

Clinic probed over baby bug

An Athens prosecutor yesterday ordered an investigation into why 10 babies born at the capital's Aretaieion hospital within the past month suffered rectal bleeding believed to have been caused by the same bowel-inflaming disease. The Aretaieion maternity clinic is to remain closed until Monday for disinfection.

Meanwhile a prosecutor will try to determine whether any hospital staff bear any responsibility for the infants displaying symptoms of necrotizing enterocolitis, a relatively rare gastrointestinal disease affecting prematurely born babies. All 10 babies were in good health yesterday and two were discharged from the Aghia Sofia and Aglaia Kyriakou hospitals to which they had been transferred, doctors said. One infant that underwent surgery was reportedly doing well.

Tests have failed to reveal any bacteria that may have caused the infection. Additional checks are being conducted on the hypoallergenic milk fed to the infants.

Stirring farewell for Doujon Zammit

(adds comments from Mr Francis Tabone, Maltese Ambassador in Australia)

Our Lady of Victories Church in Sydney was packed by mourners, many of whom were Maltese, earlier today for the funeral of Doujon Zammit, the Maltese-Australian who was bashed to death on the Greek island of Mykonos. Father Michael Smith celebrated the funeral mass which lasted more than two hours.

The young Maltese-Australian was given long applause during the funeral Mass.

During the ceremony, a short movie depicting Doujon's life from birth up to his fateful trip was shown, the Foreign Affairs Ministry confirmed.

"I'm sad that I'll never see you again. You were like a brother to me. I'm grateful that I knew you. I will try to give everyone in my life the same respect and energy as you did to others," cousin Cameron told the mourners, many of whom had to stand in the aisles and outside.

Zeake, Doujon's younger brother, had words of admiration for his brother. "When I think of my brother, I think of a unique individual living his life... He always managed to light up a room, yet he was very down to earth. When I was down he was always there to pick me up, even when my heart was breaking."

Rose Miranda, a member of the Facebook group, which now has more than 16,500 members, wrote: "it just shows how good of a guy you were... I went past the church today where all your loved ones have farewelled you!! It was great to see how many people respect you, for being a young guy... God is with your family. Rest in peace".

At the end of the Mass, which was attended by the Maltese Ambassador Francis Tabone and his wife, consul general Annamaria Bonnici, and the Consul-General of Greece, Nikolaos Oikonomidis, Doujon's coffin was carried from the church by his family and friends. As relatives formed a circle beside the hearse, 20 white doves and 20 white balloons were released into the air.

The Maltese Ambassador met Doujon's father Oliver, and grandfather Greg, who originally hails from Gudja. "Oliver



expressed the wish to establish a Doujon Zammit Transplant Gift Fund in Malta, similar to the one he launched today in Australia," Mr Tabone said. "He felt very proud to be Maltese and appreciated the help and support the family received from the Maltese-Australian community."

Mr Tabone said that the Malta High Commission and the Consulate General in Sydney are in constant contact with the Zammit family to ensure that all possible help is given.

Doujon's life ended when his father had to take the heartbreaking decision to turn off life support when it became clear that Doujon would never recover from the coma he suffered after the attack by Greek bouncers. Cameron Tabone, who was with Doujon, suffered a broken nose and a broken wrist in the attack. The two had travelled to Dubai, Rome, Venice, Barcelona, Ibiza and Malta before heading for Greece.

2,500-Year-Old Greek Ship Raised off Sicilian Coast

An ancient Greek ship recently raised off the coast of southern Sicily, Italy, is the biggest and best maintained vessel of its kind ever found, archaeologists say.

At a length of nearly 70 feet (21 meters) and a width of 21 feet (6.5 meters), the 2,500-year-old craft is the largest recovered ship built in a manner first depicted in Homer's Iliad, which is believed to date back several centuries earlier.

Carlo Beltrame, professor of marine archaeology at the Università Ca' Foscari in Venice, said the boat, found near the town of Gela, is among the most important finds in the Mediterranean Sea.

"Greek sewn boats have been found in Italy, France, Spain, and Turkey. Gela's wreck is the most recent and the best preserved," Beltrame said.



After 25 Centuries

The Italian Coast Guard helped archaeologists pull the wreck to the surface last month.

A floating crane lifted the main segment, a 36-foot (11-meter) chunk, and dragged it to land. The remains were then plunged into a tank of fresh water to remove the salt from the wood.

"The vessel was a mercantile sailer,

probably used to sail short stretches along the coast, docking frequently to load and unload," said Rosalba Panvini, head of the Cultural Heritage Department of Sicily, who directed the raising operations.

Recovered artifacts—including cups, two-handled jars called amphoras, oil lamps, pottery, and fragments of straw baskets—reveal details of the ship's journey before it sank, Panvini said.

"The vessel stopped in Athens, then in

the Peloponnese Peninsula," Panvini said. "It sailed up the western coast of Greece, crossed the Otranto Channel, coasted along Italy, and pointed to Sicily."

The ship was headed for Gela, then a Greek colony. About a half mile (800 meters) off the coast, a storm probably tilted the ship. The ballast broke the hull, and the vessel went down, where it lay on the muddy seabed for 25 centuries.

In 1988 two scuba divers discovered

the remains and informed the Sicilian Cultural Heritage Department.

It took 20 years to recover the whole vessel, which will now be sent to Portsmouth, U.K., to be restored before it returns to Gela. Officials hope to display the restored ship in a planned new sea museum.

A Sewn Boat

Beltrame, of the Università Ca' Foscari, said the ship—"part of a family of archaic Greek vessels"—is something of a missing link in the evolution of naval engineering.

"It shows a mix of sewing and mortise-and-tenon joints—a different technique that later prevailed in shipbuilding," Beltrame said, referring to joints in which a protrusion in one piece of wood inserts into a cavity in another.

Roberto Petriaggi of the Italian Central Institute for Restoration said Greeks were not the only people in the region to build ships using the sewing method.

"Technical knowledge spread easily around the Mediterranean Basin," he said. "We have finds proving that Egyptians and Phoenician-Punic people used that method, too."

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