

# *The* Corfiot

Corfu's English Language Monthly Magazine

April 2008

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No. 208

## Walking through Time A Corfiot Odyssey



## Hotel threatens Natura 2000 wetland

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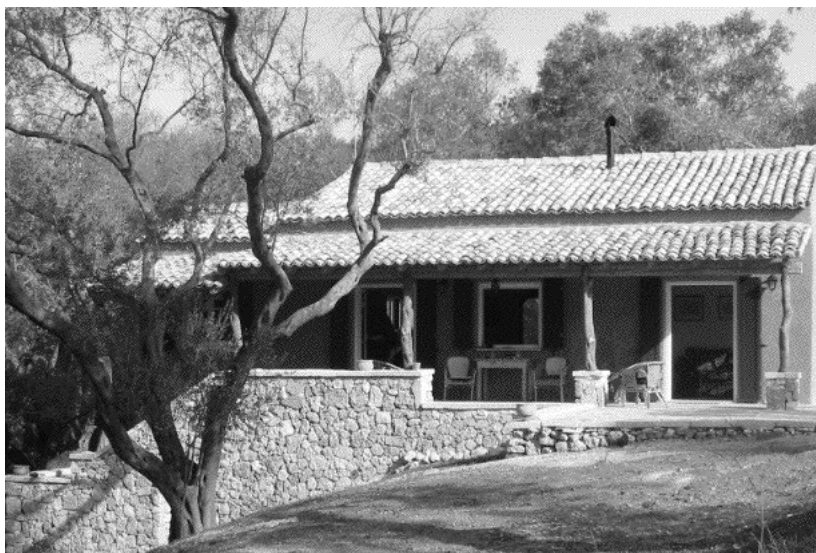
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## ear to the ground

WE ARE IN RECEIPT OF A TRADE MAGAZINE CALLED 'TOURISM AND PROPERTY', in Greek and English. Last month's issue put shivers up my spine... it had a huge section devoted to press releases from construction companies announcing their plans to build massive hotel and residential developments all over the country, which filled me with horror.

Particularly, Spain has learned the hard way that going down this road is short-term profitable (at least for the companies involved), long-term ruinous. Of course, they didn't know that at the time - but elsewhere people should be able to learn from others' mistakes. It seems Greece cannot.

You can go anywhere in the world and stay in giga-size tourism complexes, with everything you need on site. These complexes usually function as all-inclusives as well, so guests do not even have to exit the complex for food and entertainment, so leaving little cash in the local economy. You can go to Spain and buy a little concrete box in a vast estate of identical concrete boxes. Why should you come to Greece for more of the same? Why do the Greeks feel they have to offer more of the same?

In the mid-1990s we went to the London World Travel Market with a promotional campaign entitled 'Corfu - Discover the Difference'. And it worked. Corfu started to get a good press, after years of being slagged off by the media. Tourism rose. But now it seems that the policy can be summed up in the slogan: 'Greece - Destroy the Difference'.

What makes Greece different from other countries that rely on a sun-based tourism industry? In other words, what features of itself should it be pushing to make it stand out from the crowd? In my view, they are HOSPITALITY and SAFETY. And these concepts are not ones which are associated with giant faceless impersonal developments and complexes.

But they do go hand in hand with, for example, holiday cottage rentals set in villages and serviced by the owner or by a local family. They do go hand in hand with the B&B philosophy, and with small, family-run hotels. Indeed, with any small-scale personal operation - but never with the sort that these development companies are proudly planning.

Off the top of my head, some examples in Corfu of the type of development we should be encouraging are Casa Lucia, Fundana Villas, Henry Holterman's Varipatades cottages (featured in this magazine in February), any member of the Guest Inn chain, Cricketers Taverna in Liapades, and in Arillas Brouklis Taverna's rooms and the Horizon Hotel. Fortunately, I could go on.

HERE IN CORFU, WE'VE SEEN A COUPLE OF GIANT ALL-INCLUSIVES BEING BUILT IN THE ACHARAVI AREA.

Another, on the borders of the Natura 2000 zone, was stopped by environmentalist Spiros Salvanos, who was beaten up by order of the developers for his efforts. Now, plans are afoot to construct a hotel complex of more than 1000 beds INSIDE the Natura 2000 boundaries. Which is illegal. Mr Mayor of Thinali, I told you I would 'name and shame' and that starts right here. The culprits? Spiros Varelis, Mayor, and Evrosyndesmoi AE, the construction company responsible. Read more inside.

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### SUNDAY SERVICES

Sundays 10.30 Holy Communion  
19.00 (1st, 3rd & 5th of month) Songs of Praise

(Sunday School & Youth Group run same time as Services except Family Service)

### REGULAR EVENTS

Tuesdays 10.00 Library & Coffee Morning  
Wednesdays 10.00 Coffee & Kids  
Wednesdays 12.00-14.30 Lunch Box  
Wednesdays 19.00 Scrabble Club (last Wed. in the month)  
Thursdays 10.30 Bible Study, the Old Testament (new series)  
Fridays 10.30-12.00 Informal Prayer Meeting

### HELP THE CORFU DONKEY SANCTUARY

~ Make a cash donation ~ Sponsor an individual donkey  
~ Donate equipment ~ Volunteer to help with care or DIY

Call Judy Quinn on 6947 375992. Visit the Sanctuary to see your money at work. Please call in advance.

To donate money, please use the charity account at Alpha Bank: Filozoiki Frontida (Mi Kerdoskopiki).

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### This month's name days

- 06. Evtichios
- 10. Dimos, Iraklis, Miltiades, Periklis, Sofoklis
- 12. Anthi
- 15. Leonidas
- 21. Alexandra
- 24. Achilleas, Valentini, Elisavet
- 25. Markos
- 27. Anastasios, Paschalis, Lambros
- 29. Iason

Name-day ritual dictates that you visit the home of the celebrating person, who will be holding an 'at home' - no invitation required. Take along a simple gift (alcohol, flowers, cake) and you will be offered a drink, nuts, cake, and possibly food.

**Find Inner Peace and Happiness through Meditation. For information on classes, call the Tharpaling Buddhist Centre on 26610 41303**

# Book Sale

Organised by and for the Council of Thinali Parents' Association. Held outside the Dimitra Supermarket in Acharavi between 9.30 & 12.30 every Saturday (weather permitting). All our books and handmade cards are 1.50 euros, and proceeds are used to enrich the lives of children attending Acharavi Primary School. Most of the books are donated by local residents, and local hotels and apartments are also encouraged during summer to recycle and donate books left by holidaymakers.

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# Donkeys need X-ray machine

Corfu Donkey Rescue, which runs an equine sanctuary near Poulades, is trying to raise money to buy a portable X-ray machine, after one of the donkeys, a foal born last June and featured in this magazine, was injured.

CDR founder and manager Judy Quinn, writes: 'Paraskevi the baby had a bad fall when galloping around the field and has severely damaged her leg. It is probably fractured, but we will never know for sure as there is no portable X-ray machine on the island. Consequently, we are trying to raise funds of 5-6000 euros to purchase one, less if we can find a good one second hand.

'We often get donkeys brought in with suspect fractures, and thus have desperate need of an X-ray device to help us make more informed decisions about their long term prognosis. But with all our other expenses, the X-ray purchase has had to be put on the back burner. Now I feel we must have one. Too late for Paraskevi, but will help many other donkeys, horses and other large animals on the island in the future.

'Paraskevi has to remain confined for some months to allow the damage to heal. No-one can tell how well it will heal, but she will probably never win a donkey derby! She would welcome visitors and carrots to relieve her boredom and help her forget the pain for a while.'

To reach the Sanctuary, visit Paraskevi and make a direct donation, leave the main highway north at Gouvia, taking the road past the entrance of Diellas Supermarket. Continue for a few kilometres to a T-junction and turn left. Follow the asphalt road, bearing right at the top of the climb after a large development of villas, always on asphalt. The Sanctuary is about a kilometre after the villas.

## Donations in euros to Alpha Bank

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*Below: Little Paraskevi has fractured her leg*



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# Thomas Cook employees face charges over Corcyra Beach gas deaths

The head of Thomas Cook's Health and Safety Department and an overseas representative for the firm are facing trial over the deaths of two British children in Corfu.

Six-year-old Robert Shepherd and his sister Christianne, seven, died in October 2006 from carbon monoxide poisoning in a holiday villa in the Louis Corcyra Beach Hotel in Gouvia. Their father Neil Shepherd, 38, of Horbury, West Yorks, and his girlfriend, Ruth Beatson, 28, fell into a coma but recovered. Miss Beatson has since given birth, as has the children's mother, Sharon Wood, with her new husband.



**Memorial service, one year on: Christi and Bobby's shrine outside the fateful bungalow**

The poisoning was traced to the gas boiler controlling the villa's hot water and air-conditioning system, which had been incorrectly fitted and not maintained.

The panel of judges in Corfu announced that charges are also being brought against 11 Greeks, including the president of Louis Group, the manager and maintenance manager of the hotel, as well as external maintenance contractors.

A Thomas Cook spokeswoman said the company was 'shocked

and deeply concerned' that the two employees, named as Richard Carson, 26, and Nicola Gibson, 24, are to stand trial in Corfu over the deaths. They will also face charges of negligence over the injuries to the Mr Shepherd and Miss Beatson. If found guilty they could be sentenced to up to 20 years in jail.

The company is standing behind its employees, and believes that they will be fully vindicated. According to the executive director of Thomas Cook's Holiday Division, Ian Derbyshire, an investigation by an independent gas expert of the apartment in the days after the incident found that a trip switch on the gas boiler that prevents carbon monoxide build-up had short circuited. He also said the hotel had issued the company with a signed statement to say there was no gas in the property.

However, Mrs Wood holds Thomas Cook fully responsible. 'They should have checked that the place they were sending their clients was safe,' she said. Hotel employees allegedly realized that there was a problem with the boiler the day before the children died but did not fix it as the Shepherd family had already moved into the room.

Thomas Athanasiou, a lawyer representing Mr Shepherd, Miss Beatson and Mrs Wood, described the decision as a 'victory for justice'. A trial date remains to be set.



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# WALKS

## Spring in your step!

SATURDAY, 5 APRIL **The Grand Staircase \*\*\*\*\*** (4 hours +). Meet at Spartillas, Asteras Cafe, 10.00 (Alternative descent available). Lunch at Stamatis, Strinilas.

WEDNESDAY, 9 APRIL **Agios Georgios, Dafni and the Stalactite Cliffs \*\*\*\*** (3 hours) NEW! Meet at Agios Georgios (Alkyon Hotel Beachfront), 14.30

SATURDAY, 12 APRIL **Loutsas Circuit \*\*** (2 hours) NEW! Meet at Anapaftria Junction, Loutsas, 10.30. Lunch at Foros Taverna, Old Perithia.

SATURDAY, 19 APRIL **Karoubatika Triangle \*\*** (2 hours) NEW! Meet in Agios Ioannis Square, 10.30. Lunch at Kostas Taverna, Agios Ioannis.

SATURDAY, 26 APRIL **Lake Antinioti Circuit \*\*** (2 hours) NEW! Includes swim, weather permitting. Meet at Saint Spiridon Beachfront, 10.30 (Coffee from 10.00 at the Made in Corfu Shop on the main road). Lunch at Harry's Taverna, New Perithia.

SATURDAY, 3 MAY **Kyprianades Waterfall and River \*** (1 hour) NEW! Followed by PICNIC at the Kyprianades Springs - bring a dish of food and wine. Meet in Kyprianades Village, 11.00.

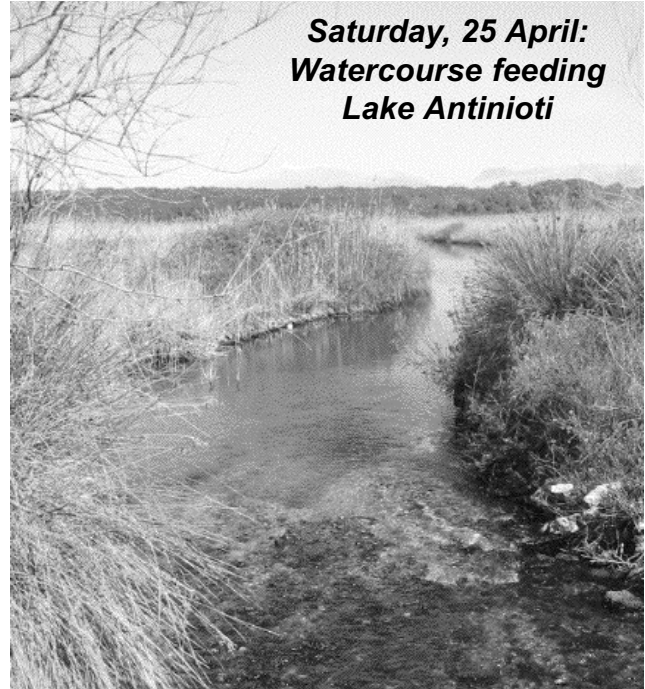
SATURDAY, 10 MAY **Porta, Mengoulas and Santa Oak Forest \*\*** (2 hours). Meet at The Old Schoolhouse, Porta, 10.30. Lunch at the Old Schoolhouse Taverna.

\* Easy \*\* Longer but no severe climbs

\*\*\* Moderate, with ascents

\*\*\*\* Difficult. Quite long with steep hills and rough terrain

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## Remembering Suneet

Suneet Gulati, former owner of Airlink Holidays, died recently at his home in the UK, aged 66.

Airlink was an independent tour company which operated in Corfu during the 1980s and early 1990s. Its local operations were handled by Allways Travel. Allways is now a ticketing specialist, but before 1992 the sale of charter flight tickets was not permitted except as part of a package, and only for purchase in the UK. Thus at that time Airlink, along with the Irish tour operator Budget Travel, provided the main business for what has now become one of Corfu's institutions.

Suneet was also responsible for bringing Corfiot publisher and editor Hilary Paipeti to the island (!!!). 'I was back-packing in Greece one summer, and really loved it, especially Crete,' writes Hilary. 'So I spent the winter applying for jobs with small companies which operated on that island - including Airlink, with whom I landed a job. Though I had asked to be sent to Crete, Suneet only had a vacancy in Corfu. "Never mind," he said by way of consolation. "You can always go to Crete next year."

'Some years later, I ran in to him at the London World Travel Market, where I was helping with the Corfu presentation. "And you wanted to go to Crete..." he commented.

'Suneet used to pay us a visit sometime in mid-summer, and was always a generous host to his reps. He was fond of gambling, and would take us to the Casino, then housed in the Achillion Palace. I remember in my first year, he gave us a meal in the terrace dining room before going inside to play. The food was expensive; I felt quite guilty, and ordered from the least dear part of the menu. Suneet then proceeded to win big time at blackjack.

'The next year he took us again. I told the other reps, all new from the previous year, that it didn't matter what they ordered, because Suneet would win it back and more. So we all went for the more expensive options. And Suneet promptly lost on roulette...'

Suneet is survived by his wife Sue and son James.

.....

## Anthony Blond

Former part-time Corfu resident Anthony Blond, previous owner of the Spanopoulos Estate in the Ropa Valley, has died aged 79 in France. The Telegraph writes that Blond was a publisher 'from an age when business was conducted in dusty garrets and promising authors were given small retainers to allow them to find their muse.' Among the books his company handled were the works of Simon Raven, *The Carpetbaggers* by Harold Robbins, *The Exorcist* by William P. Blatty and E.F. Schumacher's *Small is Beautiful*.

## June Event - Advance Notice Summer Music Festival

Corfu will host a Summer Music Festival and Academy throughout the month of June. A regular annual event organized by Terra Kerkira, the Festival features themed sections, including brass, instrumental, vocal interpretation and Greek music. This year, it focuses on five themes - woodwind and percussion, symphony music, East meets West, classical experience and Ionian jazz concerts.

The concerts, mostly free, will take place in various indoor and outdoor venues, including the Town Hall Square, Saint Spiridon Square (Plakada Agiou) and the City Theatre. Watch this space for a full programme nearer the date.

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## Photo of the Month

*It is advisable to leave your car in gear if the handbrake is dodgy...*

Sent in by Pete Button



## Joke of the Month

*Heaven and Hell*

Sent in by Lionel Mann

While on his morning walk, Prime Minister Gordon Brown falls over, has a heart attack and dies, because the accident and emergency department at his nearest hospital is too understaffed to treat him in time.

So his soul arrives in Heaven and he is met by Saint Peter at the Pearly Gates. 'Welcome to Heaven,' says Saint Peter, 'Before you settle in, it seems there is a problem. We seldom see a Socialist around these parts, so we're not sure what to do with you.'

'No problem, just let me in; I'm a good Christian; I'm a believer,' says the PM.

'I'd like to just let you in, but I have orders from God Himself. He says that since the implementation of his new HEAVEN CHOICES policy, you have to spend one day in Hell and one day in Heaven. Then you must choose where you'll live for eternity.'

'But I've already made up my mind. I want to be in Heaven,' replies Brown.

'I'm sorry... But we have our rules,' Peter interjects. And, with that, St. Peter escorts him to an elevator and he goes down, down, down ...all the way to Hell.

The doors open and he finds himself in the middle of a lush golf course. The sun is shining in a cloudless sky. The temperature is a perfect 22 degrees. In the distance is a beautiful club-house. Standing in front of it is Harold Wilson and thousands of other Socialist luminaries who had helped him out over the years - John Smith, Michael Foot, Jim Callaghan, etc.

The whole of the Labour Party leaders were there with everyone laughing, happy and casually but expensively dressed. They run to greet him, to hug him and to reminisce about the good times they had getting rich at the expense of 'suckers and peasants.'

They play a friendly game of golf and then dine on lobster and caviar. The Devil himself comes up to Brown with a frosty drink. 'Have a tequila and relax, Gord!'

'Uh, I can't drink anymore, I took a pledge,' says Brown, dejectedly.

'This is Hell, son. You can drink and eat all you want and not worry and it just gets better from there!' Brown takes the drink and finds himself liking the Devil, who he thinks is a really very friendly bloke who tells funny jokes, like himself, and pulls

hilarious nasty pranks, kind of like the ones the Labour Party pulled with the European Constitution and the Education, Immigration, Tough on Crime promises. They are having such a great time that, before he realises it, it's time to go. Everyone gives him a big hug and waves as Brown steps on the elevator and heads upward.

When the elevator door reopens, he is in Heaven again and Saint Peter is waiting for him. 'Now it's time to visit Heaven,' the old man says, opening the gate.

So for 24 hours Brown is made to hang out with a bunch of honest good-natured people who enjoy each other's company, talk about things other than money and treat each other decently. Not a nasty prank or short-arse joke among them. No fancy country clubs here and, while the food tastes great, it's not caviar or lobster. And these people are all poor.

The day done, Saint Peter returns and says, 'Well, you've spent a day in Hell and a day in Heaven. Now choose where you want to live for Eternity.'

With the 'Deal or No Deal' theme playing softly in the background, Brown reflects for a minute... Then answers: 'Well, I would never have thought I'd say this - I mean, Heaven has been delightful and all - but I really think I belong in Hell with my friends.' So Saint Peter escorts him to the elevator and he goes down, down, down ...all the way to Hell.

The doors of the elevator open and he is in the middle of a barren scorched earth, covered with garbage and toxic industrial wasteland, looking a bit like the eroded, rabbit and fox affected Australian outback, but worse and more desolate. He is horrified to see all of his friends, dressed in rags and chained together, picking up the roadside rubbish and putting it into black plastic bags. They are groaning and moaning in pain, faces and hands black with grime.

The Devil comes over to Brown and puts an arm around his shoulder.

'I don't understand,' stammers a shocked Brown, 'Yesterday I was here and there was a golf course and a club-house and we ate lobster and caviar and drank tequila. We lazed around and had a great time. Now there's just a wasteland full of garbage and everybody looks miserable!'

The Devil looks at him, smiles slyly and purrs, 'Yesterday we were campaigning; today you voted for us!'

# THE BISHOP'S EASTER MESSAGE

## 'Lift me, O Cross'

**✠ Geoffrey Rowell, Anglican Bishop of Europe**

A little over forty years ago, in a ruined monastery near the massive Egyptian temple of Abu Simbel which towers over the waters of the Nile above the Aswan High Dam, an ancient Coptic prayer book was dug out of the sand. It includes the text of a hymn which the Lord is said to have recited to his disciples as he contemplated his coming passion. The Cross on which he is to die is addressed as itself a living reality. Christ embraces the Cross and the Cross embraces him. The hymn (or prayer) runs as follows:

*Rise up, O holy Cross, and lift me, O Cross. I shall mount upon you, O Cross. They shall hang me upon you as a witness to them. Receive me to yourself, O Cross, But be joyful, O Cross, Amen. I have put on the crown of the kingdom.*

Go to a very different part of the world, to Ruthwell in southern Scotland, and there you find an ancient eighth century cross. On it is carved in ancient runic lettering part of a poem which we know as the Dream of the Vision of a Rood. Once again the cross is personified and speaks of that moment when Christ was lifted up in suffering and as king. *The young warrior - it was God Almighty - stalwart, resolute, stripped himself; climbed the high gallows, Gallantly before the throng, resolved to loose Man's bonds. Trembled I when this warrior embraced me, Yet durst I neither bow nor fall. I must needs stand fast. As a rood I was raised up, bearing a noble king... With dark nails they pierced me, leaving scars yet visible.*

These two ancient expressions of Christian devotion remind us of the centrality of the Cross for Christian faith. The Cross is seen from many angles - as a place of a criminal's death, as a place of torture and suffering, but yet as the place where a king is enthroned. When I am lifted up, says Jesus in St John's Gospel, I will draw all men to myself. The word 'exaltation' or 'lifting up' has a double resonance - the physical lifting up on the cross, and the exaltation, even enthronement, of a king in triumph. Pontius Pilate nails over the head of Jesus a notice 'Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews'. With bitter irony Jesus is condemned for what he is, and not only the King of the Jews but the Lord of all the world. In incarnation, God gave himself into the world he had created. He took our human nature, our human experience, standing where we are.

Where we are is in a fallen world, a world created as wonderfully good by God in all its richness, and yet a human world which is deeply flawed, scarred by evil and the distortions of human desire. Jesus, we say, 'takes away the sin of the world.' Sin is the condition of apartness from God; it is what results from a choosing of self rather than God, of the idolatry which gives other things than God our ultimate allegiance. The war and violence, abuse, and addiction, of which we are made so sharply aware day by day in news reports, are the landscape of this fallen and sinful world. Our human lives are also mortal lives, bounded by death, which comes at the end to us all, and which we know before it comes to us in the death of those whom we love. We know death in the death of relationships, and the diminution and suffering of disease and the erosion of personali-

ty through dementias of various kinds. Jesus 'takes away the sin of the world' by entering into that reality. As St. Paul writes to the Philippians, he emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. In that reaching out in humility, in that outpouring of love, the one who was in the form of God became humbler yet, he became obedient unto death even death on a cross. The incarnation reaches through cross and crucifixion, to the desolate emptiness of death. From beginning to end it is a work of love, and it is love of God that descends into hell, the place of the departed. I treasure a story told to us by Bishop Jack Nicholls, the Bishop of Sheffield, who asked a sixth-form girl where she thought Jesus was between Good Friday and Easter. She replied, after she had thought a little, 'I think he was in deepest hell looking for his friend Judas.' That is love's redeeming work, the love that stoops down to the very lowest part of our need, which bears the weight of sin and death. In St John's imagery, the light shines in the darkness and the darkness is not able to blot it out.

Sin and death are not only destructive but imprisoning powers. On Good Friday and Holy Saturday the light seems snuffed out; the love of God seems defeated and destroyed. The victors are those who seem powerful in the world - the corrupt justice of an occupying power; the self-interest of religious leaders; the betrayal and desertion of friends. It is a world of no hope.

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# EASTER CELEBRATIONS

But the one who is the Lord and Giver of life, who has chosen to bear the weight of sin and to enter into our dying, is the one whose victory we celebrate at Easter. At Easter something new and overwhelming and surprising happens. The crucified Lord is the one whom God raises - not to the old life, but to the life of the new creation, a new and transformed life. He catches others into that life - into the resurrection light - Magdalen in the garden; and the disciples in the locked room; and the sceptical Thomas; and Peter who had denied him and is told to feed his sheep; and the two disciples on the way to Emmaus, where the Lord is made known in the breaking of bread. He breathes out upon them, upon us, his life-giving Spirit. He creates his church, the first-fruits of this new creation. He who is Easter makes of you and me and all who seek to follow in his way of love, Easter people also. As Hopkins, the poet, says, 'Christ Easters in us' - for Easter is not just a noun about a past event, but a dynamic verb, a resonant life of love triumphant and victorious, which makes of our dying 'the gate to life immortal'. In the light of Easter we know why we 'call this Friday 'Good'.' For as George Herbert put it in the first of his Easter poems.

*The cross taught all wood to resound his name,  
Who bore the same.*

*His stretched sinews taught all strings, what key  
Is best to celebrate this most high day.*

As I send you my blessing for this Holy Week and Easter, I pray that all in this Diocese may be renewed in the hope and joy that our Risen Lord invites us to both share and live. For we are indeed 'Easter people and 'Alleluia!' is our song.'

## • EASTER EVENTS

• Greek Orthodox Easter falls on Sunday, 27 April. A number of religious and cultural events take place in Corfu Town's churches and at city venues, but a diary was not available at the time of publication. Here is a list of the regular celebrations:

• SUNDAY, 20 APRIL *Palm Sunday Procession of Saint Spiridon* around Corfu Old Town, 11am.

• FRIDAY, 25 APRIL *Good Friday Religious Processions* ('Funeral of Christ') in Corfu Town, from 15.00 to late evening. Also **andlelight processions** in many villages, evening.

• SATURDAY, 26 APRIL *Easter Saturday Procession of Saint Spiridon* around the Espanade. 9am. **'Pot-throwing' Ceremony**, 11am. **'First Resurrection' Celebrations**, with bands and majorettes, 11.05. **Midnight Mass**, Esplanade Square, 11pm. **Fireworks display**, Esplanade Square, 12pm. Also **andlelight processions** and **Midnight Mass** in many villages from about 10pm. Followed by **'Mayeritsa'** at home or in a local taverna to break the Lenten Fast.

• SUNDAY, 27 APRIL *Easter Sunday Lamb lunch* with red eggs.

• Nearly New Sales take place every first Saturday of the month at Holy Trinity

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# New threat to Natura 2000 wetland

The area of Lake Antinioti is a wetland located on the northern coast of Corfu. The area is important not least for the threatened otter species *Lutra-lutra*, and many rare orchids, but also for the ecological balance of the area. The site is characterized by a variety of habitats, on which human activity has exerted little influence. It is an area of great significance on an island like Corfu where there is great pressure from building construction.

The protection and sustainable management of the site can contribute not only to the preservation of wildlife but also to the economic development of the area (fishing, leisure activities, ecotourism etc). The greater the delay in establishing its legal status, the more the threats to the environment will increase. Antinioti wetland has been declared a Natura 2000 Zone, the declared aim of which is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats, and is protected as a nature reserve by Greek legislation. However, an administrative body for this delicate ecosystem has not yet been legally established. To do so, the main requirement is first to assign specialists to study the ecosystem in order to define the reserve and determine what human intervention / activities / uses of land are allowed within the zone's boundaries, and up to what proximity outside the boundaries. (Reference Greek and European legislation: Law 1650/86, 2742/99/ EEC Directives: 79/409, EEC92/43 etc)

The Antinioti lagoon has suffered land-grabbing attempts in the past. Now there is a new threat. It has been disclosed that a large company has bought land in the area and has commenced proceedings to obtain permission to build a large development in this protected area. It is therefore now of vital importance that an official definition of its boundaries and lake-shore be conducted, requiring a comprehensive specialist study and financial support from the State.

The wetland falls within the Municipality of Thinalion. In November 2007 the local Mayor Spiros Varelis, without advising the community, declared an auction (public competition - to be awarded to the lowest bidder) to assign scientists to form a master plan and a conduct a specific environmental study. At the same time, he applied to the state authorities for this essential definition of the lake and shoreline.

Surprisingly, Mr Varelis did not then close the auction for the necessary master plan and environmental study, but instead went on to assemble his council to make a decision regarding the proposal to build what would be a tourist resort on a massive scale in the heart of the Natura Zone. The proposed development provides for 45,000 sq.m. to be built on an area of 243,000 sq.m. on the area known as Nissos of Agia Ekaterini, with the first step being approval to change access roads.

This picturesque landscape is almost an island, encircled by the Antinioti lagoon which flows into the sea to both the east and west, and by the sea itself to the north. The proposed site for this giant development (part hotel and part summer residences) includes the medieval church of Agia Ekaterini, which was and still is the only human habitation in this area. The land is divided into two by a country road that goes through Nissos and links the two estuaries of the lagoon by two small bridges; a pedestrian one to the west, and one that can carry small vehicles to the east. The building company, Evrosyndesmoi AE, has applied to the Mayor for permission to destroy the existing road and to lay a new lake perimeter road which will leave their land undivided. This will also give them the advantage of a higher building factor (more square metres of buildings in the same land). The subject of permission for this change to the road cannot be separated from the plan to develop the land.

The Mayor has twice attempted to persuade the local council of the village of Perithia (Agios Elias) to acquiesce to the laying of a new road - ignoring the damage to the environment - at the same time promoting the prospective benefits to the local economy of this investment. Having failed to get the consensus of the local council of Perithia, he brought the topic before the Municipal Council on the 12/03/08, where this time representatives of environmental organizations and citizens had also gathered. He then postponed the discussion of the subject, announcing an open meeting in the village of Perithia on the 15/03/08 at a local coffee shop. Environmentalists gathered there in >19

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14> large numbers. This proved to be a lively meeting, which defined those who want this project to proceed and those who object. Plans for the development were shown by the civil engineer for the project and the agent for the investor, who were both in attendance.

Representatives of environmentalist organisations explained how this project will affect the wetland, and how disastrous the formation of the proposed road would be. Mr. Salvanos from the Antinioti Environmental Organisation stressed that the Mayor must respect the law and implement the Greek Laws 1650/86 and 2742/99 that recommend a specific environmental study of the wetland and formation of a legal framework for the ecosystem, only afterwards allowing human intervention. He also suggested that the Mayor should establish the official definition of the lake-shore boundaries, before ANY decision is made, and that the destruction of the existing country road is out of question. Mr. Salvanos pointed out that it is illegal for a private enterprise to destroy the small bridges that are situated on the sea shore in order to build a large vehicle access road because it is not permissible to build anything at all on the sea/lake shoreline in protected zones, unless it's of serious public interest such as for breakwaters or harbours (according to law 2971/01).

The head of the hotelier's trades union was able to clarify why such a development would not benefit the local economy. He pointed out that in 1990 there were 10,000 people employed in the hotel industry, while today there are only 6,000, despite a number of new hotels having opened. This type of complex offers buffet-style catering which involves employing far less staff. It is also has already been proven that such properties also employ large numbers of Polish and Czech staff who work for lower salaries than locals.

Mr. Salvanos said that you cannot have the biologists and bulldozers at the same time in a Natura zone. Greece should respect and follow strictly EU directives. He asked the Mayor to respect the law, and consider the substantial public expense (770,000 euros so far) for the environmental study and establishing the definition of the lake shoreline, as well as the expenses for the



**Reedbeds at Lake Antinioti under threat  
The area where the hotel is planned is behind**

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possible establishment of the so-called Ecological Park of Antinioti. He stressed experts must first state what it is permissible to build there, if anything, what the approved uses of land are, and up to what proximity of the zone any development is permitted.

We find it unacceptable that the Mayor encourages the destruction of the existing road, allowing the bulldozers to flatten the flora and fauna, leaving nothing for scientists to study in future, or for people to enjoy - as he himself advocates on the Municipality's website. Despite large numbers of visitors to the area, local business is currently in crisis. Guests to the sort of complex which the Mayor proposes to be built have all they need on site and do not venture through the gates into the local community. A quick look around villages such as Acharavi will show long-established businesses which have been forced to close. The road itself forms part of a recently formed network of trails, part of a wider network of Blue Walks within the Municipality of Thinalion. The Corfu Trail, partly funded by the EU Interreg programme, passes over the proposed building site and its route here will almost certainly be closed. Walking is a specialist leisure activity enjoyed by many, and widely promoted

as a new form of tourism. Specialist holidays of this nature attract independent travellers who DO use local facilities, rooms, tavernas, bars, supermarkets and souvenir shops.

We believe any commercial construction is unacceptable in a nature reserve, and beyond that, any such development, far from benefiting the area, will further damage the local economy. Long-term, tourism in general will be affected adversely; we are progressively losing more and more virgin land to concrete, destroying the very thing that people come to island to see - its natural beauty. Preserving this area is a duty for future generations. The Mayor's attitude to the preservation of Lake Antinioti would appear to be entirely hypocritical.

*Sophia Salvanou*

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## Dopio!

### For real local produce

For thousands of years, since the time of Homer and before, Corfu was self-sufficient, with its water and produce from the land. Then tourism hit the island. Easy money encouraged people to abandon their land, and now the tasty fruit is going to waste. The beautiful trees which fruit year after year without fertilizers or pesticides are evidence that we don't need to have any of these cancerous poisons in our diet. As a boy, I lived on a farm and we ate and drank what we produced, exchanging some of it with other for what we didn't have. Fresh fish straight from the sea, free-range meats and eggs, fruit and vegetables with no pesticides was normal, a harmony of people, animals and plants. My parents still follow this diet and their lifestyle gained recognition from chef Rick Stein on his recent programme about Corfu.

On my return from Australia I wanted to restore the traditions of my island. We started with Luvcorfu Properties, aiming to bring the abandoned houses back to life. Then we founded Petra Traditional Constructions to ensure that the houses are restored in a traditional manner, instead of making them look modern like most Greek builders do. We established a shop at Gastouri for the lovely antique furniture which until now has been thrown on the dump, and a recycling yard at Gouvia for old building materials, which can antique even our new-build properties.

What remained was food and drink.

So Dopio - which means local - was born. This time we combined a folklore museum and traditional coffee shop with the local products and arts and crafts. Convincing the Corfiots that the local organic honey is better than other honey made from a 'mixed product' but cheaper was hard. Our organic honey has cured my hay fever; it is proven that eating honey made by local bees will make you resistant to these allergies. And I am the living proof.

Then we sourced Farma dairy products and four local wines - only four, not 15, because we found out that while the label may say it's Corfu wine, the grape it's made from is grown in another part of Greece or even Italy.

Although Corfu has four million olive trees, only one oil is bottled commercially. Until the Nyssos brand came along, we were using oil from Crete or the Peloponnese.

Kumquat liqueur is too sweet for many, but kumquat brandy is neither as sweet as the liqueur, nor as strong as grape brandy. Another excellent kumquat product is the fruit, preserved in syrup and then coated with chocolate.

Then there's ginger beer. An English recipe but not made this way in England anymore. Here in Corfu it's not a chemical product, but real lemon juice and ginger with water. After five days for the ginger to ferment, it has to be in the fridge; no preservatives.

 **Harry Tsoukalas**

We are soon opening a shop at Tzavros as a local product grocery and gift shop. Gastouri remains as an arts-and-crafts gift shop and antique store, and at Perithia we have our traditional coffee shop with local products and a museum. The three shops also function as estate agencies for Luvcorfu Properties.

The future? We are looking for franchises to build on the success of the prototype of Perithia shop so we can bring local products to every corner of Corfu. Also a taverna with the brand name Dopio which uses local ingredients in the cooking. The 'Dopio' sign will also go up on all shops, like butchers, who sell locally produced goods.

And now we offer a delivery service so you don't have to go to the shops, saving you on driving, parking and fuel - and still at supermarket prices. To find out more and order, phone (Greek speaking) 26610 21786 and (bilingual) 26630 98002.

At the Perithia shop, my nephew Kostas with his friend Gavril, formerly of the Drunken Duck in Dassia, will run the shop at night with their professional Greek dancing, and my niece Irini during the day.

Support local products, give employment to locals, and keep your money in Corfu!

## What is GreenCorfuNet?

GreenCorfuNet is an initiative inspired by Apostolos Petroulias of the DDikeoma Institute to provide an infrastructure for alternative forms of tourism.

The project will run over three years, at the end of which a network of sites will be registered and made available to the visitor. These will include: walking trails in the countryside and around villages; gastronomy trails in which kafenions and tavernas serving traditional food will be registered; cultural trails bringing in monuments and museums; and ecological sites whether natural (like the Natura 2000 ones) or created (like an ecological farm or animal sanctuary).

The recommended trails and sites will be available as a guided or self-guided route, or as a pick-and-choose menu for visitors exploring a certain area. The project also launches many opportunities for the development of alternative tourism businesses.

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# Ruin Before House After by Hilary Paipeti

After, on this page in February, we published an article about two renovation projects in Varipatades which have been converted for 'village-style' rentals, a few people commented that it would have been nice to see pictures of the properties before renovation, in order to understand better how a **Petra** restoration project works. In parallel, such a comparison is of assistance to the many clients who enthuse over the idea of buying a derelict old house, but when faced with the reality of a tumbledown building, fail to conjure up the imagination needed to visualize its potential.

Like last month, we have put together some more 'Before and After' shots to show how a ruin can be reantiquated without throwing tons of concrete at it!



## FLOWER HOUSE, GARDELADES

This house in the centre of Gardelades was in a sorry state. While its roof was intact, one of the side walls was parting from the rest of the building (note the crack beside the window, top left). Behind, an adjoining barn was ready to collapse. It was a shame to see such a well-proportioned property with good space in such a condition.

Petra first removed the roof and fixed the departing wall with a ring beam and galvanised mesh on the vertical surfaces, which were then rendered over. As in every Petra roof job, the builders emplaced a metal cradle as reinforcement in the ring beam;



some people use separate steel rods, which do not tie the beam as effectively. They then proceeded to replace the roof with the old tiles (and ones reclaimed from another building where the originals were broken), adding a bitumen membrane to assure the waterproofing as well as insulation material. Internal work was then carried out, with as much as possible of the building's fabric left intact. The timber staircase remained, as did the floorboards. Some quality stonework was exposed on the corners to give additional character.

The barn at the rear had to be demolished and rebuilt as a concrete structure. Its flat roof provides a huge sun terrace which is not overlooked. Although this part of the property was new, it was styled to harmonize with the rest. Render was not totally smooth, and traditional wrought-iron railings were installed on the roof terrace. The final plan was an upside-down house, with the living room opening on the sun terrace upstairs to make best use of the outside space. The accommodation now comprises two bedrooms under the sun terrace in the modern section. The kitchen and bathroom are downstairs in the old part of the building.

The house is for sale at 150,000 euros.

## FIG TREE HOUSE, KASTELLANI MESSIS

Almost a complete ruin, this house nevertheless had a roof, but only just! A fig tree had sprouted in one corner and its roots were invading the stonework, endangering the structure. When the roof was removed, this wall had to be demolished and all traces of the fig tree taken out before being rebuilt. At the same time, the whole building was gutted as the floorboards, beams and joists were all rotten. We had not been able to access the upper floor, only as far as the top stair, but once a new floor was in, we discovered that the house had a sea view!

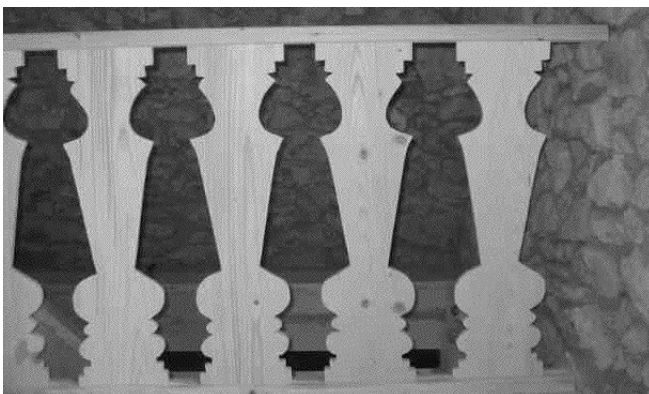
The new owner wanted the character of an old house, but with modern conveniences indoors. Although the internal woodwork had to be completely replaced, old-style materials were used: wide planks for the floorboards; irregularly cut timbers for the beams and joists. The old timber banisters were used as a template for new ones. Once the outside walls were stripped of plant life and old render, the builders found attractive stonework, and this was cleaned and repointed outside and partially exposed indoors. Repointing was achieved in an unobtrusive manner, using ochre-tinted cement instead of grey-coloured and leaving a drystone effect instead of covering most of the stone as many builders do. Salvaged old stone was brought in for walling the yard and for lintels and door surrounds. An old double door was reclaimed and repaired as the front entrance.

To make the most of the view, a veranda was constructed over part of the yard, with the structure supported by timber beams for a rustic effect. This was tiled, and its wrought-iron railings copied from a traditional design. A barbecue was built in stone in one corner of the yard.

The house has two bedrooms and a bathroom on the ground floor, and on the upper level a large open-plan lounge and kitchen, vaulted to the ceiling beams and opening onto the veranda.



**Top:** The house in its original state. Note the fig tree rooted in the wall on the right  
**Middle:** It got worse before it got better!  
**Below:** Almost there...



**Above:** Banister copied from the original



**Left:** BBQ in the yard. Note the drystone effect and the wrought iron gate in traditional design



## FEATURE

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### **PELEKITO HOUSE, SAINT SPIRIDON**

This old olive press belonged to Jonathan Dunn, who used an English self-styled 'builder' resident on the island to make habitable what was a somewhat of a wreck. Unfortunately, the job was botched and, when the house was sold on, it had to be re-renovated.

Amongst the tasks carried out by the Petra team were replacement of the main beam which - incredibly - turned out to be two beams nailed together at a load-bearing position by a couple of short planks (!!!); complete replumbing and rewiring, even though the systems were only a few years old; and replanning of the upstairs space so that each room had separate access. Externally, repointing and reroofing were carried out to make the house watertight.

The moral? Make sure your renovation's done properly first time around...



### **BODZOS HOUSE, GARDELADES**

This little house was tucked in a mid-terrace position and did not catch the eye. But when the renovators knocked out the front wall upstairs, which had been built later, to recreate the original bodzos (first floor entrance balcony) they immediately restored its proportions to what its builder intended (we call this process 'reantiquation'). Now with a deep upstairs veranda, the house was planned as an 'upside-down' residence: A large living room and kitchen on the top level, and a bedroom, bathroom and small study on the lower one.

As in all Petra renovations, the new render is not dead flat. A special ochre tint was added to the render so that the walls do not need painting - or, if they are overpainted in another colour or shade (using natural limewash), a little rubbing down gives a worn-by-time look of flaking paint layers.

Now the house stands out from its neighbours, and is for sale at 80,000 euros, fully finished.



# Walking through Time

## A Corfiot Odyssey

by Sarah Button

Last autumn, I learnt about Corfu's past on a Museum Marathon. This spring, I set off on another trail to discover more about the island's history. This one was no museum-hopping experience, but a journey through time and an exploration of the remains and reminders of a story that began 700 years before Christ was born. I walked with Hilary from Corfu Town towards the Kanoni Peninsula, to reach Palaiopolis (which means 'Old Town') and Mon Repos, a stunning Regency summer villa, now the home of the Palaiopolis Museum. Then we strolled on past fascinating archaeological sites before lunch at a local taverna.

Parking on Garitsa Bay, we strolled through the linear gardens which border the road, en route for the start of the Byzantine Heritage Tour, which takes in old churches, Roman baths and Ancient Greek remains. Each site is indicated with brown signs, and well designed interpretation boards in both Greek and English explain the history and function of the building.

Crossing over the main junction coming in from the airport and continuing through the gardens and parallel with the sea, the first site we came upon was the little church of Agios Athanassios, whose lower courses are part of the ancient wall of the so-called Alkinoos Harbour. It is one of the little Byzantine churches which are a feature of Corfu, and which add so much to the historical ambience of the island. Many contain original frescoes, and even in those which appear abandoned you may find a fresh cloth on the altar, flowers and a lit candle. We left the bay area by way of an alley by the church, which took us onto the inner Anemomylos road. A left turn here took us to a square where the church of Saints Jason and Sossipatros stands. The earliest church still in use on the island, it was built around the year 1,000. It is unique in Corfu in that its layout forms a cross with a dome over the centre; Corfu's churches are rectangular and barrel-vaulted. The exposed stonework of the walls features brick detail and the windows boast intricate tracery. If a building can be a work of art, this one surely is.

Passing through the church yard, we turned right outside the gate, then went left when the sidestreet hit a road. Bearing right at the next junction, we arrived at the gate of the Mon Repos Estate. We headed up the long, leafy drive to the villa, birthplace of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. I was expecting to find a rambling old country house full of grimy paintings of previous occupants and their descendants, along with stuffed bears and porcelain vases, but I was surprised to find an artfully laid-

out, state-of-the-art museum. The exhibits are sympathetically displayed to harmonise with the graceful Regency style and much is made of the soft ambient light. Built in 1821 by the British Lord High Commissioner Sir Frederick Adams, it became a summer house for all Corfu's governors. When Corfu

**There are great views to Corfu Town from the Mon Repos Park**



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## COVER FEATURE

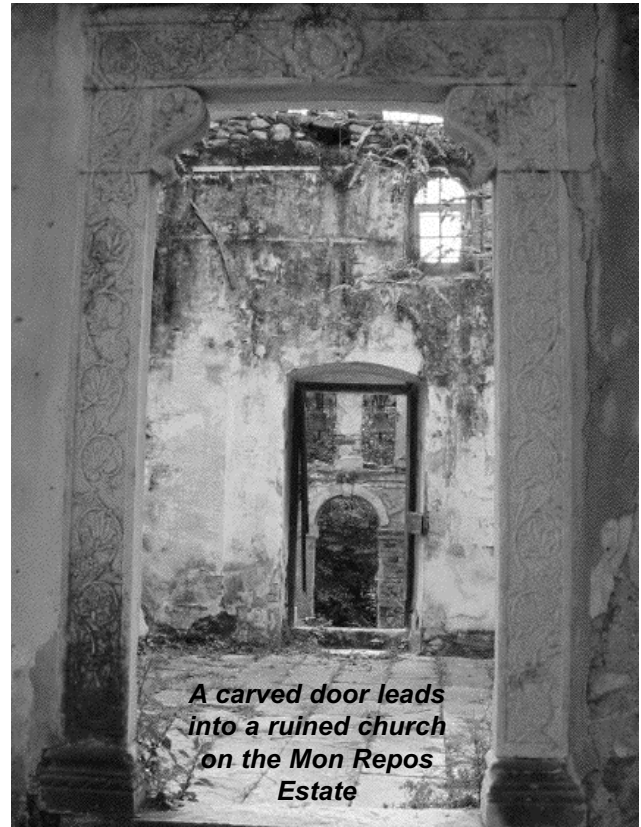
was ceded to Greece in 1864, it was taken over by the Greek monarchy by default for use as a holiday home. After the monarchy was abolished in 1973, the glamorous villa was closed up and fell into disrepair. In the early 90s, disgruntled Corfiots forced entry, making a claim on the building and bringing it back into local ownership, and the park and the house now exist for all to enjoy. It is worth noting that Prince Philip's entry into the world is mentioned nowhere within the villa. There are no pots and pans in the kitchen where he made his ceremonious arrival on the kitchen table; instead, an interesting graphic timeline of Corfiot history lines the walls - and as for the kitchen table... in its place, a huge detailed model of Corfu Town and its environs can keep you fascinated for hours.

While I had expected a run-down stately home, Hilary anticipated a stuffy and jumbled collection of badly-labelled archaeological finds, like at the main Archaeological Museum nearer Town. We were both surprised. Each of the impeccably decorated rooms has a theme, not all of them archaeological in nature. Some rooms have been restored to their former glory as a Regency villa, with authentic decor and furnishings, and with interpretive notices describing the decorative style. Other rooms do contain archaeological relics, but the items on display are arranged according to their function rather than by their date, so that one room is a history of trading, another focuses on olive oil and wine; and another is given over to Roman bathing habits, a useful introduction to the bath-house remains which we would visit later. The displays comprise more interpretation than actual objects, but are all the more interesting for it. The atrium has been converted to a 'garden room' and accordingly is graced with a delightful collection of horticultural paintings by Corfiot painter Felicity Baxter, who donated her work to the Municipality of Corfu in the late 90s. We were also treated to a 15-minute video, a lavishly romantic history of the island presented in seductive tones by a lady with a strong Greek accent, her purple prose spoilt only by her description of the view from Kanoni: 'This offers visitors a unique view of the airport runway,' she purrs.

Leaving, we passed through the museum shop, where we found affordable, well-made museum copies, with prices from 15 euros; there are also books and postcards.

The grounds of Mon Repos are a veritable playground, for families and lovers alike. A maze of paths disappear beneath ancient tropical and native trees, and the lack of signposting makes exploration something of a mysterious challenge. We came upon a tiny Regency-style gatehouse, its proportions spoilt by a bizarrely overgrown portico. We found a ruined church (pictured above right) in a very sad state, its roof gone but with corrugated plastic protecting the ancient frescos from the worst of the weather. Vines creeping over the walls and along the stone flags gave it a magical atmosphere. Outside, the remains of a formal garden had an avenue of cypress trees, and it was easy to imagine Adams and his beloved wife taking an afternoon stroll through what must have once been well tended parkland.

Bushes and shrubs almost conceal the remains of two Doric temples, one dedicated to Hera and the other to Apollo. They remain unglorified ruins, with ivy and moss creeping over the scattered stone, and we are left to imagine what these important places may once have looked like.



*A carved door leads into a ruined church on the Mon Repos Estate*

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## COVER FEATURE

Whilst the house might be something of a bore for the under 10s (apart from the model of the town, which will fascinate them), the grounds are a splendid place for the kids and for picnicking. The trees offer shade on a hot day and with the sea close there is probability of a cooling breeze. Be careful of the children running round, though, as there are some precipitous and unprotected drops. You can ask for a photocopied map in the museum entrance.

The house has wheelchair access, but the grounds may be hard work, even for those with push chairs.

Mon Repos gave us a good background for the remainder of the Byzantine Tour, now more archaeological in nature. The Roman baths are located a short distance to the left of the park's main gate, the site partly covered with a stretched tent-like structure. As the museum exhibit had showed us, spas and beauty treatments were trendy with the Romans long before we got around to indulging in long soaks and massages, and the Romans had a fondness for the therapeutic benefit of aromatic oils too.

Across the road from the baths stand the remains of the Christian Basilica of Agia Kerkyra, its roofless walls now fortified by an ugly steel brace. Its structure incorporates stones taken from earlier buildings. I am glad that I do not suffer from Agoraphobia, for on the same site are parts of the ancient stone pavement of the 'Agora', a vast open space used for markets and outdoor meetings. In this area of Paleopolis, wherever archaeologists have excavated, they find consistent stone paving, all on the same level, which has led them to speculate that Corfu's Roman Agora was the most extensive of its era. A major theme in the Mon Repos Museum was the concept of 'cycles of life', the idea that we are living on top of the lives of former inhabitants of Corfu, and perhaps recycling bits of what they created, as church-builders dismantled pagan temples for their stones. Wandering around the site, with an ancient marketplace under my feet, and the slightly later Basilica looming over it, this concept was brought to life.

Continuing uphill towards Kanoni, we took the first road right. It descends past a school building, and then you go left at a T-junction. The Monastery of St. Theodore is a few steps on - the oldest monastic building in Corfu, dating from the fifth century. Stones raided from the adjacent Temple of Artemis went to build the three-aisled basilica, which during the mid-Byzantine period was reduced to one aisle and a nave. The monastery buildings were added over time, but in 1797 it was seized by the French for a garrison. It wasn't until 1816 that the English restored it to its rightful use.

Continuing along the road, we found the remains of the Temple of Artemis, which date back to 580 BC. Its history is enthralling, especially as it lies at what many believe is the centre of the earth; it marks the middle of the 'St Michael-Apollo Axis', a ley line that runs from Ireland to Mount Carmel in Israel,

passing through many sites dedicated to the two deities (Artemis is Apollo's twin sister). In the Museum, we'd seen little clay models of women dancing in a circle. Could it be that these are clues to a ritual that once took place here, perhaps to draw up life energy from the earth?

The famous grinning Gorgon, which can now be seen in Corfu's Archaeological Museum, was dug up here. She formed part of the Temple's pediment, and may be another clue to its function (see 'The Medusa, Snake Symbolism and Ley Lines', The Corfiot, November 2007). Sadly, the site is a mess now, but none the less worth seeing, especially if let your imagination run wild and race you back to the time when it was buzzing with a very different kind of life.

Further along the lane was the last site on the Byzantine Tour, which brought us through a full circle. The Church of Agios Athanassios, the first location, had a part of the old city wall fossilized in its foundation. Here, on the other side of Palaioopolis, was the only other part of the old wall still standing, the Nerantzichas Tower. You can see where the ancient blocks of stone give way to Byzantine courses, interspersed with decorative brickwork.

We finished our walk by reflecting again on the 'cycle of life' with a stroll through the cemetery, whose back gate is close to the Tower. It's a well-tended resting place with elaborate - sometimes over-elaborate - memorial stones. Pictures of loved ones, ornately carved angels, stone portraits and lamps continuously kept lit adorn marble and stone graves. But we didn't want to finish in a sombre mood so we headed quickly along the cemetery access road and turned right for lunch at Koromios, a classic traditional taverna on the main Garitsa street. Here you will be invited into the kitchen to choose from an array of freshly cooked Corfiot dishes. Don't expect anything fancy - it's just honest food made from local produce... and I wouldn't mind betting that some of these delicious dishes aren't a far cry from what might have been served all those years ago in the ancient houses of Palaioopolis.

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## Ahhh! Artichokes...

Few Northern European incomers have much experience of artichokes, except perhaps plain boiled and served with mayonnaise, to be dissected leaf by leaf. This always strikes me as one of those pointlessly fiddly dishes that tempts you to eat it with your little finger stuck in the air!

But few residents from Northern Europe spend much time here without discovering the delights of the artichoke - and that's because of the way the locals cook them. Artichokes are in season this month... so enjoy!

This is more or less Rick Stein's recipe, as demonstrated to him by Loula at the River Taverna, Lefkimmí.

### Braised Artichokes with Peas and Dill

*6 medium globe artichokes, juice of half a lemon, 150 ml extra virgin olive oil, 1 large onion (halved and thinly sliced), 2 crushed garlic cloves, 175 gr fresh or frozen peas, 20 gr dill sprigs (roughly chopped), salt and freshly ground black pepper*

To prepare the artichokes, cut off the top half and the stalk, then snap off dark green outer leaves, and pare away to expose the lighter green and tender part. Cut in half and remove any fluffy 'choke'. You can do this while the onions are cooking.

In a shallow casserole dish or wide-based pan, heat the oil and add the onion and garlic. Cook until soft but not browned, about 10 minutes.

Add the artichoke hearts, cover and cook for five minutes.

Uncover, add the peas, 100 ml water, the lemon juice, half the dill, 1 teaspoon salt and lots of pepper. Cook briskly for a further 6-8 minutes until the artichokes are tender and the oil has formed an emulsion with the water and lemon juice. Add the rest of the dill, adjust the seasoning if necessary and serve.

Rick says this serves six, but I could eat the lot by myself!

*Rick Stein's Mediterranean Escapes* - BBC Books - 20 pounds  
ISBN 978-0-56349-366-2

.....  
**RESTAURANT REVIEW: ALBERT'S DROP-IN, PYRGI** Drop-In, on the main road above Pyrgi, recently changed hands and is now called 'Albert's Drop-In'. Hungry after a particularly long and trying Saturday walk, we went along to try it out. New owner Roger Albert has pared down the main menu - and this is no bad thing, for it often indicates a chef who prefers to prepare everything from scratch. There is also a blackboard menu with dishes of the day, according to what's in season. Roger shops daily in the market, and the availability of early courgettes and wild garlic shoots (the latter obtained through Australian Effie, a market trader who is increasingly becoming a source of wild greens amongst the foreign community) had inspired a pasta sauce. More of that later.

We started with the Greek Meze. Reading the menu, most customers will assume that it's meant for one person. I ordered two lots, just to keep the seven of us busy while the main courses were being prepared. What arrived was a platter with four bowls containing hummous, tzatziki, taramosalata and aubergine dip, surrounded by slivers of grilled pitta bread. The quantity of each dip was not much less than you'd get as a single portion in a Greek taverna, making this dish, at 4.50 euros, the best value starter on the island. Hungry as we were, we didn't finish all of it, for fear we'd have no room for our main courses. Roger won't thank me for this, but two people could easily make a meal on this meze and a salad.

And what did it taste like? Being on a Lenten fast, I wasn't able to check out the tzatziki (dairy produce), but the taramosalata was the real stuff, creamy and not the cheap commercial bright pink version many tavernas dupe tourists with. The hummous - which you rarely find in Corfu, was great; but we all agreed that the smoky aubergine dip was the best we'd ever tasted (Roger later told us it was - surprise, surprise - a Rick Stein recipe).

On to the main courses. Four of our party (including our German and French members, both big-time foodies) chose the Cumberland Sausage, a dish from my part of the world and close to my heart. We couldn't, of course, expect it to be like the Cumberland Sausage I grew up with, I commented, the sort made by individual butchers according to their own recipe; here in Corfu you can only get frozen commercial ones. Then, just after it was served, out popped Roger from the kitchen and told us that he **MAKES THE SAUSAGE HIMSELF!** He hails from Lancashire, not far from old County Cumberland, and formerly worked in the butchery trade. He also cures the gammon.

I was practically in tears by this time, since the Lenten fast of course bars meat. But that's the good thing about the fast - I'll go back to Drop-in after Easter, and enjoy the sausage even more as a result.

My own choice was the pasta with courgettes, wild garlic and chilli. The pasta was al dente, boiled to order, the courgettes and garlic just slightly crispy, and the chilli sufficient to cause me to blow my nose afterwards. Locals may find this sauce, with no lashings of tomato and oil, minimalistic; I thought it was accomplished.

The season for wild garlic shoots will soon be over, and presumably Roger will come up with other original pasta dishes as the horticultural seasons progress. I'm looking forward to trying them - but first, the Cumberland Sausage...

Meal at an end, gravy mopped up by mash, carrots devoured, and only a few mouthfuls of suet crust pastry from the steak and mushroom pudding returned to the kitchen. 'Just too full,' said Janet. We were all full, and unable to sample pudding, even though there was Sticky Toffee. Another reason to go back...

Our judgement? Even better than before!

**GRUBBY? NOT!**

*I would like to comment about your 'ear to the ground' column in the January (actually it was February - Ed) edition of The Corfiot. As someone who fairly frequently shops in Diellas I feel rather insulted being called 'grubby'. I also shop in the Dimitra Supermarket in both Sidari and Acharavi, Marinopolous in Corfu Town and our own local supermarket Bretta's depending on my needs at the time. They each have their good points - Diellas may not be smart but it is cheap which Bretta's isn't. However, we find that the staff in Bretta's are incredibly friendly and the meat excellent quality. Dimitra has a wider range of goods and a much better selection of fresh fruit and vegetables. To get all of these advantages we have to drive to Corfu Town, which we avoid doing as much as possible. In England for convenience sake I shopped in Tesco. This doesn't mean that I felt superior or inferior to anyone who shopped elsewhere.*

*I am not 'grubby', just a savvy shopper. Obviously I need to dress much more smartly when I go shopping and must remember to say 'ciao' on a regular basis like those 'well dressed young people' in Acharavi. Perhaps I will then go up in your estimation?*

**Wendy Eggleton  
Kavvadades**

**DISGUSTED OF SIDARI**

*I found the comments you made about the supermarkets in Sidari rather untrue and unfair, however, we live in a country that enjoys freedom of speech and I defend your right to use it. Your remark, however, about the clientele was unnecessary, snobby and offensive. In the year 2008, people and the way that they dress and speak should make no difference to you or I. Tolerance is in very short supply in the world of today and the comments that you made, go in no way to help. As editor, your opinions should be kept to yourself when they are derogatory to people who may not have the means to frequent trendy coffee bars and dress in trendy clothes.*

*I have lived in Corfu for two years and although there are some things which may not be to my liking or what I have been used to, I accept them. Someone who has lived here for as long as you have and is editor of a newspaper, should above all people have that tolerance but hey, who am I to say? I am just a person who lives in Sidari and shop (sic) in these 'grubby supermarkets' (sic).*

**Sandra Taylor  
Sidari**

Hehehehe, thought that one might touch a nerve...

Seriously, though, these readers are evidently suffering from a breakdown in logical thought (the same breakdown that was explored in Umberto Eco's novel Foucault's Pendulum, and a common one). It goes like this:

*Dogs have four legs.*

*My cat has four legs.*

*Therefore it's a dog.*

Patently ridiculous, but often people's illogical thought processes work like this.

In the case of shopping, read this premise carefully:

*Rich people shop in Harrods.*

*I shop in Harrods.*

*Therefore I am rich.*

Very evidently, as the same type of logical step as in the first case, this is not so. Non-rich people shop in Harrods too. There is nothing in the first line that excludes them.

In our case:

*Grubby people shop in Diellas.*

*I shop in Diellas.*

*Therefore I am grubby.*

Nothing here, either, to say that ungrubby people don't shop in Diellas (nor does it say that grubby people ONLY shop in Diellas). Thus failing in their logical thought processes, our correspondents have made the mistake of particularizing (and then personalizing) a general premise.

In the case of the Sidari supermarkets, I have shopped in Dimitra (Markato) in Sidari twice and it was 'like stepping back in time' (why on earth do the correspondents take this observation as a personal insult?). I have walked into Diellas once (and walked straight out again) and it was distinctly grubby (unlike Dimitra which was not grubby, just a bit of a time-warp. Please READ what's in front of you: there were no 'grubby supermarkets' as Ms Taylor quotes me as writing, just one). Those are general observations of an experience.

If the readers beg to differ about the griminess of Diellas - having more experience than I do of this location - perhaps they are right. Perhaps I hit Diellas when several teams of construction workers had just knocked off and were shopping en masse. Perhaps I was there just before the daily deep-clean.

Ms Taylor, my job as editor of the particular style of publication which I wish to produce is to provoke thought, and often the best way to do this is to be provocative. Otherwise, we'd end up with some wishy-washy lifestyle magazine, or a 'here we are and isn't everything great' one.

I fail to see why a simple piece contrasting the facilities of Sidari and Acharavi should prompt accusations of intolerance. Evidently, Ms Taylor, you are very intolerant of intolerance! You defend my right to freedom of speech (thank you! thank you!) and then in the next breath go on to tell me that I have NO right to freedom of speech if I am critical of people, or 'snobby and offensive' causing you to take umbrage. This reminds me of some zealot members of a certain religion...

**Man with Van**

**Removals**

**Rubbish**

**Removed**

**Neil**

**6977 161036**



# TRUE STORY

## Mannifestations Lionel Mann

In 1958 I was appointed Director of Music at St. Mary's Parish Church, Hampton. The church had been rebuilt on the site of a medieval foundation established by Knights Hospitallers. The rebuilding had been done in the 1830s under the auspices of King William IV, whose arms still decorated the royal pew. The new construction was upon the crypt of the former church, where the remains of parishioners of earlier centuries yet lay mouldering upon shelves, except where one section had been cleared and walled off to provide a choir vestry and practice room beneath the clergy vestry.

Frank Atkins, the People's Churchwarden and an undertaker, used to conduct visitors around the crypt and before they went down he would warn, "I shall count you as you go down, and if more come up then someone will have to go back down again."

When the previous church had been demolished to make way for the new one, many of its furnishings had been distributed around the village. I was staying at the beautiful Tudor Old Grange across the road from the church and above the fireplace in my bedroom was the former reredos. I needed to duck to pass through the doorway of my room but could stand upright in the fireplace!

There was a certain air about the church that I had not encountered elsewhere. I did not find it actually unpleasant, but slightly uncanny. Everything else about my position was first-rate. The Vicar, extremely erudite and cultured yet also very human, with an engaging sense of humour, and who left me to do my job, was an ideal boss, and once they had accepted my rather exuberant style the boys and men of the choir had become a first-rate team.

One autumn evening I was giving an organ lesson to one of my deputies, a twenty-year-old medical student. We were alone in the locked church, dark except for a single light over the organ loft and the organ console lights. Footsteps approached down the aisle and stopped at the chancel steps.

I looked but could see nobody. "Hello, who's there?"

There was no reply.

My pupil stopped playing and joined me in looking down into the gloom. I went quickly along an aisle to the switchboard in the porch and turned on all the lights. For about a half-hour the pair of us searched everywhere but found nothing.

The Vicar chuckled when I told him of our experience the next morning. "I wondered how long it would be before you found out. There are times when I am saying my daily offices alone in the church that my hair almost stands on end. It is not pleasant, but I don't think it's harmful. It never seems aggressive or malignant."

Until then I had never believed in psychical phenomena. In due course I became converted!

Some months later we returned early from the monthly choir-boys' outing and one of the boys, another organ pupil of mine, asked if he might go into the church to practise. I assented and another boy went with him to turn his music. The following morning, Sunday, both were waiting outside my front door when I went over for Matins. "Sir, do you know that the church is haunted? Last night while David was playing somebody walked down the aisle and turned the pages on the Bible on the lectern - but there wasn't anyone there!"

Trying to be reassuring, I professed doubt and suggested that a draught could have been responsible, but they too had heard footsteps.

After the service all the boys were waiting for me in the vestry. "Please, sir, may we stay in the church tonight and bring our airguns?"

Permission refused. I would not have wished those sixteen upon even the most malignant of spirits!

In the southwest porch of the church is the tomb of Mistress Penn, nurse of Prince Edward Tudor, later King Edward VI, son of Henry VIII. He died at the age of fifteen to be succeeded in turn by sisters Mary Tudor and Elizabeth I. Mistress Penn's tomb had been removed from the former church and placed in the new one. (The choirboys used the gaps in the rails around it to support their parked bicycles.) Mistress Penn is less coy than the aisle-walker and page-turner; she actually appears - but only to children! They are never scared because she is just a sweet old lady who speaks in a rather strange manner.

One dark wet winter afternoon before trebles' choir practice I opened the door of the clergy vestry into the church to find waiting a goggle-eyed ten-year-old.

"Sir, I was talking to an old lady, but when we heard you coming she went away. She went through that door" - indicating a rarely-used exit - "BUT SHE DIDN'T OPEN IT!"

The boy was actually very proud when told that he had probably been speaking with Mistress Penn. She had asked his name and about his parents, teachers and school. "She spoke in a funny sort of way."

Another of my choristers had similarly conversed with "a nice old lady who talks like a foreigner" in the church, again not realising with whom he had been conversing until she left through a closed door.

Next to the church is a large cottage called 'Penn's Place'. During my time in Hampton it was occupied by the Fraser family. Father was a commercial artist who provided many of the illustrations for the Radio Times. There were three sons who declared that when they were young Mistress Penn often came to bid them goodnight. "We told her things that we would never have told our parents!"

The oldest, in his late twenties when I was there, was also an artist. It was he who painted the mural, 'Hampton Through The Ages' that adorns the inner west wall of the church around the west door. One day when he was engaged on that task, high on scaffolding, his two infant children were playing down below. He became aware that he had heard nothing from them for some time and descended to investigate.

"Daddy, we were talking to a nice old lady, but when you came down she wasn't there any more." The pair were plainly astonished at encountering one who could just vanish.

However, it was apparently futile for any child deliberately to wait around in the church in the hope of seeing Mistress Penn. She appeared only to those who did not know to whom they were speaking.

It was all somewhat disconcerting. Alone in the church at night after I had finished organ practice, I needed to walk the length of the darkened building to turn off the mains power to the instrument and then return to the distant lighted doorway of the clergy vestry. Always I chanted psalms at the top of my voice. I am not proud of my singing; many years of carolling anything from treble to bass have not improved quality. Everywhere I have had good choirs because when I threatened a demonstration they immediately promised to improve performance. "Oh no, sir - please - not that! We'll get it right!" My nocturnal renditions seemed to have similar salutary effect upon the permanent residents of St. Mary's Church; I never encountered any more of them!

## PLACES TO VISIT

### IN CORFU TOWN

**Archaeological Museum** A superb and diverse exhibition of Corfu's archaeological heritage. The Gorgon Pediment is not to be missed. *5 Vraila St., near Corfu Palace Hotel. Open 8.30-15.00 except Mondays. Sundays open 9.30-14.30*

**Byzantine Art Museum** Fabulous Byzantine and post-Byzantine icons and other religious items are displayed in an attractive old church. *Church of Antovouniotissa, just off Arseniou St. Open 8.30-15.00 except Mondays. Sundays open 9.30-14.30*

**Solomos Museum** A collection of memorabilia and archives of the Greek national Poet, Dionysius Solomos. *Arseniou St. Open 09.30-13.00 weekdays*

**Municipal Art Gallery** Exhibiting Corfu Artists of the 19th century and other works, including paintings by local 20th century artists. Also separate wing with changing exhibitions of modern art. *Palace of Saint Michael and Saint George, East Wing. Open 09.00-21.00*

**Old Fortress** Site of the original town, with battlements and bastions to explore, plus the best view of Corfu Town. Contains a lovely Byzantine Art Museum, plus a top quality Museum Copies shop (closes 14.00). *Entrance from the Esplanade Square. Open every day, 08.30-19.00*

**New Fortress** Built by the Venetians, improved by the British, a stunning work of military engineering. Contains a Museum of Ceramics. *Entrance from Solomos Street. Open every day, 10.00-19.00*

**Palace of Saint Michael & Saint George** Built in 1823 in neo-classical style as seat of British government, the Palace was later summer home for the Greek royals. The impressive official rooms have been beautifully restored. *Esplanade Square, North End. Open daily 08.30-15.00. Closed Mondays*

**Museum of Asian Art** World class collection of thousands of art objects from China, Japan, India and other far eastern countries. Beautifully displayed and presented, with simple and astonishingly well written explanations putting the items in a historical and artistic context. *Palace of Saint Michael & Saint George, Esplanade Square. Open daily 08.30-15.00. Closed Mondays*

**British Cemetery** Lovely garden containing graves from the British Protectorate to the present. Interesting plants and trees, and fine cemetery architecture. Entry is free - please leave a generous contribution to its upkeep. *Kolokotroni Street. Open all day*

**Vidos Island** Off Corfu Town, an extensive, traffic-free islet with lots of walks and beaches, plus Serbian Mausoleum and fortresses built by British and Russians. Good restaurant. *Caique service every half-hour from the Old Port until late*

**Mon Repos** On the outskirts of Corfu Town, on the road running to Kanoni, this restored villa was the birthplace of the Duke of Edinburgh. Standing in extensive grounds, the villa contains a museum of archaeology, with items dug up in the vicinity, plus rooms restored to their former glory. A walking trail takes you around some in situ remains, such as an ancient temple. *Grounds open daily 08.00 - 18.00, Museum open 08.30 - 15.00, closed Mondays*

**Patounis Soap Factory** A Patounis has been making olive oil soap by the traditional stamped method for over 100 years, and is one of the very few factories left in the world. Visit and see the process, also buy products. *Ioanni Theotoki Street, just off San Rocco Square on the way to the Green Bus Station. Open shop hours. Tel. 26610 39806*

### OUT IN THE COUNTRY

**Achillion Palace** Corfu's most famous building contains a museum displaying memorabilia relating to its previous owners, Empress Sissi of Austria and Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, plus lovely gardens. *Gastouri Village. Open daily 08.00 - 19.00*

**Folk Museum of Central Corfu** Step into a time capsule, into a village house that has been left intact with its original decorations, furniture and fittings, a glimpse into a vanished way of life. *Sinarades Village. Open every day except Sunday 09.30 - 14.30. Tel. 26610 35673 / 44530*

**Paleokastritsa Monastery** Contains a small museum with icons and other relics, as well as some curiosities. *Paleokastritsa, at the end of the road*

**Corfu Shell Museum** One of Europe's best museums dedicated to the treasures of the sea. Thousands of exhibits, scientifically labelled. Unusual shells for collectors and exotic souvenirs on sale. *Benitses Harbour Square, north end. Open every day 10.00 - 21.00*

**Triklino Vineyard** 18 acre estate which combines wine-making with display of agricultural tradition. Video showing olive and wine production. Local products on display. Local wine tasting, traditional snacks and music. Walk through vineyards with panoramic views. *Karoubatika, on Pelekas Road, 6 km from Town. Opens 22 April, from 12.00 daily*

**Perithia Agricultural Museum** Small museum with olive press, agricultural and other tools, and old furniture. Local products, including fruit and vegetables, on sale. Reconstructed traditional kafenion for drinks and snacks. Also olive wood shop. *On main road between Kassiopi and Acharavi, near Perithia and Saint Spiridon Beach. Look for the 'Made in Corfu' sign. Tel. 26630 98002*

**Corfu Donkey Shelter** Charity that takes care of old abandoned and abused donkeys. Phone 6947 375992. *Gavrolimni, near Poulades - follow the signs*

**Kassiopi Castle** Ruins of a medieval castle stand on the headland above the harbour of Kassiopi. Access is indicated from near the Harbour Square. Currently under reconstruction.

**Angelokastro** Dramatic ruins of a Byzantine castle, capping a rocky peak. Currently being reconstructed. *Near Krini*

**Gardiki Fortress** Extensive ruins of a Byzantine fort, located near the village of Agios Mattheos in the south. Reach it by taking the road to Lake Korission.

**Gardiki Cave** Occupied by humans around 20,000 BC, this cave lies on the flanks of Agios Mattheos Mountain near Gardiki Fortress. Reached by a short path from the road between Agios Mattheos and Paramonas.

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**SCISSOR LIFE HIRE** Wheeled and tracked machines. Up to 5 m height. Unique to Corfu. Also cherry picker up to 17 m reach. Tel. 6947 269112

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**YOUNG LADY WANTED** to take care of one 3 year old girl and carry out light household duties, on a part-time basis. Hours 16.30 - 20.00, 5 days per week plus occasional Saturdays (400 euros per month). Must be fluent English & Greek speaker. Contact 26610 20946 (09.00 - 17.00)

**ENGLISH CLEANER** Reliable, experienced, 40 year old lady seeks regular cleaning/ironing work in the North of the Island. All cleaning work considered. References available if required. Please contact: Teresa on 6955 523072 or 26630 95856

**ELECTRICIAN** English 16th Edition qualified, all work undertaken from new builds to extra sockets. Call for a free estimate. Carl Perrin 6976 333688

**WORK WANTED** Reliable, enthusiastic, 27 year old Englishman seeks employment in Corfu. Years of experience in the tourism and hospitality sector, excellent customer care skills. References available on request. Please contact Liam Machell. Tel: 6947 496231 or email [liammachell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:liammachell@yahoo.co.uk)

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## PERSONAL

**HOMOSEXUAL HELP LINE CLUG** (Corfu Lesbians and Gays). Information line: 6934 903726 or email us at [corfulg@yahoo.gr](mailto:corfulg@yahoo.gr)

We support any people in Corfu with Gay / Lesbian / Bi / Trans information

**IF YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR DRINKING** and would like to talk to someone who understands, or if you are interested in helping to start an AA group here, please call 210 800 1073.

**DOES SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU HAVE A DRINK PROBLEM?** To help someone, you need to help yourself first. Al-Anon family groups give courage, comfort and support to the partners, families and friends of alcoholics. The Corfu group meets on Monday at 8.00 pm. Any Greek speaker welcome. Call 26610 38776 or 26610 23871 between 08.00 and 13.00 weekdays

**ARE YOU FREE AND ACCEPTED BUT WITHOUT A MOTHER?** Then contact WB on 6945 717223

## RENTALS

**GASTOURI** 10 year old house, 120 sq.m., 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garden. 650 euros pm. Eleni 6974 316596 / 26610 57083

*Small ads (for sale and offers categories) are only accepted if paid for in advance. Copy BY EMAIL ONLY. No attachments and no caps. You can leave your payment (5 euro up to 50 words) at the 'Made in Corfu' shop in Gastouri, the Petra office near Arillas, and the Luvcorfu Properties offices at Barbati and Saint Spiridon. Phone 6948 889174 for information.*

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# Is Your Website an Asset or a Liability?

By answering the following questions, you can determine whether it's time for an overhaul or just for some simple changes.

**HOME PAGE** Can visitors immediately tell who you are and what you offer? Is your site organised in a clear fashion that promotes navigation? Is your Home Page an information destination or just a messy landing page? Does your Home Page give a good first impression that entices users to click through your links?

**PERFORMANCE** Do your images, videos, and pages load quickly? Does your site utilise clean, unbloated code? Does your site have a 'search' function? If so, is it fast and useful? Have you checked to see how your site looks on different browsers?

**CONTENT** Is your content written clearly and persuasively? Does it speak to your target market? Does your content effectively describe your products, services, and benefits? Is your content keyword focused to cater to users and search engines alike?

**LINKS & NAVIGATION** Do all your links work? Are your links clearly marked? Is your navigation menu or framework consistent throughout your site? Does your navigation menu provide access to your entire site?

**CRITICAL PAGES** Is there a top-level page that describes your products and services? Do you have an 'About Us' page to describe your company? Is the 'Contact Us' page clear, informative, and thorough? Do you have a page where users can ask questions or answer their own? Do you have a 'Testimonials' section?

**USABILITY** Is your site organised so that information is easy to find? Is your site 'user-friendly'? Is your type scannable, easy to read, and written for the web? Do you utilise bullets, headlines, and other stylistic elements to organise and present content?

**SEARCH ENGINE OPTIMISATION** Is your site search engine friendly? Have you optimised your site for specific and relevant keywords? Have you acquired a network of high-quality, relevant links?

If the answers to some (or all!) of these questions were negative then it's probably time for a website 'makeover'. If you are still not sure, then Truetype Web Solutions can carry out a full analysis of your website covering all the points above and more - for free! And if you then decide that you need to redesign or upgrade your present site the prices of both our web design and site management services may surprise you.

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*New This Month:*

## **GASTOURI OFFICE - CALL 6948 180198**

**SINARADES** (Central) Geranuim Cottage (Traditional - in need of renovation) Well proportioned and sunny house for renovation in very popular village with great facilities. Space for two bedrooms. Small yard and good foot access with parking close. 55,000 euro

**SINARADES** (Central) Spitaki (Traditional - restored) Little one bedroom cottage with sitting out space on lane. For sale fully furnished, immaculate. All paperwork ready for immediate sale. 100,000 euro

**SINARADES** (Central) Red House (Traditional - restored) Substantial house in very popular village, fully restored and ready to occupy. 2/3 beds, two large sun terraces, yard. Great view. 150,000 euro

**AGIOS GORDIS** (Central) Agios Gordis House (Modern) Small semi-detached bungalow with incredible sea view. Ten minutes walk to resort/beach. Small garden, parking outside. Ideal holiday home, ready to move in! 100,000 euro

**KATO GAROUNA** (Central) Almond Cottage (Traditional - restored) One bedroom cottage, beautifully restored and only needing kitchen finishing. Garden with nice view. 80,000 euro

## **ARILLAS OFFICE - CALL 6948 889174**

**ARMENADES** (North West) Kremona House (Traditional - in need of renovation) Very large old house, can make two bedrooms with very large living space and walled courtyard. Located in quiet rural village five minutes from beach. 65,000 euro

**ARMENADES** (North West) Cypress Tree Land (Land) Building plot, 4056 sq.m., in Town Planning Zone, can build 800 sq.m. Quiet country location close to picturesque village, five minutes from beach. Flat, easy to build. 160,000 euro

**AVLIOTES** (North West) Avliotes House (Modern) Two-floor, four-bed house on edge of traditional village. Currently divided but could make large family house, or keep existing arrangement as part-rental. Yard, garden, parking, nice country view. Quiet yet near excellent village facilities, beach walkable. 220,000 euro

## **BARBATI OFFICE - CALL 6948 180195**

**DOUKADES** (West) Citrus Cottage Plot (Traditional - in need of renovation / land) Small building plot with cottage in Town Planning, very good price for an expensive area. Good access, lovely view, on edge of very popular village and short drive to beach. 45,000 euro

**DOUKADES** (West) Pine Tree Land (Land) Rural location near popular village, building plot in Town Planning Belt, can build 400 sq.m. Good for development and resale at profitable price. Olives and other trees, good country view. 80,000 euro

**KRINI** (West) Courtyard House (Traditional - in need of renovation) Large house and two outbuildings built around private courtyard. Reasonable condition - mostly for internal renovation, for up to four bedrooms. Very good value for size and condition, in popular location. Business potential. 75,000 euro

**KRINI** (West) Krini Sea View Ruin and Plot (Traditional - in need of renovation / land) Building plot with roofed ruin in Town Planning, with great sea view. Good access for a village centre, shop and restaurants close. 120,000 euro

**GARDELADES** (West) Gardelades New Olive Press (Traditional - in need of renovation) Large old olive press with small private garden and car access. Up to three bedrooms possible. Nice location in picturesque village a short drive from sea. 35,000 euro

**GARDELADES** (West) Gardelades Arch House (Traditional - in need of renovation) Huge stone house with plans in place for a four bedroom property with separate kitchen and lounge plus storage. Courtyard, verandas, small garden. Great country view in picturesque village a short drive from sea. 105,000 euro

**AGIOS MARKOS** (North Central) Papadatos House (Traditional - part-renovated) Character mansion-style house plus cottage in heritage village. Part restored with lovely stone and brick features. Lovely garden with extensive sea view. 50 metres to road and parking, very peaceful surroundings. 400,000 euro

## **PERITHIA OFFICE - CALL 26630 98002**

**PORTA** (North East) Arnos Sea Vista House (Modern) Two bedroom house in large garden with amazing panoramic sea view. In prime North East Coast location. Lots of productive olive trees. Easily rentable if desired. 420,000 euro

**PORTA** (North East) Headland View Land (Land) Lovely plot, 10,000 sq.m., on edge of mountain village, sea and mountain view. Lots of on-site rock for building traditional house(s). Includes ruined stone bothy. 450,000 euro

**SINIES** (North East) Megali Rachi Land (Land) Building plot, 4500 sq.m., at heart of North East Coast. Looks down on Rothschild Estate and sea. Sloping, planted with mature olives, direct road access. 195,000 euro

**SINIES** (North East) Butrint Vista House (Modern) Large house, part awaiting finishing, in imposing location on North East Coast. Up to five bedrooms possible. Great sea view, garden with lots of fruit trees. Lots of potential for lucrative rental or for food business. 420,000 euro

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**LYRA HOUSE**, Ano Korakiana. Imaginatively restored two bedroom house with separate guest studio and roof terrace with sea view. 150,000 euro



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**PORPHYRAS MANSION**, Katavolos. Rare mansion on North East Coast, with extensive accommodation, 4000 sq.m. grounds and fantastic sea view. Affordable at 450,000 euro

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**SPRING MEADOW HOUSES**, Agnos. Four luxury houses for sale individually as quality holiday homes. Good rental potential. Unique in Corfu: heated pool with Internet control. From 145,000 euro



**HOUSE WITH THE BLUE DOOR**, Kato Garouna. Substantial old house for renovation in picturesque village. Potential for three spacious bedrooms, large lounge and kitchen, and yard and sun terrace. Parking and nice view. 60,000 euro

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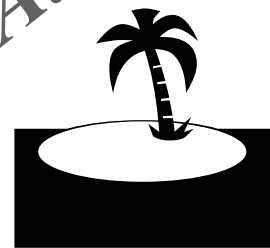
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