

# *The* Corfiot

Corfu's English Language Monthly Magazine

June 2009

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No. 222

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GM Foods  
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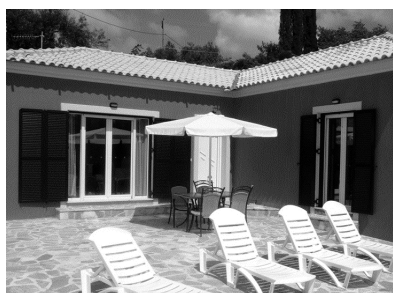
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## The Corfiot

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## TAKE AWAY ALSO AVAILABLE

## ear to the ground

I CAN'T EVEN SAY IT: HYDROGENATED TRIGLYCERIDES, PHENOXYETHANOL, METHYLPARABEN \*, CYCLOPENTASILOXANE. Of course, they may be just a posh name for a perfectly natural essence, but by the sound of them, would you like any of these chemicals near you?

Well, have I got news for you... among many others, these are all in the small-print ingredient list on the label of a well-known hand-cream. And since the whole point of hand-cream is to be absorbed by the skin (if the manufacturers' claims are true), you are also ingesting unknown chemicals along with the 'good stuff' at every application. Same applies (no pun intended!) to liquid soaps, lotions, shampoos, and all the paraphernalia of the modern cosmetic cupboard.

And the main ingredient in all of them? Aqua - water! Since when did the BigPharm industry start to charge us a fortune for... water? When I was a kid, we used SOAP. And there were only half a dozen choices: Lux, Camay, Lifebuoy and the oddly named Imperial Leather (maybe first intended as saddle-soap!) were a few.

A few years ago, I developed an allergy to soap (probably to one of the chemical ingredients that have gradually made their way into what should be a fairly basic product). So I switched to liquid soap, with the result that my skin no longer felt stretched (slap on more chemicals with the moisturiser!), nor did I come out in a rash.

Now I'm back on SOAP! Except this time, it comes without the chemicals. Yes, I've been road-testing our own local soap, from the Patounis Factory.

Though produced commercially, Patounis soap is still hand-made in the old way. Apostolos Patounis, whose great-great grandfather founded the factory, believes that it is one of the few establishments left which makes pure, traditional olive oil soap by the old-fashioned 'stamped' method, as opposed to the more conventional 'pressed' process. The factory still utilizes the original moulds and racks, which date from the factory's establishment in 1891.

Only the basic pure and natural ingredients required for saponification are used to produce the four main types of soap which are manufactured by Patounis. The products range from a hyperallergenic cleanser and a soap renowned for its disinfectant and healing properties on skin infections, allergies, bed sores and strained muscles to one which even gets tomato sauce stains out of whites - move over, Ariel!

All the soaps are 100% vegetarian and 100% biodegradable. Being economical in use, the product has survived the emergence of detergents - and the soaps cost hardly anything compared with modern creams and potions.

And, by the way, since I've started using Patounis' olive oil soap, I've not needed even a moisturiser; the only cream I use now is sunscreen.

\* Parabens are a family of preservatives which are added to cosmetics. They are thought to mimic hormones, and along with a cocktail of other chemicals, could 'gender bend' a male foetus if used during pregnancy, causing genital deformities and increased likelihood of cancer. And that's just one.

HILLARY CLINTON WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE UNOFFICIAL MINISTRY COUNCIL OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE (OSCE), which will take place on Corfu on 27 and 28 June.

The US Secretary of State announced her decision during a discussion of the international affairs budget. Discussions will include European security.

As Hillary Clinton explained, her participation will be because of the decision, which was taken by Obama's administration, to support international organizations.

The US diplomacy leader noted that the meeting on Corfu will give her the chance to discuss Europe's security and to hear different points of view. She also explained that 'Estonia's representative will have a different opinion than a representative from Russia, Greece or Portugal and all of us need to be able to discuss openly whatever is bothering US. This is why I believe that the OSCE meeting is the right place and I am confirming my participation.'

The meeting on Corfu could play crucial role for improving the situation in South Ossetia and warming the relationship between Russia and Georgia, was Hillary Clinton's answer to a question by the Democratic Senator Benjamin Cardin.

JUST FOR THE RECORD, THE 'CAMEL' JOKE ON PAGE 18 IS AN ORIGINAL, not a circular or off the Net; it was my dad's 'party trick'. So when it starts going the rounds, just remember - you read it here first!



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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

Mondays 19.00 Craft Group (1st & 3rd of month)  
Tuesdays 10.00 Library & Coffee Morning  
Wednesdays 10.00 Coffee & Kids  
Wednesdays 12.30 Lunch Box - pot-luck lunch and chat  
Wednesdays 19.00 Scrabble Club (last Wed. in the month)  
Thursdays 10.30 Bible Study, the Old Testament (new series)  
Fridays 10.00-12.00 Informal Prayer Meeting

The Revd. Michael Counsell takes over as Locum Chaplain on 13 June and will stay until 13 September.

A second Bible Study group meets on Monday evenings at 17.30 in the back of Takis Taverna, Kontokali, repeating the study of Thursday. If you would like to join, call Anne on 6942 844376 or Rhona on 6975 914373.

## This month's name days

02. Nikiforos  
04. Martha  
05. Apollon, Dorothea  
08. Kalliopi  
11. Vartholomeos  
15. Avgoustinos  
29. Pavlos, Petros  
30. Apostolos

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 some nibbles.

## THE ARK

### ANIMAL WELFARE SHOP

11 Ag. Dimitriou Street, Corfu Town  
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Tuesday, Wednesday  
Thursday, Friday  
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Find Inner Peace and Happiness  
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on 6938 644543

## wanted! - Paintings of Corfu calling all Local Artists!

Corfu Donkey Rescue is holding an auction of Corfu artwork this summer to raise funds for the construction of a new donkey hospital at Doukades.

Where: Hotel Nefeli,  
Kommeno  
When: Sunday,  
2 August

Can you contribute any artwork of the island?

Please contact Katie Flower for more information:  
[katiejaneflower@googlemail.com](mailto:katiejaneflower@googlemail.com)  
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# Book Sale

Organised by and for the Council of Thinali Parents' Association. Held on Acharavi High Street opposite Ilo Ilo between 10.00 & 1.00 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.

## ACHARAVI

# A Durrell Anniversary

## 70 years after their departure from Corfu, June 1939

✍ **Peter Harrison**

In June 1939 the Durrell family departed from Corfu, after four years and four months of 'pleasant living' on the Island. They continued to love Corfu until their dying days, but had four very good reasons for leaving when they did and for not returning to live there again on a permanent basis. World War 2 was clearly on the way; the family was growing up and needed jobs; the youngest, Gerald, needed a more formal education than he had been getting from a succession of private tutors; and Mrs Durrell's pension could no longer cover their needs.

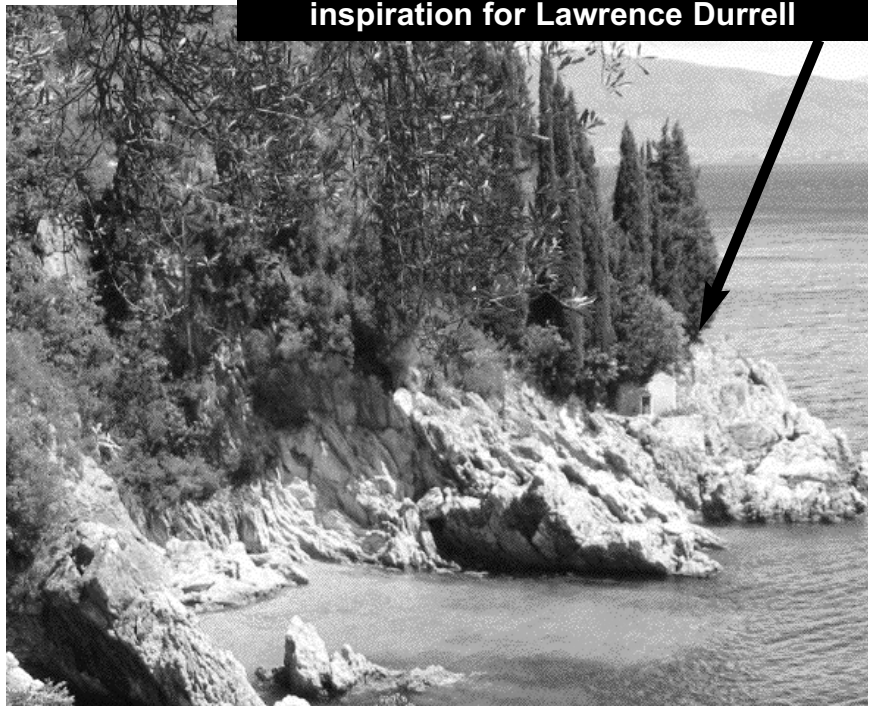
The family originally hailed from India. Both parents had been born there and were married there, and all of their children had been nurtured there. But in 1928 Mr Durrell died, leaving his widow a good pension to survive on, but with four children to support. Circumstances demanded then that they return to England, only to move on again in 1935 after 'Pudding Island' had proven to be too cold and too expensive for a family used to the privileged life of the British Raj. So when the oldest son, Lawrence, got married and decided to reshape his life in Corfu, the whole family quickly followed him.

Now, four years on, this new chapter in their lives was also at an end. It had been very much a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all of them, and it provided both Lawrence and Gerald with material for some of the books they subsequently wrote. But by the time the war was over, Mrs Durrell was settled in Bournemouth in England and was too old for further

moves; and all of her children were becoming established in their new, working, and married, lives.

Corfu nevertheless remained a place they loved and holidayed in, and where the spirit of the family still endures. Both in the eternal beauty of the Island itself, and in Gerald's enduring classic of travel literature, 'My Family and Other Animals', published in 1956, and still in permanent print today.

**The Shrine of St Arsenius...  
inspiration for Lawrence Durrell**



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# East of Memphis at AgiotFest

Richie Henderson, who has been a greatly-appreciated contributor to past Music Weeks at Agios Ioannis, will be performing here again on 12 September as part of AgiotFest, together with Sheila McWhirter, in their latest incarnation, East of Memphis.

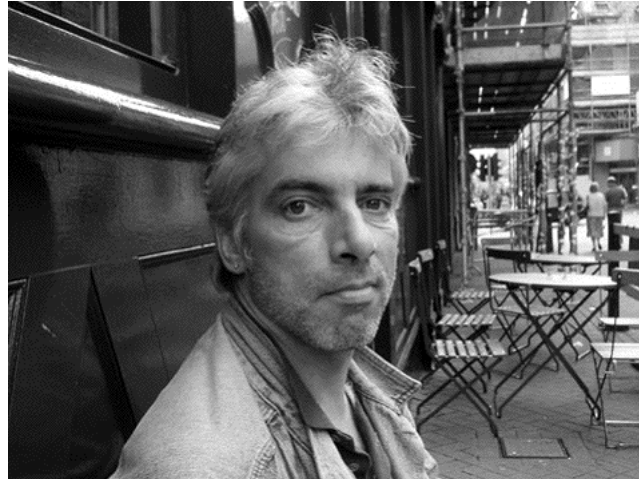
Richie and Sheila are two popular Edinburgh singers whose history dates almost 25 years, starting from the local pubs and graduating to bigger and better things.

Richie struck out with his band The Liberties, the first Scottish country band to be signed to a major record label, Chrysalis, with debut album 'Distracted'. Working alongside major acts such as Lyle Lovett, k.d.Lang, Richard Thompson, John Prine, The Proclaimers, James Taylor, Richie has now branched out yet again with his local act Bedford Falls, specialising in interpreting songs by class songwriters with an injection of his own material. Recently he has been opening for acts such as Smokey Robinson, Cliff Richard and renowned guitarist Albert Lee.

Meanwhile, Sheila has worked with Phil Cunningham, Aly Bain, Avalon and many other popular Scottish folk artists. With a dynamic but sympathetic voice, she can capture a heart with immediate effect.

East Of Memphis offers a wide variety of some well-known and some lesser-known songs that could almost be their own. From Leonard Cohen to Lennon/McCartney, the whole package is there.

Headline act at AgiotFest is the Dylan Project, with musicians from Jethro Tull, Fairport Convention and the Steve Gibbons Band. Tickets are now available (reserved seating). See page .. for details.



## NOTICE BOARD

### Summer Fair

at Holy Trinity Church - Saturday, 6 June

Free admission!!!

- ~ Cream Teas with homemade scones, jam and cream
- ~ Rainbow Corner for the kids
- ~ Sweet and Cake Stall
- ~ Bottle Stall
- ~ Jewellery for sale
- ~ Secret Auction

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**Everyone welcome!**

# The 'Alternative Panegiri' brings Fiesta's past into a new tomorrow

**Hilary Paipeti**

A truly inspired and inspiring jamming session concluded the first 'Alternative Panegiri', which took place at the Triklino Vineyard on 22-24 May. The jam, led by local author and musician Jim Potts, drew in a number of acts, with a sensational performance by 'Korina' as its climax. A few other performers spotted were Chris Holmes, Raoul Scacchi and Peter Papageorgiou, amongst many more.

The three-day event, organised by Katina Vlachou and her team at the Vineyard, was launched in response to the gradual impoverishment of the modern panegiri, the village fiesta which celebrates the saint's day of a church. While in the past, fiestas were important economic and social events - the highlight, indeed, of the village calendar - today they have become hardly more than a clichéd dance with amplified folk and Greek popular music, some roast lamb or souvlaki, and a few stalls selling tat and tacky toys, all watched by a rather bored audience who have seen it a hundred times before.

Ms Vlachou reminisced about the old days. 'Our fiestas were important and exciting events, and not just a pretext for dancing, eating and drinking. In the days when few people had transport and were therefore restricted to their immediate surroundings, they provided a forum for commercial activity - like the old fairs in England. People would bring their produce, such as animals, for exchange, and it was also a way for young people to meet others from different villages under supervised circumstances, thus putting a new mix into the gene pool of that location. But now that everyone's got their own transport, and there are so many other things to do, our fiestas have lost much of their old meaning and charm.'

So Katina put together elements of the old-style fiestas, and leapfrogged them thoroughly into the now.

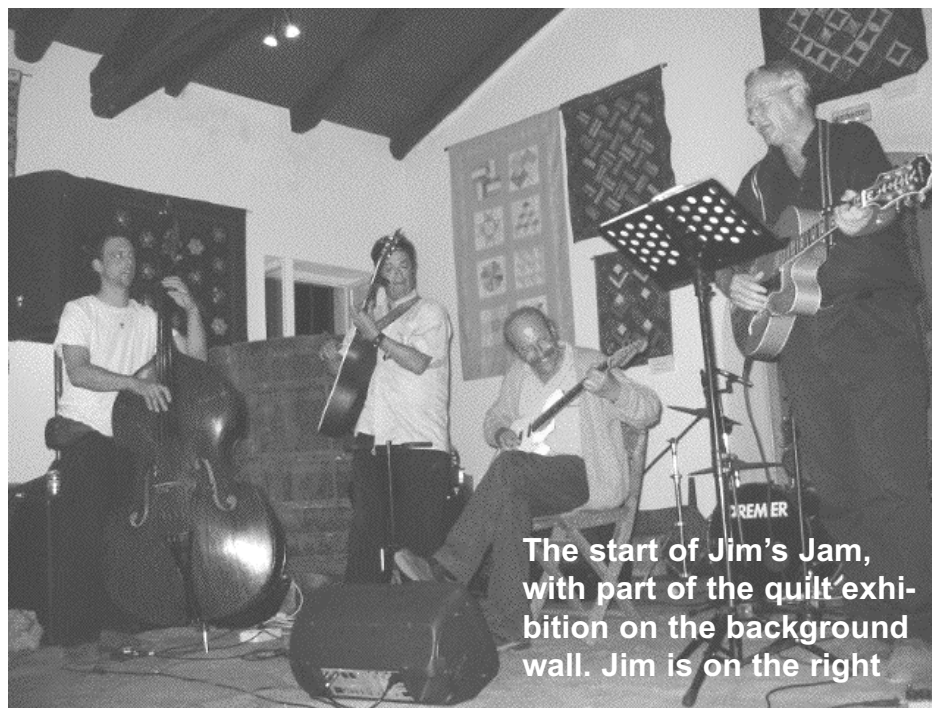
Commerce was provided by a number of stalls selling arts, crafts, books and music. Among participants were Victoria Drew with her bead jewellery; Theresa Nicholas with her prints and acclaimed 'Corfu Sketches' book, along with other of her books documenting Corfu's traditions; Gioia Maestro with her recycled art; Loula Tsamis' ceramic art; and more ceramics from Kostas Panaretos and Klio Brenner.

An exhibition of quilts by Maria Strani-Potts and her team graced the walls of the interior space, along with photographs, some of them very witty observations of Greek life by Maria's husband Jim (of the Jam - shown right).

Food came from the Vineyard's own kitchen, with volunteer helpers, and the wine of course was the establishment's own, whose making is supervised by Katina's brother Sotiris Vlachos, former Mayor of the region and now a leading light in the Prefecture.

A number of different entertainment events and happenings were programmed throughout the three days. The Panegiri was kicked off by 'Farwest in Corfu', a 'concept' concert by Kefalonia-born Sotiros Debonos, much anticipated, but not well received by the audience. However, the events over the next two days proved more accessible and popular. These included a performance by the Sinarades Band, an amazing tightrope walker, a Karaghiosis Shadow Puppet Show which captivated adults as well as children (and which demonstrated that it's not the length of an event which wearies an audience), and a number of debates and discussions. Children from the 'Smile of the Child' charity (which deals with orphaned and abused children) joined in by making pottery objects under the supervision of ceramic artists. And finally Jim's Jam brought the house down, as well as the curtain!

*The Triklino Vineyard, located in a reconstructed old olive press with its original equipment, is dedicated to maintaining agricultural tradition and promoting local products. Visitors can see a video showing olive and wine production, and then taste the estate wine and snack on traditional foods. It is located near the top of a low hill, with open panoramic views, at Karoubatika, on the Pelekas Road, six kilometres from Town. Open daily from 12.00.*



**The start of Jim's Jam, with part of the quilt exhibition on the background wall. Jim is on the right**



# Rehoming success for two dogs Louisa van Vuurde

## JASON AND ALBERT

As Sharon write to us, Albert, a little Jack Russell, 'has taken away the demons from my seven year old son Jason.' Sharon contacted the Ark for a dog for her little boy, who suffered from nightmares. She thought a dog would help him, and it worked! From the day Albert slept on the end of the bed, the boy slept through the nights, and as a result the parents have also been enjoying a normal night's sleep since.

From the moment the family came to look for a dog, they felt in love with Albert, a male Jack Russell seven and a half years old. When they heard that the dog was 'already that old', they were hesitant. But small breeds like Jack Russells often live 15 years more, so on taking on the dog, you still have a lifetime obligation in front of you. Besides, Albert is very playful, even at his mature age, and loves to retrieve balls and sticks.

As usual, we agree a trial period, but everyone loved Albert so much that he became part of the family straight away. In the morning he takes the little three year old girl to school, he enjoys outings in the car and is crazy about swimming in the sea. So everyone is happy with this rehoming, and we hope many good years will follow.

The Ark was invited on a TV programme on Telekerkyra; unfortunately no dogs were allowed, otherwise Jason would have been there with his friend Albert, telling everyone about him. We hope that one day he'll be able to do this, as the pair provide such a good example, demonstrating the bond between animals and children, and how one can help the other.

## CHARIS IN HOLLAND, NOW KARELTJE

Another rehoming of an older dog. Charis, a ten year old small male hairy dog, could not remain any longer with his owner, who had had him since he was a pup. She said she could not find a house where she was allowed to keep a dog. So we attempted to find a new home for him, but even after months of trying, no-one on the island was interested in this 10 year old. Luckily, via AAI, the voluntary dog association who often find lovely caring families for our unwanted dogs, a new boss was selected. The family wanted to give this old one some good years in Holland. So Charis went to Holland.



Jason plays with Albert, left, and friends

His new family had already adopted a dog from Greece, a dog named Happy. Happy was rescued with his mother and four other pups from a small deserted island; they survived by eating the fish from the sea. Now that other Greek dog has got company.

Charis, who they renamed Kareltje (Little Charles), was not that easy. He was spoiled and had not had much training. His new family had to teach him that going for a walk is also supposed to be for pees and poos, and that those should not wait for when he gets home. He had some health problems in the beginning, but his new owners have taken very good care of him, and all is well now. Kareltje is feeling at home and has even started playing with the other Greek, indicating that he is enjoying his new life.

Let's hope that he will have some good years in front of him, another example of a Corfiot dog who's found his 'golden basket'.

## The Corfu Trail

For information, call 6934 396335

The *Companion Guide to the Corfu Trail* is now available as a pdf download from [www.corfutrailguide.com](http://www.corfutrailguide.com)

Regular Saturday walks begin again on the last weekend of September

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Depression is a serious illness. Health professionals use the terms depression, depressive illness or clinical depression to refer to something very different from the common experience of feeling miserable or fed-up for a short period of time.

When you're depressed, you may have feelings of extreme sadness that can last for a long time. These feelings are severe enough to interfere with your daily life, and can last for weeks or months, rather than days.

Depression is quite a common condition, and about 15% of people will have a bout of severe depression at some point in their lives. However, the exact number of people with depression is hard to estimate because many people do not get help, or are not formally diagnosed with the condition.

Women are twice as likely to suffer from depression as men, although men are far more likely to commit suicide. This may be because men are more reluctant to seek help for depression.

Depression can affect people of any age, including children. Studies have shown that 2% of teenagers in the UK are affected by depression.

### CAUSES

**Psychological** This is where a stressful or upsetting life event causes a persistent low mood, low self-esteem and feelings of hopelessness about the future.

**Physical or chemical** Depression is caused by changes in levels of chemicals in the brain. For example, your mood can change as hormone levels go up and down. This is often seen in women as it is associated with the menstrual cycle, pregnancy, miscarriage, childbirth and the menopause.

**Social** Doing fewer activities or having fewer interests can cause depression - or may happen *because* of depression.

**Family history-genetics** If you have a family history of depression, you are more likely to get depression yourself. Studies have shown that different versions of a gene (known as 5-HTT) can be inherited, which can have an effect on a natural mood-changing chemical in your brain called serotonin. Research has shown that there is a link between depression and the imbalance of chemicals in the brain called neurotransmitters. People who are depressed have a lower level of certain types of neurotransmitters, such as serotonin, norepinephrine and dopamine, than people who are not. Children inherit the 5-HTT gene from their parents, so having a history of depression in the family can increase your risk of developing it. In other words, you have a 'genetic predisposition' for depression.

**Drinking excess alcohol** Men should not drink more than three to four units of alcohol a day and women no more than two to three units a day. A unit of alcohol is roughly the same as half a pint of normal strength lager.

**Using recreational drugs** such as cannabis and cocaine.

**Taking some types of prescription medication** For example, propranolol can occasionally cause depression.

**Postnatal depression** Some women develop depression just after having a baby.

**Bipolar affective disorder** In some people, depression can alternate with periods of elation and over-activity (mania or hypomania). This is called bipolar affective disorder or manic-depression. Treatment tends to include mood stabiliser medicines.

**Seasonal affective disorder** Some people develop recurrent depression in the winter months only.

### Physical illness

### DIAGNOSIS

You need to consult your doctor if you think that you are depressed. The following is a list of common symptoms of depression. It is unusual to have them all, but several usually develop if you have depression.

- Low mood for most of the day, nearly every day. Things always seem 'black'.
- Loss of enjoyment and interest in life, even for activities that you normally enjoy.
- Abnormal sadness, often with weepiness.
- Feelings of guilt, worthlessness, or uselessness.
- Poor motivation. Even simple tasks seem difficult.
- Poor concentration. It may be difficult to read, work, etc.
- Sleeping problems: sometimes difficulty in getting off to sleep; sometimes waking early and unable to get back to sleep; sleeping too much sometimes occurs.
- Lacking in energy, always tired.
- Difficulty with affection, including going off sex.
- Poor appetite and weight loss. Sometimes the reverse happens, with comfort eating and weight gain.
- Irritability, agitation, or restlessness.
- Symptoms often seem worse first thing each day.
- Physical symptoms such as headaches, palpitations, chest pains, and general aches.
- Recurrent thoughts of death. This is not usually a fear of death, more a preoccupation with death and dying. Some people get suicidal ideas such as ... 'life's not worth living'.

The severity of the symptoms can vary from mild to severe. As a rule, the more symptoms from the list above that you have, the more severe the depression is likely to be.

Depression is something that can be treated effectively in our days. If you think you've got it, you need to speak to your doctor and ask for professional help.



**TO LAUGH AGAIN**

# Afionas - The 'Garden Village'

 Hilary  
Paipeti

If Corfu is the 'Garden Isle' then Afionas is its 'Garden Village'. Set on the shoulder of a promontory in the far north west of Corfu, the old village begins where the road runs out. Entering the village along the ascending lane is like stepping into another visual dimension. Not a Corfiot one. Gone are the ochres and strawberry-pinks of the house walls, the dark shiny green of shutters. Here the world is stark blue and white. And even the bougainvillea, purple elsewhere, chooses to be white in Afionas.

Afionas is very old indeed. Although systematic excavations have never been implemented, remains in the vicinity of the 'Sunset Viewpoint' on the far side of the settlement have been dated to the Middle Hellenic Period, around 3000 BC, when it was called Amfionas. As you approach by road from Kavadas and top the rise, the outline of the hill above the 'modern' village so resembles an acropolis that you expect to see a Parthenon-style temple on its summit; you can't imagine that the Ancients would have missed the chance to build one in such a commanding spot.

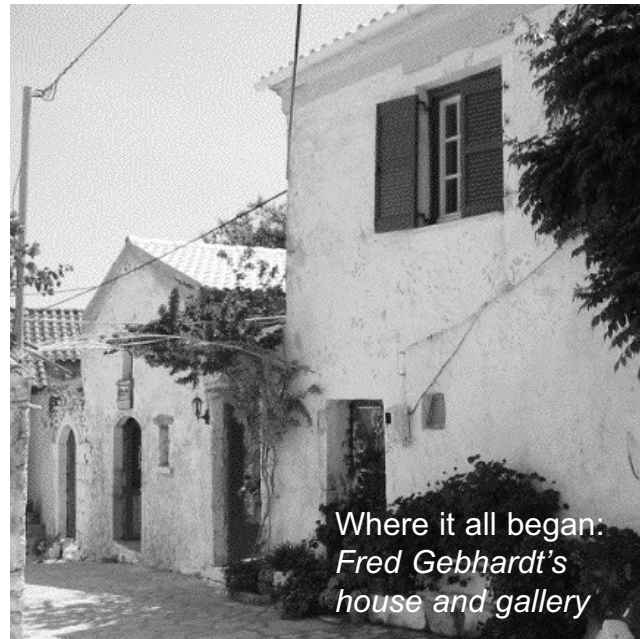
Year by year, the sea is eroding the coast of North West Corfu. The phenomenon is visible almost in real time on the sandstone and clay cliffs of the area, like at Canal d'Amour in Sidari - and last winter near Arillas where large sections of the cliffs slumped during storms. Many thousands of years ago, the off-shore islands were joined to Corfu. Off the shoreline, in sea that once was land, there are ruins of buildings under two and a half metres of water. Fishermen report seeing rocks on the seabed which resemble ancient columns. Pots of various kinds have also been spotted.

If these sightings are valid, it seems there was a now off-shore city which was abandoned as the sea encroached. Did the residents of this city, relocating to a safer spot inland, re-establish their town at Amfionas, whose ruins we can see today near Afionas?

Tradition and the academic world generally identify the island of the Phaeacians, where Odysseus finished his Wanderings, with Corfu (Scheria). A number of locations squabble to be named as the site of the Palace of Alcinous and the meeting point of Odysseus and Nausicaa; one of the candidates for the latter is the Megapotamos (the 'Great River') which flows into the sea on the beach at Saint George, the bay immediately south of the Afionas promontory.

Striking parallels exist between the Phaeacian city and the legendary city of Atlantis. Both are said to have been founded by the great sea god Poseidon (Alcinous is his 'grandson', though that title in all likelihood is symbolic). Both are rich and fertile. Atlantis was destroyed by a natural disaster; in a passage in Homer's Odyssey, Scheria's king predicts that his city will suffer the same fate.

German archeologists discovered Amfionas in 1934. Convinced that a more ancient city lay out at sea, they made an application to the Greek Government to dam the sea between Afionas and Sidari and drain away the water to expose the sea bed. But the Prime Minister of the day, Metaxas, did not agree. The came the War and decades of poverty, so that the sea-bound ruins still await excavation. Does lost Atlantis lie off Afionas?



Where it all began:  
*Fred Gebhardt's  
house and gallery*

In the 'modern' village, the blue-and-white colour scheme is reminiscent of a 'Chora'-type village in the Cyclades - a hilltop settlement above a harbour and (formerly) reached from the sea by way of a steep mule path to deter pirates. If any village in Corfu deserves a Cycladic garnish, Afionas is the one. In contrast to the majority of Corfu's villages, built facing away from the sea, Afionas is embraced by water, giving its visitor salmost the feel of being on a small, separate island. And indeed, the blue and white theme comes straight from the Cyclades.

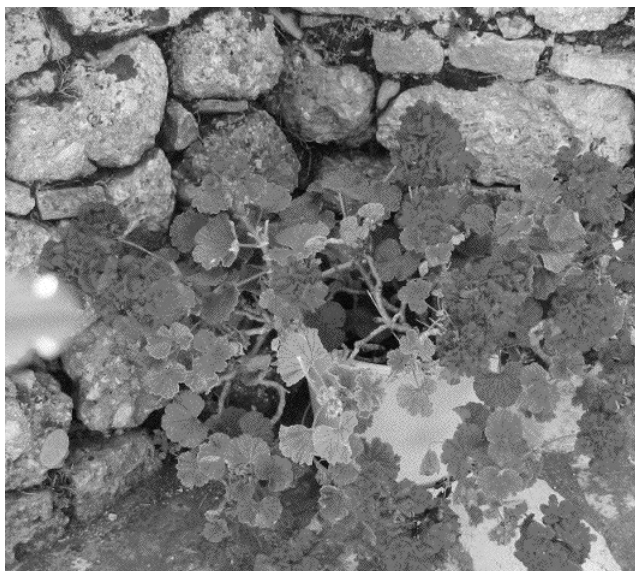
In 1988, Fred Gebhardt bought a number of tumbledown houses in the centre of the old settlement. Already a Corfu resident for a decade, he had previously been a ship's captain; he had visited the Aegean and fallen in love with the Cycladic colours - white to beat off the merciless sun and blue to reflect the surrounding sea. Settling in Corfu's only Aegean-ish village and gradually restoring his property, he introduced the blue and white colour scheme, and it was subsequently taken up by others - so much so that the village even has a restaurant called The Blue House.



## DISCOVER CORFU

Even the Night Owl, formerly a traditional kafenion on the approaches to the village, added a bright blue note during a recent makeover.

Amongst the blue of gates and shutters and the natural stone walls all whitewashed, shades of pink, crimson, coral, saffron and amethyst provide a vivid and glowing counterpoint. Geraniums, carnations, roses, marigolds and nasturtiums spill from every yard, sometimes companion-planted with neat rows of onions and luxuriant courgettes. Even the public space is embellished: a pot of geraniums set in a corner; stones tumbled from a ruin whitewashed and turned into an informal rock-garden. Afionians take pride in their surroundings.



The village is further enhanced by growing number of activities which are making their base there. The perpetrator of the blue and white theme, Fred Gebhardt, is an artist who has converted part of his rambling property into an atelier and gallery. Heidi Kalkmann is also an artist with a studio and gallery, and she also runs 'Oliven und Meer', a beautiful souvenir shop which is a

treasure trove of local products, including olive oil, olive soap, ceramics with an olive theme, and her own olive paste. Heidi celebrated ten years in Afionas in late May 2009.

Then there are the restaurants - seven I think at the last count, and ranging from simple grills and fried squid at the Night Owl and authentic home-made casseroles with a view at Porto Timoni, to the sophisticated cuisine of The Blue House.

And walking! Just a short stroll through the lanes leads you to the 'Sunset View' plateau, where benches have been set, facing towards Arillas. A part of Amfionas was excavated here. Or you can follow the (sometimes steep and rough) footpath from the village, traversing the mountainside high above the sea and descending to Pirate's Cove, a double-sided beach. Onward, the path continues to a chapel, set in a cave and dedicated to Agios Stylianos. It's one of Corfu's most spectacular hikes (one and half hours approximately), in a wild and stark landscape which provides a contrasting background for the order and harmony contained in Corfu's 'Garden Village'.

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# C.L.R. (Corfu Light Railway)

✉ Phil Mawson

## Restored Rail Link - Key to future development of AgiotFest?

Following a rather tempestuous and on occasion fevered debate at the recently held AGM of the Corfu Unified National Transportation Society (Railway Restoration), the chairman Mr. Paul 'Navy' McGovern called the meeting to a close, firing on all cylinders. Adopting the Churchillian phrase 'we shall return', he indicated to the gathering that the resurrection of the C.L.R. rail link from its former principal station and HQ at Corfu Port, and ultimately on to its Paleokastritsa Bay Terminus, shall begin soon in earnest.

**HISTORY OF THE C.L.R.** The C.L.R. owed its creation to the foresightedness of its founders, Spiros Vrounelopoulos and Dimitris Gouchalides in the last decade of the 19th century.

**KONTOKALI/GOUVIA** Since narrow gauge locomotives last breathed steam, trundling along the metals from Corfu Harbour Station on their way to the western terminus, the section to Kontokali and Gouvia (now incidentally the main national road to northern Corfu) has much changed along its former trackbed. The Kontokali station was a proud and distinct open-planned, twin-platformed halt. Today, it has been swallowed up by a busy, sophisticated tourist centre and popular yacht marina, a far cry from its former status as fishing village and flourishing fish market. The line then veered westward towards Agios Ioannis and the Ropa Plain.

**AGIOS IOANNIS** Between Kontokali and Agios Ioannis Central, the line progressed in long switch-backs in order to negotiate the steep hillside, traversing along the ridge in a gently sloping level to Agios Ioannis Central Station. Sadly, very little remains as evidence of the old line, apart from two stone-arched viaducts situated about three kilometres from Agios Ioannis itself. The Central Station at Agios Ioannis has disappeared completely, but the former marshalling yards, once awash with hundreds of olive and citrus-fruit goods-wagons, is awash instead with a water park - in fact the car parking area sits on it. How times change!

Agios Ioannis Central (C.L.R.) was just a few chains up-track from Agios Ioannis Junction Station. This second village station was the northern terminal of the ill-fated North Central Railway, which allowed trains to link services from East Corfu Town via Alepou, Varipatades and Sinarades High Street Stations. It was an unpopular line even in its heyday and was doomed for closure in late 1896 - just four years after opening. Thankfully, the Corfu Amalgamated Rail Transport Society (C.A.R.T.S.) ploughed its resources into the C.L.R.'s Corfu Harbour - Paleokastritsa Bay Project.

Note 1: Road traffic lights now stand commanding traffic where the former rail signals and junction Platform 1 stood. At the lights, the building which now houses Spider Bar was the actual booking hall and former C.L.R. signal box.)

Note 2: From Varipatades Station, locally grown and purely organic varieties of very large Corfiot potatoes started their journey to markets throughout the Ionian.

**THE ROPA PLAIN** Upon leaving Agios Ioannis Central, the line curved sharply west again at Kokkini Halt (now a traffic roundabout) and headed for its next stop at Glyfada, a very popular resort for Victorian ladies to 'take the water'. Glyfada Bay Station, as the stop was called, was an ambiguous name in itself as it was located nearly 1.5 kilometres from Glyfada on the opposite side of the Pelekas Promontory. As there was no 'road' anyway to the resort, a donkey-cart trail ferried passengers between the station and Glyfada/Pelekas. It was a pleasant journey in fine conditions, but quite an ordeal in inclement weather, and made more uncomfortable if the heavily laden cart was pulled by a flatulent donkey forging uphill ahead. Incontinence prevailed in most of these animals as they were fed in the most part on a diet of olive-oil-soaked potatoes and greens.

Onwards to Vatos & Ermones Station, a halt only and later to become quite a popular destination when Corfu Golf Club utilised its position well. With some justification, this station was re-named Corfu 'Links' Halt.

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Leaving the Ropa Plain, the line began its second real ascent, in the direction of Doukades and Paleokastritsa Bay. Again, this is perhaps a misnomer, as the terminus' name leads one to assume that the final destination had a seaside location. In fact, the line terminated in Doukades. 'Doukadesville Station' had a drab, almost draconian, ring to the name and so the Paleokastritsa Bay Station title was officially adopted. In fairness, the line had been projected to continue down the valley quite steeply, to terminate on the flat coastal section beneath the monastery.

However, in those days just as is the way today, local disputes and politics played a major role in what was to transpire; the demands of the fanatical and partisan Lakones and District Latino Male Voice Choir and stone-hurling Italian Tenors ended the prospect of a magnificently located - if not majestic - structure that would have been the envy of all Europe. Brokering a deal to acquire land for the railway company to build the Station and Railway Hotel by the sea, the vociferous group insisted as their 'kick-back' a free rail-pass for all society members, twice weekly and on alternate weekends (summer only), to transport them to and from the theatre in Corfu Town. But that deal would have commandeered a whole train of coaches - at a cost to the C.L.R. that would have proven most prohibitive; if implemented, it would surely have bankrupted the company, as it needed 100% fare-paying passengers to survive. Thus Vrounelopoulos took the decision to abandon his plan for a coastal terminus in Paleokastritsa in favour of one in Doukades. As a result, even to this day, Doukadians and Lakoniots squabble constantly over the issue after a few glasses of ouzo and village wine - thankfully hurling insults and not missiles at each other. And on occasion Papa Makis of Lakones has been observed putting discarded Olympiakos F.C. stand tickets into the Holy Bread destined for Doukades villagers' Easter consumption!

And so the line was completed, only to be closed in the 1960s when Beechokalis, a distant cousin of Atatürk the Ottoman's bastard nephew Lionel Mannipolis, brought down his axe, to great outrage in Corfu. Except for a special contract which enabled the Lakones choir to operate a mule and bus service from Paleokastritsa to Corfu's urban centre (P.U.S.S.), the Green Bus Company took over control of Corfu's transport network.

## 2009 CORFU (RAILWAY

**WALKS) TRAIL** The present day finds this pleasant former rail line in great demand by hikers and bikers, who navigate its winding path from Corfu Port, past Agios Ioannis and the former 'Links' Halt, and on to Paleokastritsa Bay. All the way, the Trail passes delightful watering holes (the tavernas and bars which line the former rail route and which used to service its halts), providing the thirsty traveller with a much appreciated glass of villages wine, Mythos or Amstel. So next time you wander along this glorious trail, ponder for a while at some lonely spot and imagine what it must have been like to witness steam locomotives scaling the steep gradients towards Paleokastritsa/Doukades and the gentle hiss as pressure valves released steam on the descent back down the Ropa Valley to Agios Ioannis.

Stop Press: At its recent AGM, the Corfu Unified National Transportation Society

unanimously moved to raise funds in the form of sponsorship to restore the former C.L.R. rail link from Corfu Port to Agios Ioannis, via Kontokali. Unfortunately, because of the now vital road carriageway from Corfu Town northwards, which has obliterated the former course of the line, the project will once more necessitate a major engineering feat: A four kilometre long embankment and suspension bridge will have to be built parallel to the highway, with a swing-bridge at Gouvía Marina to allow the passage of yachts in and out their moorings.

Commercial success is anticipated for the restored line, since its terminus at Agios Ioannis is home to a busy water park, popular with thousands throughout the summer months. Additionally, the AgiotFest, the September Folk/Rock/Jazz Festival, is forecast to expand greatly from this year's expected audience of 1000. In future years, with over 10,000 music lovers in attendance, the logistical need to transport such numbers makes it certain that a restored C.L.R. will once again feature prominently in Corfu's commercial development.

## AGIOTFEST 09

### FESTIVAL INFO & RAIL SOCIETY CONTACTS

**Main Booking Office:** (0030) 26610 58177

#### Administration & Public Relations:

Paul 'Navy' McGovern: (0030) 6974 932408

Philip 'Journeyman' Mawson: (0030) 6943 050593

#### Railway Walks - Corfu Trail - Agiotfest Media Publicity:

Hilary Paipeti (distant signal cousin of Vrounelopoulos): (0030) 6934 396335

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# GM Foods: *The 'Evil Empire'?*

 Hilary Paipeti

Iceland was one of the first companies to ban genetically modified ingredients from its food range. The action was laudable, but few people had an inkling that their opposition to the ingredients was prompted by more than just a vague feeling that messing about with plants' DNA was Not A Good Idea.

The agenda that the biotech companies promoted was the GM crops would 'Feed the Third World', 'End Starvation and Poverty', 'Save Water Resources' (by producing crops that need less moisture), 'Prevent Pollution' (by producing pest-resistant strains that don't need spraying), and generally be a Giant Leap for Mankind on a par with the invention of the plough. Instead, GM has a self-serving agenda (though this could be part of a wider conspiracy) - and that is to make biotech companies Very Rich Indeed.

Monsanto is the American company that in 1982 formulated and patented the process of genetic modification (GM). So far, they have modified soybeans, cotton, canola and corn; they're working on other crops. But while agricultural seeds are now Monsanto's business, the company grew from a chemical seed.

Monsanto was founded in St. Louis in 1901 by John Francis Queeny, 'a tough, cigar-smoking Irishman', in order to manufacture saccharin, up until then only available as an import from Germany. One of his first customers was a new company in Georgia called Coca-Cola. Monsanto - Queeny's wife's maiden name - quickly added more products, becoming at one point the world's biggest manufacturer of aspirin. After Queeny's son took over in the late 1920s, Monsanto extended its reach into a phenomenal number of chemical products, including plastics, fuel additives, detergents, herbicides and pesticides. Among the products were polychlorinated biphenyls, better known as PCBs, and dioxin - two of the most toxic substances known to man.

Today, Monsanto's publicity machine does not mention the company's past as a chemical giant, preferring ingenuously to portray it as a 'relatively new company' which focuses on helping 'farmers around the world in their mission to feed, clothe, and fuel' a growing planet. In 2002, it re-incorporated and officially declared itself an 'agricultural company'.

## TOXIC LEGACY

Monsanto's chemical past has left many sites struggling with a bitter legacy. In West Virginia, at the town of Nitro, a Monsanto plant operated from 1929 to 1995. In 1948, the factory began making a herbicide - and one of the by-products of the process was dioxin. In 1949, a giant explosion caused 226 plant workers to become ill, some seriously, but Monsanto downplayed the incident. In the meantime, the Nitro plant continued to produce chemicals, among them Agent Orange, the devastating defoliant used by the US army during the Vietnam War. Military veterans later filed lawsuits against the company, contending that they had been harmed by exposure; the manufacture of Agent Orange creates dioxin as a by-product.

Management of the Nitro plant's waste included incineration (thus releasing dioxin into the air), and dumping in landfills or storm drains (thus releasing dioxin into the water system).

At Anniston in Alabama, a Monsanto factory produced PCBs from 1929 to 1971. Despite the subsequent removal of tons of soil contaminated by similar negligent waste-disposal techniques, Anniston is one of the most polluted places in the USA. For decades, innocently unaware citizens 'breathed air, planted gardens, drank from wells, fished in rivers, and swam in creeks contaminated with PCBs'. And when PCBs - 'probable carcinogens' - are absorbed into human tissue, the substance remains forever. Monsanto later paid \$550 million to 21,000 Anniston residents exposed to the PCBs, hardly an admission of blamelessness.

'In recent years, residents near the village of Groesfaen, in southern Wales, have noticed vile odours emanating from an old quarry outside the village. It was later discovered that Monsanto had dumped thousands of tons of waste from its nearby PCB plant, closed in 1977, into the quarry. The site is among the most contaminated places in Britain.'

Though Monsanto has persistently played down the health effects of its products (while still making out-of-court settlements to those allegedly harmed), court records suggest that they were quite well aware of the toxicity.

And this is one of the biotech companies we are trusting to produce the commodities that go into the food we put on our table?

Since the dawn of agriculture, farmers have been saving a portion of seeds from each year's crop to replant the following season. Over thousands of years, they have selected plants with desired characteristics - bigger, tastier, more hardy - so that today those farmers' heirs are growing plants that have been created by way of a process of gradual and balanced improvement. GM crops will turn this tradition on its head.

Monsanto's acquisition of patents for their seeds (obtained as a result of a US Supreme Court case over the patenting of a bacterium, which set a precedent exploited by the company) means that farmers are not permitted to follow the age-old practices, but instead are obliged to buy their seeds - from Monsanto - year after year. In the US, Monsanto is allegedly aggressively targeted farmers with demands for royalties and in some cases physically threatening them - even when they have not planted GM seeds but have been victims of cross-contamination from neighbouring fields. Organic businesses have been affected.

## KILLER TECHNOLOGY

One characteristic of Monsanto's seeds is their in-bred resistance to the weedkiller Roundup, which just happens to be manufactured by... Monsanto. More cash in the corporate pocket. Another, and even more worrying, characteristic is that seeds

will be modified to be sterile, so that they can't be grown from last year's crop. Sterile seeds mean that pollinating insects, especially bees, will obtain no nourishment. They will die.

How will farmers in the developing world - the ones who were supposed to benefit most - be able to afford to buy new seeds every year? They will starve.

The technology which proclaimed it would 'save the world' is killing it.

As part of its forceful agenda, Monsanto is buying up non-GM seed companies. Among the purchases was Seminis, which supplied 40% of seeds for lettuce and tomatoes and other vegetable and fruit seeds. It seems the biotech companies are looking to go way beyond soybeans and corn.

Up to 1980, no GM crops were grown in the US. In 2007, 142 million acres were planted, and 282 million acres worldwide. As time goes on, farmers seem to have fewer and fewer choices when it comes to buying seeds. And 'whoever provides the world's seeds controls the world's food supply.'

Many commentators make parallels between the growth of GM food products and the advance of massive supermarket chains, from whom increasingly we obtain all our sustenance. Many supermarket barons are said to hold large blocks of shares in biotech companies. What type of products will the supermarkets prefer to stock?

Several years ago, the European Union set up a department to decide on the vegetable varieties farmers will be allowed to grow - thus hitting at the bio-diversity that is the legacy of millennia. From dozens of types of - say - cucumbers, they whittled the list down to a couple. So far, they have not banned market gardeners from growing the non-listed varieties - gardeners just can't sell them on a fully commercial basis - but how long will that last? In the future, will the permitted varieties be solely GM ones?

## EVIL AGENDA

People should be asking one question - WHY? Sure, patented GM seeds, and associated agro-chemicals, are big money-spinners for the biotech companies, but is that the only answer? Is the greed of Man such that he will deliberately and systematically destroy a tradition of food production that has sustained our species for ten thousand years, just for the sake of corporate profits? Or is there another agenda at work?

Many dismiss theories of a worldwide conspiracy to create the New World Order as paranoid ravings. Indeed, some of the theorists sound quite unbalanced. But the premiss is widespread, and is upheld by responsible, professional figures. And just because it's on the Internet doesn't mean it's untrue...

On the Net, we watched a lecture by Dr Rima Laibow, a nutritionalist, given at an official conference of the National Association of Nutritional Professionals in 2005. Watch it yourself at <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-5266884912495233634>. Laibow identifies the GM food agenda (and other ones aimed at controlling our nourishment) as part Codex Alimentarius, a plan to control our food supply, and therefore our behaviour. According to the lecture, the Codex,

said to have been thought up by the head of I.G. Farben - the Nazi armament company (and much more) - aims to reduce population by removing nourishment from foodstuffs (irradiation, which is happening, already does this); by introducing toxins into the food chain (cf last month's article on the all-pervasive Aspartame sweetener) thus causing diseases that are then 'cured' at massive expense by the pharmaceutical cartel - if indeed the illness doesn't kill us before we collect our pension; and by modifying our behaviour (fluoridation of the water supply, which is taking place by stealth, has been found to reduce IQ; a dumb population is compliant and unquestioning). If you have a broadband connection, do watch the film. And shiver.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The onwards march of this evil agenda depends on our ignorance, apathy and laziness. By shopping for always the least packaged, most natural products, from local suppliers and shops, you will avoid food which has been messed around to the detriment of your health. So far, GM has not affected vegetables (they're working on it!), but they may have been treated in some other way to destroy their nutritional value. Always buy 'loose' vegetables, and especially never touch the cushion packs of ready salad green, which have been chemically treated to prolong shelf-life (come on - how long does it take to wash some salad leaves?). Shop in the market rather than from supermarket greengrocery sections, which have been stocked by big suppliers (I have my suspicions about a certain giant local fruit-and-veg wholesaler - carrots which look nice and fresh on the shelf go black and rotten in a couple of days). Or buy a pot-luck box of seasonal produce from a natural market garden, like Kalliope and Fergal's at Danilia - call 6976 552345 - or Alekos and Sarah's near Giannades - call 6976 312924. Avoid all soya products and packeted cereals like cornflakes - you don't know the source of the staple ingredients. AND SPREAD THE WORD.

*Much of the information above that refers to Monsanto was written with the help of an article in Vanity Fair (May 2008) which in part has been precised. Passages taken direct from the article are quoted. Read the full investigation at <http://www.vanityfair.com/politics/features/2008/05/monsanto200805>*

# Man with Van

## Removals

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## THANKS FOR SUPPORT

*Firstly, thanks to your magazine for your continued support for our Book Sale! Almost every week we meet someone who tells us that they first heard of us through The Corfiot. It's taken us two and a half years, but we've now raised over 2000 euros for the Primary School in Acharavi. We're moving to a new spot outside the old GP's surgery (opposite Ilo Ilo) which is a little less central, but cooler - in every sense of the word - for us. As always, we continue to rely on donations, and books can be dropped off on Saturday mornings. The Sale takes place between 10.00 and 13.00.*

**Anne Longshaft**  
Acharavi

## CLEAN THE GRAFFITI

*I am writing as a regular visitor to this lovely island with its welcoming friends.*

*I hope you will give publicity to the despoilment by graffiti of a beautiful memorial - dated 8 September 2008 - which is dedicated to those who died in the defence of their country and their freedom.*

*Did the offenders not read part of the description: 'Don't cry for them, honour them'*

*The Town in general is suffering from a spate of graffiti writing. The culprits do not think or care about the ugliness of their work, or about the cost and efforts that their fellow citizens have made to enhance their lovely town, and then to clean the graffiti off, only to have it repeated.*

*I would like to encourage the local press to run a campaign to have their lovely town cleaned up, and then to remain clear of the awful graffiti.*

*From my own experience of Corfu, graffiti and fly-tipping is the only serious crime that I have come across. In general, the youth of Corfu are very well-behaved and courteous. What a pity that a few vandals are allowed to behave so inconsiderately!*

**Frank Tipper**  
Coltishall, UK

## Thought of the Day

**Maureen McNamara**

- We have all the conditions within us to attain enlightenment, if we trust in
- Buddha's advice.
- Buddha is the doctor, his teachings are the medicine and our spiritual friends are
- the nurses.
- If we refuse the medicine we cannot be helped.
- With faith we can achieve anything. There was once a famine in India, and many
- people died. An old woman asked her spiritual guide how she could survive and he
- told her to eat stones. He gave her a mantra to recite so she could cook the stones -
- but he made a mistake. The woman had great faith and cooked and ate the stones.
- Her son, a monk, was concerned. He went to see her, finding her plump and well.
- He asked her how this could be when others had died of starvation. She explained
- about the mantra and the stones, but he spotted the mistake and told her the correct
- one. Filled with doubt, she tried reciting both mantras - but now neither worked
- because her faith was destroyed.

## Tharpaling Buddhist Centre

**For information on meditation classes, call**  
**Maureen on 26610 54796 (English)**  
**or Jason on 6945 554627**

**Items Wanted**  
**for Table Top Sales**  
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**Tel. 26610 54796**

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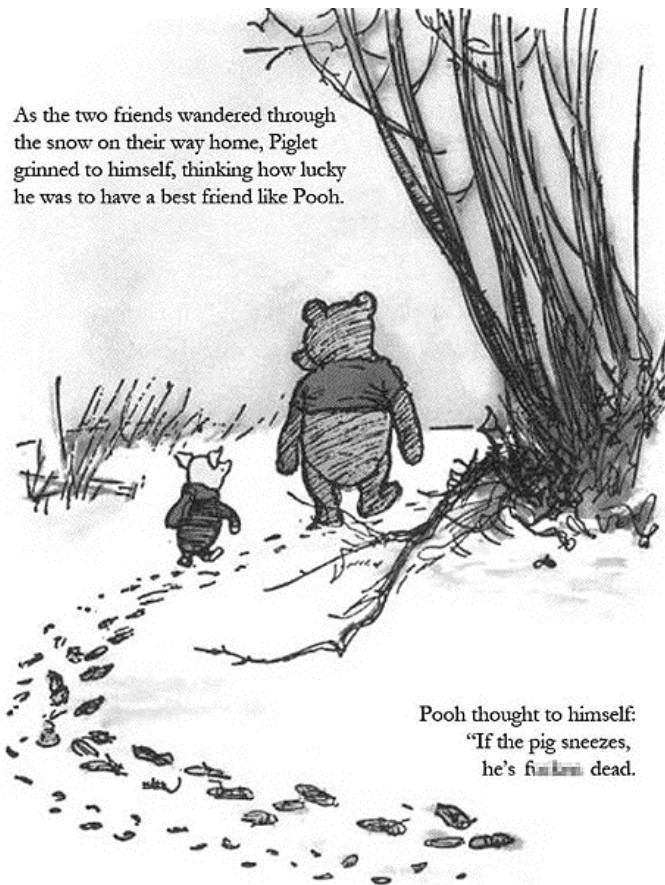
**MAUREEN MCNAMARA I.T.E.C. Reiki Master**  
**Tel. 26610 54796 ~ 6938 644543**

FUN

# Aporkalypse Now!

Are you gammon for a laugh?

As the two friends wandered through the snow on their way home, Piglet grinned to himself, thinking how lucky he was to have a best friend like Pooh.



Pooh thought to himself:  
"If the pig sneezes,  
he's ~~harmless~~ dead."

Doctor, Doctor! I think I've got Swine Flu!"

"What are your symptoms?"

"I've come out in rashers! What do I do?"

"Rub them with oinkment and come bacon Friday!"

I rang the NHS Helpline for advice about Swine Flu. It was a really bad line, and all I got was crackling!

Experts say the disease may be a mixture of avian and swine flu. In fact, pigs might fly!

I went to get some petrol, and there was this blonde sitting in her car crying. I tapped on her window and asked if she was alright. She said, 'No, I'm afraid to get out in case I get Swine Flu.' I said, 'This is Texaco not Mexico, you silly girl!'

If MPs get Swine Flu, does it mean they've had their snouts in the trough?

## And now for something completely different...

A father camel is preparing to tell his son the Facts of Life.

'Now my boy, you're approaching adolescence, and maybe you're concerned about some, um, changes that are taking place in your body. Is there anything you'd like to ask me?'

'Yes, dad. I was wondering... there's something very BIG... growing on my back! What's that for, dad?'

'Well my boy, when we go out into the desert and travel for days and days across the barren sands, the big thing on our back - the hump - stores enough food and water for us to survive!'

'Oh! Thanks, dad. That's really a load off my mind!'

'Now, is there anything else you'd like to ask?'

'Yes... I'm a bit concerned about the BIG... hairs growing in my nose. What're they for, dad?'

'Well my boy, when we go out into the desert and travel for days and days across the barren sands, and the khamsin blows, and the sand flies through the air, those big hairs keep the dust out of our nostrils, so we can breathe through the sand-storm!'

'Oh! That's great, dad!'

'Is there anything else that's worrying you?'

'Yes... Now you should mention it, something else is getting very BIG. It's my feet, dad. Why're they getting so big?'

'Well my boy, when we go out into the desert and travel for days and days across the barren sands, and the khamsin blows, and the sand shifts, our big feet can grip the ground, so we can get safely over the desert!'

'Oh! Right, dad. That's a relief to know!'

'Now my boy. Is there anything else that's worrying you?'

'Yes, dad, actually there is. What the f\*\*k are we doing in Chester Zoo?'

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Europe 70 lepta

**TOURIST POLICE** Samartzi 4, San  
Rocco Square. Tel. 26610 30265

### EMERGENCY TELEPHONES

Police	100
Traffic Police	26610 39294
Port Police	26610 30481, 26610 32655
Fire Brigade	199, 191
Radio Taxi	26610 33811-2
Animal Welfare (ARK)	26610 32111 26610 43332 26610 34628

### CONSULATES

Great Britain	26610 30055 & 23457
Holland	26610 39900
Germany	26610 31452
France	26610 26312 & 26630 22500
Italy	26610 37351
Denmark	26610 38712
Norway	26610 39667 & 32423
Sweden	26610 31386 & 36241
Switzerland	26610 39485
Eire	26610 32469 & 39910
Finland	26610 93438

### CHURCHES

**Anglican** (Holy Trinity Church): 21  
Mavili St. Tel. & Fax: 26610 31467.  
email: holytrin@otenet.gr  
Website: www.holytrinitycorfu.net  
Sundays 10.30 Holy Communion &  
Children's Sunday School. 1st, 3rd &  
5th Sundays at 7pm: Songs of Praise  
**Roman Catholic** Cathedral of St  
James: Town Hall Square. Sunday  
Mass at 8.30, 10.00 & 19.00  
**Evangelical** Church of Greece: 3  
Iakovou Polila St. Tel.: 26610 37304.  
Sunday Morning Service 11.00.  
Evening Service 7.30. email: EV-CH-  
OF-CO@ker.forthnet.gr

### SPORTS

Walking Information	6948 889174
Mountainbike Hire	26610 93344
Golf Course	26610 94220
Dafnila Tennis Club	26610 90570

### MEDICAL SERVICES

Corfu General Hospital	26610 88200
Private General Clinic	26610 36044
Ambulance	166

## PLACES TO VISIT

### Regional National Health Surgeries

Agios Mattheos	26610 75110
Gastouri	26610 56153
Giannades	26610 51210
Kastellani	26610 54333
Kato Garouna	26610 53000
Strongili	26610 75200
Agros	26630 71201
Ano Korakiana	26630 22123
Velonades	26630 71343
Gimari	26630 91395
Doukades	26630 41555
Karoussades	26630 31377
Kassiopi	26630 81238
Makrades	26630 41368
Lefkimmi	26620 23333
Argyrades	26620 51421
Perivoli	26620 22196

## Need a reliable weather forecast?

A detailed five-day forecast is at:

[www.corfunet.com/weather/index.php](http://www.corfunet.com/weather/index.php)

### IN CORFU TOWN

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM** Diverse exhibition of Corfu's  
archaeological heritage, including Gorgon Pediment. 1, Vraila St., near  
Corfu Palace Hotel. Open 8.30-15.00 except Mondays

**BYZANTINE ART MUSEUM** Fabulous Byzantine and post-Byzantine  
icons. Church of Antovouniotissa, just off Arseniou St. Open 8.30-15.00  
except Mondays

**SOLOMOS MUSEUM** A collection of memorabilia of the Greek  
national Poet. Arseniou St. Open 09.30-13.00 weekdays

**MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY** Corfu Artists of the 19th & 20th centu-  
ry. Also 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 bas-  
tions and the best view of Corfu Town. **BYZANTINE ART MUSEUM**  
and **MUSEUM COPIES SHOP** (closes 14.00). Entrance from the  
Esplanade Square. Open every day, 08.30-19.00

**NEW FORTRESS** Built by the Venetians and British, a stunning work  
of military engineering. **MUSEUM OF CERAMICS**. Entrance from  
Solomos Street. Open every day, 10.00-19.00

**PALACE OF SAINT MICHAEL & SAINT GEORGE** Built in 1823  
as seat of British government, with impressive official rooms. Contains  
**MUSEUM OF ASIAN ART**, a world class collection of thousands of  
art objects from far eastern countries, beautifully displayed and present-  
ed in context. Esplanade Square, North End. 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 contribu-  
tion 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. Good  
restaurant. Caique service every half-hour from the Old Port until late  
**MON REPOS** Birthplace of the Duke of Edinburgh. **MUSEUM OF**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY, REGENCY DESIGN AND BOTANY**. Extensive  
park with paths and ancient temples. Grounds open daily 08.00 - 18.00,  
Museum open 08.30 - 15.00, closed Mondays

**PATOUNIS SOAP FACTORY** Traditional olive oil soap factory, over  
100 years old. 9, Ioanni Theotoki Street, San Rocco Square. Open shop  
hours. Tel. 26610 39806

### IN THE COUNTRY

**ACHILLION PALACE** Corfu's most famous building displays memo-  
rabilia of 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** A village house left intact  
with its original decorations, furniture and fittings. Sinarades Village.  
Open every day except Sunday 09.30 - 14.30. Tel. 26610 35673 / 44530

**PALEOKASTRITSA MONASTERY** A small museum with icons and  
other relics, as well as some curiosities. Paleokastritsa, 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.  
Benitses Harbour Square, north end. Open every day 10.00 - 21.00

**TRIKLINO VINEYARD** Agricultural tradition and local products.

Video showing olive and wine production. Wine tasting, traditional  
snacks and music. Walk through vineyards with panoramic views.  
Karoubatika, on Pelekas Road, 6 km from Town. From 12.00 daily

**CORFU DONKEY RESCUE** 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 Kassiope. 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, near  
Gardiki Fortress. Reached by a short path from the road between Agios  
Mattheos and Paramonas.

# CLASSIFIED

## FOR SALE

**LAND FOR SALE** Kontokali, near the new hospital. 400 sq.m. in Town Planning, can build 240 sq.m. Flat with good access. 75,000 euro. Tel. 6934 396335

**SHUTTERS (DOORS)** Three pairs. Hardwood painted construction, in excellent condition with no rot or worm, to fit hole 82 1/4" by 38 1/2" complete with ornate euro each or 130 euro all three. can deliver. Email domestic@btinternet.net.com or call 26630 82042 in July

**PINE BUNK BEDS** varnished, in good condition with two mattresses, one brand new (Mattress Factory 100 euro) accept 145 euro the lot, but will split if needed. Call 26630 82042 in July or email domestic@btinternet.com

**INTERIOR DOORS** Two beautiful old mahogany (?) solid doors for interior use. Call 6934 396335 for appointment to view.

**ANTIQUES** Three floors of village-style antiques and various old bric a brac. Call 6934 396335 for appointment to view - serious customers only please

## OFFERS

**FREE ACCOMMODATION** of 50 sq.m. in return for 3-4 hours work per day. Would suit retired couple or those with flexible working hours. Perama area. Tel. 6997 583960 / 26610 21691

**BOOKBINDING** Books of any age or condition restored to recovered in cloth or leather. Victoria Drew 26610 41570 or 6934 052734  
**ARE YOU COMPUTER LITERATURE?** One to one computer training can help upgrade your office skills, and improve your employment prospects. A basic 6-8 hour course will teach you how to set up, use and maintain a PC, basic word processing skill, and how to send and receive emails. After that, how far you go depends on you. We can tailor a personal instruction course to suit all your requirements. Phone 26610 95263 or 6976 242376. email info@truetype2000.com

**BRITISH PLUMBER AND TILER** with 35 years experience. Competitive prices. No job too small. North Corfu. Call Mick 6948 135851 / 26630 63989

**ELECTRICIAN** English qualified and experienced in all Greek installations. All types of work undertaken with free quotations. House maintenance also quoted for. Call me for advice or a quotation on 6976 333688 Carl (Oct)

**ENGLISH MASTER BUILDER** All kinds of building. Extensions, roofing, pergola. General Maintenance. Dave Redman 6958 277764

**PAINTING & DECORATING** Woodwork. Pool & garden maintenance. Call Klaus 6942 449049

## PERSONAL

**MEN'S CIRCLE** is an open discussion group. Here we can talk together in trust and confidentiality about every issue that touches us. The main topic is the improvement of relationships whether personal, professional or family etc. We exchange views with respect and understanding, offering each one the opportunity to speak and express himself. For information contact: Bruce McAlpine (6907 916270), Aris Anthiis (6996 444469) or: men.corfu@gmail.com

**HOMOSEXUAL HELP LINE CLUG** (Corfu Lesbians and Gays). Information line: 6934 903726 or email us at 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

## WORK

**BRITISH REGISTERED NURSE** with 20 years experience, now living in Kassiope, available for care work for young and old in

North/North East Corfu. Please contact Debbie on 6945 669252 or 6948 867162

**BABYSITTING** Mature Englishwoman offers babysitting services. Evenings only. Corfu Town and surrounding villages. Susan Skoupoura 26610 48015.

**SEMI-RETIRED LADY WANTS WORK** Villa maintenance, looking after pets, anything considered within easy reach of Aqualand. Replies to: maria@soundofmusic.plus.com

*Small ads (for sale and offers categories) are only accepted if paid for in advance. Copy BY EMAIL ONLY, written direct on the document. No attachments and do not write in capital letters please, except where you would normally use caps. Leave your payment (5 euro up to 50 words) by advance telephone arrangement at Typoekdotiki Printshop near Tsores Toys.*

## RENTALS

**MANDOUKI** Shop premises 132 sq.m. Xen. Stratigou 78, Mandouki. For information tel. 6977 076283.

**GARDELADES** Pretty house near quiet village square. Two bedrooms, large sun terrace. Road access and parking close. 400 euro p.m. Tel. 6945 556821

**AGRAFI** Delightful village house with fertile garden, wide country view and plenty of space and light. Two bedrooms plus studio annex, spacious living area. Direct road access. 500 euro p.m. Tel. 6945 556821

**MAGOULADES** Lovely old stone barn completely renovated, in elevated position by village road. Two bedrooms, garage, patio garden, great view. Popular village near beach. 500 euro p.m. Tel. 6945 556821

**AGIOS MATTHEOS** Renovated house with two bedrooms, large lounge/kitchen, balcony, small covered yard. Parking close. 300 euro p.m. Tel. 6945 556821

**GIANNADES** Renovated house in sunny edge-of-village setting, with roadside parking, great country views from two balconies, small yard. Two bedrooms, separate lounge and kitchen. 400 euro p.m. Tel. 6945 556821

**ANO KORAKIANA** Renovated house, 2 bedrooms, plus separate guest studio. Roof terrace with sea view, road access. Tel. 6948 180195

**NEAR ACHARAVI** Modern self-contained apartment in renovated old stone house. Furnished, fitted kitchen & shower room. 10 mins to Acharavi. 280 euro pm including electricity and water (no bills). Tel. 26630 63989 / 6948 135851

## This month we thought we'd let someone else do the talking!

The Mediterranean Garden Society moved its existing web site to Truetype Web Solutions in 2005. As Web Editor I can testify that we have been most satisfied with the service we have been offered regarding both the everyday managing of the site - revisions to existing pages and the creation of new pages - and the more challenging task of modernising and synchronizing the format of the site. The ease of communication with Truetype Web Solutions and their attention to detail made the process as pain-free as possible. We now look forward to expanding and improving the site together.

*The Mediterranean Garden Society*

Thank you for the great work you did designing my website. The speed and professionalism your company showed was quality and unparalleled in my experience of the industry. You should be proud that I had to send my work to you even though I am in the heart of Silicon Valley here in California. I'm looking forward to working with you again in the future.

*Andy Hewitt's Jensens, California*

We have been working with Truetype Web Solutions for five years now. We are completely satisfied with the service they provide. They are very quick to make changes and additions to my website, always friendly and most supportive. The quality of their web design is excellent and they offer very good suggestions. They have been most helpful setting up the system for online payments. We thoroughly recommend them.

*Chamber Music Holidays and Festivals*

Truetype designed our website and have handled it for several years. We are very pleased with the way they always quickly accommodate our (often last minute) updates. They work quickly, efficiently and creatively. It is a pleasure to work with a company who obviously care for the interests of their clients.

*The Ark*

We have used Truetype Web Solutions for six years now and can only express satisfaction with their service. All our requests and updates are dealt with immediately - usually within 24 hrs - and we have reached the top of the search engines with no extra advertising costs.

*The Invisible Kitchen*

My compliments on your work. My website is working well and I have a lot more early reservations than last year.

*Zambeta Apartments, Arillas*

At Truetype Web Solutions our speciality is designing and optimising cheap, but highly efficient and visible websites. Our websites enjoy high rankings on the search engines and we are proud of our close personal relationship with all our clients.

We offer a free analysis of your website, pointing out any defects and suggesting ways in which it could be improved. For details of this offer, or if you have any queries regarding your site or our services, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us. You can also visit our website where you will find a wealth of information about website design, search engines and the Internet, as well as a portfolio of some of our latest work.

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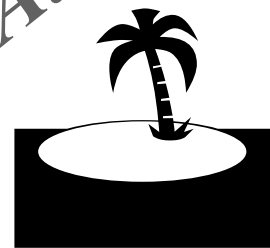
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