

The Corfiot

Corfu's English Language Monthly Magazine

June 2010

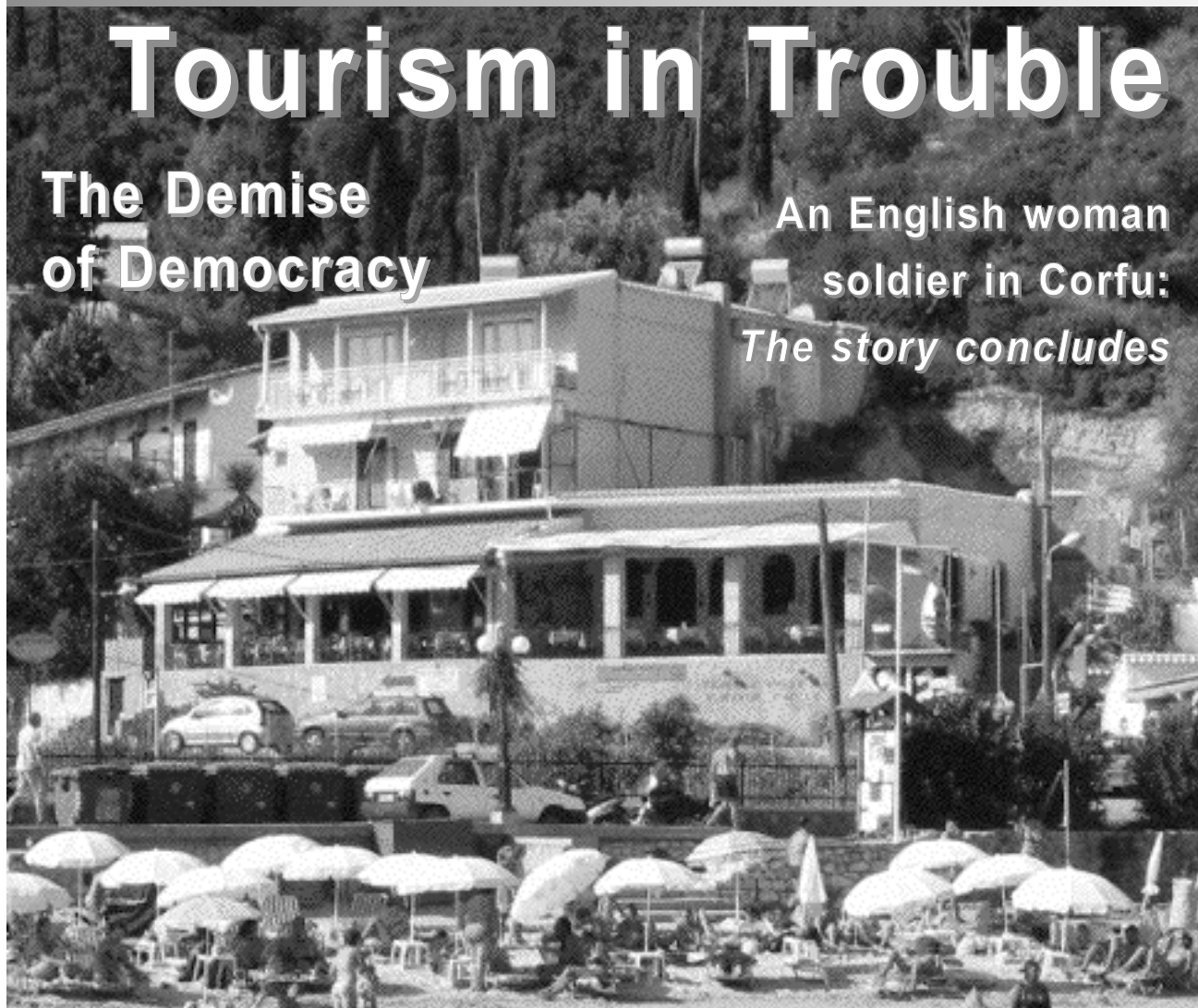
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No. 231

Tourism in Trouble

**The Demise
of Democracy**

An English woman
soldier in Corfu:
The story concludes



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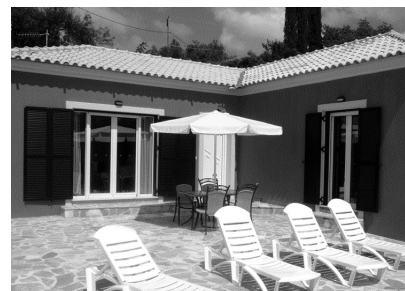
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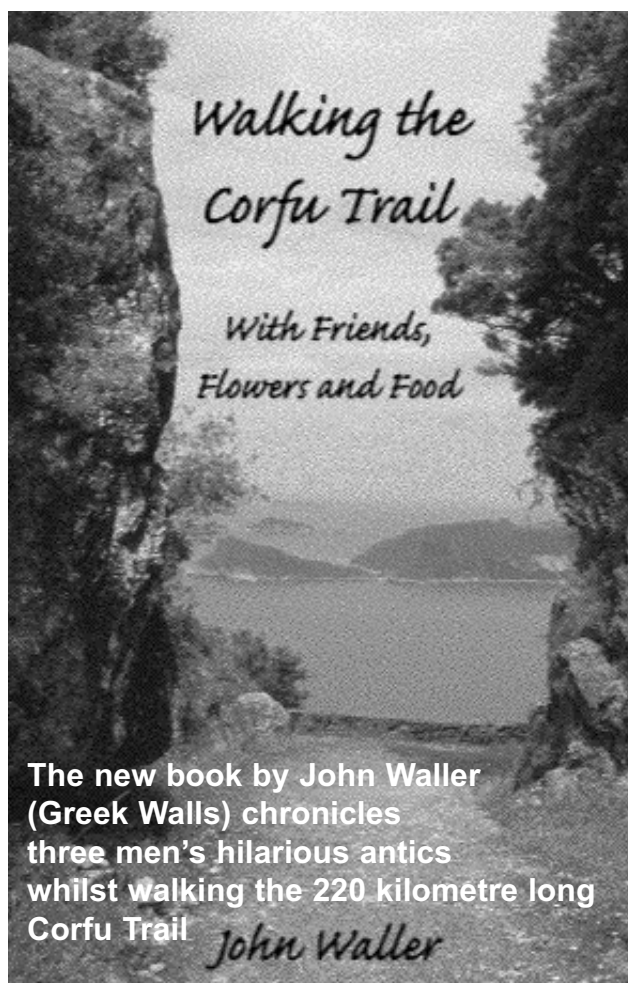
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ear to the ground

BLOWS JUST COME ONE ON TOP OF ANOTHER. IF IT'S NOT THE ECONOMY, IT'S THE VOLCANO NO-FLY, AND TO RUB SALT INTO THE WOUND, OUR OWN 'SIDE' SEEMS TO HAVE IT IN FOR US AS WELL. Apparently, British Home Office advice is to avoid travelling in Greece due to political unrest!

Well, I can believe it when someone tells me not to be around when there's a demonstration in Athens or Thessalonika - when all the usual suspects come out with their decades' old grievances. But SERIOUSLY, can you imagine Sidari High Street, or Kassiopi Harbour Square, or even the Kavos Ghetto, filling up with red-flag-waving and flagstone-slinging rioters? As if...

Yet the British Government, who according to our passports affords 'the bearer such assistance and protection as may be necessary', by frightening potential visitors to stay away, is undermining tens of thousands of UK citizens who are trying to make a living from tourism in this country. Bar and restaurant owners, watersports instructors, caterers, newspaper publishers... the list goes on. And none of us are back home scrounging off the state (though it must sometimes seem tempting).

At the time of writing, the new British Ambassador to Athens, Dr David Landsman OBE, is about to visit Corfu (last weekend in May). I shall be taking this issue up with him.

SCARES LIKE THIS DO NOT HELP IN A CLIMATE THAT IS ALREADY DESPERATE. And as a result, reservations are reportedly down by an average of about 30 percent nationwide since last summer, and experts expect a large number of cancellations. The Association of Greek Tourism Enterprises (SETE) reported that in the first 24 hours after the general strike in early May, more than 5,800 reservations were cancelled in 28 Athens hotels. According to SETE calculations, at least 300,000 Germans will decide not to make their usual trips to Greece this year. More than 400 hotels are now officially for sale: 81 on the Ionian Islands, 48 on Rhodes, 50 on the Cyclades and 44 on Crete.

IF YOU ARE A HOLIDAYMAKER READING THIS, I'D FIRST LIKE TO SAY: THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Despite everything, you've chosen to come to Corfu. How can you help us even more?

Next time, go independent. You will probably get more for your money, and your cash will go directly to local people - the ones whose friendly hospitality makes your stay so enjoyable - instead of into the hands of the tour operators, who exploit our resources for their own ends, and give little back. With many Corfu businesses now advertising themselves on the Internet, and flights with easyJet and Jet2 now covering most of England, a DIY holiday is simple to organise.

Among the many advantages of this service is the personal contact you get with the owner and his family. You can also negotiate better rates. You get the room you want with the facilities you want and the view you were promised.

Direct transfers are provided to your apartment by taxi or minibus and not with mass transportation in large coaches, with stops at resorts all along the way leaving visitors at different accommodation - trips that can often take longer than your flight!

You get all your information about the area right from the horse's mouth, and not from a rep who may have an agenda to sell you an excursion or send you to a shop which gives commission. Since the owners have been living in the area all their lives, they are the best source of information for your local holiday needs.

So do it to help yourself... and help Corfu as well!

A WONDERFUL NEW RESOURCE - BOTH FOR HOLIDAYMAKERS AND FOR LOCALS - IS A WEBSITE DEDICATED TO THE WILD FLOWERS OF CORFU. So many folk ask whether a Corfu flower book exists - it doesn't; the best is *Wild Flowers of Greece* by Vangelis Papiomitoglou, but that's not specific to our island.

Now local author John Waller (*Greek Walls; Walking the Corfu Trail with Friends, Flowers and Food*) has set up a website which features the hundreds of botanical photographs he took whilst walking the Corfu Trail last spring. His botanist friend Sydney, who walked the Trail with John, identified each flower with its Latin name, and its vernacular one when possible. The information was double-checked by a local botany expert.

The photos are arranged by family (so that, for example, all the orchids are together on one page) and each is accompanied by a note on when and where the plant was spotted, allowing a botanist to search out any particular flower on the ground.

The site was set up in Corfu by Truetype, and is typically fast, user-friendly and easy on the eye. www.corfuflowers.com

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Boiler death reps cleared of charges... then sent for retrial next year

Greek prosecutors decided in mid-May to retry two travel agency employees cleared by a court of negligence in the carbon monoxide death of two British children. The employees have been cleared by a court earlier in the month.

Richard Carson, 28, and Nicola Gibson, 26, were charged with manslaughter by negligence after Christianne Shepherd, 7, and her brother Robert, 6, died when a faulty boiler leaked gas into their bungalow at the Corcyra Beach Hotel in Gouvia in October 2006. Their father Neil and his partner Ruth Beatson were also poisoned, but survived.

The council of prosecutors on the island of Corfu decided the court that acquitted Carson and Gibson, both members of the Thomas Cook staff, of negligent manslaughter did not consider all the evidence against them. Officials say they face another trial next year.

Neil Shepherd appealed to reopen the case after the verdict. His Greek lawyer says Gibson and Carson cannot appeal the prosecutors' ruling.

The agency said after the verdict the trial had been 'thorough and robust' and that two 'exemplary employees' cannot be held responsible for the boiler.

Of the 11 people who went on trial, three, including Georgios Chrysikopoulos, the hotel manager, were found guilty of manslaughter by negligence and one of breaching building regulations.

Chrysikopoulos, Petros Stoyiannos, the head of the hotel's technical department, and Christos Louvros, a hotel electrician, were each jailed for seven years. A fourth man was put on probation for two years.

Reps Richard Carson and Nicola Gibson were charged, along with nine Greeks, with manslaughter by negligence in relation to the children and causing bodily injury by negligence to Mr Shepherd and Ms Beatson.

The court heard that, as a consumer affairs executive, Carson, a 'relatively junior employee', was expected to visit hotels and fill in a health and safety questionnaire.

Carson has been criticised for accepting the word of the manager at the Louis Corcyra Beach Hotel, in Gouvia, that no gas was being used to heat water in the bungalows.

But Illias Anagnostopoulos, defending Carson, told the court today that his client was a 'diligent' and 'honourable' young man who had carried out his duties.

He said: 'He was not responsible for safety. He was not a security official. He was not a private detective. Whoever says that Mr Carson should have been like a detective investigating a crime scene?'

I

In the course of his work, he should have been able to expect answers in 'good faith and honour', continued the defence lawyer, and not that he was dealing with 'criminals, crooks and no-goods'.

Carson should also have been able to expect that, in a European country like Greece, the installation of boilers was carried out according to domestic legislation.

'All these things are without the scope of responsibility of the Thomas Cook employee, these are within the scope of responsibility of the Greek state.'

Mr Anagnostopoulos said Thomas Cook employees carried out hotel inspections under a voluntary code of conduct and should not be punished 'because they strive for better qualities rendered to their clients'. He accused the other defendants of playing a game of legal 'table tennis' as they strove to blame each other.

The court has heard that Carson, who took a three-year course in tourism enterprise, had little knowledge of gas.

Prosecutors argued that a thorough audit of the bungalows would have shown it was being used in the rooms. The court was told of a 'catalogue of failings' during the installation and maintenance of the gas boiler. There was no chimney and the thermostatic safety valve had been bypassed.

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19.00 (1st, 3rd & 5th of month) Songs of Praise

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)
Wednesdays 20.00 Quiz Evening (second Wed. in the month)
Thursdays 10.00 Bible Study, with John Gulland
Fridays 10.00-12.00 Informal Prayer Meeting
Saturdays 10.00 Nearly New Sale (first Sat. in the month)

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 food.

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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

It was all happening... **For Corfu For Business For Fun**

On Sunday 23 May the 2nd Corfu Enterprise Exhibition took place at Verde Blu Akti, a fabulous resto bar complex in lush green gardens by the beach in Barbati. Despite threatening clouds at time, it fortunately didn't rain, and most of the day was wonderfully sunny.

From Asian Spa demonstrating treatments and make-overs, high quality boutiques promoting their clothes and accessories from kiosks in the gardens, up-market furniture stores, a board range of service providers including promotions, insurance, property maintenance, health specialists and wacky vehicles; to a fabulous array of Corfu products, including wines, relishes, preserves, coffees, sweets and even a collection of food stuffs made from Greek mushrooms! There were also attractive displays by artist Stephi Clash, Perdita's glass art and Agiotfest promoting their forthcoming two day rock concert in August.

Children enjoyed themselves throughout the day on an inflatable sea world play centre provided free of charge by Funspace, a new business selling and hiring play products and event space solutions.

In the evening the adults enjoyed themselves too! After a busy day there was great laughter at the bar, followed by a delicious and generous Mediterranean buffet with a glass of champagne, whilst rock band Omega 5 performed a fantastic range of hits that had a mad bunch up and dancing!

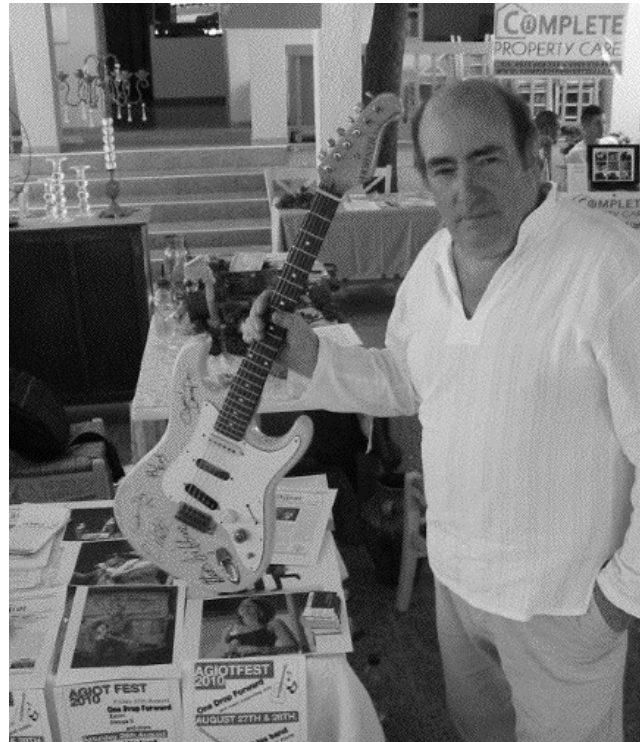
This new exhibition concept is dedicated to promoting Corfu-based businesses and was launched last year by The Corfu Club, an on-line socializing and networking organization committed to promoting enterprise and raising awareness of all that Corfu has to offer.

These exhibitions help start-up, small, medium and large businesses promote their products and services to other businesses and also to the general public and they will definitely be held twice a year, possibly three times a year from 2011.

The next Corfu Enterprise Exhibition is going to be held in this same location all weekend on Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 September 2010, from 12 noon to 6.00 p.m. on each day with another live music night taking place on the Saturday night between the two day event.

For further information please speak to a member of The Corfu Club team today, or visit info@thecorfuclub.com or call 6943 534654.

Emma Wood



AgiotFest team leader Paul McGovern at his stand, with the famous AgiotFest 09 lead guitar, played at the festival by PJ Wright and signed by The Dylan Project

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POLITICAL NEWS

Shake-up in the air for local government

✍ Harry Tsoukalas

A dramatic shake-up in the structure of the local authorities all over Greece is in the process of ratification. The main victim of the restructuring will be the prefectures, which will be replaced by municipal councils. The new system will be in place in time for the local government elections on November 14, 2010, in which citizens will vote for municipal and regional candidates.

At a national level, existing municipal councils will be reduced from over a thousand to 325. In Corfu the existing 13 councils will be reduced to just one, which will have many of the responsibilities of the former Prefecture. In addition, 13 Periferias (areas) take over regional administration in place of the 76 prefectures, and their members will be elected and not appointed by the government as they are now.

Corfu Parliamentary Deputy Angela Gerekou has been forced to resign as Deputy Minister for Tourism after her husband Tolis Voskopoulos, one of Greece's best-known nightclub singers, was exposed as owing over €5.5 million (£4.7 million) of unpaid taxes.

Tolis Voskopoulos, 70, who has also starred in many films, now faces criminal prosecution over the tax bill, which goes back 17 years.

It is the latest embarrassment for a Government that swept to power in October last year promising to clean up the corruption that has helped to take Greece to the verge of bankruptcy. Mr Voskopoulos and Ms Gerekou, 51, had filed joint tax declarations for many years, but a government statement on her resignation said that Ms Gerekou claimed to have no knowledge of her husband's tax affairs.

'Angela Gerekou submitted her resignation out of sensitivity and to avoid causing any damage to the Government,' the statement said.

The Finance Ministry has now frozen Mr Voskopoulos's real estate assets.

Mr Voskopoulos had a series of hits in the 1960s and 1970s. He lives with Ms Gerekou in Corfu, where he frequently gives charity concerts.

The new administrative system bears the code-name 'Kallikratis' after one of the two architects of the Parthenon in Athens.

One of the new measures Kallikratis will apply is an ecard for all its citizens, which will enable them to obtain personal papers direct from the internet. The card will also allow them to vote in referenda, which is a provision under Kallikratis.

Announcing the plans, Interior, Public Administration and Electronic Governance Minister Yiannis Ragoussis said that the new regional and local administration will constitute the 'vehicle' for green development. He also said that there will be a change in the way of controlling local administration resources, with compulsory presentation of administrative decisions on the Internet and an autonomous service for checking local administration bodies established.

The ecard system will empower the younger generation - more Internet-savvy than older people - and encourage them to be more active in politics. Foreign residents who are EU citizens have the right to vote in local elections by registering at your local Citizen's Advice Bureau (KEP) by 30th June. Do it! Your voice also should be heard.

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The Demise of Democracy The Rise of People Power

✍ Harry Tsoukalas

With an important general election over, many UK citizens are questioning just how democratic is the process of government. Well, I believe that 'democracy' in its true form is dead in most of the West, and that we are being ruled by an 'oligarchy', a system under which a small, self-perpetuating elite group have control. This is the case in the UK, the USA and Greece, among most other western 'democracies'. Look at the 'ruling dynasties' of the USA (Clinton, Bush) and of Greece (Papandreou, Karamanlis, Mitsotakis/Bakoyiannis), where power is handed on, and at the growing fashion in the UK for bland career politicians.

Let's look at the origin of democracy. It was developed in the Greek city-state of Athens, comprising central Athens and the surrounding territory of Attica, around 500 BC. Athens was the very first known democracy. It remains a unique and intriguing experiment in direct democracy where each person voted on legislation and executive bills in his own right. One man, one vote. The court members and judges were chosen at random by ballot and changed every year, preventing it becoming self-perpetuating.

The word 'democracy' comes from two Ancient Greek words: 'demos', which means the people, the citizens; and 'kratos' which means power. Power of the people.

When numbers got too large, and populations grew too dispersed, to allow direct voting, representative democracy was applied. Under this system, a group of people would elect a person to represent them in government. So - say - a mining community would elect a fellow miner, who would understand their problems and promote their interests when voting for laws. This true representative democracy no longer exists. The party system, with the whips dictating which way MPs vote, and increasingly the imposition of candidates by the central party headquarters instead of the candidate being the community's own choice, means that your MP does not really represent you and your interests. It's the Oligarchy - the small ruling elite - which dictates.

Now, people are waking up, and a call is growing for a truly democratic system. Amongst Western 'democracies', only Switzerland's system reflects the Ancient Greek model, with laws being passed by referendum. It's worth noting that the Swiss constitution was drafted in the early 19th century by a Corfiot diplomat, Ioannis Kapodistrias - you can see his sculpted effigy in bronze at the door of the airport.

Taking the lead of its most distinguished citizen, and as a result of the demise of democracy in the West, a new political party has been formed in Corfu to contest the local government elections in November. The party promises that all decisions will be taken by referendum, just as in Ancient Athens and modern Switzerland, and that politicians will act only as the executors of the people's will, as expressed by the majority vote. The new

party's name is 'Politon Exousia', which means 'People Power'. Its spokesperson, Andreas Rigas, told The Corfiot that the party could not use the word 'democracy' in its name, since this has lost its real meaning in the modern world. Mr. Rigas said that the party incorporates an internal court system of nine members who will be elected in random from party members, changing every six months to control fraud and corruption.

Interestingly, a growing number of bloggers in UK newspapers are calling for a referendum system of democracy - the failed EU membership referendum having been the first call. Maybe Corfu's People Power party is an idea whose time has come.

• The word
• 'democracy'
• comes from two
• Ancient Greek
• words: 'demos',
• which means
• the people,
• the citizens;
• and 'kratos'
• which means
• power. Power
• of the people.

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Tourism in Trouble

✍ 'A Corfiot'

'They are tight and they don't spend any money', is what you hear local businessmen disappointedly commenting about the tourists who are visiting the island this year. But, wait a second: Tight? Is that the right word to use?

If visitors have to pay for a coffee three or four times more than they would at home; if shopping is at a minimum 20% top-up; if a decent meal at a restaurant works out to be at least one third more expensive if not double (not to mention the frozen-food quality of the cuisine); if taking a taxi from the airport is the only option at 50 euros a ride to any resort out of town; if accommodation is most often not up to European standards but at European rates; if facilities on the island are generally lacking (pot-holed roads, inadequate hospital, poor network of public transport); and if souvenirs tend to be of cheap Taiwanese make ... can we really say the tourists are 'tight'? Would YOU want to be paying for all this?

Have you ever sat down to think how much it costs one family to be in Corfu, per day? Let's make a simple brief calculation for a family of four:

Breakfast: 20 euros (3 euros coffee x 2, 3 euros fresh juice x 2, 2 euros croissant x 4)

Lunch: 84 euros (10 euros salad, 2 euros bread, 15 euros main course x 4, 3 euros soft drinks x 4)

Dinner: 92 euros (10 euros salad, 2 euros bread, 6 euros starter x 1, 15 euros main course x 4, 3 euros soft drinks x 2, 4 euros beer/wine x 2)

Accommodation: 100 euros

That makes a total of 296 euros per day, and this excludes any little luxuries that would make their holiday more enjoyable, like drinks in a bar, ice cream, shopping for souvenirs, going on excursions, car rental, watersports and so on.

Do you personally think this is reasonable?

So, I think it would be relevant to ask ourselves: Do we want tourists who will spend a lifetime saving up for that ONE expensive holiday to Corfu? Or do we want to encourage them to come back every year?

But then, how can they come? I also heard a number of local businessmen complaining about the low number of visitors who came for Easter this year. But, had more actually come, where would they have parked, in order to come and enjoy the Easter activities that take place down-town? Half the Old Town parking was inaccessible due to the processions, parking at Garitsa Bay was partly unavailable due to unfinished works, approximately a thousand parking spaces had disappeared due to the construction of a cycling lane. Once the event was over, I heard someone suggest parking at the airport and port, and walking in. But if I as a local was not aware of this, how can we expect a tourist to know?

But let's not ponder too long on such a hopeless topic as parking, one which not only remains unsolved but is actually worsened by those who should be solving it.

Something else we might like to be thinking about is the standard of accommodation on offer. Let's not dream about (simple things) such as air conditioning and gardens, and a parking space at reasonable rates. Let's take a look at a 'studio', the most popular form of accommodation on the market. A 'studio', according to a European, is a one-roomed apartment with a mini-kitchen and some sitting space and of course a bathroom. But, what I have been seeing in my work as a rep (for the English tourists, who are not very demanding), a 'studio' most often consists of a tiny cubicle where you can barely walk around the bed or open the window, a two-cupboard and two-cooking-rings' kitchen that is tightly slotted into the entrance-hall, if it is not decorating the corner of the bedroom. And all this leads onto a balcony with two chairs that cannot be moved for lack of space, connecting to a neighbouring studio occupied by total strangers at a distance of a metre. With a typical view - so popular in Greece - of the cement skeleton of an unfinished building, because nobody thought to at least plant some greenery in an effort to hide it. Should I go on to mention those apartments that have a hole in the bathroom door to allow it to close over the toilet seat, because it was so tiny? Or should I listen to you complaining to me that it is the fault of the local council, who did not insist on a parking space or a garden?

Continued on page 12

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OPINION

So tourists are so 'cheap'; but if you build this kind of accommodation, how do you possibly expect better ones to come? Would YOU be happy to spend the holiday you had been dreaming of, and saving up for an entire year (if not longer), in such accommodation?

And then, we all express wishes for the summer tourist season to be longer; the cooler climate of spring and autumn may not be beach weather, but is equally lovely, with a crispy clear atmosphere and freshness. Perfect weather for nature lovers, hikers, sight-seers, fishermen and so on... except that this form of activity is not well organized and hardly on offer (except for the Corfu Trail). As I am writing this article in mid-May, the first visitors have arrived, but so many tourist businesses (shops, offices, bars and restaurants) are still closed down; certainly not the most welcoming sight. So, you can expect that those first few tourists, wandering around with nowhere to go and no place to eat, are not likely to come back at this time of the year, or encourage anyone else to do so.

Have you been to Agios Gordis lately? It is - or I should now correct this and say 'was' - my favourite beach in Corfu. I'm also quite fond of the 'Alo Bar'; a little bar/resto currently celebrating its tenth anniversary, one that blends in perfectly with the scenery - and unlike most other places that start off well, but soon drop the quality and up the prices, it has maintained its standards. It offers lovely comfy chairs, relaxed (not loud) music and atmosphere, a genuinely friendly owner and staff, and efficient service. Now, here is a serious businessman who is keen to please and takes care to offer a good service. Yet, will I be going back?

Parking the car at Agios Gordis was, is, and as I see things always will be, an issue. Once this first obstacle is overcome (if you are not disheartened and have not already moved on to somewhere else), you pick and choose your spot on the beach: going left means struggling to find some space on the beach to lay your towel amongst the overcrowding of sun-beds that hardly leaves any spare sand, and also being overlooked by the diners of the restaurants that are practically built on the beach, who can watch you pouncing around in your bikini with your flab and cellulite and initial lack of tan. Or, going right, you first have to cross over a disgusting little stream that appears to be sewage water running straight into the sea. And if this is not a deterrent, you then have to walk on a risky wooden walkway to avoid your feet being burnt in the sun, taking care not to step on a rusty nail, being caught in a broken wooden plank, or tripping over a loose wooden slat. On your way, you pass by a few rubbish bins that have obviously not been emptied since last year. And finally, feeling tired and sweaty, you reach your destination, which you find to be covered in seaweed which could have easily been collected. How do you feel?

I am a Corfiot who has lived many years abroad. Whenever I am back in Corfu, I always encourage foreign friends to come and visit me. And every year, I get lovely remarks about how beautiful this is and that is. Yet, while my friends are pointing out the beauties of the island, I, as a local, cannot help but notice that it's not so wonderful, and to feel sad about how every year it is less beautiful. And what are WE (at a personal level) doing about it?

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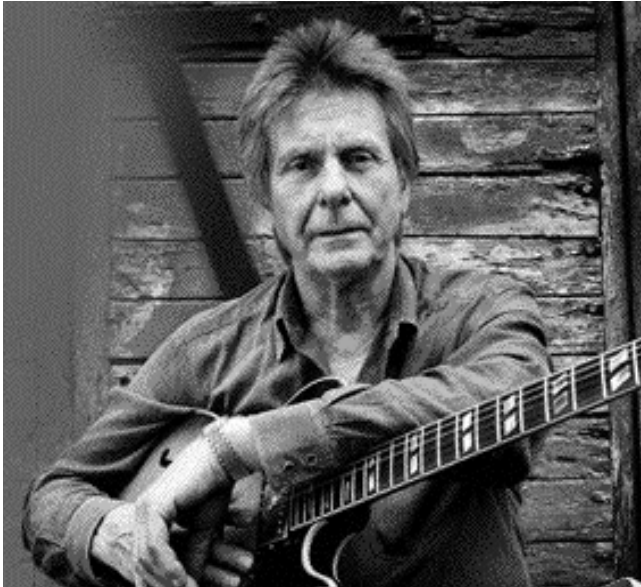
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AGIOTFEST

KURIRI

A Serbian Band at AgiotFest 10

 **Paul McGovern**

KURIRI are a Serbian band that originates from Pirot, a small town in south-eastern Serbia. The band was formed in autumn 2004 as a cover band 'Vesko i kuriri', and was performing like that for three years, after which they began to play their own songs. Now they play exclusively their own material.

The first few gigs were in their home town, Pirot. Later, they began performing in the whole south-eastern region, central Serbia, and as far as Belgrade. In addition, the band has played at many festivals.

Kuriri had great success in 2009, playing in the national final of GBOB Serbia (Global Battle of the Bands), and being voted the best band in the competition by the audience.

Their performances are energetic and, bursting with positive vibrations, leave the listeners craving for more.

The sound is a mixture of alternative and post-rock. The lyrics have as their subject love and all the things that really matter in life, looking for the source of creation that stirs a man's soul to great passions and deeds. All the lyrics are in the English language.

In December 2009, the band published their demo CD 'Xenon Project', which is for downloading. It gained excellent reviews by musical critics. In April, Kuriri was on a Balkan tour, playing in Greece, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Romania and Bosnia.

Kuriri will perform on the first night of AgiotFest, on 26 August. Here, they are picture performing in their home town of Pirot.



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The Winter Puppy Legacy

✉ Louisa van Vuurde

Like every winter, this year's has left us a legacy of abandoned and dumped dogs. One example, dumped on a doorstep, was a crate with nine puppies, the top of the crate being covered with chicken wire so they could not escape. This was one of my 'Christmas presents'. They were hard work to raise, on top of the other stray dogs I look after. I thought I might be able to rehome them on the island, as it looked like they would not grow very big, but months later only one local family had adopted one of the black males. Fortunately AAI Holland stepped in, and selected very nice families to adopt the rest - and now eight Corfiot doggies are integrated into the Dutch dog world.

One of the pups went to Heleen and her family - they have already a Corfiot dog which they adopted in 2008. That pup happens also to be out of a nest of 9. In 2008, on request of the Paleokastritsa police, we ended up with a mother dog and her nine pups. Seven went to Holland - one to Heleen, who now writes to us that the puppy and the dog - who have a similar look - are a walking advertisement of how beautiful Corfiot strays are.



But unwanted puppies are an endless story; they are all so lovely, but how to find caring homes for all of them...

AAI Holland and similar organisations in Germany help, but once a new boss has been found, we need an escort for the dog. Many people have helped over the years, so if you are flying back to Holland or Germany, please contact us.

Another example of a pup which went to Holland was King. He was sold a few months ago to a Greek family, but they returned the pup to the shop, complaining that the little one peed in the house!!! Unfortunately some people get pups without having any idea what to expect, and without any preparation. The pet shop owner asked us if we could take the dog and find him a good home, and now little King, a happy sweet doggie, is enjoying his life in Holland.

Nevertheless, we always try first to find caring, responsible families on the island. Like Teresa, who chose a little Labrador puppy. Now the little pup has grown and will become a rather big black dog, but it's Teresa's best friend, and she'll do all she can to give this dog a happy, healthy and safe future.

Protect your dog against disease

Warm days have started - top time for fleas, mosquitoes and sand flies. Please protect your dogs and cats so they will not catch all those diseases spread by those flyers.

Fund-Raising Music Evening

In July, we hope to organize another fund-raising music evening in Kanoni. Last year it was the first time it took place, but it was such a success that we hope to run it again in those beautiful surroundings there in Kanoni. Watch out for an announcement in the next Corfiot, and notices in Corfu Town, and also on our website www.corfuanimalwelfare.com.

Ark Information Centre

Besides our Ark Charity Shop, in Agiou Dkimitriou 11 in Corfu Town, we also have the temporary use of premises right in the centre of Town. The small shop is located in the street between the National Bank and the little square with the spring head. We are using these premises as an information centre, but due to lack of volunteers to run it, the opening hours are very limited. On the window and door are photos of dogs looking for a good home, and information about sterilization, rehoming animals and so on.

Volunteers required

If you are interested in helping the Ark, please do contact us. 26610 32111 (Greek) or 6979 798202 in other languages. Email info@corfuanimalwelfare.com

Please also contact us if you are travelling to Holland or Germany and are willing to escort a dog to a safe life with its new owner.

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HISTORY FEATURE

Flora Sandes

The First World War's most famous female soldier, in Corfu

The most famous female soldier of World War I, Flora Sandes was an Englishwoman who served with the Serbian army and endured their hard-fought retreat to the Adriatic Sea during the harsh Balkan winter of 1915. After volunteering as a nurse on the outbreak of the war, she joined a Serbian nursing detachment and after several postings, during which she showed her dedication, she was assigned to a front-line ambulance unit. Already knowing how to shoot and ride, she soon slipped into a combat role.

The Austrian attack in the autumn of 1915 forced the Serbian army to evacuate itself over the mountain ranges and into Albania, with the ultimate aim of establishing a government-in-exile on Corfu. Sandes pledged to stay with the regiment, and thus took part in the Long March over the snow-locked mountains to the Adriatic coast, becoming a mascot for the male soldiers (she was already over 40).

After the war, Sandes set off on a year-long publicity tour to raise money for the new Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (subsequently Yugoslavia). Received as something of a novelty, she had enough fundraising experience to know full well how much interest she would arouse on her lecture tours in full military uniform, and comparisons to Nightingale and St. Joan indeed followed her around the globe.

She left the Yugoslavian army after demobilisation in 1922, and

settled down in Belgrade. She married a Russian White Army General, and returned to England after the Second World War. She died in Suffolk in 1955, aged 79.

In 1916, Sandes published her autobiography, *An English Woman-Sergeant in the Serbian Army*, based on her letters and diaries. She used this account to help her raise funds for the Serbian Army. Here, we conclude extracts from the book (not copyright), ending when the Serbian Army left Corfu to resume fighting.



The 'Slava Day' of the Second Regiment

The companies used to take turns at working at the port for about three weeks, and when our turn came the men were very pleased, as they much preferred it to doing drill, and they were able to occasionally get into the town also. We were camped about a mile and a half outside the town, but I thought it was the nastiest camp that I had ever been in - a very small crowded piece of ground with no shade, so that when the weather was hot we were perfectly roasted, and when it was wet, when you tried to climb up the narrow steep path to it, you slipped back two steps for one you went up, in the thick slippery mud.

I gave up my room in town, as our camp was close enough to walk to. I could make myself understood in Serbian by now, though, of course, I made awful mistakes, as it is by far the most difficult language I have ever come across to learn, there being no books to help one. One can only pick it up by ear: so it is no wonder if I was occasionally misunderstood.

One day I told my orderly to go and fetch my thick coat, which he would find on a chair in my room, and bring it to me in camp. He duly arrived back about an hour afterwards with the coat and the chair, which he had carried all through the town, and was much discomfited at the howls of laughter with which we all greeted him. I asked him what the landlady had said to his removing her furniture like that, and he confessed that she had made a few remarks, but, as she spoke nothing but Italian and he nothing but Serbian, they passed lightly over his head, and he triumphantly carried out when he had taken to be my

orders. He was a capital orderly, always cheerful and willing. One day he told me, in answer to some remark of mine, that as my orderly he would not have to fight. 'Will you fight with us going back to Serbia, like you did in Albania?' he asked. 'Why, of course I shall, Dragoutini,' I said. His face beamed. 'Then I shall go with you and fight beside you,' he declared emphatically.

We went back to our camp in the hills when our three weeks were up, and to our great joy we heard that we were to embark almost immediately for Salonica.

They let us stay a day longer than was intended in order to celebrate the regimental 'Slava Day', which is a great festival, and the whole regiment was en fete for the whole day. The Crown Prince Alexander himself came, and a great many French and English officers and a few ladies.

It was held in a beautiful big, flat glade, just below the camp, with huge big spreading trees. There was a large marquee decorated with all the different flags of the Allies, and everybody had been busy for the last week making paths and generally beautifying the place, and practising for the big march past of the regiment.

We had a variety of talent in our regiment; among others a young student of sculpture. Building four high pillars of clayey mud flanking the path leading to the marquee, he carved on each a beautiful bas-relief. The first one represented a haggard,

HISTORY FEATURE

weary, beaten Serbian soldier going into exile; the next a Serbian soldier re-equipped, holding his new rifle in his hand, his expression full of fierce determination, standing in a striking attitude with his face to the foe again; while on the third was the head of a woman, with a look of patient expectancy on her beautiful face, representing the women who were waiting in Serbia for the return of their sons and husbands to deliver them from the bondage of the hated Austrian-Bulgarian oppressors. They were most striking figures, and some day that young Serbian soldier will become known as a very great sculptor.

It was an ideal spot for a fete, and we hoped anxiously that the weather, which had looked rather threatening, would hold up. The whole regiment was astir very early, and we were all drawn up under the trees before the guests arrived.

I was talking to the Colonel, when he suddenly asked me where my company was drawn up.

'Just behind the Third,' I replied, pointing over in that direction.

'Well, come over there with me, I want to speak to them,' he said, and we went over, I wondering what he was going to say, and was more than astonished when I found the surprise in store for me. They all sprang to attention, and then, with me standing by his side, he made them a long speech, which all the other companies round could hear also, and said that he was promoting me to sergeant on that their great regimental 'Slava day'. Generally you are just promoted, and it is entered in the books in the ordinary way, and it was a very great honour to have a public sort of ceremony like that, especially on such a day. They all shouted 'Jivio' three times for me when he had finished, and, though I felt extremely shy and embarrassed, I was very much pleased.

All the officers in the regiment and great many of the men came up and shook hands with me afterwards, and congratulated me, and the Commander of the battalion sent his orderly off for some spare stars which he had, and fixed my second ones on my shoulders there and then.

Later on the General of the First Army, who was one of the guests, when he heard I was one of his soldiers, also added congratulations; in fact, I have never in my life had so much handshaking and patting on the back.

Presently the Crown Prince arrived and the rest of the guests. the whole regiment, headed by the band and the regimental flag, marched past him and saluted, and to see these fine healthy fellows, with their swinging stride, you would never have guessed they were the same men who had gone through that terrible retreat in the Albanian mountains and arrived at Corfu in such a deplorable condition two months before.

The guests all sat down to lunch in the big marquee, and after that there were songs, dancing etc. The Crown Prince had to leave early, but he said he would come back later on.

I had invited two of my friends from the English hospital, and they enjoyed themselves immensely, and we all - guests, officers and men - danced the 'Kolo' and all the other Serbian national dances together until evening.

Later on there was another big lunch and a great many speeches from the representatives of the English, French and Italian allies. True to his promise Prince Alexander came back later in the afternoon, specially to chat with the soldiers, among whom he walked in the friendliest manner, enquiring after their families, how they had been wounded etc., etc. It was easy to see how popular he is with his Army, and how please and proud the men were as they crowded around him.

We kept it up the whole day and late that night after all the guest had gone, in spite of the fact that we should have to be astir very early the next morning, as we were to embark for Salonica.

We had a very hot, dusty tramp down to the embarking stage, and I had very bad luck, as I lost my dog 'Mali', who was a most faithful little brute, though it would be hard to describe his breed. He was a stray who had attached himself to an officer and afterwards been handed over to me, and he was always at my heels, never quitting me for a moment and sleeping in my tent. Even when I was dancing the previous day he had nearly upset several people in his anxiety to keep close to me. It was only about half an hour before the boat sailed that I missed him. In the immense crowd of soldiers he had lost sight of me for a moment, and then could not trace me, and someone eventually told me that they had seen him starting back along the hot, dusty road to camp looking for me, and, as I dared not miss the boat on his account, I had reluctantly to give up the search.

[The soldiers had a rough sail on a 'fine French Transatlantic boat' and safely reached Salonica on Easter Monday.]

The transportation of the Serbian Army from Corfu to Salonica were going on apace, and within a few weeks the whole force was safely landed without a single casualty.

The men were fully equipped down to the very last button - new English khaki uniforms, belts, water-bottles, absolutely everything.

I went home on a couple of months' leave, leaving them full of spirits, and eagerly looking forward to the time when we could get another whack at the enemy, and march victoriously back into Serbia.

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FOOD

Ways with Courgettes

Courgettes are the epitome of summer eating, and, as they go well with other seasonal veggies, they can be prepared in innumerable ways. With sufficient watering, they are incredibly prolific - if you grow your own, you'll know very well that you can barely keep up with the eating! Here are some ideas for using courgettes in some different ways.

Butter Bean and Courgette Salad

1 can butter beans, 500 gr cherry tomatoes, 300 gr small courgettes, 1 small red onion, small bunch parsley, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, 3 tablespoons olive oil, 1 teaspoon ground cumin

Drain and rinse the beans, quarter the tomatoes, chop the onion and dice the courgettes. Wash, dry and chop the parsley. Tip all the ingredients into a bowl with some salt and pepper and mix well. Cover and leave at room temperature until ready to serve.

Marinated Courgette Salad

2 large or 4 small courgettes, juice of a lemon, 4 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

Wash, top and tail the courgettes. Using a vegetable swivel peeler or mandolin, slice them into long thin ribbons and place in a shallow serving dish. Whisk the lemon juice with the olive oil in a small bowl and season generously. Drizzle over the courgette ribbons and leave to marinate for 15 minutes before serving.

Courgette and Spinach Salad

1 tablespoon olive oil, 4 courgettes, 1 red chilli, 100 gr baby spinach, zest of a lemon

Cut the courgettes into discs on the diagonal, then slice into sticks. Deseed and finely chop the chilli. Wash, dry and clean the spinach.

Heat a spoonful of oil in a frying pan. Fry the courgettes over a high heat until just tender, about four minutes, adding the chilli for the final minute. Take off the heat and toss though the spinach until just wilted. Add the lemon zest and season to taste. Put in a serving dish and pour over a little more olive oil just before serving.

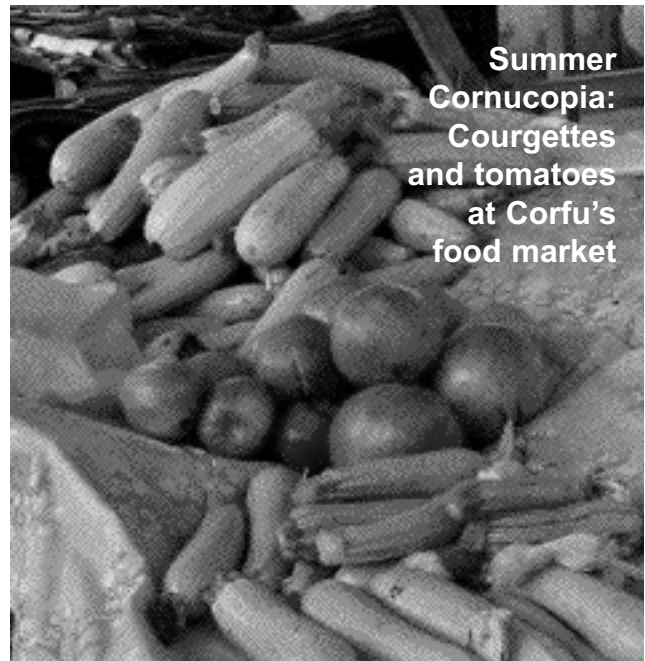
Chilled Minty Courgette Soup

2 tablespoons olive oil, 1 chopped onion, 1 kilo roughly chopped courgettes, ½ teaspoon dried mint, 1.3 litres vegetable stock, 3-4 sprigs of fresh mint, 4 tablespoons cream

Heat the oil in a large saucepan, add the onion and cook gently for about 2-3 minutes until softened. Now add the courgettes and dried mint, and stir well to mix with the onion. Cover and cook over a gentle heat for about 10 minutes until the courgettes are softened but not coloured.

Pour in the stock and bring to the boil, then lower the heat to a gentle simmer. Strip the mint leaves off the stalks and drop them into the pan, then cover the pan and continue simmering gently for 20 minutes or until the courgettes are very tender. Remove from the heat and let the bubbles subside before blitzing in a food processor or blender until smooth (if you like a really smooth soup, simply pour it through a sieve after blitzing). Pour into a bowl and leave to cool, then cover and chill for at least 4 hours (or overnight).

To serve, taste and season with salt and pepper. Serve in chilled soup plates with a spoonful of cream drizzled in the middle.



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Courgette Fritters with Tomato and Feta Salsa

1 large red chilli, 125 gr self-raising flour, 1 red onion, 2 large eggs, 1 teaspoon cumin seeds, 125 gr cherry tomatoes, 100 gr feta, a handful of mint leaves, the juice of ½ a lemon, 3 medium courgettes, 4 tablespoons olive oil for frying

Finely chop the chilli and onion. Grate the courgettes. Quarter the tomatoes and mix with the crumbled feta, mint and lemon juice.

Mix the courgette, onion, spices, flour and egg together. Season well, especially with black pepper. Heat the oil in a non-stick frying pan, drop in heaped tablespoons of the batter. Cook, in batches, for 2-3 minutes each side or until golden and cooked through. Serve with the tomato and feta salsa.

Courgette Carbonara

70 gr pancetta or bacon cubes, 2 medium courgettes, 1 garlic clove, 1 egg yolk, 5 tablespoons cream, 30 gr finely grated parmesan, 150 gr fettuccine

Grate the courgettes and crush the garlic.

Cook the pancetta or bacon in a dry, non-stick pan until crisp and golden (it'll give off enough fat to cook itself). Add the courgette and garlic and cook for 8 minutes or until the courgette is softened. Whisk the egg, cream and parmesan and season with pepper. Cook the pasta following the pack instructions, then lift out of water with tongs straight into the courgette pan.

Toss well over the heat then take off the stove and toss with the egg/cream mix, adding a couple of spoons of the pasta water until you have a nice emulsified sauce. Serves 2.

Creamy Courgette Lasagne

9 dried lasagne sheets, 1 tablespoon olive oil, 1 finely chopped onion, finely chopped, 700 gr courgettes (about 6), 2 crushed garlic cloves, 250 gr ricotta, 50 gr Greek grating cheese, 350 gr jar tomato sauce for pasta (or your own well-flavoured sauce)

Heat the oven to 220C/fan 200C/gas 7. Put a pan of water on to boil, then cook the lasagne sheets for about 5 minutes until softened, but not cooked through. Rinse in cold water, then drizzle with a little oil to stop them sticking together.

Meanwhile, heat the oil in a large frying pan, then fry the onion. After 3 minutes, add the courgettes and garlic and continue to fry until the courgette has softened and turned bright green. Stir in 2/3 of both the ricotta and the cheese, then season to taste. Heat the tomato sauce until hot.

In a large baking dish, layer up the lasagne, starting with half the courgette mix, then pasta, then tomato sauce. Repeat, top with blobs of the remaining ricotta, then scatter with the rest of the cheese. Bake on the top shelf for about 10 minutes until the pasta is tender and the cheese is golden.

Summer Courgette Risotto

1 tablespoon olive oil, 1 onion, 2 garlic cloves, 3 ripe tomatoes, 350g carnaroli or arborio rice, 1 teaspoon chopped rosemary, 1½ litre hot vegetable stock, 3 courgettes, 140 gr frozen peas, large handful basil

Finely chop the onion and garlic, roughly chop the tomatoes, finely dice the courgettes.

Heat the oil in a large pan. Cook the onion and garlic for 5 minutes until the onion has softened. Add the tomatoes and cook for 3-4 minutes until softened and pulpy, then add the rice and rosemary.

Pour in a teacup of the stock and cook until the liquid has evaporated, stirring all the time. Repeat with the rest of the stock, until the rice is al dente and still fairly soupy.

Stir in the courgettes and peas, then cook for another 5 minutes or so, stirring until the rice is tender, but the mixture is still a bit saucy. Season with plenty of black pepper, then add the torn up basil leaves and stir until wilted. Serve immediately.

Roasted Summer Vegetables with Chick Peas

3 courgettes, 1 aubergine, 3 garlic cloves, 2 red peppers, 2 large baking potatoes, 1 onion, 1 tablespoon coriander seeds, 4 tablespoons olive oil, 400 gr can chopped tomatoes, 400 gr can chickpeas, small bunch parsley

Thickly slice the courgettes, cut the aubergines into thick fingers, deseed and chop the peppers, peel the potatoes and cut into bite-sized chunks. Chop the onion and garlic. Drain and rinse the chick peas, chop the parsley

Heat oven to 220C/200C fan/gas 7. Tip all the vegetables into a large roasting tin and toss with the coriander seeds, most of the olive oil, and salt and pepper. Spread everything out to a single layer, then roast for 45 minutes, tossing once or twice until the vegetables are roasted and brown round the edges.

Place the tin on a low heat, then add the tomatoes and chickpeas. Bring to a simmer and gently stir for a few minutes. Season to taste, drizzle with olive oil, then scatter over the parsley. Serve from the tin or pile into a serving dish. Eat with hunks of bread.

Chicken with Lemon and Courgette Couscous

200 gr couscous, 400 ml chicken stock, 2 tablespoons olive oil, 4 courgettes, 2 lemons, 2 boneless & skinless chicken breasts

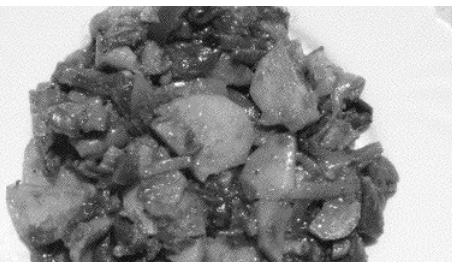
Grate the courgettes. Halve one lemon and cut the other into wedges.

Tip the couscous into a large bowl and pour over the stock. Cover and leave for 10 minutes until all the stock has been absorbed. Fluff up with your hands or a fork.

Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil and fry the courgettes until softened and crisping at the edges. Tip into the couscous, then stir in with plenty of seasoning and a good squeeze of lemon juice from one of the halves.

Halve the chicken breasts horizontally and put each piece on a sheet of cling film. Cover with another sheet and beat each piece out with a rolling pin to make it thinner. Season. Heat the remaining oil in a large pan and fry the chicken for about 2 minutes on each side until cooked through. Squeeze over the juice from the other lemon half and serve with the couscous and lemon wedges on the side.

**Briam:
Corfu's
lovely
courgette
stew**



HUMOUR

Out of the mouths of babes...

NUDITY

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

MORE NUDITY

A little boy got lost at the YMCA and found himself in the women's locker room. When he was spotted, the room burst into shrieks, with ladies grabbing towels and running for cover. The little boy watched in amazement and then asked, 'What's the matter, haven't you ever seen a little boy before?'

OPINIONS

On the first day of school, a first-grader handed his teacher a note from his mother. The note read, 'The opinions expressed by this child are not necessarily those of his parents.'

KETCHUP

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

POLICE

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, I was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at my uniform, she asked, 'Are you a cop? Yes,' I answered and continued writing the report. 'My mother said if I ever needed help I should ask the police. Is that right?' 'Yes, that's right,' I told her. 'Well, then,' she said as she extended her foot toward me, 'would you please tie my shoelace?'

MORE POLICE

It was the end of the day when I parked my police van in front of the station. As I gathered my equipment, my K-9 partner, Jake, was barking, and I saw a little boy staring in at me. 'Is that a dog you got back there?' he asked.

'It sure is,' I replied.

Puzzled, the boy looked at me and then towards the back of the van. Finally he said, 'What'd he do?'

ELDERLY

While working for an organization that delivers lunches to elderly shut-ins, I used to take my 4-year-old daughter on my afternoon rounds. She was unfailingly intrigued by the various appliances of old age, particularly the canes, walkers and wheelchairs... One day I found her staring at a pair of false teeth soaking in a glass. As I braced myself for the inevitable barrage of questions, she merely turned and whispered, 'The tooth fairy will never believe this!'

DRESS-UP

A little girl was watching her parents dress for a party. When she saw her dad donning his tuxedo, she warned, 'Daddy, you shouldn't wear that suit. You know that it always gives you a headache the next morning.'

DEATH

While walking along the sidewalk in front of his church, our minister heard the intoning of a prayer that nearly made his collar wilt. Apparently, his 5-year-old son and his playmates had found a dead robin. Feeling that proper burial should be performed, they had secured a small box and cotton batting, then dug a hole and made ready for the disposal of the deceased.

The minister's son was chosen to say the appropriate prayers and with sonorous dignity intoned his version of what he thought his father always said: 'Glory be unto the Faaather, and unto the Sonnn, and into the hole he goooes.'

SCHOOL

A little girl had just finished her first week of school. 'I'm just wasting my time,' she said to her mother. 'I can't read, I can't write, and they won't let me talk!'

MORE SCHOOL

A four-year-old stood up in school assembly and in a high, clear voice announced: 'I know what my daddy does to my mommy in bed!' Horror appeared on the faces of the teachers, but before any of them could reach the child to gag it, out came the revelation: 'He pulls all the blankets off her!'

BIBLE

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. 'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out. 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

For sale

DAIHATSU GRAN MOVE, 156,000 kms, left hand drive, Greek licenced, fully taxed for 2010, serviced and MOT'ed to 2/11/11. €2,500

Also **KYMCO SCOOTER** People S 125 23, 500 kms, fully taxed for 2010, excellent condition €1,200.

Tel. 26610 51355 or 6942 449049

Rental

FULLY FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT at Pyrgi, 55 sq.m., 1 bedroom, 1 sitting room, kitchen, bathroom & hall, 20 metres from beach, balcony & garden view. For more info, please contact Katerina Laskari. Tel. 6977 546726

INFORMATION

POST OFFICE Alexandras Avenue.

Open 07.30 - 20.00. Stamps for 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
Dafnili Tennis Club 26610 90570

MEDICAL SERVICES

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

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

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
MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY Corfu Artists of the 19th & 20th century. 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 bastions 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 art objects from far eastern countries, beautifully displayed and presented in context. Esplanade Square, North End. Open 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. 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 memorabilia 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
MUSEUM OF TRADITIONAL GREEK COSTUMES AND CORFIOT FOLK MUSIC 40 years in the making, a unique collection of traditional costumes from all over Greece, plus recordings of traditional songs. Pelekas, opposite the 'Graffiti Wall'. Open 10.00 to 13.30 or by advance notice.
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 - 20.00
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 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, near Gardiki Fortress. Reached by a short path from the road between Agios Mattheos and Paramonas.

Website Checklist

Does your present website meet these ten criteria?

The First Glance: Visitors need to be able to tell what you do right away. Don't hide behind a splash page or make people wait while something loads - many won't take the time.

Navigation: Make sure visitors can find things easily. Put your navigation in the usual places, and make it very obvious what your visitors need to click in order to find each section

Contact Information: Can customers find you when they need you? Your contact information must be clear, accurate and easy to find.

The End Game: It should be easy to to complete an order through your website or get more information. Regardless of the content of the page make sure that you include clear instructions.

Above the Fold Focus: Most visitors won't scroll unless you have already convinced them that it's worth their while to do so. Make sure important aspects are above "the fold" – the point where scrolling becomes necessary.

Inviting Content: To develop relationships with your clients, you need to have them visit more than once. In fact, most people won't commit themselves the first time they come to your website. You need to offer them something to make them want to return.

Well-Organized Pages: Don't make your visitors search. Always ensure that your page layout is clear, concise and gives the visitor exactly what they want without having to search for it.

Visual Appeal: While the content on your page is the most important thing, an attractive page will be more enjoyable and appealing for visitors. Choose colours that work well together, leave some open space so it's not too busy, and make sure you have everything lined up nicely.

Sincerity and Trustworthiness: The internet is all about trust. If you can ensure that your website is trustworthy, people will be more likely to complete an order. What's more, the search engines also base your rankings on how trustworthy they think your page is.

A Polished Finish: Do your links work? Make sure you check your grammar, spelling and layout are correct? Is all the information up to date and accurate? Your visitors will have less faith in you if you have errors on your website.

If your website lacks these vital ingredients then maybe you should be looking at a 'makeover'. Truetype Web Solutions can carry out a full analysis of your website covering all the points above and more - for free! If you then decide that you need to redesign or upgrade your present site, the low prices of both our web design and site management services may surprise you. At Truetype Web Solutions our speciality is designing and optimising cheap, but highly efficient, websites for small businesses. We are proud of our close personal relationship with all our clients and we are always happy to update your web pages to reflect changes in your business.

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The Corfiot Magazine

Corfu's English Language Monthly Established 1990

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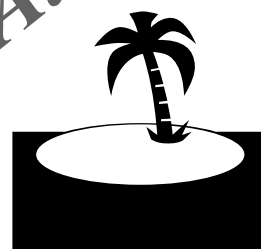
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