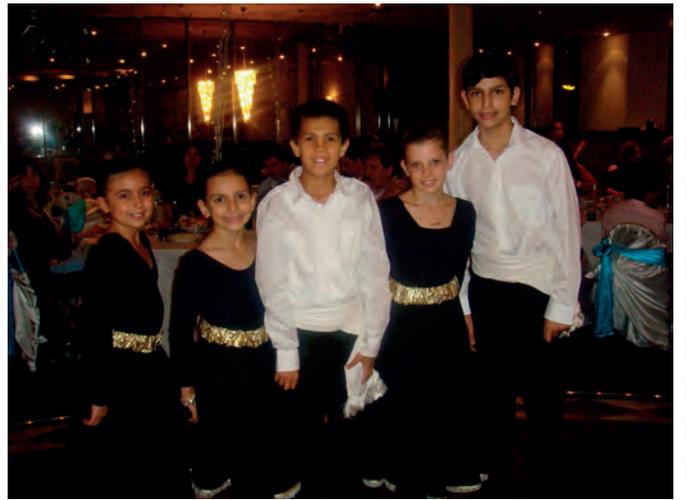
## RAFFLE PRIZES:

- 1ST PRIZE **Toshiba HDMI 26 inch LCD TV** (donated by **Kytherian Association of Australia Committee**, valued at \$800) and won by **Paul Satouris**.
- 2ND PRIZE **St George Smallgoods Gift Voucher** (donated by **Nick & Kathy Haros**, valued at \$300) and won by **Zeljko Milanov**.
- 3RD PRIZE **Triple Volume Set (Vols 1, 2 & 3) "Greeks In Australia"** by Hugh Gilchrist (donated by **Mr Angelo Notaras**, valued at \$200) and won by **Vickie Papadakis**.
- 4TH PRIZE **Diethnes Greek Restaurant** (donated by the **Management - Mr & Mrs J. Ventouris**, valued at \$150) and won by **Michael Preneas**.
- 5TH PRIZE **Double Volume Set - Life in Australia 1916 - Greek & English** - (donated by **Mr Angelo Notaras**, valued at \$80) and won by **Effie Sophios**.
- 6TH PRIZE **Bohemia Crystal Glass Set** ( donated by **Chris & Stella Papachristou**) and won by **Costa Antzoulatos**.
- 7TH PRIZE Travel Hair Care Products & Babyliss Pro Mini Straightening Iron (donated by **Hairbiz**, valued at \$97) and won by **Martha Fardouly**.
- 8TH PRIZE Vase from "Psonia" on Rocky Point Road San Souci, (donated by **Maria & Natassa Andrew**, valued at \$80) and won by **Jim Castrissios**.

## LUCKY DOOR PRIZE

- 1st Prize Basket of chocolates (donated by **Manuel & Martha Fardoulis** from **Fardoulis Chocolates**) won by **Gina Satouris**.
- 2nd Prize Basket of liquor (donated by the **Management of Crystal Lounge**) won by **Shirley Jenkins**.
- 3rd Prize 2 bottles of wine (donated by **Spiro Coolentianos**) won by **Stephanie Cass**.





## Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine studies in Venice



The name **Chryssa Maltezou** may not spring to mind for many of our readers. However, as Kytherians we owe this eminent Byzantine scholar an immense debt of gratitude for the enormous work she carried out in the mid 1970s to restore the precious Historical Archives in Kythera.

So why am I reminding you of this? My attention was drawn to an article appearing in the Greek language *Kathimerini* on-line newspaper on 20 January 2010 about rumours that appear to be doing the rounds in Athens over the future of Professor Maltezou and the prestigious Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies in Venice which she heads.

Professor Maltezou was elected in 1998 by the University of Athens to be Director of the Institute and has held that position ever since.

According to the newspaper, when the Institute - which relies solely on donations to fund its operations - recently proposed its new budget, the position of Professor Maltezou as Director was not confirmed amidst suggestions that there are people within the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs who wish to change the direction and focus of the Institute and make it more of a cultural centre.

Professor Maltezou has reportedly asked for a meeting with the Greek Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs but so far there has been no reply although official sources within the Ministry have stated that there will be no change in the personnel of the Institute.

In 2006 Professor Maltezou was awarded an international prize by the Onassis Foundation in recognition of her years of service towards the preservation and promotion of Greek history and culture, as well as to the development of exact sciences.

The Prize was presented by the President of the Hellenic Republic Karolos Papoulias.

During her acceptance speech, Chryssa Maltezou had this to say about the Institute:

*“Established in the city that has been appropriately described as practically another Byzantium, the Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies is Greece’s only scientific research centre abroad. Dedicated to the study of the past and the management of historic memory, it is also the heir to invaluable treasures, monuments, art works, archives and documents that were created and collected with devotion, perfect taste and energy in Saint Mark’s city by Greek refugees after the fall of Constantinople. If legacy, as Arnold Toynbee says, is a current bank account in which deposits and withdrawals are continuously recorded, then the Institute in the course of its scientific progress is steadily operating the spiritual account opened centuries ago at the cultural bank of Europe by the Greeks who settled in the lagoon. Taking over from the formerly flourishing brotherhood of Venice, the Institute is pursuing the dialogue initiated by the Greeks and the Venetians since the time when the city of the doges was Byzantine.*

*A gateway to Greek science in Europe today, the Institute covers a very wide range of research topics, relating in particular to the period of Venetian rule.*

*During this important period of Greek history, the Greek areas under Venetian rule became a crossroads where Byzantine humanist thinking was able to come in daring contact with the movements in Renaissance Europe. It is precisely this phenomenon of a fertile encounter between Greek culture and Western sources and the successful communion of Byzantine and Western tradition that the Institute is studying, providing through its systematic research activities a better insight into the social conditions that determined Hellenism's historic evolution over time.*

*Even more important is the Institute's contribution for the preservation, conservation and management of the cultural treasures of the Greek Diaspora and for the promotion of Byzantine and post-Byzantine legacy. From its inception until today the Institute is striving to enhance and promote the unique collection of icons, which are exhibited in its Museum, the valuable archival items, the rare books of its library and the monumental complex on the so-called Square of the Greeks."*

The Greek Institute for Byzantine and post-Byzantine studies in Venice is a major cultural and historic institution that needs to be preserved. It is internationally renowned as a research center highly respected by the academic community. In 2003 the Institute under the direction of Professor Maltezou published "Venezia e Cerigo" (Venice and Cerigo) being the transcript of proceedings at an international symposium held in Venice in December 2002 to discuss the Venetian influence in Kythera.

Professor Maltezou is also the author of a seminal essay on the history of the Venetian occupation of Kythera which was initially published in a book of essays written in honour of the Byzantine scholar, Peter Charanis. Both books are in the Kytherian Association Library.

As the Onassis Foundation commented when making its award to Professor Maltezou, she has written more than 100 studies on aspects of Greek history during the Latin rule in the East, focusing on various facets of the relations between the Byzantine and post-Byzantine world on the one hand and Venice on the other. Her main interests focus on two areas: (a) the period of Venetian rule in Greece, the relations of Hellenism and the West, the Greeks under Frankish and Venetian rule, during the Byzantine and post-Byzantine period and (b) archival, palaeographic and diplomatic research.

On the basis of unpublished and largely unknown archival material that she discovered in various archival collections and libraries, especially in Venice, she has studied the problems that Westerners faced when they settled in the Mediterranean; further, the relations that developed between the Greeks and non-Greeks (two-way impact, cultural exchanges) in the Byzantine and post-Byzantine periods. Moreover, her research in the primary archival sources in monastery collections, libraries and archives, both in Greece and abroad, led her to carry out systematic classification, cataloguing, publication and evaluation of archival documentation. Kythera was of course a primary beneficiary of that skill and determination to preserve our archival records.

The Institute itself became operational in 1955. Situated in Venice's *Campo dei Greci* site, the Institute houses a magnificent museum and library with more than 25 thousand volumes with many invaluable books printed in Venice in the 16th to the 18th centuries as well as rare manuscripts dating back to the 13th century and tracing the history of Hellenism in Venice.

It is also adjacent to St George's Orthodox Cathedral which is the oldest church of the Greek Orthodox Diaspora. The church was built by famous Italian architects in the Renaissance style, after repeated requests for a building permit by the city's Orthodox community of Greek intellectuals and Greek soldiers serving in the Venetian army. It formed the nucleus of a Greek community that numbered 15,000 in its heyday. It is hoped that the Hellenic Institute of Byzantine and Post-Byzantine Studies continues to flourish under the guidance of Chryssa Maltezou and that the Kytherian connection never wanes.

**George Vardas**



# Social News

## Births

Congratulations to **John & Chrisanthe Comino** of Artarmon on the birth of their first child, **Leo John (Elias)**. Leo is the second grandchild for **Leo & Doula Comino** of Eastwood and the fourth grandson for **Jim & Elpida Makris** of Hunters Hill. We wish the new family all the very best in the future.



## Christenings

Congratulations to **Jason & Vicki Gomes** of Sans Souci on the Christening of their daughter, Irene (**Emelia**).

Proud grandparents are **Stavros & Irene Calligeros** of Dubbo and **José & Maria Gomes** of Wollongong. The Christening was held at Panayia Myrthiotissa, Kogarah followed by a beautiful reception at the Botany Bay Seafood Restaurant, Brighton.

The very proud Godmother is **Marianna Giaouris**.





## KYTHERA INCLUDED IN ΚΤΗΜΑΤΟΛΟΓΙΟ (NATIONAL LAND REGISTRY)

I am indebted to **John Tripidakis** for advising the Kytherian Association that on 12 January 2010 the Greek Government issued a formal announcement including Kythera in the latest roll-out of the Ktimatologio or new National Land Registry. Extracts of the official announcement issued by the Ministry of the Environment, Energy and Climate Change are reproduced below as they apply to the island:

*Η Υπουργός Περιβάλλοντος, Ενέργειας και Κλιματικής Αλλαγής υπέγραψε σήμερα δύο αποφάσεις.*

*A. Κηρύσσει υπό κτηματογράφηση τις εναπομείνουσες περιοχές της Αττικής.*

*B. Ανατίθενται στο «Κτηματολόγιο Α.Ε.» οι εργασίες κατάρτισης δασικού χάρτη κατόπιν διαγωνισμών, στις υπό κτηματογράφηση περιοχές της Αττικής.*

*Έτσι μπαίνουν οι βάσεις για την ουσιαστική προστασία των δασών της πρωτεύουσας τόσο από καταπατήσεις όσο και από την αυθαίρετη δόμηση.*

### **ΚΑΤΑΛΟΓΟΣ ΤΩΝ ΥΠΟ ΚΤΗΜΑΤΟΓΡΑΦΗΣΗ ΠΕΡΙΟΧΩΝ**

1. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΑΡΩΝΙΑΔΙΚΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
2. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΚΑΡΑΒΑ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
3. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΚΑΡΒΟΥΝΑΔΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
4. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΚΟΝΤΟΛΙΑΝΙΚΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
5. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
6. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΛΙΒΑΔΙΟΥ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
7. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΛΟΓΟΘΕΤΙΑΝΙΚΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
8. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΜΗΤΑΤΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
9. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΜΥΛΟΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
10. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΜΥΡΤΙΔΙΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
11. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΠΟΤΑΜΟΥ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
12. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΦΡΑΤΣΙΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ
13. Τοπικό διαμέρισμα ΦΡΙΛΙΓΚΙΑΝΙΚΩΝ του Δήμου ΚΥΘΗΡΩΝ του Νομού ΑΤΤΙΚΗΣ

As you can see, the Government has included the communities of Aroniadika, Karavas, Karvounades, Kondolianika, Kythera (Hora), Livadi, Logothetianika, Mitata, Milopotamos, Myrtidia, Potamos, Fratsia and Friligianika as part of the Land Registry.

The announcement also declares that forest maps will also be assigned to the Land Registry and in this way the foundations will be laid for the effective protection of forests and the detection and prosecution of illegal constructions.

In the past the Government has allowed expatriates six (6) months from the date of proclamation to submit their paperwork.

John Tripidakis, a lawyer with experience in this area and who is now practising in Sydney, believes that expatriates (including Kytherians) will be given more time in which to lodge. However, he stresses that landowners should start getting their documentation together now to order to perfect their Titles and to bring them under their names and have them registered promptly at the Ktimatologio.

We will provide more information in the next Kytherian newsletter as to what you have to do. There is also a website at [www.ktimatologio.gr](http://www.ktimatologio.gr) For now, you should start gathering any documents, plans, deeds, photos and other records which you have in relation to land holdings on Kythera. For those who are not sure as to what they need to do, John has indicated that he can assist professionally in the preparation and lodgement of the *ktimatologio* return. He can be contacted on 0402 751 102.

**George Vardas**

## LIFE AS A KYTHERIAN - BACK IN THE DAY .

As we farewell 2009, we also say goodbye to some of our beloved Kytherians; treasured friends and relatives who played such an important part in our lives. I only remember the faces of loved ones as they were so many years ago, not thinking of the years which have passed since I last saw them. Receiving the sad news and seeing the tributes often leave me devastated as I realise that another chapter of my life has closed and I want so badly not to accept the passing of yet another loved one.

So I turn to my journal that was written as a young girl, where I find memories which have eluded me for so many years. Life was so different in Kythera compared to that in Australia. The glamour of an Australian wedding was just one example. I was a bridesmaid so often with such beautiful dresses, shoes, hairdressers and photographers. Such elaborate preparations, followed by a gathering of great splendour. What a stark contrast to the wedding on Kythera that I attended, devoid of all such magnificence.

How I recall a wedding that we were to attend. We went to see the bride who had walked from her home to visit her groom. I could not understand why she would do this, as I had always known it to be considered bad luck to see your husband-to-be before the service. Yet, she had her photographs taken by the local photographer, then returned to her home, before setting out in a car to go to the Church for the ceremony. The streets were lined with locals, as we waved and smiled, laughing with pleasure as we were thought to be part of the wedding party. We then followed the bride in another car. During the service, there was no fancy silver goblet to sip the wine from, only a beer mug. This did not detract from the reason we all stood in the Church though, as the service was to celebrate the union of two people so in love and wishing to start their life together.

Christmas was approaching and again, the difference between life in Kythera and life in Australia was so evident. The baking of the Christmas cakes was unchanged, however. My mother always baked several cakes with a coin inside, walnuts making a cross on the cake when it was ready for baking. How exciting it was for the person who found the hidden coin! She also baked Christmas cakes for close family members and friends. Christmas was always celebrated by Kytherian standards and I was totally unaware of the Australian way of celebrating this festive season. Christmas trees and decorations were so different from anything I ever knew. For me, Christmas meant waking to find a small gift on a chair in the lounge room and then the cooking began for a large family meal. It was always exciting as I was given a new dress with new shoes and socks. Church services were an important part of the day also, as we observed the true meaning of this Holy day. Church services in Australia, enabled us to meet with so many friends and relatives whom we may not have seen due to daily life activities. It was such a highlight of my day, as everyone gathered after the service and greetings were exchanged before we faced the obstacles of returning home to continue with the elaborate meal awaiting us. My father, always aware of the difficulty we faced in finding transport to return home, would arrange for a hire car to be waiting for us with a chauffeur, thus avoiding the crowds all endeavouring to return to their homes to continue with Christmas festivities.

In Kythera, Christmas day arrived and we awoke to the Church bells tolling, as they rang in sorrow announcing the passing of a much loved member of our village. She was such a beautiful woman who suffered a stroke at 11pm the night before, aged just 57 years old. The sad irony that her sister had passed two years previously, of a stroke at the same age, was not overlooked as people gathered to speak of this tragedy.

The difference of the impact of such a sad time was something I could not understand. The funeral was held that same day, Christmas Day. When evening arrived, the locals came together, eating, dancing and singing. My only understanding of this behaviour was that her life was being celebrated and the sadness of the occasion was not to be seen as such. However, I still could not understand festivities at such a time of sadness. I recall singing and laughing along with everyone who had come together at our koumbaro's home. I still was unable to understand that at a time of such sadness, festivities continued, not affected by the sadness to which we had woken. No mention was made of the loss of such a loved member of our community, causing me to question myself as to why this was so. I did not raise the issue with the adults, as being a child of strict Kytherian ways; it was not acceptable to do so.

Life continued in Louradianika. It was a difficult time for a young teenager; the rain keeping me inside, instead of spending my time doing what I loved most... hunting. The rain continued and I awoke one night as my father was emptying buckets of water as it came into the house. I had counted 15 buckets of water emptied by him.

When the rain eased, I chose to attempt to go for a ride on a donkey alone. Even though I managed, the donkey, having a mind of its own, ignored all my commands. This caused me to think that, in future, I should wait for an adult to accompany me.

Sadness tinged the quiet island life again however, with the news that a gentleman, not known to anyone in our village, nor surrounding villages, had removed his hat and boots and jumped to his death in a river, that had swelled with the constant rain. My thoughts went out to this poor soul as I pondered what could have caused him to take his life in this manner? Out of respect and compassion for his family, the tragedy was kept as quiet as possible. Once again, such tragedy was introduced to me at an early stage of my life.

Life did not stop, despite such sad times in our lives. My sister and I decided to change the furniture in the lounge room the following day, going to the extreme lengths of cutting the legs off the wooden couch where I slept, making the room more cozy. Anything to relieve the boredom.

When the rain stopped, I went hunting and returned with 6 birds for my grandmother. How she enjoyed it when I returned from a successful hunt with so many. How I looked forward to walking the island, looking for the birds which were such an important part of the family source of food. I felt great pleasure as I set out alone, often accompanied by the family dog, appreciating the fresh air and the quiet which I had grown to love.

My thoughts often turned back to so many happenings in my young life, at times struggling to understand what I had heard and witnessed. However, with no answers given, it allowed me the opportunity to ponder the circumstances, so fresh in my mind, while knowing that it was unacceptable to speak of them to the adults. I was left to my own thoughts and I found myself turning to my talks with my grandfather, remembering his many wise words. I would return from these walks, not only with a bounty of birds, but also with some clarity for the many questions which I was searching answers for.

During our stay at Louradianika, I found peace by going to our Church to light a candle once in the morning and again in the late afternoon, finding such peace in this humble but beautiful Church. This was done by choice, not by being told that it was correct to do so. I was young and experienced so much, turning to the peace of the Church to search for the elusive answers to my many thoughts.

Church services were to be held at my grandfather's Church for the day of Agios Giorgios; the Church was appropriately named Agios Giorgios. My father and I went into the fields and picked yellow daffodils to decorate the Church for the services which would be officiated by my grandfather. How proud I was as I stood quietly while he conducted the services, starting at 8 am and ending at 10.45 am, with my father singing the hymns. The opening of the bottles of wine followed the services as everyone came to our humble home to celebrate as I was told that it was tradition to do so.

My father liked us to walk the island as one could not expect to always be driven. He informed us one day that we were going to walk over the hills from Louradianika to Hora. Such a long way was not something I looked forward to, so when we were late in departing, he changed his mind and much to my relief, we went by car.

Many times however, we did walk, seeing the splendour and simplicity of this beautiful island. My grandfather would at times walk from Livadi to Hora, showing such stamina. How I appreciate my father's wishes now, as I remember the beauty of Kythera, with its rolling green hills and experiencing the many sights, such as the large olive groves and the small Churches dotting the landscape with the occasional Monastery. He showed us what would not have been seen if we had travelled by car along the narrow roads. The caves of Agia Sophia were not accessible by road back then and so such beauty would have been overlooked.

My mother's Name Day was to be celebrated as we did every year in our home in Australia. The cooking and preparations had been accomplished in this humble kitchen. We were ready for the many guests who came continuously during the day to wish my mother "hronia polla", enjoying the delicacies which had been prepared earlier, giving our home such a festive feeling. Hospitality was always present as we visited many homes and with each visit, we were offered such delicacies. However, we could not manage to continue eating the food which our hosts offered us. My sister and I would discreetly put whatever we could not eat into handkerchiefs and have it later when we returned home. We would never consider not accepting what was offered by the hostess, as this would be seen as a slight.

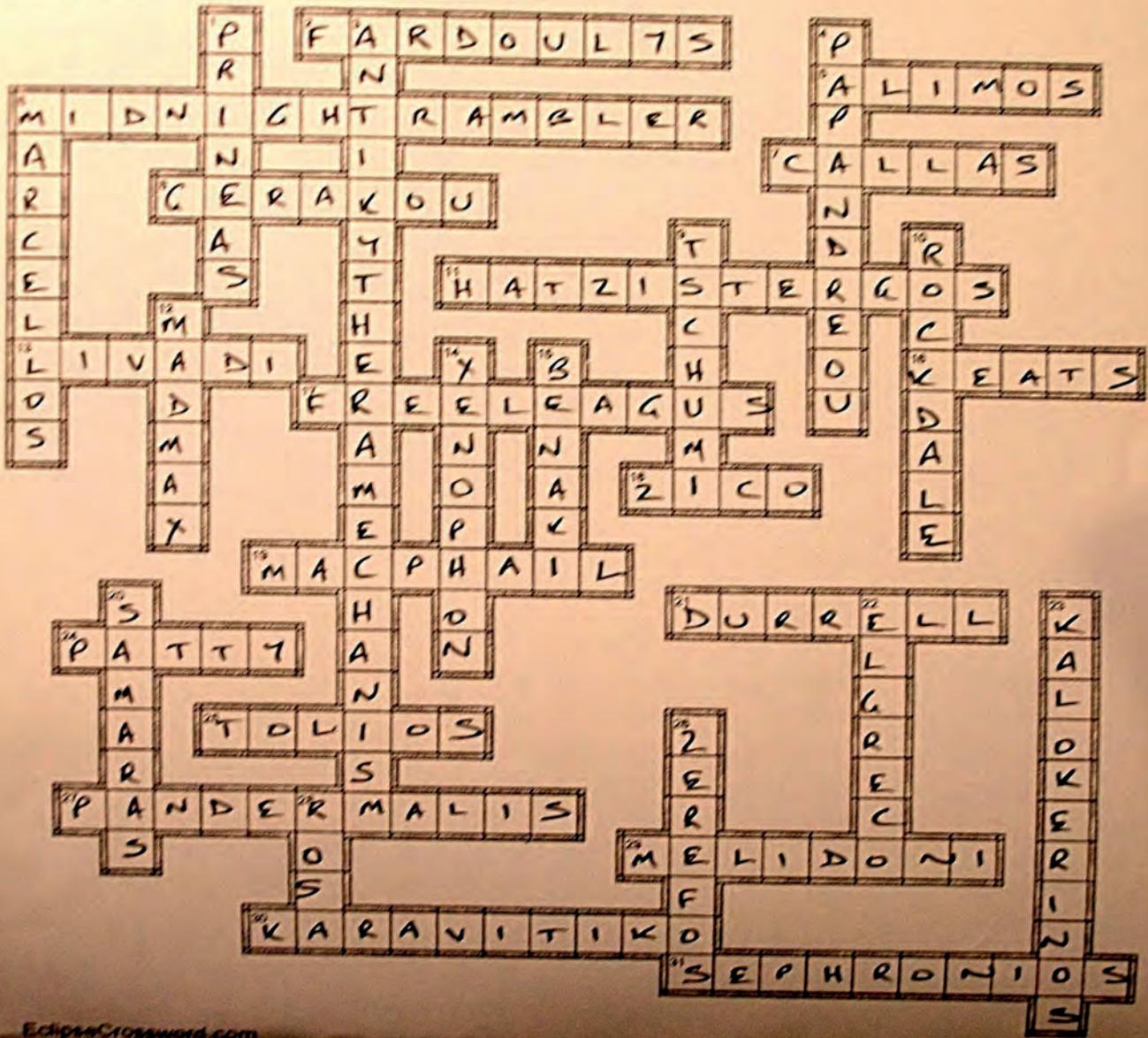
As I look back to those days that were filled with so many memories, happy times intermingled with times of sadness. I think of life as a ledger, where we write our expenses of what goes out and what comes in. However, it is a ledger that records blessings received and they far outweigh what is outgoing. The people who have enriched my life, and memories which will stay with me for ever. To all my fellow Kytherians, I wish you "Hronia Polla" for 2010 and may your lives be filled with blessings and good health.

Maria of Louradianika.

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### 2010 Summer Edition Crossword

George Vardas



Please forward any items you wish to be included in our Newsletter to

The EDITOR  
 PO Box A203  
 SYDNEY SOUTH  
 NSW 1235

Or

kaanewsletter@optusnet.com.au



**Please Note:** Those submitting articles to this Newsletter are advised that these articles may appear on the *Kythera-Family.net* website.

**The deadline for articles is the 18th of each month.**

**Printing in colour requires an extra 10 days at the printers.**



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<p><b>Angelo Notaras</b> Ph: 02 9810 0194</p>
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**INSTITUTE OF KYTHERAISMOS**  
4th International Symposium of Kytheraismos  
to be held in Kytheroupolis (Alimos) Attiki  
10-12 September 2010



*“Kytherian and Philo-Kytherian Youth all over the world:  
Childhood dreams, Youthful aspirations, High-level achievements”*  
(The visions of our new generation lead to the generation of our visions)



### GREEK DANCING CLASSES 2010

**FRIDAYS 5th FEBRUARY - 26th MARCH 2010**  
**(TERM 1)**

**Matraville High School** Cnr Anzac Pde & Franklin Sts, Matraville.

<b>Infants</b>	7.00pm-7.45pm
<b>Primary</b>	7.45pm-8.30pm
<b>Junior High School</b>	8.30pm-9.15pm
<b>Senior Group</b>	9.15pm-10.15pm



Please note that all need to have current membership of the Kytherian Association of Australia to attend classes. For more details, please contact **Kathy Samios** on **93491849** or **Esther Calligeros** on **93440298**.

Kytherian Association of Australia's monthly newsletter is supported by:



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