

AHC (NSW):

New team, new initiatives

A broad representation of the Australian Hellenic community assembled last night for the Australian Hellenic Council (NSW)'s 2011 Annual General Meeting at Alexander's Café Bar, Kogarah. Representatives from almost 30 groups were present, including the Greek Orthodox Community of NSW, the Cyprus Community of NSW, the Federation of Pontian Associations of Australia, and a number of regional associations. Apart from reports on the very successful previous year, the discussion revolved around plans for the future and the election of the executive committee for the next twelve months.

In his last report as Coordinator, George Vellis thanked the AHC

(NSW) executive, the Friends' sub-committee and the entire community for their support of the AHC, support which made 2011 one of the most successful in the history of the organisation. 'With a series of major events at venues such as the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park and Lamia Barracks at Holsworthy, the AHC pursues its goal of cultivating philhellenism across Australian society', Mr Vellis told the meeting. 'Our aim is to take our heritage beyond the confines of our own community.'

The major new initiative of the AHC (NSW) is the formation of a special sub-committee for the Centenary of the liberation of Thessalonike and western Macedonia. A joint project with the Pan-Macedonian Association

of NSW, a series of events are planned across a twelve-month period, focussed on celebrating Hellenic Macedonian heritage. The composition of the sub-committee will shortly be announced, as will the schedule of events. Of particular interest to the membership was the Alexander the Great: 2000 Years of Treasures exhibition, to be hosted by the Australian Museum in College Street, Sydney. Open from 24 November 2012 to 28 April 2013, the AHC (NSW) called upon every Australian Hellene to visit the exhibition, as well as to support the wide-range of events that will be held around it. These include seminars, international conferences, HSC Study Days and many more.



The front page of Thessalonike Liberation Newspaper

The peak coordinating body of the Australian Hellenic community
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New Executive Committee

The meeting elected the following executive for the next year:

- Coordinator:** Mr John Petropoulos (Pan-Korinthian Association of NSW 'Apostle Paul')
- Vice-President:** Mrs Soula Gerasimou (Samian Brotherhood of NSW)
- Vice-President:** Mr Sotiris Tsouris (Cyprus Community of NSW)
- Secretary:** Mrs Mary Giannisis (Patmiaki Brotherhood 'Osios Christodoulos')
- Assistant Secretary:** Mr Paul Theodorakopoulos (Order of AHEPA NSW and NZ)
- Treasurer:** Mr Tom Christopoulos (GAPA)
- Assistant Treasurer:** Mr George Vellis (Pan-Epirotan Association of NSW)
- Media and Policy Research:** Dr Panayiotis Diamadis (Australian Hellenic Educators' Association)
- Legal Counsel:** Mr Harry Danalis (Greek Orthodox Community of NSW)
- Public Officer:** Mr George Vardas (Kytherian Association of NSW)
- Committee Member:** Mr Yiannis Kallimanis (Pan-Naupaktian Association of NSW 'Naupaktos')
- Reserves:** Mr Peter Papoulidis (Federation of Pontian Associations of Australia)
 Mr Evangelos Karasantes (Friends' of the AHC (NSW) Sub-Committee)
 Australian Hellenic Council NSW Inc.

With a great number of issues and historic anniversaries in the next few years, the new AHC

(NSW) committee has a great deal of work ahead of it.

With the continued support of the community, and its

organisations, 2012-13 – the 20th year of the AHC - will prove to be even more successful than the one past.

To learn more about the Australian Hellenic Council, visit www.helleniccouncil.org.au or contact one of the committee members.

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ΣΤΑΘΜΟΣ

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Για τον καλύτερο Ελληνικό Ραδιοφωνικό Σταθμό, τα τελευταία νέα, ποιστική μουσική και τα καλύτερα ζωντανά προγράμματα συντονιστείτε στον Ελληνικό Ραδιοφωνικό Σταθμό Αυστραλίας 1683 AM.

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