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A letter for all Epirotans IN AUSTRALIA

MAY 2010

“OLI MAZI”

“LETS GET TOGETHER”



I am grateful to the Panipirotki Enosis of NSW for nominating me to preside over the affairs of the Epirotic Federation of Oceania (Aust) Inc for the next two (2) years. I am gratified and honoured by the support from all the Associations. I accept the responsibility and seek the assistance and co-operation of all Epirotans to continue the good work of past committees to make our young people and all Epirotans proud. We are proud Australians with Hellenic and charitable ideals for the benefit of the Hellenic Epirotic Australian and Australian Community. Also where they do not conflict with the interests of Australia we support the interests of Hellenic organisations and people all over the world.

Firstly, let me say that the Federation is nothing without strong and financially viable Associations as supportive and enthusiastic members of the Federation.

I promise that during the next two (2) years the Federation Committee and the Committee Members in each State are here to help and advise, seek the views and wishes of the Associations and never dictate. We will act democratically initially by consensus and finally by the wishes of the majority.

I invite any individual with ideas or in need to contact me or any member of the Federation Committee and we will use our best effort to assist. It is my wish that in the next 2 years we will have other full members or Associated members from all states of Australia where there is or where we can sponsor an active Epirotic Association.

AS an urgent goal the Federation wants to establish itself once and for all time to the Hellenic national and international organisations, to the Australian Federal and State Governments, and to the Greek Government as the one and only voice of Epirotans in Australia and Oceania. We invite all Epirotans to join us. To that end I am grateful to Mr Christo Ntoslas Past President for his strong representations on behalf of the Federation to the Greek Government.

I also wish to plant an idea that the Federation over the next few years raise a substantial amount from Epirotans, sponsors and the public to establish an Epiros Foundation so that from part of the income each

year a grant is given to a young Epirotic student, researcher, inventor or worthy individual to further their endeavour. Room for thought!

To our wealthy and business community I say that we need your help. We need sponsorship and funds for the events and programmes that we wish to undertake. If you are supporting our Associations please continue to do so and we thank you. We do not want to take away from the Associations. They are and must always be the roots and backbone of the Federation.

I do not know where this letter will end up but I hope that it finds its way to the eyes and ears of young Epirotans at School and Tertiary Education Campuses at work or in business.

One day your child or your grandchild will ask you “Mum, Dad, Pappou and Yiayia where do you (we) come from? Where are our roots? You know that your roots are deep, strong, Hellenic and Epirotan and go back countless generations. You must know your history both your personal family history and the story of Epiros and Greece generally to be able to answer and teach your children and grandchildren.

Join your Associations now and become a member, discuss, research, learn and teach us yourself and your children of your proud heritage. Start with talking now to your Grandmother or Grandfather and write down their story. Prepare a family tree. Take out and show the old photos to the children. Ask their parents or Grandparents to talk about the stories and events behind the photos. If possible let us put your family's story on our web pages.

The world is a crazy place and often the only strength and comfort left is family and Community.

Be active, join us!!!

PAME! OLI MAZI!

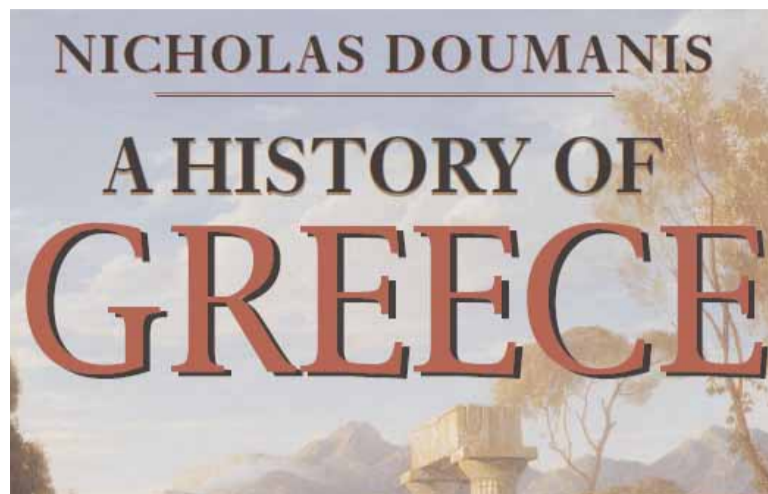
With humility and kindest Regards

Dimitrios (James) Papafotiou Epirotic Federation of Oceania (Aust) Inc.

Confusing times amid Civic unrest

“Civic Dining has ceased trading as a restaurant”, is the chilly phone message at the city venue where chef Peter Conistis cooks. The message goes on to announce it has reopened as a live music venue Civic Cabaret. Fans of Conistis's feted modern Greek cooking are justifiably upset, having already missed his food when his Omega Restaurant folded. Owner of Civic Hotel, James Kospetas, says it's all a misunderstanding. Conistis has been working downstairs in the pub with his mother Eleni. Kospetas closed Civic Dining for the slow early months of the year and intends to reopen it (with Conistis returning as a chef) next month. Confused? So are we. Surely, as a decently reviewed and well-known restaurant it'd be worth mentioning it is reopening on the answering machine?

Article from the Sydney Morning Herald



Dr Nicholas Doumanis Launches 'A History of Greece' published by Palgrave Macmillan UK

Currently Senior Lecturer in World History at UNSW, Nicholas has also taught European History at the University of Sydney and the University of Newcastle.

In 1999 he was a research fellow at Princeton University. He has written 'Myth and Memory in the Mediterranean' (Macmillan UK), which won the international Fraenkel Prize in Contemporary History and was translated into Italian 'Una faccia una razza'. He has also written 'Italy Inventing the Nation', published by Arnold and Oxford University Press.

Drawing on the latest research into ancient, medieval and modern history, this single-volume traces the history of Greek culture and societies from the Bronze Age to the present. Written for the general reader, it examines the continuities and changes across the entirety of Greek history.

“Congratulations on your book – it is a great piece of work. I particularly approve of the importance you give to the post-classical era, far too often overlooked in the English speaking world.”

- Malcolm Turnbull, Federal Member for Wentworth

He is currently working on his next book on Christian-Muslim relations in Asia Minor pre-catastrophe for Oxford University Press.

Nicholas is also a Committee Member of the Restitution of the Parthenon Marbles and on the International Advisory Board of Contemporary European History.

Book Launch and discussion of A History of Greece:
23rd May at CUSTOMS HOUSE Sydney, SYDNEY hosted by the Greek Festival of Sydney

27th May at the HELLENIC MUSEUM 280 William Street, MELBOURNE hosted by the Hellenic Foundation of Culture.

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