



KOSMOS

football. This has its challenges. Talk about getting out of your comfort zone, having to go to a Dutch school, learning a new language, dealing with a different culture all at a very young age. Greece has been easier for them even though they loved Holland.

OK: Do your kids play football in Greece?

MV: Three of my four sons play. All three play at Panionios Academy. Dimitri in the Under 15s, Yianni in the Under 13s and Alexandros in the Under 10s. Philo-

pos, my 10-year-old doesn't play, though we all joke that he is their agent. He will make money on them not having to run or kick a ball.

They are learning the game in a good environment under some good guidance. Playing football in Holland and Greece has been a great experience for them. They are loving their football at the moment and this has really helped in their move from Holland to settle in quicker.

OK: Do you miss Australia?

MV: Yes and no. Funnily enough Melbourne is home but for more than half of my life I have lived away from Melbourne. I miss family and friends in Melbourne. I love what I do and I am privileged to be doing it in Europe. It's not easy for Australian coaches to coach in Europe. Europe is the Mecca of football. People live and breath it. It's a religion. I love living in Europe. Travelling, learning, experiencing. We only live once. Really, I've been so fortunate that through my passion I have seen so much of the world. I'll be coming back to Melbourne for a bit of a break to catch up and see family and friends. Hopefully I can come with the Greek national team in the future You never say never.

OK: Thank you very much for taking out the time with this interview for us, we at O Kosmos would like to wish you the best of luck and will be watching a close eye on how the team and yourself progress, you have done an amazing job so far.

MV: Thank you for giving me the opportunity, I hope everyone has a safe Christmas and a happy New Year.

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