

**PEOPLE LIKE US...**

Every week, "Kosmos" newspaper will be presenting stories of Greeks in Australia. If you would like to share your story with us, send us an email and your favourite photo at: [kosmos@kosmos.com.au](mailto:kosmos@kosmos.com.au)



**Two words about me:**

I came to Australia in 1991. Before, I travelled a lot and tried to discover god. I failed therefore, I am rather confused by history.

**Where was I born:**

In Krestena, Ilias in the Peloponnesse. Yet my life was divided between Piraeus and my native village. Special place in my heart the resort of Kaifas, on the coast where we used to spend our summers and Olympia, where we use to play when escaping school.

**Date of birth:**

July 25, 1960.

**Family status:**

Never say never! But too old for experiments!

**My origins:**

Humble and demotic: my grandparents kept me in contact with the life of imagination, through their fairy tales and stories about the old Hellenes. I still remember my grandfather, completely blind, pointing with his finger at the sky and describing with amazing accuracy the positions of the constellations. This is called "the great bear" he use to tell me. I couldn't see the stars any more when we moved to the city. That was my first migration.

**Dr Vrasidas Karalis  
Professor @ Sydney University**

**Two words about my family:**

Strange people and all over the place. Father, mother, brother and sister. Each one follow their own demons—or angels.

**About my work:**

Mixed and ambiguous feelings. Sometimes up, sometimes down, it keeps you on your toes and always nervous. But its real mystery is found in the eyes of the students who ask you "why" when you don't know the answer.

**My interests:**

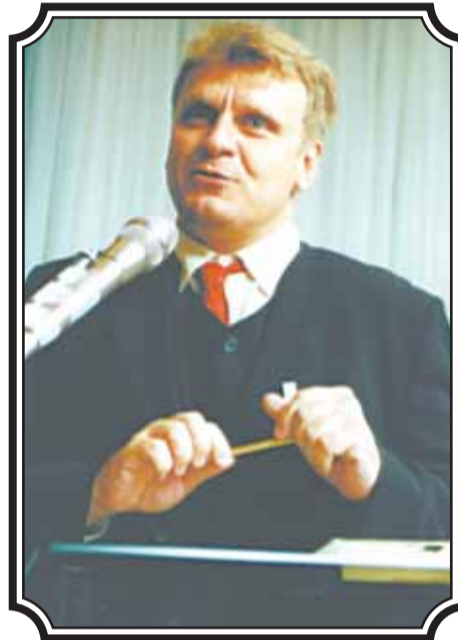
Reading and traveling. Meeting also some interesting people who are also lost, confused and curious.

**About my life in Australia:**

Despite occasional disappointments and frustrations, very happy and quiet. Australia gives you the luxury to be who you are, unlike our motherland.

**My relationship with Greece:**

Love and hate. But as the years pass,



I discover the truth of the old maxim: our language is our motherland. So if I identify Greek language with my motherland, the relationship is one of devotion and worship. I can't stand Greek politics any more—and don't have time for Greek politicians.

**What I like about living in Australia:**

The fairness and the innocence of the ordinary people. I have developed a deep admiration for the Anglo-Saxon character—and I wholeheartedly declare, that we must transplant as many elements as possible from the Anglo-Saxon tradition onto our own traditions.

**What I don't like about living in Australia:**

The fact that people are very patient. I know that patience is a virtue but I simply don't have it.

**If I would like to live in Greece one day and why:**

It is better that we stay away from each for ever. I am a Diasporic individual and if I ever leave Australia I would like to move to Patagonia.

**My personal big dream:**

To write a book that will be worth reading three generations after I am gone.

**My life philosophy:**

"How do you say that you love god whom you haven't seen and you hate your brother who you see every day".



The Greek Australian Professionals Association (GAPA) presents

**COCKTAIL PARTY**

**SATURDAY, 6th JUNE 2009**

**ALEXANDERS Cafe Bar Grill Pizza**

**11 Montgomery Street Kogarah  
(next to Kogarah Railway Station)**

**Time: 7:30 pm**

**Special Dance performance  
by FOTIA**

**Instructed by Irene Lantas**

**Music and dance surprises!!!**

**Cost: \$30 for Members and \$33  
for non-members**

**Price includes cocktail food.**

**Drinks available for purchase at bar**



**Contact Maria: 0404 073 286 or Kathy: 0405 498 935  
After 4 pm**

