



ROSEBERY
SERVICE STATION
9667 2059



*Michael, Pandelis
& Giorgos Carayannis*
Rosebery Service Station, Rosebery

The longevity of a shop/business undoubtedly builds strong relationships with the community; as customers, we love the familiarity of knowing that shops are still open and at the places we remember. Additionally, we appreciate and admire when shops/businesses have a couple of generations of family members working in it. Maybe, it is that comforting thought that we know they will continue to be there for us.

On July 4, 2017, Vasilis Vasilas interviewed the Carayannis family, Michael, Pandeli and Giorgos, who run the Rosebery Service Station- which incidentally is quite iconic because of the building's distinct architecture.

Having finished his schooling at the Greek Patriarchal School in Cairo, Egypt, Michael's dream was to become an electrician; after his apprenticeship, he got a job, as an electrician, at the textile factory, Castro, which was run by a Jewish family. His dream was always to open his own business, so he did- a bike workshop that repaired and serviced motorbikes and bicycles.

With the deteriorating political situation in Egypt, Michael's wife, Mirella, and baby son, Pandelis, and he migrated to Australia in 1957. After working 17 years as an electrician at British Motor Company at Zetland- with a short stint at Garden Island, he was inspired to set up his own business in Sydney too. So, in 1974, an opportunity arose to buy the Rosebery Service Station. In 1977, his son, Giorgos, began his apprenticeship with Michael; the following year, Pandelis- who had also worked at BMC- joined him too. Until recent-

ly, when Michael retired, they had been working together for almost 40 years! As Michael says, 'Could I ask for anything more than having my sons in the family business?'

Asked why they make such a great team, Pandelis and Giorgos, explain, 'As brothers, we have worked together for almost forty years and we have succeeded because: we have the right chemistry within a family business; the love and respect for our father; our father's work ethics have been passed down to us; and we have a mutual respect for each other.'

What makes Rosebery Service Station so special? As Vasilis loves to point out, 'THEY ARE THE LAST FULL DRIVEWAY SERVICE STATION IN SYDNEY; THEY WILL CHECK THE OIL AND WATER, TYRES, CLEAN THE WINDSCREEN... AND PUT IN THE PETROL.' Good old fashion customer service, and you cannot ask for more...!!!

