

# The Agiot

21st Edition

## This Month

Gypsy Controversy  
Makes National  
News.

**Page 1**

Village News.

**Page 2**

Corfu Weather Statis-  
tics.

**Page 2**

And Why Shouldn't  
The rolling Stones  
Come to Corfu?

**Page 2**

Albania.

**Page 3**

News from the North.

**Page 4**

Aunty Lula's Love  
Bites.

**Page 4**

Classical Music  
Night.

**Page 5**

"Cratastrophe"

**Page 5**

Classical Music Night  
Program.

**Page 5**

Scherzando Says -  
Fun Page.

**Page 8**

Property Pages.

**Page 9**

## Gypsy Controversy Makes National News

By  
Roving Reporter



Trouble flared outside the Minimarket of Agios Ioannis Monday evening, when the owner's husband accused a gypsy of pilfering. An angry confrontation ensued, Mr Spiros Analiti tried to make the peace, but another gypsy appeared and struck Mr Howmuch with what appeared to be a crowbar or the like. This incident was recorded on video; [www.zougla.gr/news.php?id=49662](http://www.zougla.gr/news.php?id=49662)

Desperate times. by mobile the gypsies called for reinforcements from their Arapaho encampment in the Ropa Valley. These soon descended as a Mongol horde, fuelled by drugs and brandishing metal bars and chains. A horrific confrontation occurred, during which several villagers were injured; some needed hospital visits, but luckily nobody was seriously hurt. The Gypsies departed, leaving the Minimar-

ket and the Spider Bar damaged.

Police were called but were unwilling to visit the Arapaho encampment at night. Probably wise, except they should have gone in force the next morning. They didn't. By now the locals were well and truly up in arms and baying for police intervention, quite reasonably. It did not come.

So the villagers set up their own blockade on the main road at the traffic light junction. Amazingly, some time later the police were reinforcing this illegal action by diverting traffic away from the area from points at Pelekas Cross and towards Aqualand.

The Roving Reporter drove into the Arapaho encampment Tuesday night, but there was little to be seen as the perpetrators stayed safely indoors.

This morning a further downturn. A lone gypsy ap-

peared in the area brandishing a gun. The police did not act. The roadblock has grown in size during the day, the protests have become more vociferous. There is a meeting tonight of the Council. The deal being sought is the removal of the roadblock in exchange for a permanent police presence in Agios Ioannis.

This volcano has been promising for a long time,



with the gypsy community testing just how far it can go before somebody stops it. There have been various ineffective meetings concerning property rights and respect. The official response has been waffle.

Greece gets considerable EU subsidy for 'placement' of Romany families. Is it likely to cause too much offence to the minority for fear of dislodging the financial package? Perhaps it should BEFORE somebody gets killed.



# Village News

By Dr. Lionel Mann  
Contributing Editor

We have been hit by the Security Summit. A horde of top brass including Berlusconi made it, but Clinton was indisposed. Nevertheless all the triangle Gouvia-Airport-Gastouri was crawling with police and many roads were off-limits, demonstrations banished to remote areas. Shopping in Town became a very complicated exercise.

You will be pleased to know that nothing happened last month to prevent the full observance of our annual panegyrie from taking place. Even the unsettled weather cooper-

ated and a great time was had by all. Attendance seemed to reach a new high.

Wonder of wonders, here is a month without a major national holiday, although naturally all educational institutions are closed.

Our holiday season clicks into full operation with the Turner and Gaskell families in turn staying in Villa Theodora, the Bettinellis and the Sperlings (owners) in Villa Aphrodite, the Torlaini and the Sarafopoulos-Maas families in Villa Persephone. Additionally many Agiots will be returning to stay in Anna's apartments.

## Corfu Weather Statistics

The highest temperature for June this year was 34.5C, and the minimum temperature was 15.8C

Total rainfall for the June was 45.9 mm, maximum rainfall per minute 2.1 mm, Certainly enough to save a few days watering. Total rainfall for the year so far is 629.1 mm., much more than usual.

Maximum windspeed reached 42.6 kmh and maximum gust speed 86.1 kmh.

# And Why Shouldn't The Rolling Stones Come to Corfu?

By Paul McGovern  
Editor

The Agiotfest 09 is only a couple of months off now and interest is mounting. The venue for the event has been fixed; it is to be in the valley below the church in the old part of the village of Agios Ioannis.



There is ample room for both

staging, car parking, and of course the fans themselves.

The Dylan Project will top the bill supported by East Of Memphis and The Good Old Boys.

It will be an early evening start, the exact times to be issued in our next newsletter.

It is a long-held dream that the Fest will grow and grow. Corfu is crying out for such an event on a large scale. Where better than in our village, situated only five miles from the airport and within striking distance of splendid beaches?

Hotels, villas and other accommodation are everywhere; only 3 hours by plane from London. In the heat of summer I'm sure bands would rather endure sandy

beaches with cool breezes rather than the heat and traffic of Athens.

Adverts have been coming in for our dedicated website, and flyers will be issued in July with advertisers therein.. The Dylan Project are very much up for this one. I had the pleasure of a telephone conversation with Dave Pegg. His enthusiasm is infectious. Richie and Sheila are booked into their accommodation already and Russ and Frank will be performing to their many fans once again.

So, if all goes to plan, and the numbers roll in, one day the likes of Mick Jagger may well be seen quaffing red wine and eating mezees at Kostas Taverna.

# Albania

By  
Simon Baddeley

I've been fascinated by how a 500 year old law - of which the 'blood feud' is only a part - has remained embedded in the culture, held onto the tighter for the fragmentation suffered in Albania over the years.

If you think Greece has been the plaything of the powers, just try Albania.

Different cultures, different behaviours. Two months ago, Albania lodged its formal application for EU membership and suddenly the two ends of Europe fall into place...'

Richard Pine, Director of the Durrell School in Corfu, has written in the Irish Times\* about something new to me. His intriguing 'letter from Corfu' reminds me of a 19th century remark that Albania, though visible from Italy, was less known than the interior of America:

Oh we're back in the Balkans again  
Back to the joy and the pain  
What if it burns or it blows or it  
snows?

We're back to the Balkans again.  
Back, where to-morrow the quick  
may be dead

With a hole in his heart or a ball in  
his head

Back, where the passions are rapid  
and red

Oh, we're back to the Balkans again.  
Preface of the 1908 book 'High Albania'

So Club Méditerranée have withdrawn from Kakome Bay, a few miles north of Saranda on the Albanian coast. A part of me thought that local villagers protesting against Club Med might have had an environmental agenda, but it was a long running complicated and divisive dispute over

whether local families or the state had the right to profit from the sale of the land to build a resort, with Club Med agents unclear whether to deal with locals or the state Agency for the Restitution and Compensation of Property. As we approach important Albanian elections, on 28 June, the Prime Minister, Sali Berisha, speaks of flytipping and sewage problems damaging his country's formal application to join the EU.

To join the EU my colleague Gill Bentley tells me applicant countries have to accede to the *acquis*, and meet the Copenhagen criteria, which includes such things as the stability of institutions guaranteeing democracy, the rule of law, human rights, respect and protection of minorities, a functioning market economy and capacity to cope with competitive pressures and market forces, and ability to take on the obligations of membership, including adherence to the aims of political, economic and monetary union.

Albania has various 'enlargement' projects in train, but Tirana is estimated to be one of the most polluted cities in the world, behind New Delhi and Beijing. Deaths due to illnesses caused by pollution have increased by 20% in Tirana in the past two years. Respiratory system diseases came third on the list of causes of death last year. As Albania gears up to join the EU, pollution troubles get in the way. Albania is facing a humanitarian catastrophe due to growing pollution, 10 times above the tolerance level set by the World Health Organizations.

Less public attention and equally, if not more problematic, is a different kind of pre-Islamic left-over that requires an understanding of Albanian history, the lethal phenomenon of *kanun*. Uninformed outsiders may ask innocent questions about the stone towers, *kullas*, dotted around the country, unaware they were built as sanctuaries for the potential targets

of blood feuds legitimated by the Code of Lekë Dukagjini five and half centuries ago, the basis of another Balkan 'big idea' via the Kosovo connection.

I was intrigued on looking further into this to find young Albanians, in our wired world, had continued the spirit of the *kanun* as hip hop.

As well as the EU, OSCE will presumably continue to give attention to creating and maintaining government in Albania' no doubt discussing her EU candidacy at the meeting in Corfu next weekend a hundred and fifty years after that extraordinary mission by William Gladstone to the Ionian Islands. I'm studying his engrossment with the 'public law of Europe' via his extraordinary mission to the Ionian islands in 1858-59, seeing, in a biographer's words, 'the Ionian microcosm' as 'a task worthy of macrocosmic devotion'. Richard Shannon wrote 'it is possible to deduce much at large about Gladstone immersed in this small episode', and I suspect it may be possible to find 'much at large' about Corfu immersed in what, for the Ionians, was a large episode in their 19th century history. 'In many ways, it seems to me, Gladstone's interlude as High Commissioner in the Ionian Islands encapsulates as well as anything his urge to hold the world in Peelite tutelage.' Gladstone, in his famous diaries, wrote of being utterly absorbed 'in the affairs of these little islands.

A very recent and welcome acquaintance, a scholar on Corfu, wrote to say 'He was like Durrell - a philhellene paid to do a brit's job - keep the islands safe from the Greeks, even though you know in your heart that enosis is the right path.'

# News From the North

By Uncle Bulgaria  
Contributing Editor

What is this difficulty with EKA for Brits? Being an old fart here for 20 years I have transferred all my wife and mine National Health benefits to EKA. What a performance to use it!! My wife fell off a damaged plastic chair and has injured her spine. So went to the EKA doctor in Acharavi for some strong painkillers on prescription. Absolutely not he sez, go and get an xray first then have the radiologist phone him and he will prescribe. Okay off we trots and pays 40 euros for xrays, she phones the quack and he still refuses to issue a prescription. So went to a private doctor and paid 20 Euros for a prescription. We were also recommended to see specialist in Bones, So go to one in Acharavi (Another 50) who also is involved with the General Clinic, she requires a full scan at the clinic. So she very helpfully writes out what is required and sez take this to the EKA doctor

in Acharavi who will rewrite it and allow us to claim the scan on EKA, will he heck !!! A flat refusal. This doctor obviously hates Brits.

So off to the clinic for a scan, another 100 Euros. Why bother with this system. Just sit in the Corfu hospital for days waiting to see specialists and still end up at the General Clinic, it just takes longer and more suffering when you're in pain. It's not so bad if you live near Corfu but from up North it's a bit of a haul, especially when there are EKA doctors up here, except they are not interested in Brits.

Whilst I abhor the dicks that come over here and want to change Corfu into a mini England, although these are the first people to complain about different religious sects setting up temples and living in set areas in England, non the less it is nice to now and again have some truly English Fish n Chips. What a shame that the only place in RODHA that

did really top fish n chips, has now moved to Sidari, (Flanagans). All one can get now in Rhoda are pretty mediocre.

However, on the bright side, the anticipation of the joys of top quality grub after the drive to Sidari will no doubt compensate. Mind you, nothing else would get me to drive to that dump.

Same as every where we are still short of tourists, and those we have are skint. I am thinking of giving out food parcels from the back of a lorry to these poor broke tourists, except I can't drag myself away from my Vodka.

I am and always will be, Obnoxious Al.

## *Aunty Lula's Love-bites*

### Savoury Rice.

250g Long grain rice  
30g Butter  
120g Bacon, finely chopped  
1 Onion, finely chopped  
1 Red pepper, seeded and finely chopped  
1 tsp Curry powder  
100ml Single cream, light  
200g can Sweetcorn, drained  
1 tbsps Parsley, chopped

Go:

1. Cook and drain the rice.
2. Place the butter, bacon, onion and pepper in a frying pan and cook for about five minutes.
3. Mix all the ingredients together in a frying pan

and heat through without boiling.

4. Sprinkle with parsley.

# Classical Music Night



Ria Georgiadis was born in Thessaloniki, where she graduated from the New Conservatory of Thessaloniki, obtaining the Diploma for Flute with the

highest degree and Distinction at the age of 18. She continued her studies at the Anton Bruckner University of Music in Linz (Austria) and at the Staatliche Hochschule für Musik Freiburg i. Breisgau (Germany), where she studied with N. Gurlinger and Prof. Robert Aitken getting both Bachelor and Master Degrees with "Distinction".

She has also studied with Karl-

heinz Stockhausen - Kathinka Pasveer and János Balint (Doppler Institute of Music), and has attended Master Classes with J.P. Rampal, Ph. Boucly, P.Y. Artaud, I. Matuz, R. Fabbriani, R. Dick, T. Wye, W. Bennett, A. Lieberknecht.

She has attended the postgraduate studies in "Breathing and Voice Education for Windplayers" with Dr. Bernhard Riebl at the *Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst Wien*. She has received several scholarships and has won prizes in international competitions (*Gradus ad Parnassum, Hellexpo, Yamaha, Lilian Voudouri, Jugend Musiziert, Scholarship of the New Conservatory Thessaloniki, das Podium ..*)

As a soloist she has performed with several orchestras in Greece and abroad (Thessaloniki State Orchestra, Thessaloniki Municipal Orchestra, Tschech Philharmonic Brno, Vienna Youth Orchestra..) and has played at international festivals and halls as the the *Bruckner-*

*haus Linz, Konzerthaus Wien, Konzerthaus Bregenz, Kongreßsaal Innsbruck, Internationale Stockhausen Tage Kürten, the Dimitria Festival, the Corfu Summer Festival.*

She has recorded for Austrian and Greek Radio and has made various first performances of works for the flute.

She is a member of the Trio "Les Dames Déshéritées", the contemporary music ensemble *eWave*, founded by Wil Offermans, the Harmonices Mundi Ensemble, the Ensemble Sonare and participated in various orchestral ensembles as the Brucknerorchester Linz, Klangforum Wien, the Passau Opera Orchestra etc.

Since 2005 she has been teaching flute at the Department of Music Studies of the Ionian University in Corfu.

## "CRATASTROPHE"

By Dr. Lionel Mann  
Contributing Editor

Here we go again! My infancy was blighted by the Great Depression and now we have another to plague my old age.

Somebody once said. "Those who ignore history are doomed to relive it." It is incredible that the lessons of 1929 should have so quickly been forgotten. To permit the voracious greed coupled with abysmal stupidity and ignorance of Manhattan hoodlums, with their miserable lackeys, to control the world's finances is to invite disas-

ter. At least in the earlier fiasco those responsible had the sense to hurl themselves from their high office windows and thus to rid the world of their wicked scheming; today the villains expect to quit with a "golden handshake". Progress?

Moreover their politician puppets, whilst "bailing out" failed institutions, leave the morons responsible for the failure still in control. Those "bail-outs" are no more than palliatives, perpetuating the problem. Government control is not a viable solution either; the record of government bureaucracy in

managing anything financial successfully is notoriously bad. An entirely new system, subject to tight independent international supervision, is needed.

Today's theory of economics is fundamentally flawed. For over two thousand years wise men have counselled against living beyond ones means. To exist on credit is folly, yet even major governments do it - and then print worthless money to hoodwink the brainless electorate.

Continued on Page 6

## "Cratastrophe"

Continued from Page 5

Psalm 15 teaches, "He that hath not given his money upon usury, nor taken reward against the innocent; whoso doeth these things shall never fall."

In "Hamlet" Shakespeare admonishes, "Neither borrower nor lender be."

There are examples in Dickens's books of the folly of incurring debt. Mr. Micawber is very explicit on that point. Authorities had a salutary way of dealing with financial irregularity in those days. As a youngster that author had visited his father in a debtor's prison.

Sir Daniel Gooch of G.W.R. and Atlantic Cable fame, who rose from very humble and indigent origins, from the first managed his affairs very circumspectly, always shunning insolvency, and in his writings advised others to follow his example.

Between the ages of eleven and eighteen I lived in my grandfather's household. Almost every week I would accompany him on his "Sunday constitutional" around the "four-mile square" of roads surrounding our village. Aged fourteen he had been apprenticed to the cobbler in his Lincolnshire village; aged forty he was proprietor of a shoe factory employing sixty operatives and a building business with a staff of twenty. Most of the houses in the newer part of the village were built by his men and he named many of the roads. He owned tracts of woodland, scheduled for further development, that afforded venues for our youthful games. Although sixty-plus he yet marched at a good pace and our afternoon "strolls" lasted about an hour, during which he would expound his business philosophy as well as commenting upon natural

phenomena that his countryman's eye spotted. He was constantly drumming in, "Neither borrower nor lender be, Lionel; debt is a millstone around the neck." He had always followed that axiom. Despite encouraging my musical aspirations I think he hoped that I, his oldest grandson in England, would succeed him.

The Great Depression hit his businesses hard yet, despite running at a loss, he retained the six shoe operatives and the four builders who had been with him since he set up on his own account. "I shall never turn them out on to the streets." Neither did he evict any tenants who could not pay their rents. The war saved him by providing large orders for army boots. The shoe factory was back into full operation, and all his builders were taken on by the Ministry of Works or conscripted into the armed forces. In 1946, witnessing the Labour Government sabotaging British industry, he closed the factory after ensuring that all his staff were safely employed elsewhere. Within a year he was dead, no longer having any purpose in life.

Throughout my life I have followed his advice, never going to bed at night owing anybody anything. As a Headmaster I always insisted that my Chairman of Governors or School Treasurer (both rather amused - "it's not modern business practice") should provide me with counter-signed cheques so that I could settle promptly any invoice received. My last duty at night, if need be, would be to walk to the post office to post replies in payment of accounts delivered that day. Then I could sleep soundly. I also found that the firms with whom we dealt gave very good, equally prompt, service.

Only a couple of months ago my bank wrote to me offering me substantial credit. That was a gross insult. They have had my account for sixty-five years and I have never been overdrawn, nor have I ever sought credit. Their charges for ordinary business are extortionate and yet they try to lure the deluded populace into debt so that they may squeeze even more hard-earned money from them. The whole affair is utterly immoral as well as being the nadir of stupidity, resulting in today's monetary "cratastrophe", another Great Depression. They call it an "economic downturn" or a "recession". Whom do they think they are fooling when hordes are thrown out of work?

All of current "pop" culture is basically economically wicked, "giving money upon usury and taking reward against the innocent", encouraging profligacy. It is the practice of extortion against the brainwashed masses, ruthless exploitation and corruption of the young. "Whoso doeth those things" has certainly fallen, but they have taken millions of innocents with them. More power to those who would impose much stricter control; the "free market", still cynically advocated by the unscrupulous guilty, has been tried and found utterly ruinous. It is time that the world's honest citizens were given sound protection from the pernicious machinations of the "tycoons" and others who seek to plunder them. Especially should the U.S.A., the chief offender and again cause of the disaster, be compelled to mend its evil ways.

**VILLA THEODORA**  
**AGIOS IOANNIS**  
**SERENADE**

**RIA GEORGIADIS (FLUTE)**  
**DR. LIONEL MANN (ORGAN)**

Flute Sonata in F Minor . . . Georg Philipp Telemann  
Grand Jeu . . . . . Pierre du Mage  
Gavotte . . . . . Jean-Baptiste Lully  
Tambourin . . . . . Franz Joseph Gossec  
Toccatina and Fugue in D Minor (BWV565) . J.S. Bach  
Rondo in D (K Anh. 184) . Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

**INTERVAL - Indian food will be served**

Fantasie Mélancolique . . . Matthieu André Reichert  
Canon in B Minor (Op. 56-5) . . . Robert Schumann  
Sicilienne (Op. 78) . . . . . Gabriel Fauré  
Prelude and Fugue on B.A.C.H. . . . . Franz Liszt  
Fantasiestücke (Op. 2) . . . . . Carl Nielsen

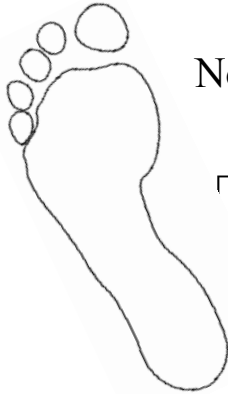
**MONDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 8 P.M.**

**ADMISSION 15.00 EUROS (Children free)**  
**INCLUDING FOOD AND A GLASS OF WINE,**  
**BEER OR SOFT DRINK.**

Scherzando saYS

**The perks of reaching 50, being over 60 and heading towards 70!!**

Kidnappers are not very interested in you.  
In a hostage situation you are likely to be released first.



No one expects you to run ..... anywhere.

There is nothing left to learn the hard way

You can live without sex but not your glasses!



You quit trying to hold your stomach in no matter who walks into the room.

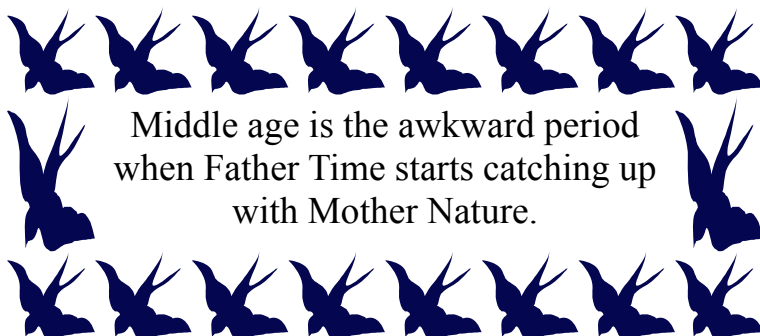


Your joints are more accurate meteorologists than the national weather service.

Your secrets are safe with your friends because they can't remember them either!?



Thought for next Month



Middle age is the awkward period when Father Time starts catching up with Mother Nature.



**PROPERTY PAGES**



**Varipatades**

This is a great little cottage in Vari-patades with a lovely orchard garden and a very large outbuilding, crying out to be a grand kitchen.

See it!

Price € 70,000



**Ano Korakiana**

In an idyllic old world location, amongst the cottages of Ano Korakiana, not far from the National Paleokastritsa highway leading swiftly to town, is this splendid detached house, nestling on the mountain slopes with lovely views below. The spacious three storey house requires renovation but is very sound structurally.

Price € 70,000



**Faery Cottage**

This is definitely the time that land forgot and this one small picture is to entice the romantic amongst you to seek out this idyllic spot amongst the northern, olive-clad mountains. Come and live in this stunning terrain, and yet only ten minutes by car to the northern beaches and shops.

Price € 120,000



**Spartilas Bargain**

This cottage tucked away in the sleepy lanes of the mountain village of Spartilas is a good buy for the person who wishes to revive it to its former condition. It is basically sound and therefore well-priced. Spartilas is perched on the mountainside above Barbati with beautiful views to the sea. Well worth viewing.

Price € 35,000



**Panorama Development**

Stunning, innovative, moulded to the terraces villas, enjoying unspoilable views across the valley. Both three-bedroom villas are one hundred square metres basic with extra covered area in the linkage. The villas are centrally heated and feature spiral oak stairwells.

(See website below for details)

Price: € 326,000



**Giannades**

This detached house of 144 square metres lies in gardens which include a 25 square metre garage. There is plenty of room for a swimming pool.

Price: € 280,000