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# Agiot

114th Edition



Street
ballet
Havana,
an
excellent
photo by
Ron
Woolven

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# Saturday Walks

**Saturday, 8 April.** STRINILAS: Strinilas: Route depends on weather and conditions (2-4 hours \*\* or \*\*\*\* NEW). Meet in Strinilas Square, 10.00 for 10.30 start. Lunch at Stamatis Taverna, Strinilas. NOTE: I shall TRY and inform email-subscribed walkers of the plan beforehand.

Saturday, 15 April. SINARADES: The Kambos to Pelekas, and return via the Corfu Trail (2 ½ hours \*\*). Meet in Sinarades Square, 10.30 for 11.00 start. Lunch at Arhontariki Taverna, Sinarades. NOTE: We are meeting later than usual to catch the 11 am Pot-Throwing.

Saturday, 22 April. BENITSES: Agii Paraskevi Church and the Waterworks (2 hours \*\*). Meet at the Harbour Square, Benitses, coffee bar on the left of the 'Old Village' street entrance, 10.00 for 10.30 start. Lunch to be arranged. NOTE: A relatively easy walks around the back of Benitses, with great views.

Saturday, 29 April. KOURAMADES: Two Picturesque Villages (1 ½ - 2 hours \*\*). Meet at the Blue Bus Turnaround, at the start of Kouramades – turn right just after Kastellani, following the signs for the village, 10.00 for 10.30 start. Lunch at Arhontariki Taverna, Sinarades. NOTE: Beautiful Kouramades and Kalafationes will be the villages visited.

Saturday, 6 May. KRINI: PICNIC WALK - Paths to Angelokastro (1 ½ hours \*\*). Meet in Krini Village Square, 10.30 for 11.00 start. Picnic Lunch on the glorious Krini Threshing Floor. NOTE: The picnic is shared. Bring a dish as part of a buffet, plus your own choice of drink. A short walk to the picnic spot after the main walk.

Saturday, 13 May. ERMONES: Tsamourou Hillside and the Theotoki Valley (2 hours \*\*\*). Meet at Dizi Bar, Gran Mediterraneo Hotel gate, Ermones, 10.00 for 10.30 start. Lunch at Nafsika Restaurant, Ermones Beach. NOTE: A slightly shorter version of this walk, covering some new ground with great views. Chance to swim before lunch.

Subsequent walks will be decided on a week-by-week basis, depending on temperature conditions.



# Cuba

By By Paul McGovern

Cuba, that land of mystery far across the sea, that has always beguiled. Well, it makes a change from Pelekas.

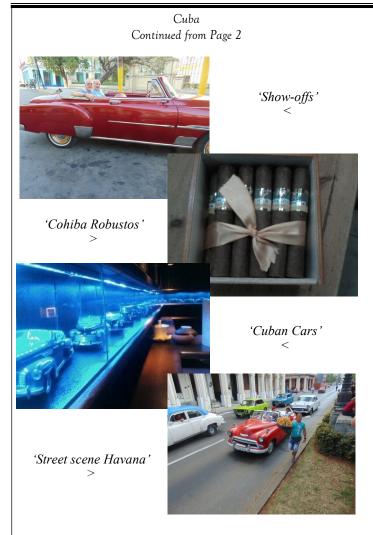
Four old pals went together- we called ourselves, rather grandly, the Musketeers. More like Reindeers, but never mind.

A bit of a haul across the ocean and plenty of time for the knee-joints to seize up. But then, we are there!

A taxi is haggled and we are whisked into the city of Havana and our Hotel, the Caribbean, not Grand but then neither are we. Could we be in Greece? The rooms we pre-booked are not all available! We have been Cubaned!

Next day we are hitting the boulevards [ at a gentle walking pace] and our adventure has begun. Cars, cars, cars, is the first impression, from the heady days of the fifties and sixties; Packards, Cadillacs, Pontiacs, you name it, own the streets. Trevor and I are captured by our first 'guide', Luis. Amazingly, he speaks Greek. Did he follow us on the plane? He shepherds us to a bank to change our useless European currency. He then escorts us to a pleasant first-floor Mojito bar. This is fun. Later, he gets me Cohiba Robusto cigars on the Black Market at a fraction of the shop price. Lunch at a place called Guaiirito and then we are showing off.

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In the evening we are eating again with Dave and Ron [the kilos are going on fast] and then a visit to unimaginable slums with rotting stairs and floorboards and a drunken youth falling through his own door, right off its hinges- and landing atop it perfectly spread-eagled on his back, grinning throughout.

Characters are appearing continuously about our hotel reception, our muster area. Alex, a simple soul who is tearful for his dying Mum in hospital. Alfie, with fingers in many pies, who keeps springing out from behind buildings at us and who soon has us eating at his pet restaurant. Barbarita, she is our maid who leaves fresh towels on our beds made heart-shaped.

Everywhere in the faded, glorious streets the fleets of old, wonderfully-preserved limos dominate. The world and his cousins pass our hotel windows and shuffle back and forth through our foyer. People are generally friendly and make eye contact, wear bright clothes and say hello; should I better say Hola, from thirteen-year-olds to midgets.

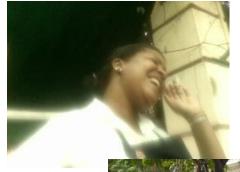


'Grand Colonial Buildings'





Not far from our hotel we have found an oasis from the mid-day sun, called Las Terrizas De Predo. Victoria here invariably waits at our table. She has invited us to a meal at her home in Compostella. We accept. In the central reservation of the dual carriageway youths of both sexes are performing a ballet for free. The lad pictured here is a true virtuoso, miming a teetering drunkard while on his tiptoes. Cuban coffees and a visit to the Seville Hotel, ex-haunt of social charmers like Al Capone, their pictures proudly adorning the walls.



'Victoria'

'Wonderful mime in ballet



Continued on Page 4

Omnipresent, smiley Alfie has shown Trevor another of 'his' family restaurants, so tonight we visit the immaculate Industria 8 [it is not at all industrial but it does shine like a hyacinth in the compost of the surrounding slums]. Inside is a vault. We are introduced to his two young sisters, very smart in matching uniforms. A girl is playing keyboards on a raised platform in the corner. Cuban soup is good. We have a companion. His name is James and he is from Bismark, North Dakota. He is a rancher, ex-Secretary of the State of North Dakota ,and ex-lollipop salesman from London. You can't make this stuff up. And Alfie steals the show by joining musicians on stage and playing superbly the bongos. I put my Agiotfest band on his thin wrist.

Next day we are off and away to Trinidad in a taxi, some two hundred miles away. Ron and Dave have pre-booked but their nice landlady soon has Trevor and I billeted in a nearby street, in opposite Casas. All three lodgings are scrupulously clean. The four of us head into the small city centre and find excellent filleted fish in a restaurant at sensible prices.

This weekend is for relaxing and exploring the quaint old town, living in a different century, even different from Greece. Clip-cop. clip-clop of horse shoes on the streets, many dogs a-limping on three legs, colonies of bright yellow-tailed lizards scurrying into their homes at the bases of rotting doors, buskers in sleepy squares, mango ice-cream cones to die for; four or five hours of such wandering paid me back later with sunburn to my bald pate.





'Trinidad Map'

I'm off for more of the same stuff pre-dawn the following morning, immersing myself in the length and breadth of this tiny city, and mingling with workers on their way to work and smartly -dressed, uniformed schoolchildren. A few of the kilos have dropped off this weekend, I hope.

On the Monday I reunite with my companions but there is confusion at breakfast. My landlady Ana thinks the four of us are eating at my casa but Magaly [Dave and Ron's landlady] has set a table at her place for four also. Ana says 'no problemo' but her eyes say different, so out of courtesy I dine at Ana's alone but arrange for the four of us to have our last breakfast with her the following day. This evening we dine at Gilberto and Noris' Casa, where Trevor has been staying. For 10 Pesos a head [roughly equivalent to 10 Euros] we are magnificently served in the rear courtyard, on fish and pork. Gilberto plies us with 'thick' Mojitos and films us singing-not a pretty sight. Next morning, he is still on play-back and chuckling away to himself.

'Ana in her breakfast room'



Cienfuegos is next, a modern harbour and resort, laid out in American-block style. Again, Trevor and I are homeless but Gilberto has sorted us out in advance with a phone-call.

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We take up our residence at Las Adas Hostal. We are warmly received by a largish, youngish black lady with pearly smile, who introduces herself as Adita. Her and her mother Ada run this quaint and spotless retreat, which has but the two rooms for rent. Those two ladies plus Adita's daughter Brenda, occupy the remainder of the dwelling.

'Uncle Trevor entertaining'



This is to be our home for the next six nights, and home is about the right word; we could not have been treated better. The first night we walk to our friends' Hostal some blocks away. Over the road is a good restaurant and again we are eating for 10 Pesos per head, including wine. Dave and I share a large paella. Rain is brewing but does not materialise. Back at Las Adas Trevor is playing hoop-la in the corridor with Brenda. She is very happy, chuckling and giggling, as she outpaces two old white fellas, with her Gran watching us from the shadows. Exhaustion sets in and we retire early, but happy.

At dawn I walked the road out of town to Santa Clara for an hour out and an hour back, watching Cuba go to work again in this industrious city.



'Boss'

After a filling breakfast of fruit, juices, eggs, rolls and coffee Adita lends me her mobile so I can ring my bank who, helpfully, have blocked my debit card. It is difficult in the extreme to ring out of Cuba, but this fine lady saves my bacon by cycling three times to a shop to buy credit for her mobile, which is swiftly eaten away by the phone queue and security checks at

the banking centre. At last I get through and get unblocked, thanks to Adita.

'Adita'



Tonight I went in search of music and found an exciting quartet at 7e quedaras. I asked them if they would like to come to Agiotfest. Did they believe me? At breakfast on Thursday Adita gives us a protracted social history lesson and gives me a thrashing at chess, chortling and gloating all the way through. She treats Trevor and I like two errant children.

We meet our friends in the street and try to go to a tobacco factory but tickets are needed to be bought elsewhere so we lose the will to live and go to their roof terrace instead and play word-games, while a stone-deaf workman operates a heavy drill right beside us in the barbecue area. Ron started laughing at this point, uncontrollably.

Back to the same restaurant tonight where we dine on the roof and join the splendid trio who play for the diners. Surprisingly, we were not thrown out. I went later to track down my quartet and found them playing a gig with four other musicians. Their music tonight was purely mesmeric, a pounding, rhythmic, pulsating dream.

Next day a leisurely boat trip around the bay, a dip of toes in the Caribbean, relaxed friend- talk over a beer and then, in the evening, an appointment. Three of the band turn up at our Casa and Adita translates. They want to come to Greece. But it won't be easy. Bureaucratic hurdles stand in the way.



'Three Musketeers'

Continued on Page 6

Again our resilient friend surprises us. She offers to come to Havana with us on Monday and visit the Greek Embassy. It is a three-hour taxi trip. Is she an angel sent to guide us?

Adita takes us to a cabaret nearby, which I was late for but which Trevor says was absolutely first-class. I get here in time for some salsa dancing. Adita says my dancing is amazing, but she said that about my chess. Cackling away, she often says 'I will tell Lula all about you!'

Dave and Ron are off on Saturday, back to Havana, to stay this time at the Lincoln Hotel. Trevor and I cannot join them, as Havana is 'full' this weekend. We must suffer another two days of being utterly spoilt at Las Adas.

On the Saturday we do not do much other than languish at 'home', chatting away to each other, or Adita or Brenda, who has now taken Trevor out to the street for more hoop-la. At one point, she appears at the front doorway on her bicycle, and promptly falls through it, bike and all.



Mojitos! Oh yes! We drink for Britain, as we watch a continual procession of many relatives and friends coming and going through the open street door. The only unwelcome visitor is the mad cake salesman-also on a bike-who we upset on Day 1. He is intent on murdering the gringos. Fortunately, Adita holds him at bay.

As day turned into evening, a local fish [a rufia] is prepared and set before us, thick with meat. It is

delectable. This cannot be said for the antediluvian bottle opener, which almost draws blood on two pairs of English hands.

Our last day at the Casa and we are happy to walk the streets and lounge around the casa. We are introduced to Adita's Dad, who needs to approve of the strange foreigners under her roof. We are treated to a family meal tonight and the mercurial Adita produces yet another friend; this one is a chef at a city restaurant and she produces enchilado and lobster, while Ada chips in with a very nice bean soup. We are spoilt.



'Enchilados

Back to Havana for the last two days, Adita joining our taxi. She is to stay with an Aunt and Uncle in the Capital, while we go back to the Caribbean. How many Uncles and Aunts does this woman have??

The taxi driver is stopped by an ambushing speed-cop from behind a bush, who promptly hands out a six-point penalty. This takes the driver to twelve points and an automatic suspension of licence for twelve months. He is not happy.

Tonight in Havana I dine unexpectedly with Alfie, who reveals that he has no business interest in these restaurants, but is rather a charming tout for them. He is poor but he is happy and I enjoy his easy company at dinner. He is still wearing his Agiotfest band.





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Trevor and I grab a taxi next morning and go and collect Adita from the suburb of Obdulio, from whence she directs the driver to the area where the embassies are congregated. Firstly we visit the Brazilian one, as our friend has business. There is a long line of early customers waiting. After that we go a short distance to the Greek one. There is only one other supplicant waiting at the gates here. We are so lucky! This embassy only opens to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 10.00-12.00 A.M. We did not know this fact beforehand.

A Mr. Cosmos is very helpful and constructive yet makes it clear that a formal invitation has to be approved and travel visas applied for in person before our dream can be a reality.

We drop our Cuban friend off for the last time and are sad to see her go. Can we cope unaided?



Our last night. Two Canadians have invited me at five to the Egrem Recording studios. At this time, most evenings, a band plays live in a room on the ground floor in front of a seated audience, with a small dance-floor off to one side. There is a seat or two spare when I get in for two Pesos. Incredibly, a band of twelve musicians are packed like sardines onto the tiny stage and are blasting out a constant Cuban beat, with three or four men singing. It is the most exciting sound I think I have ever heard live in a confined space. I'm almost traumatised. There is a

carnival atmosphere and couples-of all ages-are gliding expertly to the rhythms of salsa and rumba. The music theme continues into the night, as I walk with Dave and Ron to the famous Hemingway bar, now a serious tourist magnet. It is thronged into the street, with a great atmosphere, but does not compare with the non-tourist Egrem. A quartet are thrilling the crowd, headed by fiery singer Yanet.



It is Wednesday morning and Trevor wants to treat him and me to an hour limousine cruise around the city, as our birthdays are both imminent. We choose from a parked line of beasts a 58 Oldsmobile with original V8 engine-Trevor is a petrol-head-driven by the proud owner Ariel.

He takes us out of the old city and into the plush area of Mirimar and to the parks area and Revolution Square. In the rear seat with eyes closed, you are in a throaty aero-plane.





Continued on Page 8

Our last social outing. The four of us walk the length of Compostela to find the upper storey apartment of Victoria and her husband Raoul. We are invited guests but are aware that a financial contribution is in order. This matters not a jot, as we are grandly entertained in the small home by this gregarious couple and their Mum, who wants to keep tying up my shoe-laces. The inevitable music is turned on and the platters and glasses come and go and come again . After an interval a man, his wife and their grown-up daughter join us. They are Dwyane, Jean and Angela from Seattle. They too have been lured to this cosy web. We all get on famously. How can you not in such an atmosphere as this?



'Little Brenda Jet-setter'

Before leaving Cuba I buy a doll for my grand-daughter in a street market. She reminds me of Adita's daughter so she is named Brenda. Now she lives in Corfu and seems none the worse for her emigration.

Cuba surpassed all expectations for me.

# **Bespoke Property**

Spring has arrived in Agios Ioannis and Bespoke Property is in gear.

Here are photos from some of the end-work at Lydia's and the new villa we are building in the valley below; Villa Daphne.

If you are interested in building or restoration work then please contact us via: <a href="https://www.ocaypropertycorfu.com">www.ocaypropertycorfu.com</a> or by mailing to <a href="mailto:mcgovern@otenet.gr">mcgovern@otenet.gr</a>



### Villa Daphne



Fledgling Villa Daphne



Ground floor



New villa under construction



Shuttering

# Hilary's Ramblings Contributed by Hilary Paipeti

# ... not too far from home this month

I SHOULD REALLY WRITE A REGULAR DIARY, I know. Memory being what it is, past life becomes a bit of a blur, and events you think you will remember clearly morph instead into a series of impressions, hard to pin down.

Spring in Corfu is one of these events, a happening stretched out over a three-month period. Though the overall impression is the same, details within the time-frame alter from year to year. When did the weeping willow, first harbinger of winter's end, leaf this season? When did the hedgerows come into frosty bloom? These things appear not to matter if you live an urban life, cosseted from nature by the techno universe. But in real life they do matter; for over time nature reveals patterns, which allow for predictions to be made.

I made one late last summer, when blackberries and hips were so prolific that their hosting hedgerows almost sagged at the weight of them. Every autumn, nature provides a seasonal feast for the birds and beasties, to fatten them up before scarcity kicks in. When such bounty is on offer, it's because Nature knows that hard times will soon hit; thus I predicted a harsh winter, and indeed this winter's long spell of below-zero night temperatures, and even snow in lowland areas, proved me correct.

On the funeral morning of our dear friend George Papas, who died early last spring, I picked a spray of flowers from the nearby fields to place on his coffin. Asphodel, Star of Bethlehem, hedge blossom, Widow Iris, Narcissus, Tordillium. On the same day this year, walking through the same pastures, it struck me that none of the blooms I had gathered a year ago were in flower. Narcissus and the Iris appeared soon afterwards, but even a few weeks later, the Asphodel spears are only starting to surge from the plants' leafy clumps, and Star of Bethlehem shines nowhere in this valley. Those many hoar-frosted January nights suspended spring this year, though it's at full throttle now in areas less ice-bitten.

If I had kept a nature diary I would have noted this phenomenon, and the notes could have prompted comparisons with the succeeding year. But I don't, so it is only events like the anniversary of George's passing that enable me to fix the time-frames of these two so-different springs.

ONE PLANT NOT AFFECTED BY THE WINTER FREEZE was an aquatic one, a plant that relies for its growth on the temperature of the water rather than that of the air. A little stream that cleaves two nearby pastures is fed mostly from a borehole, and hardly at all in this driest of springs from hillside drainage. Just at my crossing point amongst the strip of shrubs and trees that border the brook a hearty crop of watercress is running riot. Since the water is pure - there being no habitation on the catchment hillside - and the local shepherd

rarely drives this flock this way, I pick a bunch now and then. I'm not giving away this location, but if you do happen to find watercress growing wild DO NOT PICK it unless you can establish that the water is fast-running and uncontaminated by human and ovine waste. Apart from the danger of waterborne intestinal infections, you can develop liver fluke, a very nasty parasitical ailment, from eating wild watercress raw. Despite the low risk of this from my supply, tempting me to toss the leaves in a salad, I always boil them with lentils or potatoes as a soup. Delicious as they would be in a fresh state, it's just not worth taking a chance.

ALSO OBSERVED RECENTLY in the same section of the brook is a flourishing population of tadpoles, thousands and thousands of the little beasties floating amongst the weeds. The word 'tadpole' seems to derive from the Old English word 'tada', for toad; with 'pole' coming from 'poll' in its meaning of 'head' (as in 'poll tax'), since the creatures in their early stage of development comprise a huge head coupled with a tiny tail. It seems that the 'tad' part of the name was later co-opted to mean a small amount, as in 'I'd like a tad of honey on my toast'. Funny to think when you use this phrase, you're actually expressing a wish for a toad on your toast!

Meanwhile, let's watch those tadpoles grow, and maybe one day I'll procure some frog's legs to go with my watercress.

WILD FLOWERS GALORE: For those interested in more information about wild flowers, particularly now it's spring, visit **www.corfuflowers.com** for lots of photographs, along with identification, and the place and date of viewing.



SpringFlowers, Liapades

Photo courtesy of Tammy Ginis

# **Nick The Clock's World**

(The Comic With A conscience)



'What are you looking at Rey' Swedes edgy

http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/783836/Sweden-Polls-Elections-Referendum-Migrant-Crisis

Turmeric

http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/783836/Sweden-Polls-Elections-Referendum-Migrant-Crisis

Jonathan Pie [Warning: VERY FRUITY LANGUAGE!]. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVWFUmB">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NVWFUmB</a> mQY

To control you

http://www.wakingtimes.com/2017/03/23/5g-iot-total-technological-control-grid-rolled-fast/

Cancer Cells Perish

http://simplecapacity.com/2017/03/the-cancer-cells-die-when-you-eat-these-7-foods-time-to-start-eating-them/

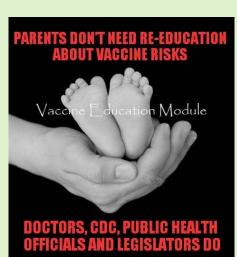




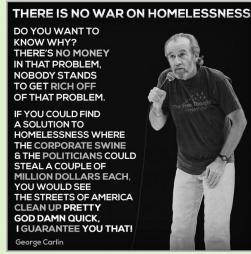














# Gooners Gags

### **Synchronicity**

Carrying on from last months theme reminded me of when I started piloting.

When I first became employed as a pilot my training was overseen by the other 3 pilots authorised by the local Harbour Authority.

They all gave the same advice regarding the coxswain of the pilot launch "beware of old Bill he can be a funny old bugger, he either takes to you or not".

One night after I had taken a ship out to sea unaccompanied, on our return to port on the pilot launch Bill started a conversation as follows

"where are you from then boy"

" Kent"

"where abouts"

"near Ashford"

"where abouts"

"on the Kent / Sussex border"

"where abouts"

"a small village called Appledore"

"bugger I go there every year"

When a local farmer in Sutton Bridge Lincolnshire moved down to Romney Marsh after the war and started farming there Bills sister-in-law and her husband also went to help get the farm up and running. They remained in Appledore and as their family grew up their son went to school with my brother and their daughter used to baby sit me on the odd occasion for my parents. I knew Artie and Beryl from when I used to go flower picking during the school holidays.

Every year they went to visit for a holiday in the summer and got to know some of the local people, including my father.

As you can appreciate Bill and I became good work colleagues as well as very close friends.

God Bless you Bill







'How to feed four puppies at once'

### Gooners Gags - Continued from Page 11

The frequency of sexual activity of senior males depends on where they were born.

Statistics just released from Statistics Canada and The United Nations B.O.H. Team, revealing that:
North American, Australian, New Zealanders and British men between 60 and 80 years of age, will on average, have sex two to three times per week, (and a small number a lot more), whereas Japanese men, in exactly the same age

group, will have sex only once or twice per year if they are lucky.

This has come as very upsetting news to a lot of us at the pub, as none of us had any idea that we were Japanese.

Looks like a good defense to me......

A retired guy sits around the house all day, So, one day his wife says, "Joe, you could do something useful like vacuum the house once a week".

The guy gives it a moment's thought and says: "Sure, why not. Where's the vacuum?" Half an hour later, Joe walks into the kitchen to get some coffee.

His wife says, "I didn't hear the vacuum running. I thought you were going to use it." Exasperated, Joe answers, "The stupid thing is broken. It won't start. We need to buy a new one." "Really", she says, "Show me - It worked fine the last time I used it".

So, he showed her.... Click here

A man went into the proctologist's office for an examination. The nurse told him to have a seat in the examination room and that the doctor would be with him in a few minutes. The man sat down and noticed that there were 3 items on a stand next to the doctor's desk.

- 1. A tube of K-Y gel
- 2. A rubber glove
- 3. A can of beer

When the doctor finally came in, the man said "Hi Doc. I'm a little confused. This is my first ever rear examination. I know what the K-Y gel is for and I know what the glove is for, but can you tell me what the can of BEER is for?"

At that the doctor became noticeably enraged, stormed over to the door and flung it open, yelling, "Dammit nurse! I asked for a BUTT LIGHT"!

The **Calcutta Cup** is a rugby union trophy awarded to the winner of the annual Six Nations Championship match between England and Scotland. It is currently England's since the 2009 Six Nations Championship.

Since the cup was first competed for in 1879, England has won just over half of the 123 matches, and Scotland has won around one third.

The cup itself is of Indian workmanship, decorated with cobras and an elephant. It is now in a fragile state after much mistreatment.

The most recent Calcutta Cup match was won by England, who beat Scotland 61–21 at Twickenham Stadium on 11 March 2017, to retain the Cup which they have held Since 2009.

# It was only a matter of time!



Nicola Sturgeon has ordered the match between England Vs Scotland be replayed as majority of Scots didn't want that result.



'Whole family comes out to watch the rescue'

If you advertise here it will cost nothing. We have a modest but growing circulation. It is our pleasure for our friends to advertise their wares without charge.

## Corfu Golden Paste

A MESSAGE FROM KATRINA GICA.

If you have heard about the benefits of using Turmeric, have discovered that the best way to take it is Golden Paste, yet you haven't got around to making any yet. Then this is for you.

One jar 200g of Fresh - Homemade - Organic- Golden Paste is €6. – €5 for 54 Frozen Golden Turmeric Bombs - T-Bombs. For Orders please message me, call 26610 58090 or 6948 547 663. Or email gicas@otenet.gr.



The Furniture Workshoppe is set in the heart of Norfolk.

We have huge showrooms stocking hundreds of items and accessories.

We deliver nationwide. (now to Corfu to!) check out our website <a href="https://www.furnitureworkshoppe.co.uk">www.furnitureworkshoppe.co.uk</a>









Dawn Purves at Avgerini

# Avgerini Catering Corfu

http://www.avgerinicateringcorfu.com/





Nino's Taverna. Old Town

# CORFU BEER





Apostolos Patounis, 9, Ioannou Theotoki Street, Corfu 49100, Greece tel.: +30 2661039806 fax: +30 2661020704 e-mail: info@patounis.gr www.patounis.gr

### **Traditional Olive Soap**

Throughout modern history soap has been a necessity in developed societies, as the primary means of hygiene and cleanliness. It also found application in medicine and pharmacology for its healing and antiseptic properties. Though things have changed, traditional soap still has the benefit of having passed the test of time: It has offered its services for many successive generations, improving the quality of life while being environmentally friendly throughout production and use. Furthermore pure soap is considered the most thorough skin cleanser since it unblocks the skin's pores by effectively removing dirt, oily substances and dead cells.

The "PATOUNIS Soap Works" with a history of over 150 years, still make handcrafted soap by traditional methods from locally produced olive products. The Corfu plant built in 1891, preserved with its functioning tools and equipment, constitutes a living memory of a splendid old local tradition.

The following soaps are made here:

- **Olive Oil Soap** is made totally of pure virgin olive oil. It has limited lathering capacity but is distinguished for its mild action on sensitive skin.
- **The Green Olive Soap** is made of olive pomace oil which contains the olive chlorophyll, is acclaimed for its disinfecting properties and wide range of applications (also good for hair and scalp, provided you use it with soft water).
- **Olive-Palm Soap** is made of 80% pure virgin olive oil and 20% edible palm kernel oil thus a mild soap with rich smooth lather.

The above soaps are made using only the basic raw material of traditional soap manufacture, i.e. naturally occurring oils, soda, sea salt and water.

### **Corfu Weather Statistics - MARCH 2017**

	Max	Avg	Min
Temperature		J	
Max Temperature	24°C	19 °C	14 °C
Mean Temperature	17 °C	14 °C	10°C
Min Temperature	12 °C	8 °C	4°C
Heating Degree Days (base 65)	15	8	2
Cooling Degree Days (base 65)	0	0	0
Growing Degree Days (base 50)	13	7	0
Dew Point	17°C	9°C	1°C
Precipitation	23.9 mm	1.2 mm	0.0 mm
Wind			
Wind	45 km/h	6 km/h	0 km/h
Gust Wind	66 km/h	42 km/h	29 km/h
Sea Level Pressure	1023 hPa	1015 hPa	999 hPa

### Read more at:

http://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/LGKR/2013/9/1/MonthlyHistory.html?
req\_city=NA&req\_state=NA&req\_statename=NA#PFq1VRYHlbugcTGf.99

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# Aunty Lula's Love-bites

### SALMON IN PUFF PASTRY WITH A WHITE WINE SAUCE

(BORROWED FROM A FRIEND )

### **INGREDIENTS:**

1 large leak

1 tbsp <u>Butter</u>

2 tbsp Dry white wine

Salt and pepper

1 cup Whipping <u>cream</u> (35%)

1 package (14 oz) frozen <u>puff pastry</u> (thawed);

about 400 g

1 12-14 oz (400 g) skinless salmon <u>fillet</u>

1 Egg; lightly beaten

White wine sauce

1/2 cup Dry white wine; 125 ml

1 tsp freshly squeezed lemon juice

1 small **Shallot** minced

1/2 cup Whipping cream (35%)

1 tsp dried taragon

2tsp olive oil

Salt and pepper to taste

### Original recipe makes 4 Servings

### GO:

- 1. Trim root from leek and remove the dark green leaves at the top. Cut leek in half lengthwise.
- 2. Starting at the bottom of each half, slice into very thin semicircles. Wash well in cold water and drain thoroughly (a salad spinner does a great job).
- 3. In a large skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Saute leek for 5 min or until tender. Add wine and salt and pepper to taste; reduce heat and simmer for 3 4 min or until liquid almost evaporated.
- 4. Add cream and simmer, stirring often, until reduced by half. Do not boil. Remove from heat and let cool completely.

Meanwhile,

5. Preheat oven to 425 F ( 200 C). Line a large rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

- 6. On a floured surface, cut block of puff pastry in half (it is usually partially precut). Roll out each half into a 12 by 10 inch (30 by 25 cm) rectangle. Place one rectangle on prepared baking sheet.
- 7. Rinse salmon and pat dry with paper towels. Place salmon in the center of the pastry, leaving a 2 inch (5 cm) border all around. Spoon leak mixture over salmon.
- 8. Brush edges of pastry with eggs.
- 9. Place second pastry rectangle on top and press the edges to seal, like a pillow. Trim the edges, leaving a 1 inch (2.5 cm) border of pastry around the fish. Press edges with a fork to seal. Cut 3 or 4 slits in the top to allow steam to escape.
- 10. Brush top with beaten egg.
- 11. Bake for 20 to 25 min or until puff pastry is puffy and golden. Let rest for 5 min.

  Meanwhile for white wine sauce;
- 12. In a small saucepan, bring wine, lemon juice and shallot to boil over medium heat.
- 13. Reduce heat and simmer for about 5 min or until reduced by half.
- 14. Add cream and simmer, stirring often, until slightly thickened. Do not let boil.
- 15. Strain into a small bowl and whisk in tarragon and salt and pepper to taste.
- 6. Slice salmon and serve drizzled with sauce.

### Notes:

Tastes the best on the first day. Pastry gets a little soggy.

### Καλη Ορεξη!

# The World of Simon

Last May I got an email from Gill, the apiarist, who keeps bees on Plot 14.

I now have a nucleus colony which can go to your allotment. They are Buckfast bees, specially bred to be both docile and prolific.

So they were - a source of quiet satisfaction through the seasons, a presence on the plot, peered at carefully now and then; seen individually in flowers on the allotment and beyond. Sometimes I imagined them before I went to sleep.



In September 2016 we had our first honey off the plot. For winter Gill insulated the hive. This February I emailed her

Dear Gill. Do you have any idea how the colony on Plot 14 has weathered the winter? Last year was such a good surprise. X Simon

28th Feb: Simon. Unfortunately, it has not survived. Varroa depleted the colony and the cold weather put paid to the rest. I shall be getting another colony in the spring, though. Gill

Winnie and I wonder if the siting of the hive backing onto the to park fence, next to the plot shed, trees and brambles, confines the bees to a space that holds damp. We wonder about moving it to a different place on the plot - possibly a chamber inside the fruit cage open to the sky - placing any new colony in the centre of the plot. Now looking at the hive what I thought was sleep and winter quiet, is an emptied hive. Oliver has been curious about the malign work of the <a href="Varroa mite">Varroa mite</a>. We sat in the kitchen and I called up an animated youtube clip...

I guess fear adds to my feelings. I hate this 'thing' whose reproductive cycle parallels the bee's; that east

its way into the bee's young, sucks their blood, breeds in their chambers, excretes on them, uses the bees to spread - vampires. It's not the insect that does the harm, but the diseases it carries in its parasitic life. I know that Buddhism could calm me, show how all is part of the great cycle, and even Christianity would strive to teach me that 'they know not what they do'. A test of love. Before he went to sleep - staying our house tonight - I said "Sleep tight, don't..." He completed "...let the Varroa bugs bite".



Varroa destructor on its honeybee host

http://democracystreet.blogspot.gr/

# CORFU TO TRIAL TOILET PAPER DETECTION EQUIPMENT

The Greek government are starting trials this summer to detect toilet paper in the sewage pipes. Every year pipes are blocked by



tourists who ignore warnings and still flush their paper down the toilet. Corfu has been chosen to carry out the trial which will begin in May this year.

Each Hotel or Villa has had sensors installed on waste pipes so that any paper can be detected. If a hotel detects paper it will have to issue special toilet paper to each room. The paper has the

hotel code and room number embossed on each sheet of toilet paper.

Any paper that is detected will be examined for an identification code to see which room is flushing paper down the toilet. The authorities are going to get very tough with people who break the rules and those that are identified can expect heavy fines.

Many tourists poo poo the idea of putting toilet paper in a bin, but from now on they will have to adhere to the rules or face the consequences.



### AUGUST 26TH 2017

9TH STRAIGHT YEAR

# NEW CACTUS HILTON, AGIOS IOANNIS, CORFU.

#### CHECK OUT THIS FIRST VIDEO FROM 2016:

THE SPLINTER BAND FEATURNG LISA BRIGGS https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BxQTo8AzDUw

Ticket prices will be announced here on June 1st.

They will be as reasonably-priced as ever.

We are anticipating a great line-up, which is being negotiated right now.

Here is a letter from the manager of Carlos Varela, generally considered the number one recording artist in Cuba. Unfortunately, Carlos is out of our price range but it is an indication of our growing status among the musicians' world that an artist of such standing is prepared to come over the ocean for Agiotfest.

Carlos A Iglesias manager

### Hello Paul,

Yes, Lolve mentioned there was a possibility to bring Carlos to your festival. Hope we can make this happen.

We are now holding the date for you and I will send you the Technical Rider in a separate email but it is a rather simple Rider and Backline.

With regards to the financial terms and other requirements: the artist fee for an up to 90 minutes show is x USD. We will need 6 return airfare tickets and 4 singles and 1 double rooms in a 4 stars or better hotel. We will also need local transportation from and to hotel as to venue.

Let me know if these conditions are acceptable to you and we can send you a draft of our agreement to lock the date and move forward with the logistics.

I am based in Toronto but I am planning to be in Havana at the end of March, so there is a chance that we can meet there during your trip.

Looking forward to working with you.

All the best

Carlos A Iglesias



Poster by Ian Fern South Corfu Organiser

I am hoping we will announce full line-up alongside ticket allocation.

Please do not miss the number 1 live Rock, Blues, Folk and Jazz Fest in Corfu.

If all goes to plan there will be an 'unplugged' night on Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup>. Watch out for that.

Read the Cuba article here for a tease of information.

A special thank you we give here to our sponsors, without whom there would be no Agiotfest. Not only have they 'kept faith' with us, they have even in some cases increased their donations to make this great event get better and better.

SEE OUR SPONSORS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.



'Rock Chicks'

Agiotfest 2017 - Continued from Page 8

### **Agiotfest Sponsors**

# OV

## **Ocay Villas**

# Spear Travels

If you are looking for a travel agent who will spend the time to come up with the exact holiday that you want, in the right place and at the right budget for you, and knows what they are talking about as well, Spear Travels can provide a huge choice and offer holidays with the smaller tour operators that are often not available on the High Street.



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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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Design of temporary structures in tube and fittings and various proprietary scaffolding systems including temporary roofs, facade shores and difficult access solutions all designs carried out in accordance with all current British and European standards and regulations.



Corfu Beer

#### **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 fairminded. Also, his rates are consistently competitive!





### **Green Island**

Holiday Accommodation on the Greenest Island of Greece: Corfu. Specialized in the Dutch & the British tourist market



Sally's Bar Ipsos

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http://realcorfu.com/
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# Divertimenti in Corfu

# Proudly present Piers Lane



Photo: Clive Barda
Under the Auspice of
the Municipality of Corfu

<u>Patrons</u>

Kostas Nikolouzos - Mayor of Corfu ChrysanthosSarlis - Co founder

The Ionian Academy Friday 7th April at 21.00

An all Chopin Programme

Impromptu No.1 in A flat major Op. 29
Fantasie in F minor Op. 49
Etude in E major, Op. 10 No. 3
Ballade No. 3 in Ab major Op.47
Scherzo No. 4 in E major, Op. 54
Interval
Polonaise Op. 44
Mazurka in A minor, Op.17 No.4
2 Nocturnes, Op. 62
Barcarolle in F-sharp major, Op. 60

Ticket sales contact <a href="mailto:cmhf@otenet.gr">cmhf@otenet.gr</a> VIP reserved seats with wine at interval €25 Regular tickets €15. Students €10 Tickets will be on sale online, in Corfu Town at the door, "With his reputation for playing with 'conviction, commitment, poeticism and music-serving virtuosity', he elicits a miraculous range of colours and atmospheres from the piano." (The Times, London)

London based Australian pianist Piers Lane AO stands out as an engaging and highly versatile performer, at home equally in solo, chamber and concerto repertoire.

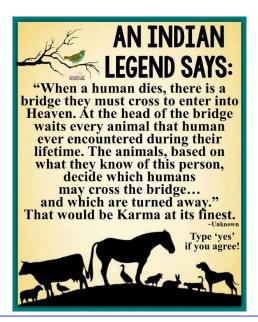
In great demand as soloist and collaborative artist, recent highlights include a performance of Busoni's mighty piano concerto at Carnegie Hall, performing with the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Andrew Manze a return to the Seoul Spring Festival of Chamber Music and several sold-out solo recitals at Wigmore Hall.

Five times soloist at the BBC Proms in London's Royal Albert Hall, Piers Lane's concerto repertoire exceeds one hundred works. Highlights this year include recordings in New York of concertos by Ries, the Ireland Concerto under Sir Andrew Davis, Rachmaninoff 3<sup>rd</sup> Concerto with the Sydney Symphony, in London, Brahms 2<sup>nd</sup> Concerto and three Wigmore Hall recitals where he will play the Corfu programme on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April. Piers Lane is Artistic Director of the Sydney International Piano Competition and of the Australian Festival of Chamber Music.

"Technical bravura, poetic reflection and heart-warming lyricism are just some of the many qualities present in Piers Lane's all Chopin programme, a feast of pianism comprising such exquisite miniatures as the two Op 62 Nocturnes and the spectacular Barcarolle in F sharp major, among the composer's final and finest compositions".

Piers Lane is the guest of Casa Lucia and the Corfu Palace Hotel

# **Letters to the Editor**



#### A Letter from Holland.

Hello Paul,

> I want to send a package to myself when I am in Corfu.

\

- > Do we have street nrs now in Agios.
- > And how is our street mentioned? Odos Sourianos?!?
- > What would be my number.

`

> I have a postbox so I never bothered to find out street of number.

>

> Season a little bit better than last year but still no excitement.

`

> Thx and all best,

> > Henk

Ed: Far too North European for us Henk. As Peter said, just name, Agios and Triklino. Mysteriously, our house is number 12 though.

### A Letter from Canada

I'm having a bit of a celebration here, all by myself, this evening.

I received notice of the March Agiot on Feb. 27 and I've been trying since to load and open it. I've refreshed, redressed and reset and nothing would help me. I got the black screen with the little strip at the top galloping along and nothing more. To say the least I was a little exasperated but did not give up. So tonight with the a "trash it attitude" I just kept clicking and sliding the mouse trying to catch that fleeting strip. Don't ask at what point or what I did but finally after 15 days I got it open!!!!!!!!!!! Perhaps it was when I scrolled to the bottom and hit last page. Zap Let there be light.

Then, to my dismay it was printed in Greek. Now, I asked, was that success or what? OK by the time I got to about page 5 I was able to recognize some familiar letters and words.

I'm pleased to see that Lionel is still a supporter of Agiot Fest. Gee, It will be a year next month since he left us. But he did leave us all with fond memories. I miss getting up in the middle of the night to call and chat with him.

Wow. I saw the picture of the new kitchen for the Taverna. Is that going to be all kitchen or is Nikos going to have part of it as a spare room with a bed for his afternoon siesta?

I went down to Florida and spent time visiting with friends for part of Jan. and Feb. The weather was always 80 to 88F. I am really enjoying my retirement. Now, I'm back in the great white north and we had a snow storm today to remind me of that.

Please say hello to everyone for me.

Vickie

#### Ed:

Hello Vickie, I can only put it down to the Canadian Gold you might have been consuming at the time! Yes, Lionel is forever a Sponsor of Agiotfest, as long as it lasts. He earned the right to that, either side of the curtain. We miss him too, especially on March 25th, St.Lionel's Day. The new kitchen may indeed double as a siesta spot, especially in that shady nook.

As ever Vickie, thanks for being.

#### From Gina Brett in Norwich

I have just seen the Agiot and really laughed out loud at the old photo of Pat were did it come from!

Enjoy your time away from the island.

See you in May

Gina xx

Ed:\_Damn, I forgot your firewood! As for the photo of Pat, Gina, obviously the paper is not at liberty to reveal its sources, because of confidentiality clauses, even to close relatives like yourself!

# Nature









Courtesy of Chris Little

### JOHN DENNE REPORTS

There was discussion earlier in the month about variation in Speckled Wood butterflies. The first picture here was taken today and pretty well represents what we see in the garden for most of the summer. The darker one was taken on 5 march 2017 and is similar to others seen up until today.



Speckled wood butterfly

A lighter version





Picture contributed By Sal Mason

# Village and Island News



Beautiful March Sunshine at Sally's Ipsos



Chezl Les first visitors



Early Doors Kostas Taverna





Garitsa Doggie Villa



Henk's gets a facelift



Main Street Old village



Spiros crashes vehicle following high-speed chase



Spring comes to Agios



The new kitchen grows

I told John it is too level for a Greek path



Our sea

<



Spring cleaning



Spring walking



Village humour

# C.L.R.



#### Paul Anthony 11 hrs

At last, plans for the Kavos to Sidari monorail are a reality. The proposed line, to be built over the next five years will link the main resorts on the east coast, before branching NW to a terminus at Solar Polfi, just outside Sidari. Funding is being provided by the AF Bank of Mumbai. Their spokesperson U.V. Binhad states that the cost of 45 million Euros should be recouped by 2023. Construction to begin on 1st April next year, headed up engineering specialists, LE Gpull.

Ryan Lee Will it stop in St George? Like · Reply · 11 hrs

<u>Paul Anthony</u> Sadly not mate but it will call at <u>Argyrades</u>

*Like · Reply · 11 hrs · Edited* 

Ryan Lee Why Kavos? It's a shit pit that's only open 4 months of the year?

Like · Reply · 11 hrs

Elizabeth Coombes Some people actually live in kavos not me i have to add only made what you call a shit pit by the idiot's that are brought to corfu by tour company' most people in kavos are lovely people who struggle to make a living for the short time that the tour company allocates them so don't

need to be referred to as a shit pit Like · Reply · 5 mins







Write a reply...

Ryan Lee If anything Lefkimi would be a better link??? I don't care I'll use George Vourlitas Kavvadias I don't do trains lol

*Like · Reply · 11 hrs* 

Paul Anthony Yes, it should run up to Ag Gordios and across to Aqualand. Who thinks of these things? Like · Reply · 1 · 11 hrs

Ann Dewar Is this an April Fool!! Like · Reply · 1 · 11 hrs

Ryan Lee No it's true I've seen the plans Like · Reply · 11 hrs

Evelyn Bredenkamp April, April <u>Like</u> · <u>Reply</u> · <u>1</u> · <u>10 hrs</u>

Benedetta Petralia Really?!? I don't think it will be good have it. I love Corfù as it is!

Like · Reply · 10 hrs

Ros Hinks I've heard it's due to stop outside the house of Angela English....is this true....!!

Like · Reply · 3 hrs

Ros Hinks April Fool....!!! <u>Like</u> · <u>Reply</u> · 3 hrs

<u>Linda Denmark Hillier</u> Very good that Paul! <u>Like · Reply · 3 hrs</u>

<u>Claire Harris</u> This is not an April Fools. It was in the Daily Mail!!!

<u>Like</u> · <u>Reply</u> · <u>1</u> · <u>3 hrs</u>

Linda Denmark Hillier replied · 1 Reply

<u>Gareth Davis</u> Chairman called U V Binhad!! <u>Like · Reply</u> · 43 mins · <u>Edited</u>



<u>Paul McGovern</u> We can do without these sorts of jokes at the Corfu Light Railway, which is earnestly engineering ways to extract Government money for their project, which began 12 years ago.

# FROM THE SOUTH By Ian Fern

Well after talking to a fisherman about the sheep on the Lagoudia Islands it appears that they used to leave their sheep on the Islands while they were fishing, to graze the salty vegetation.

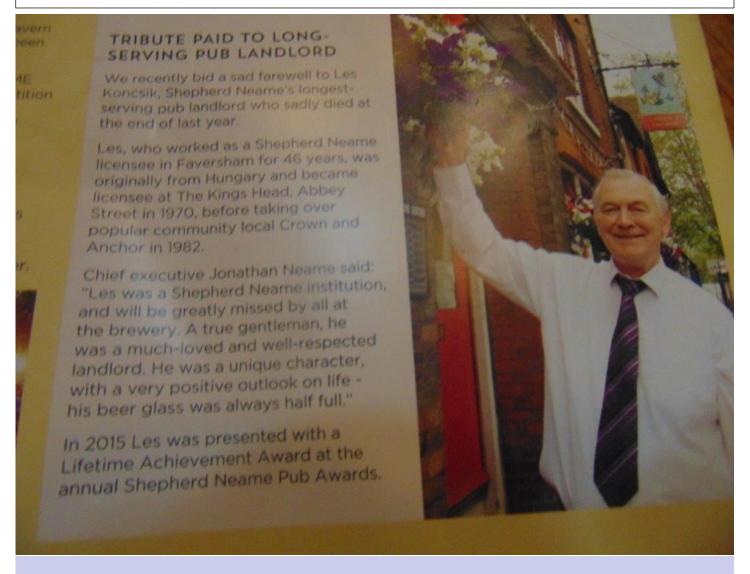
The fisherman stopped doing it a while ago as the sheep went missing sometimes. Apparently the sheep were going back to shore on driftwood and other floating debris. I managed to get a few photos of them early this morning, but they aren't very clear.











# Holy Trinity Services for April

Services for April: Services led by Chaplain Rev Jules Wilson

Sunday 2nd April 10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 9th April - Palm Sunday 10:30 Family Communion Service

Maundy Thursday 13th April 19.00 Passover Meal and Tenebrae

Good Friday 14th April 12.00 -15.00 Come when you can go when you must

AND WITH HIS WOUNDS WE ARE HEALED. ISAI-AH 53:4-5

Easter Saturday 15th April 22.00-23.00 Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 16th April 10:30 Family Communion Service

Sunday 23rd April 10:30 Family Communion Service incorporating the AGM.

**Sunday 30th April 10:30** Family Communion Service 19.00 The Well

HTC South Friday 7th April 18.00 Communion Service held at the Catholic Chapel in Messonghi

Weekly Events during April: The church is open daily Tuesday to Friday 10:00 to 13:00 for coffee, chat and exchange of library books

Monday 17:30 The Kontokali group meets

Tuesday 10:00 Coffee Morning in the church room

11th Master's Crafters Group - making a smurf
house using a jam jar and modelling clay!

Wednesday 10:00 Coffee Morning in the church
room

**Thursday 10.30** Bible Study 11.00 HTC North - Bible Study and Prayers 17.00 Singing Group at HTC

Friday 09.00 Prayers for Mission and Ministry of HTC and personal prayers - Open to all 10:30 'Little Angels' - Mums & Tots Group

Other Events during April: Every Tuesday 19.00 - 20.00 I.T. Clinic

**Special Services for Easter:** Why not make a special effort this year to walk and worship through Jesus's final week and resurrection by reliving the whole story, from His journey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through to His Glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday Morning. Here's how....

Sunday, 9th April 10.30 am Palm Sunday Service at HTC followed by joining in the Orthodox procession in town

Thursday, 13th April, 7.00 pm Maundy Thursday Passover Meal and Tenebrae at HTC. Sharing the meal as Jesus would have done followed by remembering his prayers in the Garden of Gethsemane Friday, 14th April, 12.00 – 3.00 pm Good Friday, The Final Hours. 12.00 – 1.00 The Good Friday Liturgy 1.00 – 2.00

The Stations of Cross (in the garden) 2.00 – 3.00 Final Hour Meditations Saturday, 15th April, 10.00 – 11.00 pm

Easter Eve Vigil at HTC followed by joining in the Midnight service in the square, followed by the fireworks!

Sunday, 16th April, 10.30 am Easter Day Celebration

Church Office:
Tel: +30 26610 31467 Chaplain Mob. 6986538755
Open Tuesday— Friday 10am-1pm

Churchwarden: Pauline Argyrou: Mob. 6976196322

Editorial: htccorfupulse@gmail.com Website: www.holytrinitycorfu.net and Facebook Email: htccorfu@gmail.com