



ΟΔΥΣΣΕΥΣ

49th YEAR

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Ithacan Philanthropic Society

THE NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM TEAM FROM ATHENS AT THE CLUBROOMS



On Sunday 21 August the Ithacan Historical Society was privileged to host a team of conservators and archaeologists from the National Archaeological Museum (NAM) Athens, the first museum established in Greece following independence, and home to the richest collection worldwide of artefacts from Greek antiquity.

The team was in Melbourne for the **Open Horizons** exhibition held at the Melbourne Museum and was responsible for the transportation, mounting and dismounting of the amazing and priceless statues and artefacts from NAM which featured in the exhibition. It presented a journey through Ancient Greece exploring how the trade of ideas and goods influenced Greek culture, and how the Greeks in turn influenced the ancient world.

Dr Georgianna (Anita) Moraitou, head of the Department of Conservation, spoke of her Ithacan connection in Australia and was very moved to be able to visit the clubrooms and to meet with the Ithacan diaspora including relatives (see photo page 2). Her illuminating presentation on the bronze masterpieces in the NAM collection was followed by a Q&A session where the museum team spoke about aspects of their work at the NAM and the logistics of mounting exhibitions outside Greece of priceless artefacts from antiquity. The presentation, together with past IHS lectures, can be viewed on the IHS YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCh9yBqDZ7XrW_NH-rInRzkQ/about

ΟΜΑΔΑ ΜΟΥΣΕΙΟΥ ΣΤΟ ΚΛΑΜΠ

Τον Αύγουστο ο Ιθακήσιος Ιστορικός Σύλλογος είχε το προνόμιο να φιλοξενήσει στην Αίθυσά μας, ομάδα συντηρητών και αρχαιολόγων, του Εθνικού Αρχαιολογικού Μουσείου στην Αθήνα. Η ομάδα βρισκόταν στην Μελβούρνη, για την έκθεση **Ανοιχτοί Ορίζοντες** στο Μουσείο της Μελβούρνης και ήταν υπεύθυνοι για τη μεταφορά, συναρμολόγηση, τοποθέτηση και αποσυναρμολόγηση των ανεκτίμητων αγαλμάτων και άλλων δημιουργημάτων.

Η **Δρα Ανίτα Μωραΐτου**, Προϊσταμένη του Τμήματος Συντήρησης, μίλησε για τους Ιθακήσιους δεσμούς της στην Αυστραλία και συγκινήθηκε που μπόρεσε να παρευρεθεί στο Ιθακήσιο Κλαμπ, να συναντηθεί με την Ιθακήσια διασπορά καθώς και με συγγενείς. Η παρουσιάσή της για τη συλλογή των μπρούτζινων αριστουργημάτων του Αρχαιολογικού Μουσείου ήταν πολύ διαφωτιστική ακολουθούμενη από Ε&Α όπου η ομάδα του Μουσείου μίλησε σχετικά, με τις πτυχές της δουλειάς τους στη διοργάνωση εκθέσεων έξω από την Ελλάδα, με πολύτιμες δημιουργίες από την αρχαιότητα,



ΚΑΛΟΚΑΙΡΙ 2022 ΣΤΗΝ ΟΜΟΡΦΗ ΙΘΑΚΗ

Spyridoula Digaletou Coutsouvelis

Εφέτος και ίσως επειδή για δύο χρόνια υπήρχαν οι περιορισμοί του Covid 19, ήλθαν όλοι να απολαύσουν την ομορφιά της Ιθάκης, την καταγάλανη θάλασσα, το ωραίο φαγητό, τα όμορφα καλοκαιρινά βράδια. Να ξανασυναντηθούν πάλι συγγενείς και φίλοι από όλο τον κόσμο, που αυτό το μικρό, αλλά με μεγάλη ιστορία νησί, τους ένωσε άλλη μια φορά. Τα εστιατόρια, οι καφετέριες και όλα τα μαγαζιά ήταν καθημερινά γεμάτα κάτι πολύ θετικό για την οικονομία του νησιού. Τον Αύγουστο το νησί είχε πλέον πλημμυρίσει από κόσμο, αυτοκίνητα και κότερα.

Το καλοκαίρι έγιναν στην Ιθάκη πολλές εκδηλώσεις όπου σε μερικές, είχα τη τύχη να παρεβρεθώ. Μεταξύ αυτών παρουσιάσεις βιβλίων, όπως του Προφέσορ Γεωργίου Παξινού **Ο Αμαζόνιος Αναμεισά Μας** και της κ. Μάχης Παϊζή Αποστολοπούλου, **Διονύσιος Ευμορφόπουλος Ιθακήσιος Αγωνιστής του 1821**. Στο Βαθύ έγινε εκδήλωση, από τον οργανισμό Ριφόρτσο με θέμα **Ιθακήσιοι Της Αυστραλίας** και ευχαριστώ θερμά τον Χορευτικό Σύλλογο Χαρίλαος Τσιγώνιας για την τιμητική πλακέτα που μου προσέφεραν. Τους συγχαίρω για τις πολύ ωραίες χορευτικές παραστάσεις, που απολαύσαμε στο Βαθύ. Στην Ανωγή μουσική βραδιά, οργανωμένη από τις αδελφές Ανίτα και Σοφία Μωραΐτου, εις μνήμη του πατέρα τους **Παναγιώτη Μωραΐτη (Απρίλη)**, με μελοποιημένα ποιήματα από το βιβλίο του, με τον τίτλο **Στου Νήριτου τη Ράχη**. Με τη μελοποίηση του Σπύρου Αρσένη, με τη μουσική παρέα «Δημόδοκος» και την ωραία παρουσίαση της Ανίτας, ζήσαμε όλοι μια υπέροχη βραδιά.

Το διήμερο πανηγύρι του Σωτήρος στο Σταυρό είχε εξαιρετική επιτυχία και όλοι διασκέδασαν μέχρι το πρωί. Στις Φρίκες μια υπέροχη βραδιά με καντάδες των αδελφών Καραβιώτη που όλοι τραγουδήσαμε με πολύ κέφι. Στη Ανωγή μία αξιολογή εκδήλωση, με θέμα- Από την Γη στον Ουρανό: Γεωπάрко Κεφαλονιάς – Ιθάκης & Πάρκο Σκοτεινού Ουρανού Εθνικού Δρυμού Αίνου. Μια πολύ σημαντική ενημέρωση για την προφύλαξη και συντήρηση των Γεωπαρκών, όχι μόνο της Κεφαλονιάς και Ιθάκης, που είναι κάτω από την προστασία της UNESCO, αλλά και παγκόσμια.

Μια συγκινητική για μένα στιγμή, ήταν όταν ο Κοινοφελής Όμιλος Πλατρείθιά, του αγαπημένου μου χωριού, πρόσφερε στο Συνδεσμό μας Τιμητική Πλακέτα προς αναγνώριση της συμβολής μας κατά τον Ιανό. (Φωτο αριστερά με τον τότε πρόεδρο του Ομίλου, Ανδρέα Σταμελάτο).



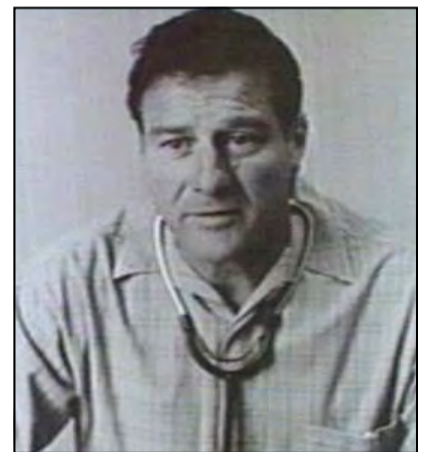
GEORGE PAPADOPOULOS RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HACCI (Hellenic-Australian Chamber of Commerce) continues to recognise the achievements of passionate, purpose-driven and community-focused Hellenic-Australians. This year the Excellence Awards, which acknowledge excellence in business, leadership, philanthropy, innovation, science, arts and community spirit, were presented on Friday 11 November 2022 at the Plaza Ballroom in Melbourne.

Ithacan **George Papadopoulos OAM** was the recipient of the **HACCI Lifetime Achievement Award**, sharing the award with his Kastellorizian brother-in-law, **Dr Spiro Moraitis**. Fifty years ago, they founded **PRONIA**, then known as the **Australian Greek Welfare Society**, along with the late **Nick Polites**. They were both nominated for the award by **PRONIA**.



George Papadopoulos OAM has been a leading figure in the development and promotion of Australia's ethnic and multicultural affairs. Apart from his work with the Australian Greek Welfare Society, he was also a founding and past Executive Committee member of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria and the Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia, and a past Chairperson of the Victorian Ethnic Affairs Commission. George was one of the early advocates for the adoption of a national multicultural policy to manage and respond to issues that are part of our diverse society.



Dr Spiro Moraitis was a GP for five decades, mainly working with the Greek community. A son of migrant parents, he was well-aware of the challenges of settlement and became involved in the development of the famous Beer Mornings and Pleasant Sunday Mornings, which became valuable fundraisers for the Australian Greek Welfare Society and the Greek Old Age Homes. Honoured by the late Queen Elizabeth three times for his services to migrants, he has served on numerous Government committees, both Federal and State, and has written hundreds of articles published in the media and professional magazines.

Σιγά – σιγά ο καιρός πέρασε, το καλοκαίρι έφυγε, έφτασε ο Οκτώβρης, ο καιρός ακόμα ωραίος και ακόμα αρκετός κόσμος στο νησί. Στις 3 Οκτώβρη στην Πόλη, Σταυρός, και μετά από δύο χρόνια έγινε πάλι η Γιορτή της Μαρίδας, με παρουσία του Δημάρχου κ. Διονύση Στανίτσα, αθρόα συμμετοχή κόσμου, μουσική, χορό και ιδιαίτερα την απόλαυση της κατανόστιμης μαρίδας. Ήταν η τελευταία ανάμνηση από το ωραίο καλοκαίρι στο Θιάκι μας, ήταν η ώρα να φύγουμε και να γυρίσουμε στη Μελβούρνη. Φεύγοντας από τον Πίσω Αετό, όπως απομακρυνόταν το φέρι, μας πλημμυρίζει συγκίνηση, όπως κάθε φορά που αφίνουμε το όμορφο Θιάκι. Στην Μελβούρνη είναι η ζωή μας, στην Ιθάκη οι ρίζες μας. Ας ελπίσουμε πάλι το ερχόμενο καλοκαίρι να συναντηθούμε πάλι στο αγαπημένο νησί μας.

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Social News

CHRISTENING



On Saturday 10 December 2022 we celebrated the baptism of **Maisie Loulouka Katsamas** at the Holy Monastery of Panagia Kamariani Greek Orthodox Church, Red Hill. Maisie is the daughter of Jessica and Angelos Katsamas, the granddaughter of Effie and Dennis Katsamas, Leonie Gleeson and Rob Bragg, and the great-granddaughter of Laraine and Malcom Green from Gladstone QLD.

Stavros Haviaridis, a very good friend of Angelos for over thirty-five years was the godfather supported by his partner Sandra. The service was followed by a luncheon at Abelli Estate Winery. A great afternoon was had by the fifty family and friends who attended, including Aunty Emily from QLD and a surprise visit by Tess Stamell from Sydney.

GRADUATION



Christopher Dellas, grandson of Freda and Chris Livitsanos, recently graduated with a Degree of Bachelor of Business majoring in Sports Management from Deakin University. His family is very proud of his achievements.



Vice President **Anthony Drakopoulos** is pictured presenting an award at the 2022 awards ceremony for the Australian Hellenic Memorial School Competition of which our Society is a proud sponsor. The aim of the competition is to explore the Australian and Greek involvement in Greece during both World Wars and teach youth the story behind commemorative events.

65th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



Chris and Freda Livitsanos celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary, a very big milestone, on 30 June 2022. They were married in the Greek Cathedral in Sydney and then moved to Melbourne in the late 1960s. Chris is the eldest son of Andreas and Dionisia Livitsanos, late of Ballarat and Freda is the eldest daughter of Aristotle and Evtihia Perdicaris of Northbridge in Sydney. Their grandchildren Nicolas, Christopher and Paris Dellas wish them the very best.

WEDDING

On 13 May 2022 **Jessica Barnett and Matthew Collins** were married at St Mary's Catholic Church, St Kilda East. Jessica is the daughter of Donald and Lisa Barnett, and Matthew, the son of Peter Collins and the late Donna Collins, and the eldest grandson of Eula Collins and the late Jack Collins. Celebrations followed with a beautiful dinner reception at River's Edge Events, on Melbourne's Yarra River.



2022 BINGO CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON – All smiles for an enjoyable end of year break-up. Present on the day was Marigoula Benias Joannides from South Africa, visiting family in Melbourne (pictured centre next to President Spyridoula).



GRADUATION:

Sydney residents, George and Athena Raftopoulos, formerly of Johannesburg, South Africa, congratulate their daughter **Nikki Lenia Raftopoulos** who graduated in medicine, BMed Sc (Hon) and Masters in International Public Health from the University of New South Wales. Nikki is pictured with her brothers Dino Raftopoulos, BArch (USYD) MCPM (UNSW) (right) and Dr Marco Raftopoulos, MBBS BSc (Med) FRACS (OHNS). George Andrew Raftopoulos' Ithacan connection is with the village of Kioni.

REUNION OF MEMBERS OF THE MORAITIS (APRILIS) CLAN



settled on arriving in Australia. The Moraitis clan is from the village of Anoghi and Kioni.

Irene Zeeher, James Morris and Vicky Morris, all descendants of the Moraitis (Aprilis) clan, caught up with relative **Anita Moraitou**, conservationist with the National Archeological Museum Athens, who was in Melbourne for the **Open Horizons** exhibition. Although they now reside in Melbourne, both Irene and her niece Vicky are originally from Adelaide where their Ithacan ancestors

PRONIA CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE



The Society has been a proud supporter of PRONIA since its foundation as the Australian Greek Welfare Society fifty years ago. In 2022, members of the Society attended the PRONIA 50th Anniversary Ball at the Hyatt in Essendon Fields. Pictured left enjoying the occasion are, from left, Eugenia Vlass-Tsalikis, Athina Raftopoulos and Leah Raftopoulos-Koutsounis.

Athina Raftopoulos is a PRONIA volunteer worker and was one of the many volunteers who attended PRONIA's annual Volunteer Christmas Luncheon at the Society's Clubrooms in December 2022. The volunteers provide a significant service to the aged and vulnerable in the community, and it is in recognition of this, that the IPS Board provided the Clubrooms to PRONIA free of charge. Pictured below at the lunch are the Society's President Spyridoula Digaletou Coutsouvelis and the Treasurer Eugenia Vlass-Tsalikis together with Elpis Korosidis, PRONIA Board President (left) and Nikki Effremidis, Deputy Director Aged & Co-ordinated Care Services Manager. PRONIA supports members of the Australian-Greek community through service provision, advocacy, policy development and research in the areas of aged care, family and relationship, disability & NDIS, family violence and mental health and wellbeing.





To honour the 100th Anniversary of the 1922 Asia Minor Catastrophe (Μικρασιατική Καταστροφή) the Charilaos Tsigonias Dance Group performed dances from Mikra Asia at a function in Vathy. The beautiful dance movements and the colourful costumes made for an exhilarating performance. Congratulations to the dancers and the President of the Dance and Cultural Association of Ithaca, Chrisostomos Manias.



Relaxed and carefree enjoying refreshments in Vathy, from left, Nick Varigos, Melita Vlassopoulos, Achillea Yangoullis, Kathy Vlassopoulos, Rena Varigos



SUMMER ON ITHACA

Photos courtesy of Barbara Vasdekis, Toni Psaros, George Coutsouvelis, Stephen Kandiliotis, Anna Vlass

It was a very busy summer season on Ithaca in 2022 – lots of yachts in the harbours, lots of visitors including Ithacans from all over the world, and of course Ithacans from Athens, Patra and other parts of Greece returning for annual holidays. New eating places to experience and a variety of cultural events to enjoy, something for everyone: book launches, retrospectives, concerts and music recitals, dance performances, panigyria and festivals. The jellyfish scare did not deter people enjoying the beautiful clear waters of the Ionian. There was always the risk of being stung, and many were. Arriving in Ithaca on the ferry boat from Patra, one cannot help but be impressed with the new harbour at Piso Aeto. The panoramic photo below shows ample carparking and truck bays, a ticket and information office and sheltered passenger seating.



Feast of the Marida at Poli Beach. Music, dance, serves of marida with salad. Once upon a time, the marida was fished from Poli Bay, but nowadays because of limited supply, the marida is brought in from other parts of Greece



Photos taken on 8 September 2022 on the day of Panagias ton Katharon. The ornate decoration of the interior of the Church is a sight to behold. The bell tower next to the Monastery entrance offers breathtaking views of Vathy and the beautiful blue of the sea surrounding Ithaca.



The three windmills guarding the entrance to the blue waters of Kioni

Cathy Raftopoulos from Perth writes about the magical two and a half months stay that she and her husband Costa spent on Ithaca in 2022.

My father-in-law (Spiro Raftopoulos - paratsoukli Lolos) came from the idyllic village of Kioni. Initially when we planned this trip I was a bit dubious about spending so much time on the island. I thought we would get bored! Well, how wrong could I have been. Each day was filled with lots of good times, good company, laughter, excellent food and the best beaches and ocean swims that anyone could ever ask for! Our biggest decision every day was where we would eat and which beaches we would visit. Our favourite was cemetery beach (Plakoutsas) in Kioni with its quaint taverna and delicious food.

The beauty of island life is the simplicity of it all. Amazing how little we actually needed to get by. I even managed to make a variety of very tasty home cooked meals on a little two-plated cooktop with a very simple little oven. No Miele, Bosch or Smeg ovens required. And so what if your 100-year old patriko spiti has a few cracks and paint peeling off the walls. It all adds to the charm and ambience of an island home. The locals were all very satisfied with the tourist season this year. It was a bumper one



Kindergarten children celebrate OXI DAY at the memorial for the fallen in Platritithia, together with their teacher and the President of Platritithia, Zaharenia Gavrili (right). A national holiday in Greece, OXI DAY on the 28 October, celebrates the day in 1941, when the then Greek Prime Minister rejected Mussolini's ultimatum to allow his forces to enter Greece or face war. Greece answered with an emphatic OXI (NO)!



Visiting Ithaca from Melbourne, Toni Andrews Psaros reunited with her sister Cathy who resides on the island with her husband Philippo and son Angeli Rombotis (pictured).





Figure 1
Announcement – Ithacan Historical Society (IHS) support of the Ithacan State Archives
Υποστήριξη Ιθακήσιου Ιστορικού Συλλόγου (ΙΙΣ) προς Κρατικό Αρχείο Ιθάκης

The Ithacan Historical Society (IHS) would like to announce that during 2022 it worked to secure support for the historical archive at Vathy, Ithaca. The archive is officially now known as the ΓΑΚ Ιθάκης, or General State Archives at Ithaca. Following the reopening of the archive in late 2021 after several years' closure, the IHS was keen to renew its relationship with the archive, having supported the archive in the past. The President of the IHS, **Peter Raftopoulos**, made contact with the newly-appointed head of the archive Mr **Christos Miaritis**, who welcomed the Society's offer to collaborate to improve the condition of historical records at the archive.

During the first half of 2022, IHS committee member **Kyriaco Nikias**, as representative of the Society, worked with Mr Miaritis in Vathy to identify areas of urgent need at the archive. Years of inadequate funding, together with the long-term closure of the archive, have left sections of the collection in need of intervention to ensure the preservation of documents. A proposal was made which emphasised the need to prioritise the oldest and most fragile sections of the archive, particularly the Venetian and early 19th century collections.



The IHS Committee approved a first tranche of support to the value of almost \$6,000 AUD to purchase archival supplies consistent with professional standards. These supplies included boxes for safe storage, document sleeves and archival paper for interleaving, and appropriate equipment for the public reading space. Mr Miaritis has since made prompt use of these materials which have allowed the archive to improve its conservation practices. The IHS is proud to have made this first important contribution to the improvement of the archive in Ithaca, and looks forward to planning future initiatives to extend further support to the archive. In July the President of the IHS visited the archive and was thrilled to see the fast and enthusiastic implementation of the support package. Mr Miaritis was presented with copies of IHS publications for the archive's library (photo above).

The Ithacan state archive is of great significance not only to islanders, but to all of Greece and the Mediterranean. Compared to the poor archival collections in other parts of Greece, the local Ionian archives contain an excellent record of the formation of modern societies in the Mediterranean under successive colonial regimes. The archive holds a large collection of official records from the Venetian administration dating to the early 1600s and extensive records covering:

- * Revolutionary French rule (1797–9)
- * the Septinsular Republic (1800–7)
- * French imperial rule (1807–9)
- * the British period (1809–64).

The IHS continues to discuss further possibilities to assist the archive, not only to preserve its invaluable collection, but to promote public interest in these unique records of life in centuries past.

Το ιστορικό αρχείο Ιθάκης, στο Βαθύ, μετά το κλείσιμο αρκετών χρόνων, επαναλειτούργησε κατά τα τέλη του 2021 (επίσημα πλέον γνωστό ως ΓΑΚ Ιθάκης, ή Γενικά Αρχεία Κράτους στην Ιθάκη). Ο Ιθακήσιος Ιστορικός Σύλλογος Μελβούρνης, που πάντα στο παρελθόν υποστήριζε το αρχείο, θέλησε πάλι να συνεργαστεί και να προσφέρει τη βοήθειά του. Ο Πρόεδρος του ΙΙΣ Παναγιώτης Ραυτόπουλος επικοινωνήσε με τον νεοδιορισθέντα επικεφαλής του αρχείου κ. Χρήστο Μιαρίτη, ο οποίος καλωσόρισε αυτή τη συνεργασία.

Κατά το πρώτο εξάμηνο του 2022, ο Κυριάκος Νικίας, μέλος του ΙΙΣ και ως αντιπρόσωπός του, εργάστηκε με τον κ. Μιαρίτη στο Βαθύ προς εντόπιση τομέων άμεσης ανάγκης του αρχείου. Χρόνια ανεπαρκούς χρηματοδότησης, μαζί με το μακροχρόνιο κλείσιμο του αρχείου, είχαν αφήσει τμήματα της συλλογής να χρειάζονται παρέμβαση για να διασφαλιστεί η διατήρηση των εγγράφων. Προτεραιότητα εδόθη στο πιο παλιό και εύθραστο υλικό, ιδιαίτέρως Βενετικής και αρχές 19ου αιώνα συλλογών.



Figure 2

Ο ΙΙΣ διέθεσε ως πρώτο μέρος υποστήριξης, το ποσό περίπου των \$6000 AUD για αγορά αρχαικού υλικού σύμφωνα με τα επαγγελματικά πρότυπα. Ο κ. Μιαρίτης έκανε άμεση χρήση αυτών των υλικών βελτιώνοντας την συντήρηση του αρχείου. Αυτό διαπιστώθηκε και από τον πρόεδρο του ΙΙΣ κατά τη επίσκεψή του στο αρχείο τον Ιούλιο, που είδε με ενθουσιασμό την γρήγορη υλοποίηση αυτής της υποστήριξης. Ο ΙΙΣ είναι υπερήφανος για αυτή την πρώτη βοήθεια προς βελτίωση του αρχείου, με σκοπό την συνέχιση στο μέλλον αυτής της τόσο αναγκαίας υποστήριξης.

Το ΓΑΚ Ιθάκης δεν είναι μόνο σημαντικό για τους Ιθακήσιους, αλλά και για όλη την Ελλάδα και Μεσόγειο. Συγκρινόμενο με φτωχές συλλογές αρχείων σε άλλα μέρη της Ελλάδος, τα τοπικά Ιόνια αρχεία περιέχουν εξαιρετική συλλογή της συγκρότησης νέων κοινωνιών στη Μεσόγειο, υπό διαδοχικά αποικιακά καθεστώτα. Στο αρχείο υπάρχει μεγάλη συλλογή επισήμων εγγράφων της Βενετικής διοίκησης από τις αρχές του 1600, καθώς εκτενής συλλογή εγγράφων που καλύπτουν τη:

- * Επανάστατική Γαλλική κυριαρχία, (1797-9)
- * Επτάνησο Πολιτεία (1800-7)
- * Γαλλική αυτοκρατορική κυριαρχία (1807-9)
- * Βρετανική περίοδο (1809-64)

Ο ΙΙΣ συνεχίζει να συζητά περαιτέρω δυνατότητες βοήθειας του αρχείου, όχι μόνο στη διατήρηση του ανεκτίμητου υλικού του, αλλά και να κινήσει το ενδιαφέρον του κοινού για αυτά τα μοναδικά τεκμήρια περασμένων αιώνων.



Figure 3

Figures:

1: Symbol of the Venetian state, the Lion of St Mark, from a decree issued under the governor Zuanne Lovardo in 1779.

2: Detail of correspondence sent by Ottoman officials from mainland Greece to the Ithacan governor in 1675, bearing calligraphic signatures and stamps.

3: An edited compilation of Venetian laws from the office of the governor of Ithaca, printed in Venice in 1721.



From Here to Ithaca

As part of the IHS Lecture Series a presentation by **Fionn Skiotis** (left) which included a screening of the film *From Here to Ithaca* was held at the Clubrooms in October 2022. The film followed the story of Fionn himself, a second-generation migrant, returning to the land of his paternal forefathers to analyse

his connection with Ithaca. Going by the Q & A discussion, it appears that the themes of belonging, separation and longing for a homeland that is so far away, are close to the hearts of many.

The film was an Australia centenary project first screened in 2001 and was directed by Fionn and produced by his partner Lisa Horler. Fionn reflected on the passage of 21 years since the film was made. Generational change and other developments over this time have Fionn still thinking about what Ithaca means to him.

Donation Acknowledgement

In appreciation of the generous donation of \$500AUD made to the IHS by long-time supporters of the archive in Ithaca, Professor Emeritus Peter Kangis and Effie Kangis Raftopoulos (Tsolis) - UK.

Donated in loving memory of their niece Angela (1978–2020), wife of Dr Jason Paterdis, daughter of Ilias Raftopoulos (Tsolis) and Anna Zervos - QLD.



The IHS was one of forty organisations/individuals to set up a stall at the Book Fair organised by the Greek Community of Melbourne in December 2022. Pictured on duty are 'booksellers' Peter Paxinos and Peter Raftopoulos! Go to www.ithaca.org.au to check for books available for sale and order forms.

NEWS FROM BRISBANE
By Dr. Voula Castan

PANAGIA KATHARIOTISSA



On Sunday 11 September, Ithacans of Brisbane attended the annual service Tis Panagias Ton Katharon at the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George. The icon of the Virgin Mary was blessed and carried around the church by **Nicholas Syrmis**. Following the service, morning tea was served in the Respite Centre. The Monastery of Kathara on Ithaca or "Panagia Kathariotissa" is a site of pilgrimage and a reference point for anyone who comes from Ithaca. The monastery was built

in 1696, however, the history of the Icon to which the Monastery is dedicated is said to be even older. The Monastery celebrates, the Feast Day of the Nativity of the Theotokou, the birth of the Virgin Mary, on 8 September. A smaller feast day, the Day of the Holy Cross, takes place on 14 September.



AHEPA SUPPORTING LISMORE FLOOD RECOVERY

A contingent of Ahepans including Ithacan Ahepans Dr Voula Castan, Vera Black and her brother Les Black, travelled from Brisbane to Lismore on Saturday 13 October, 2022 to present a \$5000 cheque from AHEPA Queensland to the Lismore Regional Gallery. The gallery had been seeking donations to help them with restoration works following the devastating floods experienced by the town. Valuable paintings and collections were lost with flood waters rising two storeys high.

Grand Lodge President Leon Naoumis and past Grand Lodge President Dr. Voula Castan are pictured above presenting the cheque to the Curator of the Gallery, Fiona Fraser who thanked AHEPA Queensland for its generosity. Fiona said that a number of restoration options were being considered including relocating the gallery. After the presentation, the AHEPA group was invited to afternoon tea. A lovely afternoon was had by all; the group returned to Brisbane the following day.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS LUNCH

The Ithacan Society of Queensland held a very successful Christmas Carols Lunch at the Greek Club on Sunday 13th November. Entertainment was provided by **Katerini Manolatos-Petersen** who invited everyone to join her in singing the Kalanta (carols). Katerini is the daughter of former President of the Society **John Manolatos**. It was a great occasion for Ithacan families and their friends to celebrate Christmas, with great food and a happy atmosphere.

Pictured right at the luncheon: **Christine Browning (Karanges), Anastasia Blake, granddaughter of Katerini Defteros (Lecatsas) and Helen Kolas (Elefantis)**; below, **members of the Lecatsas Family, grandchildren and great grandchildren of Telemahos Lecatsas (Kondilatos), Barbara Kallinikos and Stavroula Papadopoulou, Stavros**, below right, **Katerini Manolatos**.



EXPLORING THE RICHNESS & DIVERSITY OF THE AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK

By Penny Pippos

The legacy of Odysseus and his adventurous trip home has instilled in many with Ithacan blood, the desire to seek out new adventures. For us, it was to explore the Outback, and what a unique experience it was! In 2022, my husband John and I headed off from Brisbane to Charleville where our tagalong tour began with everyone taking their own 4-wheel drives. Then it was off to Windorah, south to Birdsville, Innamincka, Tibooburra, Thargomindah, Eulo, Cunnamulla, St George and then back to Brisbane. Torrential rain made the tour guide's task difficult; some roads were impassable and closed. Alternate routes had to be found and these carefully monitored for the amount of water over the road. All this added to the unpredictability of the adventure.



The landscapes in the **Simpson Desert** where we drove up the large sand dune called Big Red, traversing stony gibber deserts, the Strezelecki Track, the spring flowers popping out in their colours of yellow, pink, purple, and white creating a varied carpet of ground cover amongst the grasses, all made for spectacular panoramas.

The historic background of these regions was also engaging. A study of the indigenous peoples, their languages, social mores, their survival and knowledge of bush foods and medicine, provided a wonderful insight into their world. To be moved off their land into reserves must have been such a traumatic experience.

Visiting the sites of the iconic Coronas Hotel built in 1924-1929 in **Charleville**, the character of the Birdsville Pub, Bettoota Hotel, the historic Burke and Will's Dig Tree, Charles Sturt's Depot, the cemeteries and ghost town of **Milpurnia**, being restored as a historic, heritage town, certainly gave another insight into the hardships and conditions endured by the early colonials.

The journey included viewing the geo-thermal power station of **Birdsville**. Oil and gas reserves and wind power intermittingly dotted the landscape. Loved that **Thargomindah** was the first place in Australia, and the third place in the world to convert hydroelectric power to electricity in 1898 using water pressure from the Artesian Basin. London was first, Paris second. A momentous occasion for this town! It provided electricity by 1899 between the hours of 5:30-11:30 pm unless the generator operator was bribed to extend power to houses for gambling pursuits, functions...

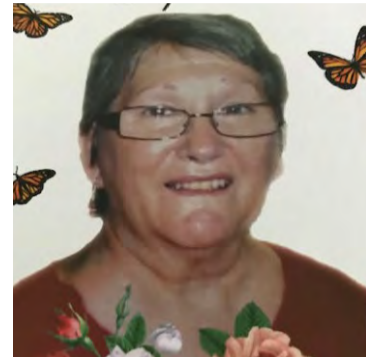
In the spirit of Odysseus wending his way back to Ithaki, the more places you visit the greater and varied are the experiences. Our trip did not take ten years, closer to ten days, but this Outback adventure, in the spirit of discovery, was just such a journey.



VALE EFFIE DETSIMAS
1930-2022

The Ithacan Society of Queensland was saddened to hear of the passing of esteemed member Effie Detsimas on the 16 December 2022. Our thoughts are with her family, relatives and friends. Effie was much admired and loved by all who knew her. We will greatly miss her humour, her strength and resilience and her integrity. The eulogy for Effie will be published in the next edition of *Odysseus*.

NIKKI DENISE DEFTEROS
1943-2022



Denise grew up in a loving family with her parents, Koula and Spiro, brother Jim, and sister Joan. Grandmother - Nonna - also lived with them for many years. Denise's father left Greece as a very young boy so when his mother Ephterpi

came from Greece to visit the young family it was a very special occasion. Denise's parents welcomed all relatives to their home, enabling frequent get-togethers with both Defteros and Black families.

Denise was the most patient person imaginable – in fact, her family said that Patience should have been her middle name. She was loved and admired by all who knew her. She was extremely resilient and coped amazingly with the difficulties imposed by her muscular dystrophy - never complaining, never judgemental of others, and always making the most of every minute spent with family and friends.

In her early adult years, Denise worked for her Uncle Stathe, and then with Mt Isa Mining for over twenty years, using wheelchair taxis to get to work in the city, and almost never taking sick leave. She developed a lovely relationship with her drivers over many years. She had an active social life with work and other friends, as well as her cousins.

Denise had a great love of cats, especially Thomas, who often settled on her belly to sleep for the night. She also loved music, attending many concerts and musicals. She was a great fan of the *The Wild One*, Johnny O'Keefe. Travel was another major interest, and she had several overseas trips with her sister Joan and carer Ted Talbot, which included New Zealand, and a major expedition to England and Greece and Ithaka. She also went on cruises with carers, and travelled independently to stay with her cousin in Bathurst.

She had the most wonderful carers over many years, in particular Ted Talbot, who became part of the family. Also, among others, Gerd, Jasmine, Wendy and Liz looked after her until she accepted the need to move into Arcare in 2011, where she appreciated the care of many of the nursing staff. Visitors and outings were always special occasions, and very much looked forward to, until unfortunately much curtailed by the lockdowns imposed by Covid. Not being able to attend the funeral of her brother Jim was a real sadness.

Special mention must be made of Seva and Dennis Drakopoulos, and his brother Tom, who were always there for Jim and Denise for many years – their loving care is much appreciated.

KATERINI RETURNS TO BRISBANE

Katerini Manolatos is back in Brisbane after many years in Cairns and is enjoying reconnecting with her culture, her family and building her Music Therapy practice. She is thrilled to be part of the development of *Ellinikes Fones* and looks forward to what lies ahead. Katerini is a registered Music therapist, Neurologic Music Therapist and Vocal Coach. With tertiary qualifications in Classical Voice and Opera and Music Therapy, Katerini has enjoyed over 20 years as a vocal coach. In her Music Therapy work, she treats clients through interactions with music to encourage positive changes in mood and overall well-being. Katerini has a strong connection to her Ithacan heritage on her father's side, and when she can, enjoys travelling to Ithaca where she has performed in concert.

CHRISTOS LOURANDOS
ΧΡΗΣΤΟΣ ΛΟΥΡΑΝΤΟΣ
1933-2022

Ο Χρήστος Λουράντος γεννήθηκε στο Βαθύ Ιθάκης, γιός των Νικολάου Λουράντου και Μαρίας Ράζου, αδελφός των Γιάννη, Αναστασίου και Μαργαρίτας. Ο Χρήστος έζησε τα δύσκολα χρόνια του πολέμου και της Κατοχής στην Ιθάκη αποφασίζοντας να έλθει στην Αυστραλία για πιο καλύτερες ευκαιρίες. Έφτασε με το πλοίο Κυρήνεια στη Μελβούρνη τον Σεπτέμβριο του 1949. Τον υποδέχθηκε ο θείος του Ανδρέας Ράζος όπου τον πήγε κατευθείαν στο Ιθακήσιο Κλαμπ. Εκεί συνάντησε πολλούς συμπατριώτες και δημιούργησε μακροχρόνιες φιλίες.

Μετά δεκατέσσερα χρόνια γύρισε στην Ιθάκη να δει την οικογένειά του και κατά την άφιξή του έμαθε τον θάνατο του πατέρα του. Εκεί το 1964 παντρεύτηκε τη Χρυσάιδω Μωραϊτή και σύντομα επέστρεψαν στην Μελβούρνη. Απόκτησαν δύο τέκνα το Νίκο και τη Μαρία και αξιώθηκαν να δουν τους γάμους τους και να καμαρώσουν δύο εγγονές.

Εργατικός, ακούρατος, ο Χρήστος, μαζί με τον αδελφό του Αναστάση καθώς και άλλους συνεταίρους είχε διάφορα μαγαζιά, όπως καφετέριες, θαλασσινά και οπωροπωλεία. Επίσης πάντα υποστήριζε και βοηθούσε τον Σύνδεσμό μας, καθώς υπηρέτησε και στο Διοικητικό Συμβούλιο. Ο Σύνδεσμος τον τίμησε με τον τίτλο του Επίτιμου Ισοβίου Μέλους. Ήταν καλός οικογενειάρχης, καλός φίλος, πάντα χαμογελαστός και έτσι θα είναι στη θύμησή όλων.



Our father **Christos**, a loving and kind-hearted husband, father, father-in-law and grandfather was born in Vathy, Ithaca, Greece on the 24 December 1932 to Nikolaos and Maria Lourantos (nee Razos). Dad had three siblings, two older brothers Yianni and Anastasios (Arthur) and a younger sister Margarita. As the war had set in, it wasn't easy growing up in Ithaca. Attending school for Dad was not something he considered a priority choosing instead to sneak out of the nearest window at any opportunity where he more often than not would seek and find mischief.

In search of greater opportunities, Dad left Ithaca for Australia. He arrived in Port Melbourne on 12 September 1949 on the vessel *Cyrenia* and was greeted by his uncle Andrea Razos. Not soon after he put his bags down, his uncle took him to the Club which was then on the corner of Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets. Here he was introduced to many Ithacans who became lifelong friends.

Dad held down a number of different jobs in those early years which ranged from working at his uncle's pig farm in Craigieburn, the *Ithaca Cafe/Juice Bar* in Elizabeth Street together with his brother Arthur, his uncle Panos Razos, Jim and Dennis Kandiliotis, as well as *Atlantic Seafood* in Greythorn, again with Arthur and Uncle Pano.

After fourteen years Dad returned to Ithaca. On arrival he was told the sad news that his father had passed away, however on a happier note it was on this trip that he married Chrisaido Moraiti in 1964. Returning to Melbourne,

they settled in his uncle Andrea Razos' residence in North Melbourne, welcoming their first child, son Nicholas in 1966 and their daughter Maria in 1969.

In April 1969, they moved to North Balwyn where Dad and his sister's husband Evangelis Metaxas purchased a house to accommodate the two families. They lived harmoniously together and celebrated many happy occasions including birthdays, name days, Easter and in particular Christmas Day when Dad would celebrate his birthday and name day. Family, koubari and friends would fill the house. In later years Dad's favourite part of the day was the early morning visits of Koubari Louis and Freda Razos. They would arrive without fail for their *kafethaki* and reminisced about the past. Family to Dad was everything. His proudest moments were seeing his son Nicholas marry Carol in 1993, Maria marry Anastasios in 2005 and the arrival of his two loving, beautiful granddaughters Christina and Georgia with whom he shared a special bond.

Dad's working life was always together with his brother Arthur. They ran fruit shops including The Mall in Heidelberg, two in Ivanhoe and Greythorn Quality Fruit in North Balwyn. In 1984, they decided on a change and ran a coffee shop, Arthur's Cafe in Kew. In 1991, they went into their last business venture with Louis Razos, doing what they loved most, running a fruit shop in Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn.

Dad's passion for and involvement in the Ithacan Philanthropic Society earned him an Honorary Life Membership in 2005. He worked tirelessly for the Club for many years. Even when he was no longer on the committee, he would still roll up his sleeves and help out. He loved going around at functions talking to everyone and sneaking in a cake or two.

Dad was a hardworking, compassionate and loving man who would do anything for anyone, And he DID! Dad's love was always unconditional and this is something we will cherish forever. His kindness, big smile and generosity will be remembered by all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Nick and Maria

THEODORA ZAVERDINO
ΘΕΟΔΩΡΑ ΖΑΒΕΡΔΙΝΟΥ
1834-1922



Η Θεοδώρα Ζαβερδινού γεννήθηκε στο Κίονι Ιθάκης το 1934. Ήταν κόρη των Διονύση Καλλινίκου και Βαρβάρας Παπαδόπουλου, αδελφή των Σπύρου και Βασιλή. Το 1962 παντρεύτηκε τον Διονύση Ζαβερδινό από τον Σταυρό. Αποφάσισαν τον ίδιο χρόνο να έλθουν στην Αυστραλία για μια καλύτερη ζωή. Απόκτησαν ένα γιό τον Μάρκο. Η Δώρα ήταν αφοσιωμένη σύζυγος και μητέρα, βοηθούσε τον σύζυγό της στο *milk bar* και στάθηκε βράχος στην οικογένειά της. Από τον Μάρκο και την Mekerem, αξιώθηκε δύο εγγόνια τον Διονύση και την Δώρα που πολύ αγαπούσε. Ήταν μέλος του Συνδέσμου μας, ερχόταν στις εκδηλώσεις μας, πάντα ευγενική και καλομιλητή. Στη μνήμη όλων θα είναι με σεβασμό και αγάπη.

Theodora Zaverdinou was born on Kioni

Ithaca on 12 March 1934. In 1962 she married Denis Zaverdinos and they decided to migrate to Australia because of economic hardship in Greece. Life was very different in Australia, but she was strong and kept the family together like a solid rock, supporting my father in the family milk bar. They returned to Greece for a number of years, and after Dad's passing, Mum returned to Melbourne.

My mother had good moral judgement and guided me with sound advice. She placed great emphasis on education and encouraged me and later her grandchildren, Dora and Denis, to take school seriously to improve themselves and avoid the hardships she experienced. We were able to support Mum at home when her health deteriorated right up until the end, Mekerem, her daughter-in-law, provided Dora with exceptional care. Mum will be greatly missed for her kindness.

Marko Zaverdinos

OLIVIA BARLOW
ΟΛΙΒΙΑ ΜΠΑΡΛΟ
1927- 2022

Στις 17 Δεκεμβρίου απεβίωσε στην Μελβούρνη η σεβαστή **Ολίβια Μπάρλο**. Η Ολίβια γεννήθηκε στο Βαθύ Ιθάκης, θυγατέρα των Αριστοτέλη Κομνηνού και Ευθυμίας Πορτόλο, αδελφή των Βασιλικής και αιμίμηστου Φιλίππου. Ήταν η μόνη από την οικογένεια που ήλθε στην Αυστραλία, στην Ελλάδα ζουν η αδελφή της και πέντε ανίψια.

Το 1967 παντρεύτηκε στο Σύνδνει τον Πίτερ Μπάρλο. Πέρασαν μαζί μια υπέροχη ζωή, ταξιδεύοντας σε όλο το κόσμο και συγχρόνως επισκέπτονταν συγγενείς για πάνω από σαράντα χρόνια μέχρι τον θάνατο του Πίτερ το 2008. Λίγο μετά η Ολίβια ήλθε στην Μελβούρνη όπου διέμενε τα τελευταία δεκατρία χρόνια, απολαμβάνοντας τη βίλα της και τις τόσες φιλίες της. Μέλος του Συνδέσμου μας, αγαπούσε να παρευρίσκεται στις εκδηλώσεις μας αφήνοντας παρακαταθήκη με μια γενναϊόδωρη δωρεά στον Σύνδεσμό μας. Η Ολίβια έφυγε από τη ζωή σε ηλικία 95 χρόνων και αναπαύεται δίπλα από τον αγαπημένο της Πίτερ στο Botany Cemetery NSW. Πάντα στη θύμησή όλων πνευματώδης, έξυπνη και άψογα ντυμένη έως το τέλος της ζωής της.



Olivia was born in Vathy, Ithaca to parents Aristotelis Comminos and Efthimia Portolo, sister of Vasiliki and Philippo (dec). She was the only one in her family to come to Australia and is survived by her sister and five nieces and nephews in Greece. Olivia married Peter Barlow in 1967 in Sydney. They had a wonderful life together, travelling the world, visiting family along the way. They especially loved cruises, travelling through the Americas, the Caribbean, Europe and Asia for over forty years until Peter passed away in 2008. Shortly after, Olivia decided to move to Melbourne where she lived for the remaining thirteen years of her life, enjoying her villa in Doncaster and spending time with her many friends. She loved attending Ithacan Club functions and left a lasting legacy with a generous donation to the Society.

Olivia overcame a number of health scares in later life but in 2022 her health rapidly declined and she just wanted to be at peace with her

beloved Peter. She passed away, aged 95, on the 17 December 2022 and was buried alongside Peter at Memorial Park (Botany Cemetery) in NSW. Olivia will be remembered for her sharp wit and sophisticated demeanour, always immaculately dressed, wearing her hat and gloves right until the end.

Olivia was part of my life since I was eight years old and she was like a mother to me. Her constant presence guided me over the years and her unstinting support was sincerely appreciated. In loving memory, and thank you.

Antoni - Anthony Drakopoulos

DIMITRIOS N. NOUSATOS
ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΣ Ν. ΝΟΥΣΑΤΟΣ
1939 - 2022

Ο Δημήτριος Νουσατός γεννήθηκε στην Εξωγή Ιθάκης το 1939. Ήταν γιός του Νικολάου Νουσατού και της Ελένης Πεφάνη, αδελφός των Σπύρου και Γιαννούλας. Το 1951 ήλθε στην Μελβούρνη και αργότερα πήγε στο Queensland. Το 1963 παντρεύτηκε την αιμίμηστη Λαμπία (Πία) από Ακράτα Πελοποννήσου και απόκτησαν δύο τέκνα την Ελένη και τον Νίκο. Είχαν φτειάξει το σπιτικό τους στη Βρισηβάνη, αλλά αργότερα ακολούθησαν την κόρη τους στην Μελβούρνη όπου και διέμεναν. Με την συζυγό του ταξίδεψαν πολλές φορές στην Ιθάκη και Ακράτα, τα μέρη που γεννήθηκαν. Αξιώθηκαν από τα παιδιά τους και τους συντρόφους τους Yvonne and Bill, τέσσερα εγγόνια και τρία δισέγγονα. Ο Δημήτρης ήταν καλόκαρδος, φιλόδοξος, που πάντα συμπονούσε και βοηθούσε όσους είχαν ανάγκη. Μέλος του Συνδέσμου μας, μαζί με την Πία ερχόταν συχνά στις εκδηλώσεις μας. Πάντα θα είναι στη μνήμη όλων.



Glory be to God that we have been given the opportunity today to reflect, mourn and celebrate the wonderful life of **Dimitrios Noutsatos** in this beautiful place of worship. Within the Orthodox Church, funerals are a service that provoke deep thought and reflection about the harsh reality of this mortal life, however, everything is underpinned with a sense of gleaming hope, and that hope lies within the Resurrection. All of this is tied tightly and perfectly together with a sense of love that surpasses all human understanding.

The same can be said about Pappou's life and the way he interacted with those around him. He was a man of few words, so the words that he did say, bitter or sweet, held a deep importance to us. Many times, when he would give us a pep talk, commonly and affectionately known among the family as a lecture, we would walk away sometimes smiling, sometimes laughing, sometimes in tears, and sometimes we won't even get up because we were preoccupied on processing what had been said. Regardless on the words exchanged and the level of emotion they conveyed, they were said not because he wanted to control us, or live his life through us, or even because he had already made up his mind that his way was the only true way, but it was because he adored us and wanted us to shine.

In my eyes, Pappou was the definition of selfless and meek. He bore his cross quietly whilst trying his utmost to lighten the weight

of the crosses of others. I would even consider him to be a "fool for Christ" as mentioned by Apostle Paul in one of His Epistles to the Church. Whilst being a meticulous carpenter by trade, he spent a lot of his time, including much of his retirement, doing free work for family, friends, struggling business, and communities. No matter who they were, if they were in a rough time, he would do everything he could to bring them a sense of peace, even going to the extent of fully organising day trips anywhere and everywhere.

One day he pulled out to show me all the certificates of appreciation from various organisations he had received over time, and they covered the entirety of the dining table. Many people took his kind-heartedness for granted and took advantage of him, which he knew, however, it was because of his deeply-rooted love for others that he turned a blind eye and helped in any way possible.

Through living a life of principles, morals, hard work and service, he set for all those around him an amazing example. He showed us how to be a good person, a useful person, a person who changes lives, but more importantly, how to live a Christian life in all its simplicity yet glory. Thank you Pappou, everything we have is because of you. We love you!

Jamieson Noutsatos (Adelaide)

**NICHOLAOS ZAFIRATOS
ΝΙΚΟΛΑΟΣ ΖΑΦΕΙΡΑΤΟΣ
1934-2022**

Nicholaos Zafiratos loving husband of Athina Mavrokefalou, devoted father of Vicky-Jim, Bessie-Costa, proud grandfather of Christopher, Maritsa and Simon, was born on the island of Kefalonia. He was a man of many talents, intelligent, capable, fiercely independent, hardworking, protective, generous, witty and wise, and a good friend to many. He was a proud man who lived his life with integrity and who showed strength of character and love right up until his last days.



Ο Νικόλαος Ζαφειράτος γεννήθηκε στην Κεφαλληνία. Αγαπούσε πολύ τα γράμματα αλλά οι δυσκολίες του Β' Παγκοσμίου Πολέμου δεν του επέτρεψαν να συνεχίσει την εκπαίδευσή του. Μετά τη στρατιωτική του θητεία δούλεψε ως τροφοδότης στα καράβια, δίνοντάς του την ευκαιρία να ταξιδέψει σε όλο τον κόσμο. Στην Μελβούρνη ήρθε το 1963.

Το 1965 παντρεύτηκε την Αθηνά Μαυροκεφάλου από την Εξωγή και απέκτησαν δύο κόρες την Βικτώρια και την Βασιλική. Ήταν υπερήφανος που αξιόθηκε να τις δει να επιτυγχάνουν στις σπουδές τους και στην καριέρα τους. Επίσης καμάρωσε τους γάμους τους και είχε τη χαρά τριών εγγονιών, το Χρήστο, Μαρίτσα και Σίμο. Θα τον θυμούνται όλοι ως έναν στοργικό σύζυγο, έναν αφοσιωμένο πατέρα και παππού καθώς και έναν καλό φίλο - έναν περήφανο άνθρωπο που έζησε τη ζωή του με ακεραιότητα και που έδειξε δύναμη χαρακτήρα και αγάπη μέχρι τις τελευταίες του μέρες

ΣΤΟΝ ΝΙΚΟΛΑ

Σήμερα που γιορτάζουμε
Την Καθαριότητα μας
Εσύ Νικόλα έφυγες
Και πήγες μακριά μας.
Έφυγες στο ταξίδι σου
Πού 'ναι το τελευταίο
Που δυστυχώς για όλους μας
Είναι και το μοιραίο.
Ήρθες λεβέντης νεαρός
Απ' την Κεφαλλονιά
Για μια καλύτερη ζωή
Εδώ στην ξενιτιά.
Ήσουν πολύ τυχερός
Που πήρες σύζυγό σου
Την Αθηνά που στάθηκε
Κυρία στο πλευρό σου.
Δύο παιδιά απέκτησες
Και τρία εγγονάκια
Λουλουδία εις τον κήπο σου
Και όμορφα δενδράκια.
Η θρησκεία μας πιστεύει
Στην αιώνια ζωή
Εκεί θα συναντηθούμε Νικόλα
Γιατί εδώ πέρα είμαστε περαστικοί.
Ο χάρος όμως ζήλησε
Την τόση την χαρά σου
Όταν αποκατέστησες τα
Δύο τα παιδιά σου.
Εις το κρεβάτι σ έριξε
Με φοβερή αρρώστια
Γιατροί δεν την γιατρεύουνε
Ούτε τα γιατροσόφια.
Η οικογένεια σ έτρεξε
Εις στο νοσοκομείο
Μα δυστυχώς Νικόλα μου
Μας είπες το αντίο.
Λυπήθηκαν οι συγγενείς
Και η κοινωνία όλη
Και λίγοι φίλοι που απέμειναν
Πού 'ναι στο Αργοστόλι.
Ήσουν σπουδαίος σύζυγος
Πατέρας στοργικός
Ήσουν παππούς και πεθερός
Ήσουν μοναδικός.
Κουράγιο Αθηνούλα μου
Στης ζωής του χειμώνα
Κουράγιο θα σου δίνουνε
Παιδιά σου και εγγόνια.

Ευαγγελία Μωραϊτή

ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΗΡΙΟ
Εκφράζουμε τα θερμά μας ευχαριστήρια σε όλους που μας συμπαράσταθηκαν στο θάνατο του πολυαγαπημένου μας σύζυγου, πατέρα, παππού και αδερφού **Νικόλαου Ζαφειράτου** Την αγάπη και συμμετοχή σας στην λίπη μας εκτιμούμε ιδιαίτερως. Προσφέρουμε εις μνήμη του \$100 **Αθηνά Ζαφειράτου, παιδιά και εγγόνια.**

**IN MEMORY DONATIONS
ΔΩΡΕΕΣ ΕΙΣ ΜΝΗΜΗ**

- €40 Μαρία Παϊζή & Σταύρος Κωστούλας εις μνήμη **Τζοβενίας Βαρβαρήγου** (Πλατρείθιάς) και **Γεωργίου Ζαβερδινού** (Σταυρός)
 - \$50 Spiros & Artemis Arkouzis (QLD) in memory of their dear son **Gerasimos Arkouzis**
 - \$50 Anthony & Florence Drakopoulos in memory of **Olivia Barlow**.
 - \$50 Tess Stamell (Sydney) in memory of **Eugenia Vlass-Raftos**
 - \$100 Tess Stamell (Sydney) in memory of aunt **Effie Palmos-Detsimas**
 - \$50 Vera & Les Black and Poppy & Nick Fardoulis (QLD) in memory of dear cousin **Effie Palmos-Detsimas**
- The following donations were received in memory of **Christos Lourandos**
\$50 Anthony & Florence Drakopoulos.
\$50 George & Spyridoula Coutsouvelis
\$50 John & Eugenia Tsalikis
\$50 Helen Vlass

**DORA GREGORIADES
ΔΩΡΑ ΓΡΗΓΟΡΙΑΔΗ
1921-2022**

Η **Δώρα** γεννήθηκε στην Ιθάκη αλλά μεγάλωσε στην Πάτρα. Έχασε την μητέρα της Μαρία Βασιλείου όταν ήταν ενός έτους, ο πατέρας της Σπύρος Ζερβός, ξαναπαντρεύτηκε και απέκτησε άλλα έξι παιδιά. Η Δώρα κατά τη διάρκεια του Β' Παγκοσμίου Πολέμου υπηρέτησε ως νοσοκόμα και μετά μεταναστεύσε στην Αυστραλία που ήταν ο θεός της.

Το 1974 παντρεύτηκε τον Γρηγόρη Γρηγοριάδη που ήταν χήρος. Η Δώρα αγάπησε σαν αληθινή μητέρα τον γιό του Τζακ, όπως και αυτός την Δώρα. Αξιώθηκε δύο εγγόνια και δύο δισέγγονα. Με τον σύζυγό της ταξίδευαν συχνά ιδιαίτερα στην Πάτρα που ήταν οι συγγενείς της. Ήταν επιτυχημένη επαγγελματίας με δικά της καταστήματα ρούχων. Με τον Γρηγόρη ήταν μέλη στην ΑΧΕΠΑ όπου συμμετείχαν σε πολλές φιλανθρωπικές εκδηλώσεις, καθώς και η Δώρα, που αγαπούσε τη μουσική, ήταν μέλος της χορωδίας.

Μετά το θάνατο του συζύγου της το 2014, ο Τζακ με τη σύζυγό του Μπέτυ, συμπαράσταθηκαν στην Δώρα όπου παρέμεινε στο σπίτι της μέχρι που πέθανε σε ηλικία 101 χρόνων. Η οικογένεια της Δώρας θα την θυμάται πάντα για την αγάπη και την αφοσίωσή της.



Dora was born in Ithaca but was raised in Patra. She lost her mother Maria Vasiliou when she was one year old; her father Spiros Zervos remarried and had six more children. During World War 2, Dora served as a nurse and soon after the end of the war, she migrated to Australia where a secure home with her uncle awaited her.

In 1974 she met Greg Gregoriades, a widower. She immediately made a connection with his son Jack and over the years a loving and caring relationship developed. Following the passing of Greg in 2014, Jack and his wife Betty were there to support Dora allowing her to remain in her home up until she passed aged 101. Becoming a grandmother to Christopher and Greg and later on, the arrival of two great-grandchildren, brought much joy to Dora.

During her marriage to Greg, she ran her own successful businesses in Richmond, *Milly's Fashions* in Swan Street and later in Church Street. Dora and Greg travelled on a regular basis. Patra was a constant magnet as Dora visited the siblings, nieces and nephews and friends she had there.

Greg and Dora were members of AHEPA where Dora's love of music saw her participate in the choir. They developed incredible relationships in AHEPA as well as a sense of fulfilment from their involvement in fundraising activities for various charities. On her retirement, Dora volunteered with the Salvation Army and other charitable organisations. Dora's bright personality and her sense of humour, her love and devotion to her husband Greg, to Jack and Betty and their family will always be remembered.

**ΔΩΡΕΑ ΓΙΑ ΕΦΗΜΕΡΙΔΑ
€40 Ελένη Κουβαρά (Σταυρός)**

**ANNA RAFTOPOULOS
ΙΩΑΝΝΑ (ANNA) ΡΑΥΤΟΠΟΥΛΟΥ
1936-2022**

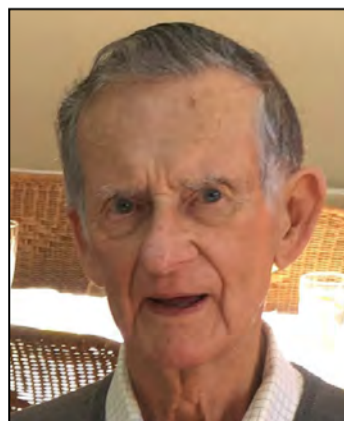
Απεβίωσε στην Μελβούρνη η **Ιωάννα Ραυτοπούλου**, αγαπημένη σύζυγος του Αποστόλη, πολυαγαπημένη μητέρα των Ρένας-Χρήστου, Παναγιώτη-Μαρίας και λατρευτή γιαγιά των Τζέση, Σόνιας, Άννας, Τζένη και Αποστόλη. Η Άννα γεννήθηκε στην Καλαμάτα, Πελοποννήσου αλλά η οικογένειά της μετοίκησε στην Αθήνα όπου και εκεί τελείωσε το σχολείο. Το 1957 ήλθε στην Αυστραλία όπου αμέσως μετά, συνάντησε τον συζυγό της Αποστόλη Ραυτόπουλο από το Κιόνι Ιθάκης. Παντρεύτηκαν το 1958 και μαζί αγωνίστηκαν σκληρά για να προσφέρουν ότι το καλύτερο στη ζωή των παιδιών τους. Η οικογένεια της θα την θυμάται πάντα για την αγάπη και την αφοσίωσή της.



Beloved wife of Apostoli (Paul), much-loved mother of Rena-Chris and Peter-Maria and loving grandmother of Jessie, Sonja, Anna, Jeni and Apostolis, **Anna Raftopoulos** passed away on 15 August 2022. Born in Kalamata Greece in 1936, Anna's family moved to Athens where she completed her schooling. Anna arrived in Australia in 1957 and it was soon after that she met her husband-to-be Paul Raftopoulos who had arrived post-war from Kioni, Ithaca. They married in 1958 and together they worked hard to provide the best for their children. She will be forever remembered for her devotion to her family.

**REGINALD BEASLEY
1930-2022**

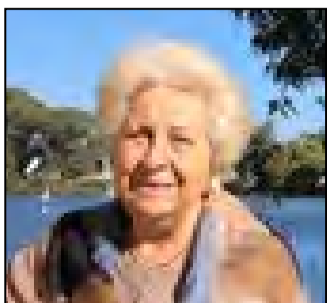
Beloved husband of Sia, devoted father of Michael and Speros (dec), father-in-law of Liz and loving grandfather of Tom-Laura, Edward, Hugh, Charlie, Mikayla and Cooper, passed away in October 2022, four days short of his 92nd birthday. Reg was born in Melbourne to George and Mignonne Beasley. His father George Beasley played football for Collingwood 1924-35, hence Reg's staunch support for the Magpies all his life.



Reg will be remembered for his kindness, respectfulness, his dry humour, and of course, his hospitality. A cold VB in an iced glass was always on hand as was a mean Greek coffee which he had learnt to brew to perfection, always serving it with a glass of water. Reg enjoyed travelling, in particular, he loved his trips to Greece. On a visit to Crete when asked what his name was, he replied with his characteristic humour, **Reg Bizopoulos!** He was a true philhellene and was respected by his many Greek friends.

NEWS FROM PERTH
By Mary Raftopoulos

TASSIA NICOLAOU
1932-2022



Tassia (nee Lecatsas) was born in Stavros, Ithaca in June 1932, She lived a healthy and happy life on three continents, Europe, Africa and Australia and as she said on her 80th birthday, *she did it my way*. She never forgot those happy first years on Ithaca and she never forgot her mother tongue. She remembered travelling, aged seven, on a big Italian liner, *Guillo Caesar* with her mum Maria and brother to South Africa, that migration being a momentous event in her life. This is where her mum's *Koulouria* came into their own, the same *Koulouria* that Tassia became known for. Tassia and her brother were very seasick for the first few days and could not eat anything except the *Koulouria* they had brought with them. After the trauma of migrating, Tassia's brother, Yiannis, passed away from meningitis at seven years of age and she said it was a really difficult time in her life and that of her parents.

For the greater part of her life, she lived in South Africa; she worked very hard to get a good education and helped her younger brother Byron and sister Katherine too. For some years she was a boarder at the Greek school run by *Bertolis* and never would have dreamt that one of her school friends would become her *syμβethera*, and that along with her friend Maria, they would all end up in Perth. Tassia was the first one to drive in her family and she remembers that it was her uncles, Nicko and Costa Vrettos, who helped the family buy a car, a 1940 Ford. She insisted on studying further even though her father thought it unnecessary, and she qualified as a teacher and taught for a few years before she married and started her family.

We cannot talk about Tassia without talking about Steni, the love of her life. Together they were a wonderful team and great parents. They enjoyed a wonderfully happy marriage. She was always very proud of her three children, Marina, Nicholas and Cathy, even prouder of her eight grandchildren, and she got to know seven great-grandchildren. Thank goodness for technology as this helped her maintain a close bond with family who are scattered all over the world. Tassia was open minded, progressive, curious and had a great love of reading. She enjoyed having family and friends around and she is remembered for her hospitality. Tassia lived a rich and fulfilling life and will be very missed by those who love her. Old age is for the brave and Mom faced it with as much stoicism and dignity as she could muster.



70th BIRTHDAY

Following a fantastic holiday on Ithaca, my children, Joanne Georgiou and Spiro Raftopoulos, pictured left with my husband Costa, gave me a wonderful surprise! I turned 70 a week later and they had organised a party for me with family and very close friends at our home. What a very special and touching evening it turned out to be. They organised outside catering with the *Souvla Boys* who, as always, made an excellent meal with lamb and chicken souvla, mezethes, salads and potatoes. My children and four grandchildren had me in tears with their beautiful speeches. They even organised family and friends from all around the world to send their video messages. It was wonderful. I felt very much loved and very special. A beautiful beginning to a new decade.
Cathy Raftopoulos

2022 HACCI WA AWARD

Congratulations to **Andriko Xanthis**, the 2022 recipient of an MG Kailes Award presented by HACCI, the Hellenic Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (WA).. **Andriko** is pictured centre, flanked to the left by his grandparents Gerry and Mary Raftopoulos and brother Dimitri Xanthis, and to his right by, Dr Elena Limnios (President of HACCI), his yiayia Nicki Xanthis and parents Pantelis and Mimika (Raftopoulos) Xanthis. Andriko writes:

The MG Kailis Leadership Award is awarded to a student of Hellenic descent who has displayed outstanding commitment and achievement in leadership, entrepreneurship and/or innovation. Being proud of my Greek heritage, I decided to register for the award and was lucky enough to be shortlisted. I was interviewed by a panel of three HACCI members who asked me about my leadership skills and how I intended to use those skills going



forward. The award was presented to me at the HACCI AGM. I was asked to say a few words about myself and the qualities which helped me win the award. It was a wonderful evening which was held at the Telethon Kids Institute, where we had the pleasure of hearing from the internationally acclaimed epidemiologist Professor Jonathan Carapetis speaking on the world-leading research at the Institute.



2022 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS TREE – See more photos at www.ithaca.org.au/gallery



ITHACAN HIGH SCHOOL YEAR 12 AWARDS
ΒΡΑΒΕΙΑ ΑΡΙΣΤΟΥΧΩΝ ΛΥΚΕΙΩΝ ΙΘΑΚΗΣ

Τον Σεπτέμβριο 2022 απονεμήθηκαν τα καθιερωμένα βραβεία του Συνδέσμου μας σε αριστούχους μαθητές, των Γενικού και Επαγγελματικού Λυκείων Ιθάκης. Τα παιδιά μας έστειλαν ευγενικά ευχαριστήρια και μας πληροφόρησαν για τις σπουδές που θα ακολουθήσουν. Συγχαίρουμε τους **Τηλέμαχο Γκανασούλη** και **Ιωάννη Γρίβα**, ευχόμενοι πάντα σε ανώτερα και κάθε επιτυχία στη ζωή τους.

Pictured above from left are the Principal of the Vocational Lykeio Ioannis Dendrinis, Peter Andrews, Tilemahos Ganasoulis brother (accepting the award on behalf of Tilemahos), Spyridoula Digaletou-Coutsouvelis, Mayor Dionysios Stanitsas, Ioannis Grivas, Dinos Karavias, School Committee member and Eleni Themeli, Principal of the General Lykeio.

In September 2022, the Society's Year 12 Awards valued at EU1000 each were presented to the highest performing students. President Spyridoula Digaletou-Coutsouvelis congratulated the students on behalf of the Society and wished them well in their future studies. The Mayor Dionysios Stanitsas presented the award to the top Vocational School student, **Ioannis Grivas** who gained entry into the International Hellenic University in Thessaloniki. IPS committee member, Peter Andrews, presented the General Stream Award to **Tilemahos Ganasoulis** who was accepted into the School of Medicine at the University of Crete.