

Peter Theo OAM

Building a College and Community for the future

Peter Theo was born Cyprus and migrated to Australia with his parents in 1956. He studied by correspondence while working to support his family and graduated as an accountant. Today he has a successful accounting and taxation practice in the Bankstown area.

In 1980 he became president of the Greek Orthodox Church and Community of Bankstown and through his efforts he has led a team that in 1989 established what was at the time the only the second Greek Orthodox College in Sydney. St Euphemia College started with 29 students and today has a student population of over 800.

Peter is the backbone of the school and through his dedication and hard work the College continues to expand in both student numbers and physically, purchasing the adjoining properties to the rear and side.

Peter helps many families that have financial problems that enables them to continue to send their children to the College to continue their education.

As the College has expanded, Peter has built an enviable network within Government and Business circles enabling him to call on this network to the benefit of the College.

Peter has been recognised for his achievements and for his work in the Community through a number of awards including:

- Citizen of the Year (Bankstown) 1997
- Order of Australia medal (OAM) 1998
- Community Service Award 2007 from the NSW Government
- Commendation from the NSW Government
- Gold Cross of St Andrews from the Greek Orthodox Patriarch of Constantinople

Peter is also the current President of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese's Inter-Communities Council

Peter is married to Chrysa, has a married daughter and a grandchild.



- Community spirit
- Business Owner
- Dedication and commitment

High School where he played rugby union and was a Canterbury rugby league junior before being graded in 1973 to the under 23s side in which year he played in the Preliminary Final against the Balmain Tigers.

He started the 1974 season in reserve grade and that year debuted in first grade against the South Sydney Rabbits. After a 1975 season interrupted by a broken leg injury, for the next five seasons from 1976 he was Canterbury's regular first grade hooker. The Canterbury club maintained a scholarship scheme for its juniors at the time which supported him financially while he conducted his medical studies.

In 1978, George was appointed first grade captain and played in the Preliminary Semi-Final against the Parramatta Eels. He captained Canterbury on 71 occasions between 1978 and 1982. As a hooker he was a consistent winner of possession in those days of contested scrums and was known for his trademark ability to burrow over for tries from the dummy-half position.

He led Canterbury to the 1979 Grand Final loss against St George and the following year was skipper of the Bulldogs in their 18-4 1980 premiership victory over the Roosters. Persistent neck injuries hampered the remainder of Peponis' career and he retired midway through the 1982 season.

He made his state debut for the New South Wales Blues in 1976 and played seven games for his state up till 1980. He made his Test debut for Australia in 1978 in the first Test against New Zealand. He was selected for the 1978 Kangaroo tour on which he played two Tests, four minor tour matches and scored six tries.

In 1979 he took over as state captain of New South Wales and that same year was selected as Kangaroo captain for the domestic Ashes series against Great Britain when he became the first non-Australian born player to hold that honour.

After leading Australia to victory in two Tests in the 1980 tour of New Zealand, Peponis attained the career

record of captaining Australia on five successive occasions to a clean record of five wins.

A medical practitioner, Peponis remained involved with the game through FootyTAB promotions and being on the NRL Drugs Tribunal. He was elected Chairman of the Bulldogs Football Club in 2002.

Peponis was named at hooker in the Berries to Bulldogs 70 Year Team of Champions in 2004. He is a Life Member of the Football Club and in 2007 was inducted into the Bulldogs Ring of Champions.

Christina Tsatsoulis

- Supporter of the local Community



- Fundraiser
- Supporting the local community

Christina Tsatsoulis was born in Melbourne, Australia, one of four chil-

dren. Her father is from Soufli Thrace in the north of Greece, and her mother from Rion, Patra, located within the Achaian Prefecture in the Peloponnese. She is married to Sam and has 2 daughters.

Christina studied as a pharmacist at Sydney University, started work in Marrickville Pharmacy in 1982 and bought her own pharmacy in Earlwood 1991.

Together with her husband Sam, she has built a successful business as the owner-operator of Christina's Community Pharmacy, that has been recognised with a number of awards including five time winner of the Most Outstanding Pharmacy Award in the Canterbury district, Local Business Award in 2003, 2005, 2007, 2009 and 2010, Business of the Year, Gold Award in 2009, Winner of the NSW Chemmart Pharmacies Community Services Award for 2008 and 2009, Australian Finalist for the Chemmart Community Service Award in 2008 and 2009 and NSW Finalist for the Small Business Champion Awards for 2003, 2004 and 2009.

In November 2009 Christina was honoured with an International Rotary Award for Excellence in her Vocation as a Pharmacist. She is the current Publicity Officer for the local Chamber of Commerce.

Christina has used her pharmaceutical knowledge and passion to help people. She is acknowledged as a young, understanding and empathetic professional within the local community helping many Greek people and other ethnic groups. Christina is fluent in five languages – English, Greek, French, German and Italian. She regularly

The awards have generated a lot of interest. Hundreds of votes have been posted on-line, similar numbers have been received by mail and personally handed in. For the above reasons we have decided to extend voting by 24 hours. Voting will now close 12.00mid-night Tues night 28/9/2010 Get your votes in!! Check out the profiles and vote for who you think should be the Greek Australian and the Peloponnesian of the Year.

Reminder:

The award winners will be announced and recognised at a formal gala function on Thursday, 30 September 2010. Minister John Hatzistergos will be attending the function. **BOOK YOUR SEATS for this INAUGURAL event. This is the first time this has been done in the Greek-Australian Community.**

Support us so we can do it all again next year.

Call and book your table!!!

gives talks to the elderly in local nursing homes including St Basils and the Greek Hostel in Earlwood, Earlwood Caring.

Christina has over the years being heavily involved in the Greek-Australian community through a number of roles including former President of the Patras Youth Association, Social Convenor of the Greek Australian Professional Association, and a member of the Panachaian Philanthropical Association.

Christina is very active in the community sponsoring and fundraising for local sporting teams, local schools and Colleges, the Greek Orthodox Community Home for the Aged, the Organisation of the Hellene/Hellene Cypriot (OEEGA) Women of Australia, ESTIA foundation and the local Greek Orthodox Church. She also supports organisations and events like Jeans for Genes Day, Daffodil Day, Pink Ribbon Day, Bandanna Day, the Cancer Council, MS society, Breast Cancer, Diabetes and Handicapped Children of NSW.

She promotes the Greek language by being a main sponsor to the Annual Hellenic Studies Awards and the Macquarie University Hellenic Studies Foundation.

At Christmas Christina becomes Santa and travels through the streets of Earlwood giving out goodies from her sack HO! HO! HO!

We are trying to finalise numbers for the function and looking for your support to attend this INAUGURAL event. Please support us so we can do it all again next year. Tickets are \$75 each or \$700 for a table of 10