

78th Edition

The Agiot

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Agiotfest Live at the Cactus Hilton

By
Heather Skinner

The 'Cactus Hilton' is the affectionate name given to the old cactus fields nestled in the olive groves of Agios Ioannis (Triklino) in the centre of Corfu where the island's hippy visitors first came to the island, and where the first ever youth hostel was established. The Cactus Hilton was where these free-spirited visitors would pitch tents in the cactus fields if they didn't have the funds to stay at the youth hostel, or if they preferred to sleep outdoors.

In 2009, reviving the free-spirited feel of the 60s and 70s, the island's first Agiotfest brought The Dylan Project to Corfu, featuring Steve Gibbons, PJ Wright and Phil Bond, along with Fairport Convention's Dave Pegg (ex-Jethro Tull) and Gerry Conway (ex-Cat Stevens).

The driver behind Agiot Fest is Paul McGovern who met his Greek wife in the UK, but moved to Corfu to retire. While Paul told me that, for the first 9 years he lived in Corfu he "languished well" he had a desire to do something to regenerate the village. He had seen tourism to Agios Ioannis change dramatically since its heyday in the mid 1980s. By the early 1990s there were less tourists to the village, although there was a bit of breakthrough in the mid 1990s with more cyclists and walkers, particularly from the Netherlands. Over a glass of wine and seafood mezze at Nautilus in Garitsa, Paul recounted that "I got back into commerce in the mid-90s. The village was fragile,

and because I'd seen the high spots I thought, what can I do to make a difference?", and so Agiot Fest was born.

Now in its 6th year, Agiot Fest 2014, taking place on Saturday 30th August, promises another night of great music 'Live at the Cactus Hilton'. The full line-up is expected to be finalized towards the end of April, but you can expect a varied line-up of local and international performers. For updates on Agiot Fest 2014 you can follow on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/agiotfest>; Twitter @Agiotfest1; or on Pinterest Agiotfest 2014.

6TH ANNUAL AGIOTFEST
AUGUST 30
AGIOS IOANNIS, CORFU
THIS YEAR ALL-WEATHER SPONSORED BY
<http://villaoasiscorfu.com/>
FULLLINE-UP INCLUDING
ROCK,FOLK,GREEK, MORE.
LONGEST-RUNNING FESTIVAL OF ITS TYPE
IN CORFU
FREEDOM OF CHOICE WITH FOOD/DRINK/
PICNIC PARADISE
CHARITIES SPONSORED
RAFFLE PRIZES
GATES WILL OPEN EARLY, PROG. WILL
START APP 7.30
TICKET OUTLETS/TOILETS/COACHES FROM
AROUND ISLAND
TICKETS ON SALE FROM MAY 1ST WITH DE-
TAILS ON BANDS AND ACTS
IT IS STILL NOT TOO LATE TO SUGGEST
ACTS OR MAIL IN IF YOU ARE ONE.

Agiotfest Sponsors

[OCAY Property Services](#)

Fully licensed under Greek law, OCAY Property Services offers both land and property for sale, mostly in the central region of Corfu. They can also handle the entire design and construction of a home including all licences, taxes, etc.

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Daylong have been working in the compression hosiery market for over 50 years and have a wealth of experience in providing the right solution for their customers. They stock one of the widest ranges of products available in the UK including specialist medical products, sports ranges and a full range of fashionable support stockings and tights.

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The largest selection of British food in Greece. Favourite leading brands including Waitrose groceries and Iceland frozen foods. Plus a selection of confectionery, ice cream, soft drinks, beers & wine, dairy produce, household cleaners, personal care, newspapers, magazines and greetings cards.

[Sunrise Cars](#)

Discover the hidden beauties of the island with the hospitality and security of Sunrise Rent a Car. Situated on the main road opposite the customs buildings at the New Port, this company has been operating since 1980 and due to its experience can offer the best services and prices.

[Nikos Pouliasis](#)

A local and much-respected architect and Mekanikos, Mr Pouliasis has been designing houses across Corfu for many years. He is always kind, patient and fair-minded. Also, his rates are consistently competitive!

And:

**Boatman's World
NSK**

**Famous Grouse
Sofia Kasfiki**

**Sergio Grammatikos
Eco-Point**

Sally's Bar

Paul & Jan Scotter

Ken & Jan Harrop

Steve Dell

Steve Young

Jo & Mel Sperling

Lionel Mann

Sue Done

Michael Spiggos

Tavola Calda

Bill & June Williams

Spyros Hytiris

Brenda Pangrakitotis

Nikolas's Taverna, Agni

Vassilis Pandis

In Action gym

Star Bowl

Greg Zoxios

La Tabernita Mexicana

Barry & Stella Knight

David Dickinson

Sarah Young

Heather Skinner

Simon & Lin Baddeley

Bob & Jill Carr

Chas Clifton

Rob Groove

Village News

By
Dr. Lionel Mann

Last month we reported that Zaira had been discharged from hospital; it is with great regret that we now report that she has died, aged 82.

More happily we have been told that Wolfgang is making good recovery.

Spring flowers are blooming in wild profusion and leaves are appearing on the plane trees in the plateia. We have suffered one or two spectacular thunderstorms, but nobody has been washed away. There have been many days for sit-

ting out in the warm sunshine.

To judge from the bleating in the hotel garden preparations for Easter are well under way. This year Western and Eastern Easter are the same date, April 20th.

IN MEMORY OF

Too many Agiots and friends are dying lately. This is one article I'd rather not have.

Zaira Sourianou passed away on 15th of March at the home of her son Kostas, in Kastelani. following hospitalisation in September and a slow decline after release..

She was 82.

For years she had sat on her little front patio and watched the world go by. In previous times she had shared this occupation with her husband Ioannis. Since living in this small and well-loved street I have watched the leaves gradually fall, to be replaced by young shoots. Of the 'older folk', now only Kostas, Nitsa, Rika and Lionel remain of the originals.
R.I.P.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Ed,

In his March column, Lionel stated his belief that 'Europa [the European Union] is one of the greatest advances in the entire story of the human race'. Later in the article, he declares: 'Patriotism kills.

Nationalism slaughters. Chauvinism murders.' He desires to see nation states destroyed to prevent 'their lands [being] fought over and ravaged by foreign armies'. I'd like to deal with this here.

Forget Orwell at your peril. in '1984', the world no longer comprises nation states but is partitioned into three vast power blocks, which - despite the presumed destruction of the prior nation states with their ruinous notions of 'Patriotism ... Nationalism [and] Chauvinism' - still manage to exist in a condition of perpetual warfare. And does Lionel forget that it was NATO (a supranational body) that got itself involved in Bosnia, Serbia

and Kosovo (and nearly in Syria; could yet be); and does he not remember that supranational alliances stuck in their bloody fingers in Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya? A political and economic union of nation states is not going to prevent old men sending young ones to their death in warfare, though their own lands may not be the ones that are ravaged. If there's war with Russia over Ukraine, it'll be NATO which fights it.

In the case of Russia, Lionel is with me in liking Putin for sticking up for the right of his own country to remain sovereign and stay out of the race for Globalism. Let's get that right... in the World According to Lionel, Russia is permitted to look after its own national interests, but European nations are not to be trusted to do the same.

Nations, Lionel says, 'will have to sacrifice a sacred cow or two'. One which he believes Greece will have to sacrifice is the evening

shopping period. Businesses should not shut during the afternoon and reopen from 5.30 til late (many, including chain supermarkets and tourist shops, don't close anyway). So, I asked, they should be like Germany? 'YES THEY SHOULD!' was the angry reply (Lionel literally shakes with rage if you dare criticise the EU). My answer was that if they were forced into 9-5 opening, business would be almost non-existent on summer afternoons when locals go home for lunch and a doze. Mediterranean folk like to promenade, shop and socialise in the cool of THE EVENING; why should Germany have the right to reshape the custom of centuries, to alter a way of life which suits our climate, so different from theirs? People are just not going to comply.

He also believes that Greece would not be in its present pickle if it had been more like Germany. He doesn't see the present pickle was planned; instead, he truly believes it was the Greeks' own fault.

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Letters to the Editor
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Don't get me wrong; I sincerely hope, for entirely selfish reasons, that the UK stays in the EU (Less selfishly, I would always prefer for the UK to be in partnership with its nearest neighbours, rather than officially the 51st State of the USA). I greatly fear that a UK exit would provoke difficulties for Brit expats in Europe, since in theory we would not longer have the right to reside in EU regions. Would we have to present regular proof of foreign exchange, as in pre-EU days?

Would we be permitted to work? Would we be the target of nationalists like Golden Dawn? Would EU regions receive orders from on high to make life difficult for us, in revenge at the UK pull-out?

Trust that the EU is a benign organisation is misplaced, I believe. It is demonstrably undemocratic, run by a self-serving unelected elite, and such is the level of corruption that it has not had its accounts audited for nearly two decades. Grandiose regional programmes involving infrastructure and other projects simply serve as bribes to keep local authorities 'sweet' and in the pen (it is noticeable that most funding goes to local council projects). A good example can be viewed in Old Perithia, where the obligatory advertising board trumpets that nearly 100,000 euros has gone to fund the creation of a seven kilometre foot-path between the village and Krinous, a settlement lower down. Really? Out of that seven kilometres about four were pre-existing agricultural roads, and the central section of around three kilometres had been cleared a decade previously, when the Corfu Trail organisation opened up and waymarked an old donkey path, no longer used and choked with vegetation. (The Corfu

Trail, all 220 kilometres of it, was funded mostly by a private source to the tune of around a quarter of the Old Perithia path's budget - rather better value for money per kilometre, what?). If the very small interventions on this path - makeshift signs long stolen, picnic tables long rotted, and a portaloos permanently locked - cost more than a few thousand I should be surprised.

Your tax money goes on scams like this, scams which enable local council members to trouser your earnings. And yes, the EU knows what's going on and what's more condones it.

Back to Ukraine. Whatever your views on its politics, a democratically-elected government was overthrown by a gang of mainly fascist thugs, egged on by elements despatched from the EU and the USA (this is documented, not speculative). This is warmongering and empire-building by proxy, initiated in part by the organisation which Lionel believes is designed to stop 'incessant strife' on our continent. With a few notable exceptions, the mass media are spouting anti-Russia propaganda. The whole scenario is aimed at punishing Putin for daring to bring Ukraine more strongly into Russia's sphere of influence, and for rejecting the onward march of the Globalist corporations/New World Order - the ones who are the puppetmasters of the EU, which sold out long ago to the dollar NWO corporate elite which really runs things.

This elite wishes for a world in which everything is set up to suck wealth from ordinary people into their deep pockets. These people regard the common folk as no more than consumer units; they want us addicted to (corporate) fast food and health-damaging pharmaceuticals, fed with (corporate) agribusi-

ness-produced GMO rubbish, needy of their (corporate) oil and gas, accepting of their manipulated (corporate) wars, and entertained by their dumbed-down (corporate) media.

And the EU is enabling it.

Recommended reading: A Century of War: Anglo-American Oil Politics and the New World Order by William Engdahl. An alternative review of world history since 1815, which explains the real reason for events. Read it and you'll understand what's truly going on now. You can obtain a download with an Internet search.

I'll return to Nature Rambles next week...

Hilary Papeiti

Sent in by Paul Grove -



Micky Clark unveils his "Twiglets" for the first time in 2014 having driven 1,200 miles to be first in line for a ticket for the Agiotfest.

When Nitsa was Young

By
Lord Biro

Chapter 8: Princesses in Germany.



"Lula & Anna"

Kostas took his little Princesses over to Brindisi, up to Munich by train and then changing for Windischeschenbach and the new houses. The journey took about a day. At Munich station little Lula discovered a press-button fountain near the toilets. What a novelty! Kostas was beginning to wonder why his daughter had been downstairs for the toilet three times already. Whatever could be up? He was irritated because he had to leave the luggage upstairs unattended whilst he went to see what was happening. What was happening? Pools of water everywhere, that's what.

Nitsa was waiting in her dressing gown to welcome the children; she had not seen them for six months. Lula ran straight into her arms, she remembers.

Germany was new and exciting for the girls. Lula remembers everything was bright. Electric lights everywhere, not like home. For one week she and Anna were settling in and then they were packed off to the town every morning at 7.30 by bus to attend kindergarten two kilometers away, run by Nuns. These

ladies were strict but not cruel. Naughty children were put into a dark room but crafty Lula had worked out where the switch was and a chair to reach it. There were four Greek children in the school, the rest being German. A boy named Thomas bullied little Anna, she was terrified of him. Lula used to beat him up. She was very protective of her little sister. Every afternoon their father would walk from the factory to town to pick them up. There they would be standing, hand in hand waiting for him.



"Porcelain Factory"

Nitsa's job at the porcelain factory was to dip pieces into a glaze before firing; 6000 per day was her target. She had to wear protective gloves and stand all day, which did not help her troublesome back. She stood in a line of three or four women. Kostas and Nitsa both retold that the work was hard, but less so than the manual labour they had been used to in Corfu. Kostas' hourly rate was now two Marks and twelve pfennigs per hour, Nitsa was on one Mark and sixty pfennigs.

[At this point I was waiting for Kostas to get another bout of leg cramp, but he must be getting used to the format, so there was no need for Nitsa and the ointment, which was probably why she left the kitchen early, leaving her spouse to continue the history.]

Within three months the little Princesses could speak German. They liked it here. On the weekends they were taken on trips. They went to their first fair and saw their first Big Wheel. Lula saw her first Christmas tree and lights. On St Nicholas' Day Kostas watched his girls recite poems at the kindergarten and receive their presents. On a starker note, an hour away from Windischeschenbach they were taken to see a small crematorium from World War 11, where 60,000 had perished.

The factory was also impressive to young minds. It had seven stories and lifts! When Kostas and Nitsa worked overtime, there were other relatives from Corfu on hand to babysit; Nitsa's brothers Giorgos and Teo, and Kostas' sister Katina, who had her little boy Xari with her and her husband Nikos - Nikos later became the priest in Vatos.

This happy life lasted three years in Germany, with one paid holiday to Corfu after the first year. In late August 1965 it was ripe for a return to the island. It was time for some Greek schooling for the sisters. Grandad Ioannis had been running the kafeneio during their absence. But now the first tourists came to the village, young hippy travellers. No food in those days in the plateia, but beer, wine and cigarettes were in abundance.

There remained one last return to Germany for Kostas Halikia. In 1969 his sister Sofia recommended him for a good job in a paper factory in Dusseldorf. He earned seven and a half Marks per hour, a big increase on his earlier wage. Back home the taverna was becoming busy by the summer of 1970. Too busy for Nitsa and the girls. Marika [Kostas' sister] lent her husband Spiros to help work the place until Kostas' return later that year.

Greek Easter

By
Dr. Lionel Mann

My first encounter with the customs around the celebration of Easter in Greece came in New Zealand. I had gone there as organist and choir-master of St. Mark's Church in Wellington and as part of the deal I lived rent-free in a comfortable apartment in return for daily teaching English to three Greek boys. Their father, Vasili Papageorgio, has been Chief Engineer of a tanker torpedoed in the Atlantic in WW2. Torpedoed tankers became flaming infernos and by a miracle he escaped from the engine room and was rescued. He signed on to another ship, but on duty below deck with the possibility of another torpedoing took its toll; when they reached Auckland Vasili was sent to hospital. He liked New Zealand, its North Island climate similar to that of his native Zakynthos, so he stayed and after the war brought out his wife and some relatives to set up a chain of Greek restaurants and later diversified into real estate.

At the time of my arrival in 1965 Vasili was a millionaire, a J.P., leader of the growing Greek community in the country, had established an Orthodox Church in Wellington and brought out a Greek priest. However neither he nor his wife spoke much English and his sons were falling behind in school as they spoke only Greek at home, hence my requirement to teach them English and anything else as needed.

I was always invited to join them for Sunday dinner and they must have kept a watch for my approach as Vasili would meet me at the door with a glass of Scotch. Then one Sunday a few weeks after I arrive he met me with a glass of clear liquid. "Today special. Greek Easter. Try."

When I made to drink he told me to wait while he added some water and the liquid turned cloudy.

"You like?"

I did - and had another - and a third!

The following meal was my introduction to spicy Easter roast lamb as well as to red-dyed hard-boiled eggs, but I cannot say that I really enjoyed them as I was trying hard not to fall from my chair; it was also my introduction to the potency of ouzo! Throughout my time in Wellington I greatly appreciated that family's hospitality and came to relish their customs.

Many thousands from all over the world come to Corfu at Easter to witness the unique observances and to join in the celebrations, but few see the whole picture. It all starts six weeks earlier on Clean Monday, the beginning of the season of Lent which culminates in Paska. During that time the faithful are supposed to abstain from delicacies including meat. It would be interesting to know if local butchers' finances suffered in this period.

As the end of Lent approaches preparations for the great day intensify; debris left by the winter storms is cleared and almost everything that does not move is painted white. Visitors are warned against standing still for too long.

Great Week starts on Palm Sunday with a large procession through Town in the morning. It is a very solemn affair with many priest, military, students, representatives of organisations and a crowd of townspeople marching slowly to the mournful music of a number of bands.

Similar processions take place every evening from Monday to Friday and the largest of all from ten o'clock on Saturday morning, Holy Saturday, Easter Eve. Huge crowds gather to watch this and its sequel, but everyone takes care not to stand under a balcony or window from which a red cloth hangs. When the clock of St. Spiridon's Church strikes eleven crockery, ranging in size from teacups to giant six-foot urns, is hurled from those positions. All are filled with water to restrict the flights of shards and some spectators become slightly soggy. It is said that this spectacle represents anger at Judas for betraying Jesus. Bands now march around playing cheerful music and often accompanied by gaily-clad danc-

ing majorettes.

Through the afternoon Town is filled with families enjoying a day out.

At ten in the evening top-rank priests meet in a church near the Liston to begin the Easter liturgy while crowds start to gather around the bandstand. About fifteen minutes before midnight the priests process to the bandstand to complete the liturgy accompanied by singing of the Municipal Choir and surrounded by thousands, everyone with a lighted candle. Dramatically at midnight the Metropolitan proclaims, "Christos anesti!" (Christ is risen.)

All around make the response, "Alithia anesti!" (Truly he is risen.) and the choir sing the Greek traditional Easter hymn, "Christ is risen from death." That is not well heard as a spectacular noisy display of fireworks bursts from the Old Fortress.

Everyone now goes off to break their Lenten fast, often with kokoretsi, a meaty concoction; it is delicious, but you are seriously advised not to ask what are its ingredients.

The next morning, Easter Sunday, the entire island is pervaded by the aroma of roasting lamb and later everybody sits down to the Easter feast. Easter Monday is a national holiday in order to allow everyone to recover.

In Agios Ioannis, as in many other villages, there is an evening candle-lit procession round the village with priest, acolytes, villagers and a band or a male-voice choir on Good Friday. Towards midnight on Saturday a candle-bearing crowd gathers in the plateia to be joined by priest and all from the church for the end of the liturgy until at midnight there is the usual proclamation and a very good firework display before we go off to eat. The Sunday feast is also well observed!

In New Zealand, where they are probably well-informed in such matters, I was told that sheep-meat is lamb only if the animal was no more than a year old. From one to two years its meat is hogget, and from an older sheep the meat is mutton. No comment!

Aunty Lula's Love-bites

Bake Courgette Souffle

Ingredients

2 Tbsp. Oil
750g Courgettes, grated
50g Butter
50g Flour
200 ml Milk
3 Eggs, separated
Salt & Pepper
Pinch of Nutmeg

Go:

1. Heat the oil in a large pan, add the courgettes and cook gently for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
2. Melt the butter in another pan, remove from the heat and stir in the flour. Add the milk and mix

well. Return to the heat and slowly bring to the boil stirring. Simmer for about 3 minutes.

3. Cool slightly then add the egg yolks, courgettes, salt, pepper and nutmeg to taste.
4. Whisk the egg whites until stiff and carefully fold into the mixture.
5. Turn into a greased 1.2 litres oven-proof dish and place in a roasting pan containing 2.5 cm water.
6. Cook in pre-heated moderately hot oven, 190°C for about 1 hour, or until it is cooked.

Bon appetit!

THE PASSING OF A DEAR FRIEND

Doris Alice DARKE (affectionately know as Dorie) passed away peacefully early on Sunday, 23 March and was interred in the British Cemetery on Monday, 24 March 2014.

Dorie was a dear friend of mine and I will write a few lines about her, and her life in Corfu, in the May issues of the Anglican Church Pulse magazine and The Agiot magazine.

Lucy STEELE, M.B.E.
Former British Vice Consul
Corfu

Video Corner

2 Cellos

<http://www.sharedots.com/2-men-with-their-cellos-produce-most-incredible-song-cover-ever-this-will-blow-your-mind-122.html>

Johnny Rotten

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fj2Xb4wgCL0>

Pete and Dud

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvQq_tqB0jA

While the cat's away

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7D5bPLxU8U8>

Candyman

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gbjC9Co0pBc>

Nice but dim

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cjd842n0dhQ>

There but for

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10152013286522499>

Photo Corner



“Carnival - Corfu town”

Fleshpots Of The North

By
Mark Thompson

Howdy doodly doo (Red Dwarf season IV, episode 4 'White Hole' broadcast, 7th March 1991) and I'd like to give out a big Episkepsi *Kaleemera/ Kaleespera/Kherete/Kalee neekhta* (depending upon the time of day that you're reading this) to Mr. & Mrs. Les Woods of Ellesmere Port, The Wirral, Wirral, Merseyside, Greater Merseyside, Greater Manchester (never) Cheshire, West Cheshire, Chester West and Chester? anyway, *in the North West*. That town of some 80,000+ people that has added so much to the cultural 'wealth' of the UK by offering up such artistic and sporting icons as; Russ Abbot, Stan & Rita Cullis, Anastasia Dobromyslova and Johannah Leedham to name but a few. However, and this is a rhetorical question and not part of the quiz, when will the money ever be found to enable the Ellesmere Canal be completed and the connection to the Severn River be made?

Talking of 'Whitby Locks' and 'Whitby Road' the last time I was on Ellis Island in New York I saw, amongst the souvenirs, memorabilia and bric-a-brac collated and displayed by the US Immigration Service a score card for the Whitby Cricket Club in North Yorkshire. It struck me as sad if not pathetic that some Yorkshire man, and I think it's fair to assume it was a man, had hauled such a card all the way across the north of England and the short hop over the Atlantic only to lose or abandon it at the point of entry to the US.

The back story behind the presence of the card might be boring and/or of little interest, however it would

make a change from *Don Corleone!*

Now the answer to a previous quiz: Sasa Stolic won this years' Belgrade charity fun run (the Race of Santa's) to raise money for the children's charity attempting to combat **Epidermolysis Bullosa**. Many entrants dress as Santa Claus and the race takes place between the two Christmases. In the west, as is well known, we celebrate Christmas on the 25th of December, however according to the Serbian Orthodox calendar Christmas falls on 6/7th of January when we in the west are in the midst of Epiphany.

If you go to the Daily Telegraph online there is a video with brief highlights of the race and an interview with Stolic, a middle-distance and marathon runner, perhaps something of a 'ringer' in such a fun-run. Now for real quiz question, give me the link between Roberta Flack and Great Yarmouth. I don't mean the famous summer residency that she undertook at the Butlitz holiday camp. As a diversion it's interesting to look at those who also appeared that summer. Heading the bill, with the kind permission of Bill Cotton Director General of the BBC, were the Black and White Minstrels and let's just pause there for a moment. Looking back it's hard to believe that this show ran from 1958 until 1978 and the sixties had audiences of over 20 million, including I'm embarrassed to say the entirety of my immediate family, apparently without comment or complaint. Even when it was cancelled the BBC maintained that this was due primarily to a change in policy to reduce 'variety style' programming.

Still to quote the first line of The

Go-Between, L.P. Hartley *The past is a foreign country, they do things differently there.*

Back to Butlitz, the 'big band sound' was provided by Kenny Ball and his jazz men alternating with Acker Bilk and his jazz men. Sharing the vocal duties with Roberta were Kathy Kirby, Helen Shapiro and Petula Clark and the novelty act was Shirley Abicair and her zither. Meanwhile on Friday nites to offer a 'little blue for't 'Dads' was Bernard Manning. With this galaxy of stars plus Watney's Red Barrel, Double Diamond 'working wonders', Whitbread Tankard 'the pint that thinks it's quart', a Castella cigar for 'the price of a pint' and a snowball with a cherry for the 'little lady' it must have been a great *neet art*.

Whilst this is all fascinating the quiz question relates to a musical link between Miss Flack and the aforementioned seaside town.

Big Lent started for us here in Greece with *Katheara Deftera* (Clean Monday) on the 3rd of March. In many places in Greece this is preceded, on Sunday, by the last *apokria* and throughout Greece, indeed even in Corfu town, there are parades, parties, people dressing-up in custom, in some places even waving chocolate phalluses or wearing skimpy underwear on their heads, here in Episkepsi we have dancing priests.

As for Monday, traditionally, in the NE of the island, many gather on the beach at Almiros to fly kites and consume ouzo meze. For our take on the festivities at *spiti Thompson* see below: oysters with either Guinness and /or dry white wine.

Fleshpots of the North
Continued from Page 8

The essence of Clean Monday is not to eat anything which contains blood, hence the shellfish but not fish also squid, octopus etc. Also on this day only white *taramasalata*, I kid you not, it tastes the same just looks different. So if you can't get white you should eat the pink with your eyes closed.

That Monday morning one of the priests of our village greeted me in tradition fashion, as follows; *Hello Monsieur* to signify the start of the fun.

Now for news of the Corfu Lite Railway. On the day that researchers at Queen Mary College, University of London revealed that children are regularly ingesting dangerous amounts of salt which put them at risk of high blood pressure, heart disease and strokes in later life the 'Fat Controller' announced that without delay the railway would cease to use heavily salted water in their steam engines and thus reduce the risk of passive salt absorption.

Also the railway will, with immediate effect, cease to burn sweetened wood and coal in their engines. As is well known such fuel with sugar added burns at a much higher temperature and thus makes such fuel

more economic. However research has revealed that at high temperatures the caramel given off from the burning fuel combines with surrounding oxygen. When breathed in such sugar-rich air can in one or two mouthfuls contain more than adult's safe daily sugar consumption.

The railway accepts the evidence of 'passive sugar consumption' with enhanced fuel burnt in this way and has chosen to act without delay. In the same way the 'Fat Controller' has embarked on a regime of diet and exercise and thus hopes to be known hereafter as the 'Sylph-like' or 'Wraith-like' Controller.



Herewith are a couple of photographs of equipment recently acquired by the railway. The illustrations show a guards' lamp in two of its

three functions. The third being white light which the guards traditionally used, whilst in the van, to illuminate *The Sporting Life* and thus enable to the guards to complete

their betting slips, but that need not concern us here.

As the second quiz question this month please tell me the link between the lamp shown and the *Tour de France*. And as we say in Yorkshire *Eeh by gum lad, Allez Sir Bradley Wiggo!* The usual competition rules apply.

Mark Thompson, in the *fleshpots and on the rivet*.



whyatt.com.au © Tim Whyatt

Corfu Weather Statistics

	Max	Avg	Min
Max Temperature	22°C	17°C	12°C
Mean Temperature	16°C	13°C	10°C
Min Temperature	11°C	9°C	6°C
Heating Degree Days (base 65)	15	10	4
Cooling Degree Days (base 65)	0	0	0
Growing Degree Days (base 50)	11	5	0
Dew Point	14°C	8°C	-1°C
Precipitation	17.0 mm	2.7 mm	0.0 mm
Wind	42 km/h	8 km/h	0 km/h
Gust Wind	63 km/h	48 km/h	40 km/h
Sea Level Pressure	1027 hPa	1014 hPa	994 hPa

Read more at:

http://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/LGKR/2013/9/1/MonthlyHistory.html?req_city=NA&req_state=NA&req_stat-ename=NA#PFq1VRYHlbugcTGf.99

Nick the Clock's World

Malaysia Airlines Flight 370: "Patents Patents Patents?"
2014 03 14

From: 4key.net

This update on [Malaysia Airlines flight 370](#) is about an online message and e-mail that is currently circulating on the internet.

The message is posted below:

"Have you pieced together the puzzle of missing flight 370 to Beijing China ?? If not, here are your missing pieces.

Patents Patents Patents

Four days after the missing flight MH370 a patent is approved by the Patent Office, 4 of the 5 Patent holders are Chinese employees of Freescale Semiconductor of Austin TX. Patent is divided up on 20% increments to 5 holders.

Peidong Wang, Suzhou, China, (20%)

Zhijun Chen, Suzhou, China, (20%)

Zhihong Cheng, Suzhou, China, (20%)

Li Ying, Suzhou, China, (20%)
Freescale Semiconductor (20%)

If a patent holder dies, then the remaining holders equally share the dividends of the deceased if not disputed in a will. If 4 of the 5 dies, then the remaining 1 Patent holder gets 100% of the wealth of the patent.

That remaining live Patent holder is Freescale Semicon-

ductor.

Who owns Freescale Semiconductor ??

Jacob Rothschild through Blackstone who owns Freescale.

Here is your motive for the missing Beijing plane.

As all 4 Chinese members of the Patent were passengers on the missing plane.

Patent holders can alter the proceeds legally by passing wealth to their heirs. However, they cannot do so until the Patent is approved. So when the plane went missing, the patent had not been approved.

Thus, Rothschild gets 100% of Patent once Patent holders declared deceased."

The patent that got this online message started is this one, US 008671381, from March 11, 2014:

Saved copy:<http://truthnewsinternational.files.wordpress.com/2014/03/us008671381.pdf>

Original: [A](#), [B](#)

The names listed on the patent, i.e. Wang Peidong, Chen Zhijun, Cheng Zhihong and Ying Li are the same as in the online message. However, according to the March 8, 2014, [passenger manifest \(original\)](#) of Malaysia Airlines flight 370 **these persons were not on that plane**. If they were then their names are not listed.

Were there Freescale employees on board? Yes. And also at least one from IBM.

Is Freescale Semiconductor owned by Blackstone?

On April 27, 2013, [Bloomberg](#) published an article about the company in which it is confirmed that Freescale is indeed a Blackstone venture:

"Blackstone-Owned Freescale Rises as Forecast Tops Estimates: Freescale Semiconductor Ltd. (FSL), the chipmaker mostly owned by a private-equity group including Blackstone Group LP (BX) and TPG Capital, rose after predicting second-quarter sales that may exceed some analysts' estimates."

Is Rothschild linked to Blackstone? Yes, he is a [Member of the International Advisory Board](#).

Is Blackstone one of the parties who are responsible for the missing airplane, flight 370?

The answer to that question can likely only come from those who ordered/organized the [AWACS mission](#) of March 8, 2014.



MouseHouse

MouseHouse is a charming little gem, nestling in a valley on the fringes of Agios Nikolaos, in rural south-east Corfu. It is surrounded by lovely gardens, perfect for a truly 'get away from it all' Corfu holiday. If you prize above all else safe beaches, sun and peace, this is arguably as good

as it gets in Corfu.

The house is comfortably furnished with two bedrooms, both with private balconies and two shower rooms. You will be able to use a third bedroom with a large double bed at an extra charge.

Additionally MouseHouse Penthouse is just above MouseHouse on the upper floor. It may be rented separately from the main house, or is just as suitable for a group of eight persons occupying both floors of this sweet home. MouseHouse Penthouse is the perfect romantic getaway for couples in love. It is reached up a winding garden from the MouseHouse garden, at the top of which is a terrace ideal for sunbathing or sitting out overlooking the countryside with your evening drinks.

Inside is beautifully appointed open plan with sloping ceiling with a dining area, neat kitchenette and comfy bed. The so sweet corner shower-room completes this womb of dreaminess.

Agios Nikolaos is a sleepy village on the tourist-free south east coast of Corfu. It is tucked in the shelter of a large bay, not many miles from Corfu's second largest town, Lefkimmi.

A few minutes stroll away from MouseHouse are some of the best (and little-known) beaches on the island. The two tavernas at Notos Beach are places to die for, with their beautiful gardens tumbling down to the crystal sea below. Sunbeds are right next to the calm blue waters and these are fabulous, shallow and safe places for children to play, as you dine *al fresco*.

Prices range from €440 to €990 (£370-£830) per week for MouseHouse. The Penthouse costs just €300 (£250) per week all year round

A reduction of 10% is offered for two-week reservations and a 10% reduction is applied for a repeat booking from a former guest. It is available for bookings throughout the year. Check out the available dates and book your holiday on www.ocayvillascorfu.com.

Available dates as of April 1st

MouseHouse: April 1st - May 19th

June 2nd - June 16th

July 16th - July 30th

August 16th - August 29th

September 18th - September 29th

October 8th onwards

PentHouse: April 1st - April 18th

April 28th - May 19th

June 2nd - August 20th

September 18th onwards

NB The third bedroom mentioned above is now included in the price.

Custom-built homes in Corfu

Another bespoke construction is taking shape in the valley area known locally as Vrissi, a little way down from the church. This is expected to be complete later in the year.

Every build is individual and based on the requirements of the customer. Please feel free to mail in with your enquiry, should you have an interest.

We take great pride in our builds and can say with a little immodesty, they are good-value for money, well-built and have to be a home in which we would be content to live ourselves.



"OCAY Construction"

Go to www.propertycorfu.org

Keep posted on new additions

Mail in for your individual enquiry

Or telephone (0030) 26610 58177

Ocay tailor-make your Corfu dream.

The World of Simon

By
Simon Baddeley

Παρά τις προβλέψεις και τη χθεσινο-βραδινή βροχή, το πρωινό της 25^{ης} Μαρτίου ήταν γενικά ηλιόλουστο, γεγονός που επέτρεψε την πραγματοποίηση της μικρής παρέλασης που πραγματοποιείται τα τελευταία χρόνια στο χωριό. Μετά τη Δοξολογία στον Άη-Γιώργη και τον συναισθηματικά φορτισμένο επετειακό λόγο του Διευθυντή του Ειδικού Γυμνασίου Κέρκυρας, η τελετή συνεχίστηκε στην πλατεία του χωριού. Εκεί, υπό τους ήχους της Μπάντας, οι εκπρόσωποι των τοπικών αρχών και φορέων κατέθεσαν δάφνινα σταφάνια στο Μνημείο του Άγνωστου Στρατιώτη. Η κατάθεση στεφάνου από τους μικρούς μαθητές του Νηπιαγωγείου ξεχώρισε...



Ακολούθως η μικρή πομπή βάδισε τον κεντρικό δρόμο του χωριού, με τη Φιλαρμονική να συνεχίζει για την Κάτω Κορακιάνα και αργότερα για την πόλη και τους υπόλοιπους να κάνουν στάση στο Κοινοτικό Κατάστημα για ένα κέρασμα. Εκεί, ο ιερέας(παπα-Κώστας), η Πρόεδρος της Φιλαρμονικής Δώρα Μεταλληνού, ο Πρόεδρος του Τοπικού

Συμβουλίου Φωκίων Μάνδουλας, ο Πρόεδρος του Συλλόγου Ανω-Κορακιαντών Αθηνών Σπύρος Κένταρχος και η τελετάρχης και μέλος του Τοπικού Συμβουλίου Ειρήνη Βιτουλαδίτη, είχαν την ευκαιρία για μία γενικού περιεχομένου, συζήτηση...

Υ.Γ.1.Η δυτική πλευρά από τα κελιά του Άη-Γιώργη χρίζει όπως φαίνεται, άμεσης επισκευής, όπως παρατήρησαν διερχόμενοι κάτοικοι, που παρακολούθησαν τη σημερινή παρέλαση.

**** *

This is one of the best briefings on the Greek War of Independence that I have come across, recognising the myths and respecting them but also showing the role of chance and the machinations of the great European and Ottoman powers, ones in which the wondrous land is embroiled to this day...

A comment in Facebook during a discussion of Greek Independence Day on 25th March 2014: Corfu was never but for a matter of weeks occupied by the Ottomans...as a British citizen I have been brought up knowing 'we' have not been occupied by an invader since 1066; that we have been a haven for so many who have lost their country. England, Britain, has been *threatened* with invasion but we have never had to fight off a foreign yoke in our midst - one that in the case of Greece has dominated us for centuries, taken away our capital city, one which the rest of the world rightly calls Istanbul but which Greeks still call

Κωνσταντινούπολις. The passion, glory, violence and cruelty of the Greek War of Independence are difficult for 'us' to understand. Even as I perpetuate my own, it can be difficult for me to see myths regarded as more important than history. It was only after I had learned a little more about the events of those decades at the start of the 19th century that I appreciated the words of Solomos' National Anthem "I recognise you by the fearsome sharpness, of your sword"; that I understood why Greeks are more protective of and sensitive about the honour of their flag, which signifies in its blue and white stripes, the colour of the Greek sky, nine syllables of the phrase 'Freedom or Death' Ελευθερία ή Θάνατος. When I hear the Greek National Anthem - 'Υμνος εις την Έλευθερίαν - I get a lump in my throat; my eyes burn with tears, recalling that when Britain stood alone shortly before I was born, Greece of all the Balkan nations stood against the invader winning, before she was overwhelmed by the might of Hitler's arms, one of the first victories for the Allies. I detest flag-waving nationalism but I have to admit that other than my own I know no flag other than the blue and white - Γαλανόλευκη - that fills me with greater love and respect for another country.

Obnoxious Al out of retirement yet again

Everyone wants to be happy; that is an indisputed fact. Yet because happiness is such a personal thing and can mean different things to people, it is difficult to define, capture and keep.

We all have a responsibility to be as happy as possible, both to ourselves and to others. We owe it to our families, friends, employers and society in general because happiness makes a person more efficient, less accident-prone, healthier, more helpful and generally much more pleasant to have around. We all look more attractive when we smile, and happiness is infectious. To spread cheerfulness is a very important thing in this world of ours, if only to offset the spate of gloom and despondency which attacks us on all sides; newspapers, radios, T.V. sets and, of course, people, all help to keep our spirits low. Yet happiness is a habit, like any other. It takes patience and persistence, but it can be achieved in the most unlikely circumstances, and the rewards are far greater than can be described here. It is summed up in a few words; the only person ever responsible for your personal happiness is YOU!

Why does happiness elude us? Most of us can look back at some period in our lives when we were happy; we may even find that in the future this time was happy, right now! But how often do we fail to actually experience that happiness and enjoy it at the time? We are usually too busy worrying about things and people beyond our control and events that probably won't happen anyway, to make the most of happiness we have in our hands. This happiness in hindsight tells us something important and revealing about ourselves; that our minds much more readily assimilate and recall pleasant times than tragic ones. Old soldiers are far more likely to remember the close comradeship, the letters from home, and

the longed-for leaves than the horror of battle and the hardships they suffered, because the mind has its own built-in mechanism against depression and will work hard to preserve our happiness if we will only give it a chance.

If we make our happiness conditional upon the possession of material things or the behaviour of another person, be it child, loved one, or friend, then we are not likely ever to gain the peace of mind that is necessary for complete happiness. If we feel that happiness is something just around the corner we may find that, like tomorrow, it never comes.

There are so many things to enjoy here and now. Everyone can find satisfaction in simple things: in doing a job well, in giving help and support to somebody else, in being able to walk, see, hear and talk, able to eat and enjoy food and drink; to give of ourselves in love and friendship, to improve our lives and personalities in every direction, to do all we can to make the lives of other people easier, and to use any creative gifts we possess to write, paint or cultivate flowers and vegetables. All these things are able to give us faith in ourselves, and that is a tremendous step forward in our quest for happiness. The happiest people are those who ask the least from life, and who make their own happiness despite their circumstances. We all know that money cannot buy happiness; in fact, that riches bring their own brand of worry and care.

Learning to be happy, or rather to experience the happiness which we already have, is a fascinating exercise. We can use our imagination to build in our minds the sort of person we want to be, and then work towards becoming that person. We can relive small successes and triumphs over and over again in our minds, so that our faith and belief in ourselves is strengthened. When we have

problems (and who doesn't?), we can quietly consider them one by one and decide if there is anything we can actually do to improve matters. If there is not, then we can mentally "wrap them up and put them aside" because wasting precious time and effort on things over which we have no control is negative and never achieves anything. Dealing with worries in this way is a marvellous cure for insomnia; as each problem is either dealt with or put aside we feel them leaving space in our minds, for peace and sleep will follow.

We can stop feeling guilty over past failures and learn to forgive ourselves and make a fresh start. Often these feelings of guilt stop us feeling happiness, because we believe we have no right to forget them and be happy. This also is negative thinking of a particularly dangerous type because it adds to our feelings of insecurity and unworthiness, and acts as a very effective barrier to happiness.

Here are some ways to help you achieve happiness; try them and see how much they can help you.

1. Learn to like yourself. Work on improving yourself in all directions. When you are the kind of person acceptable to yourself, then you are much more likely to accept that others will like and love you, and your relationships with everyone will improve immeasurably.
2. Smile often; it somehow helps to make you feel more cheerful, and can become a habit. If you smile at someone and they smile back, you are a long way towards spreading cheerfulness and can hardly avoid being more cheerful yourself. Of course, do not go around glaring like a Cheshire cat! To be sincere, a smile has to come from the heart.

3. Do not waste your valuable time by worrying over things over which you have no control. This is negative thinking, causing you loss of sleep and stealing your peace of mind.
4. Work creatively and with imagination towards improving your life and circumstances. Imagination is far more effective than strength of will and if you imagine yourself as successful and happy you will become so. Try it and see!
5. Learn to enjoy your relationships with others without feeling that they are vital to your happiness. Do not make demands on them that they find difficult to fulfil. Be prepared to give more to a relationship than you take out, and always be a little kinder than necessary.

6. Try to avoid gloomy people and depressing discussions. Always be ready to listen sympathetically and give helpful advice, but do not be drawn into general gossip about the terrible state of the world and the wickedness of people. This is not being selfish, just realistic.

Look for reasons for pleasure and satisfaction in your life; they are always there, and are much better dwell on than the things that have gone wrong. Happiness, like depression, is self-generating. Believe you are content, and you have more chance than ever of achieving contentment than if you constantly grumble and fret about what is less than perfect about your life.

8. Start each day by deciding that you are going to be happy and successful. Remember that each day is a fresh start, and the beginning of the rest of your life! Sobering thought!
9. End each day by conscientiously "wrapping up and setting aside" problems which you cannot improve or solve. Dwelling on these worries only achieves your own depression.
10. Remember that the happiest people ask the least from life. Their reasons for happiness and peace of mind come from within themselves and they have created their own peaceful world, based on self-knowledge and total self-acceptance which is quite independent of other people and circumstances.

**THE PLACE TO BE HAPPY IS HERE.
THE TIME TO BE HAPPY IS NOW.**

AGIOT MUSIC FESTIVAL 2014

For the 6th year running we will be presenting our Annual Rock, Folk and Jazz Music Festival at our well-equipped venue at Agios Ioannis. This will take place on Saturday, 30 August 2014

For more information on the event you can visit the many sites available containing all the latest news; views and everything you will want to know about this increasingly popular event:

www.theagiot.net
www.agiotfest.com
www.facebook.com/agiotfest

I want to remind all our regular friends and supporters that I will again be holding a **RAFFLE** which, as in previous years, will be full of surprises and good quality prizes.

Ticket prices will be reasonable and we will be supporting some local charities. The success of the Raffle, and the amount of the donations, will depend on your support.

I look forward to seeing all our old friends, and new friends, too and I know we can make it a night to remember!

Lucy STEELE, M.B.E.
Raffle Organiser