

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** 



#### Two words about me:

Vivacious, polyglot

#### Where was I born:

Sydney

#### **Date of birth:**

Cannot remember date of birth! Date of Nameday is easy though: 26 October!! (I will be awaiting the annual wishes: "Chronia Polla" on that day!)

#### **Family status:**

Single

#### My origins:

Macedonia region & Lesbos island

#### Two words about my family:

A very supportive structure but many obligations have to be attended regularly. Many friends also can be considered as part of an extended family structue

#### About my work:

I am employed by the NSW Department of Education: I am the Head Teacher of Marrickville Intensive English Centre which is within Marrickville High School and I am the Assistant Supervisor of the Saturday School of Community Languages-Liverpool Boys' High School Centre. In the past I was an ESL & LOTE teacher at Condell Park High School and the Learning Support Head Teacher at Moorefield Girls' High School, Kogarah. In addition, further back, I was a Modern Greek teacher at the Saturday School of Community Languages-Ashfield Boys' High School, Bankstown Community /Evening College and at Bankstown's "St Euphemia" Greek Orthodox

## **Dimitris Kametopoulos**

## Head teacher of Marrickville Intensive English Centre

Parish Community Greek Afternoon/Saturday schools.

#### My interests:

I enjoy involving myself in community matters within the Greek community and within educational issues contributing whatever I can for the overall good of society, although it isn't an easy task! I enjoy reading magazines, newspapers, going to tavernas and restaurants with friends, going for walks or motorcycling and enjoying nature particularly in spring and autumn, going to the beach in summer, travelling to Greece and the famed Greek islands and Cyprus.

#### **About my life in Australia:**

Australia is good place to live and provides many opportunities for people to succeed although even here, some luck is needed.

### My relationship with Greece:

I love Greece, particularly our prolonged Greek history and culture which has had a major bearing on Western civilization. No-one can doubt this! Also, my affinity with Christian Orthodoxy which is steeply rooted in Greece and the Byzantine period. Names like Socrates, Alexander the Great, Aristotle, Pericles spur on pride to every Hellene! The

Olympic & Paralympic Games of Athens 2004 were unique Games as they promoted further Olympism and Hellenism around the globe! That is why I believe in maintenance of the Greek language in the Antipodes, Classical and Modern Greek. Families must maintain the Greek language at home and send their children to institutions, government and/or private that teach it. Spreading the Greek language around is vital, too. Hey, let's not forget more than 20% English words are of Greek origin!!

## What I like about living in Australia:

Australia is a huge continent and therefore one can travel from one place to another and change climatic conditions anytime, anywhere!

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

It is so far from Europe!! But that can make a trip to Europe even more exciting!!

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

I would love to live at many places for one day and experience the day and night life, as well as the routine of the people in their everyday transactions. Places include: Rhodes, Corfu,



Mytilene, Florina, Cassandra, Nafplion, Halkida, Volos, Alexandroupolis, Paros town, Samos town and Rethymnon. There are though too many to mention in all the regions of Greece, from Macedonia to Crete. Also, I would love to experience a day in Paphos and Larnaka in Cyprus!

#### My personal big dream:

To become a principal one day and travel around the world, meeting new people and cultures. I don't know if they will become a reality!

#### My life philosophy:

Life is not easy; Strength, inner and exterior, is needed to face its challenges. However, it is important to stay healthy, keep a smile on your face and make the most of everything; don't allow opportunities to slip by-be involved in community matters and know what is going on around you! And, assist the disadvantaged where possible.

### ANTISSIAN ASSOCIATION OF NSW

# 'Festival of Liota'

Dear Friends,

Following our successful 2nd May dance where we raised and donated \$14,000.00 to the Exodus Foundation Tutorial Centre, the Antissian Association of NSW will be holding a taverna night at the Cyprus Community Club (downstairs) to celebrate the 'Festival of Liota ' and it gives us a great reason to dance the night away and shake off these winter blues.

Details are as follows:

When: Sunday 23rd August 2009 Where: Cyprus Community Club -

58 Stanmore Road, Stanmore. (Function will be held in the downstairs section of the club.)

meat platters, a couple of drinks and plenty of

Time: 6.30pm until 12pm Cost: \$30.00 Adults / \$10.00 Kids under 12yrs old

\$10.00 Kids under 12yrs old.

What better way to kick back on a lazy Sunday evening with family and friends over seafood and

dancing. A live band will be playing our favourite tunes and we have some great raffle prizes to be won. All funds raised will go towards the Antissian Association, allowing us to continue our philanthropic events and ensure we have a future.

Tickets are limited to 280 - please start organising numbers and get back to me by August 17th. Dont miss out!!!!

Final note: Thanks to everyone for their continued support of our association. Last financial year the Antissian Association together with matched funds from the Macquarie Group Foundation donated over \$40,000.00 to Exodus Foundation, Movember (Mens Health), Ronald McDonald House in Randwick, the Australian Red Cross VIC Bushfire Appeal and to our community in Antissa.

Well done, keep supporting us to help others and see you at our next event!!!!

Cheers,

John Loukadellis President - Antissian Association of NSW



# Greek museum restores mention of Christian vandals

ATHENS, Greece – Greece's new Acropolis Museum said Tuesday it would restore references to early Christians vandalizing the ancient Parthenon temple, which were deleted from a film shown to visitors for fear of angering the country's powerful Orthodox Church. The decision last month to delete the short segment angered the film's creator, Academy Award-winning filmmaker Constantin Costa-Gavras, and was criticized in the Greek press as an act of censorship. The controversy came just over a month after the opening of the new museum, where Greece hopes one day to display the Elgin - or Parthenon – sculptures if the British Museum ever accedes to a Greek demand for their return. Museum Director Dimitris Pantermalis said the film will be shown uncut, as the Greek-born French filmmaker told him the segment implied no official involvement of the church of the day in the vandalism - some 1,500 years ago. "Following this obvious clarification ... the film will continue to be shown," Pantermalis said Tuesday.