



All gathered together with the Association Committee and fellow guests

The Pan Pyliakos 'Navarino' Association - comes together and raises over \$8000 in support of Brain Cancer

Last Sunday, 27 May 2018 at the Cypriot Hellenic Club, Stanmore, the Pan Pyliakos 'NAVARINO' Association demonstrated an extraordinary and overwhelming act of kindness and community support for Brain Cancer Patient Support and Care.

Amongst other things, the month of May celebrates Mother's Day and is also Brain Cancer awareness month. The Association welcomed me with open arms and understanding when I approached them seeking some support for a brain cancer fundraiser initiative.

Their response was extremely positive, encouraging and absolute.

Eleni Kozanitis, Ilias Rotsos, Themis Rotsos, Ioulia Manolia, George Tsikrika, Amelia Limberi, Nick Zergiotis, Arthur Maggana - I thank you all deeply for your honour and support.

As the daughter of Dimtrios (Jim) Karabatsos - a Greek migrant to Australia from Pylos, Messinias and the co-founder of the Association in the early 70's, I felt extremely gracious and privileged to have had the Association accept me as 'their child' and offer support to my fundraising endeavours.

In particular to help the Sydney Neuro Oncology Group (SNOG) to help fund a specialist nursing position to provide

immediate help and assistance to brain cancer patients and their families throughout the brain cancer experience. These specialist nurses will provide a safe and secure place providing help and assistance ensuring patience experience their diagnosis with minimal distress and maximum quality of life for the patient and carer.

Monies raised also acting as 'seed funding' to help this nursing position co-ordinate broader patient care programs.

The success of the fundraiser was overwhelming. \$8,200 was raised!!!! A phenomenal result and one that brought me too tears as I remembered my Dad, my brain cancer diagnosis and circumstance and, thinking that his love and spirit was with me and amongst us, on this most happy and prosperous fundraiser.



As a child I remember well the 'NAVARINO Greek dances' that we would attend with the children of other migrant families. Families, Peter Diles, Jim Stavropoulos, Kostakis vividly come to mind they too working alongside one another with my Dad to form the association as a way that compatriots could meet and gather and bring a piece of Greece - Pylos to their new homes in Australia.

The heart of the Pan Pyliakos 'NAVARINO' Association and its people was pumped and, pounded with love and support on Sunday. Fabulous food, dance, bouzouki players, singers on the microphone and the effervescent and gorgeous Efi Karras bringing us all to our feet in song, dance and celebration. Donations,

