

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



Two words about me:

Dedicated, Perfectionist, Humble... Sorry that's three!

Where was I born:

Sydney Australia

Star sign:

Capricorn

Family status:

Married with one daughter aged 15

My origins:

Father Greek (Kefalonia) - mother (Cypriot)

Two words about my family:

Eccentric, Loving

About my work:

By day, senior account manager with Premier Northpak Packaging. By night continuing with my musical interests as a musician of course.

Coming from a musical orientated family, classical music lessons commenced from 8 years old, followed by acting and dancing. But it was the live music performance which gave me all-round satisfaction.

In my late teens, I took an interest in Greek music, (which funnily enough earlier in my life did not really interest me) which led to my first performances with my father Chris Vavasis (also a musician) in the local clubs such as the Cazzie Club, Cyprius Hellenic Club during the '80's. Then, the big decision to turn professional came in 1989. Ending up in the Melbourne night-club scene, I had the opportunity to work with some of Australia's leading Greek musicians which was the

George Vavasis @ Premier Northpak Packaging

perfect opportunity to improve my musical skills, and funnily the Greek language, which up to this point I didn't really care about, like many teenagers in the 70s and 80s. After 3 years in Melbourne I returned to Sydney to continue with the various clubs including the iconic "Defi". Then came the big move overseas to Cyprus working in many hotels and clubs in the Ayia Napa district and I was then given the opportunity to take on the role of musical director of Cyprus' most established entertainment venues the Pavilion in Nicosia. This was one of my most fulfilling roles I had taken on as it required a high level of professionalism. When you are dealing with 8 singers, 7 musicians, a team of dancers, lighting operators and a sound engineer musical talent takes a back seat and the skills of a United Nations Diplomat are required. But at the end of the night the result is very rewarding.

My interests:

At the moment, together with fellow musician and close friend Nikos Paraskevadakis, we decided to offer local young Greeks an alternative for enjoying Greek music. We are commencing on the 8th November to promote a Sunday evening event which we have called "Ammos@cside" at the Cyprus Hellenic Club at Brighton. We will be presenting modern Greek

music performed by some of Sydney's talented musicians and singers. We will also be using the night to introduce some up and coming local talents. There are some very talented kids out there who have no way of showing their talent to an audience. We hope to generate more interest in local talented musicians and singers.

My favourite food:

Mum's avgolemono is still up there at no 1 position.

My favourite book:

The last book I read was the Davinci Code. I wish I had more time, as reading had always been a favorite pastime.

About my life in Australia:

Since returning from Cyprus in 2004 and trying to juggle work and music, life can be a little hectic at times. But at the same time fulfilling.

My relationship with Greece:

Greece, of course is ver close to my heart. Over the years I have developed many friendships with musicians in Greece, which is always great excuse to visit, but seriously every time I fly out of Athens airport there is always a tear in my eye, and the feeling that I am leaving my country.

What I like about living in Australia:

Australia, of course has given many Greeks the opportunity to accomplish their dreams, whether it be business, study or as in my case music.



What I don't like about living in Australia:

The fast pace of living in Sydney is I think ageing us prematurely. Recently after performing at the Greek Festival in Townsville which was an unforgettable experience in itself, I came out of the terminal and was overwhelmed by the noise and watching people scrambling for taxis. I wanted to get upstairs to book myself a flight back to Townsville. At this point, I'd personally want to thank the Townsville Greek Festival Committee and volunteers who made us feel at home in their little piece of paradise. You are blessed.

My personal big dream:

To nurture my only daughter's natural music talent and to give other young people the opportunity to show their talent.

My life philosophy:

Be content with what you have, and surround oneself with positive people and thoughts.



24ΩΡΟΣ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΟΣ ΡΑΔΙΟΦΩΝΙΚΟΣ ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ 1683 AM (στα μεσαία κύμματα)

Συνεχή καθημερινή ενημέρωση και ψυχαγωγία

Ο Ελληνικός Ραδιοφωνικός Σταθμός Αυστραλίας

1683 AM λειτουργεί

σε 24ωρη βάση, 7 ημέρες την εβδομάδα.



Ο σταθμός ξεκίνησε να λειτουργεί το Μάρτιο του 1983 και εκπέμπει τα καλύτερα προγράμματα από την Ελλάδα και την Κύπρο, ενώ παράλληλα μεταδίδει τις ειδήσεις από το εξωτερικό κάθε ώρα.

Επίσης, έχουμε τα καλύτερα τοπικά προγράμματα, όπως:

"Κυπριακή Κοινότητα"

με την Έλλη Κάμπος, **"Greeks Today"**

με τον Γιώργο Τσερδάνη,

"Κέφι και μπάλλα"

με τον Γιάννη Σπανέλλη,

"Κοινότητα και κοινοτικά"

και μουσικά

προγράμματα με εκφωνητές.

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Τηλέφωνα για ζωντανές εκπομπές: (02) 9750 9890 και (02) 9750 0017.

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