

The Agiot

20th Edition

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AGIOTFEST 09 - Venue and events

By Paul McGovern
Editor

The news of the upcoming Agiotfest 09 is certainly causing a ripple across the island. Posters have been printed for the Saturday night highlight and a fair quantity already distributed, but many are being held back until nearer the date. Leaflets will be printed towards the end of the month, a virtual programme of the week. Advertisers should be on board for these leaflets as well as inclusion at the dedicated website at www.agiotfest.com.

There is a facility on the site to pay for tickets [20 Euros] by Paypal, and news will be updated there during the forthcoming weeks.

It is good to report that Lionel Mann will be playing with his organ on the Monday [7th September], accompanied by Ria Georgadis on flute. Ria is new to our music week, taking over from old friend of Agiotfest, Elke Hornig, who will not be on the island at the time of the festival. Our warmest thanks to Elke for the years of effort she has put into

the early development of our dream. Tickets for the Monday night are on sale at 15.00 Euros, which will include a Lula Love-bites Special Curry and complementary drink at the interval. The performance starts at 8.00.p.m. sharp! The venue for this particular evening is poolside in the garden of Villa Theodora, as per usual.

The venue for Saturday has been a puzzlement to some, but rest assured that all will be revealed in good time. We have a choice of two areas within the old village, both within 300 metres of the plateia- the pros and cons of both are being scrutinized at present.

The evening will probably start at 7.00.p.m., though again the actual format is under discussion. What is sure is that there will be things happening on SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER from the early afternoon onwards, mostly of a musical nature. The focus for this FREE entertainment will be in the plateia, right next to Kostas' Taverna. The bandstand will be used by musicians

from around the island.

The SHOW rolls on not many steps away from about 7.00.p.m. A programme will be issued with specifics on the leaflets aforementioned. Food and drink will be on sale during the evening, together with memorabilia.

On the Thursday evening preceding there will be a reception for the Dylan Project at Spiros and Vasilis' Restaurant, an event in itself. This evening will be televised and admission will be by invitation only. Anybody who wishes to come should enquire through Ocay Services.



"Eric and The Treestumps"

Corfu has long been a special area for musical heritage within Greece. How apt that it should host the start of this new venture.

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AGIOTFEST 09 - Venue and events
Continued from Page 1

We are constantly looking for local as well as international talent to appear now and in the future. The other night we were at the Rock Café watching and listening to Eric and the Treestumps. They had a drumkit, but no drummer.



"Keith Moon Returns"

In steps Liam Mawson, the youngest member of our team. Apart from the drumkit disintegrating under his playful hands, he performed like a veteran...none of the group left the stage, though two were slightly injured. Have we discovered a new-age Keith Moon from within our own very ranks?

PLEASE KEEP TUNED IN FOR FURTHER NEWS.

Village News

By Dr. Lionel Mann
Contributing Editor

This month provides us with another national holiday. This year our Pentecost is on the 8th so the following day is attached to the festival. In more civilized, less pagan days Whit Monday was a Bank Holiday in the U.K., but it has now been replaced by a more "politically correct" observance.

June also sees our annual village "knees-up", the panegyrie, the celebration of the feast of the village's patron saint, Saint John the Baptist, June 23rd and 24th. It all starts with an evening religious procession around the village, complete with band, banners, candles, shrine, priests, acolytes and a host of villagers, including children. They return to the plateia for a night of feasting off roast lamb, souvlakia and wine, along with dancing to the accompaniment of a band of local musicians who play virtually non-stop from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Leaping through fire forms part of the entertainment, and on one night the children of the local schools, attired in national dress, give a display of

Greek dancing. The first night is generally regarded as being for the villagers and the second night, same again except for the procession and fire-jumping, for visitors from all over the island, but the distinction is by no means strictly enforced. Come, on either night or both, to join in the fun.

Twice in the past few years the secular part of the observance has been cancelled on account of a local tragedy, the death in vehicle accidents of young residents. We always hope that the youngsters will curb their wildest Formula One ambitions until after the panegyrie, but the elderly of the village have less control over their destiny! Incidentally our local answer to Valentino Rossi, aged fourteen, has graduated from a motor-scooter to dad's 250cc.

This month we welcome visits by Ian Greig and Trevor Whybrow. Richie Henderson will also be coming to make arrangements for his contribution to Agiotfest. Nej Adamian and his family will be staying in Villa Theodora, and Stella and Barry Knight in Villa Persephone.

SCOTSMAN ATTACKS MOTHER

By
A Roving Reporter

Well-known Agiot and international jet-setter Gordon McCabe was at the centre of controversy recently, during a flight from Sweden to Prestwick. Mr McCabe was trying to relieve his poor mother of her handbag as they exited the aircraft. The reason for this is unknown precisely, but he did admit to our reporter, 'I do like a wee drink in me when I travel' He must

have flipped, as he fell upon her like a mad beast at the doorway of the plane, bringing her down in an ungainly Rugby tackle. The poor lady hit her head on the frame of the door and needed hospital treatment.

Mr McCabe was too upset to comment further and was immediately whisked away to the Tartan and Anvil public house by bemused relatives.

We are pleased to report that

Mrs McCabe suffered no serious injuries and is not pressing charges.



"Gordon McCabe with legal advisor"

THE ROAD TO AGIOTFEST 09

.....continued

By
Phil Mawson

AGIOTQUEST (In search of the wholesome ale ?)

As the early summer heat-wave broadens everyones smiles, especially those of the tourists and their selected watering hole hosts, accordingly, **TEAM AGIOTFEST** continues with the foot-slogging task in missionary-style fashion by spreading the word according to the Agiot-Master.....St Paul of Agios Ioannis.

The expedition takes on gathering impetus and we are delighted with the response from all the island's varied community and visitors alike as we eagerly await **AGIOTFEST Day** on September (12th)

Likeminded individuals all wish us well and in many cases we are delighted to welcome fresh ideas that complement our main theme. **Artists, Craft-workers/ Demonstrators, Poets, Authors and Street-Entertainers** each with something different to offer are willing to participate in officially recognized **FRINGE SHOWS** along the route to the festival/concert field from 12 noon up to the 6pm opening of the **EVENING CONCERT** with the headline act **The Dylan Project** with main supporting act, **Richie Henderson's East of Memphis band**. Such complementary acts, artists, demonstrators and performers should provide a wealth of existing established talent as well as some who may be exhibiting for the first time to have a stage to promote themselves to a greater audience. Greek, ex-Pat British, German and Dutch/Flemish communities are in

for a treat at this years **AGIOTFEST**, not only in witnessing a form of Island Musical History as we engage a leading number of musicians currently touring the UK at sellout leading venues but actually being part of a great adventure with the prospect of developing this venue into becoming the **Cropredy in the Sun**.

During my now regular travels around the island gaining support for the Festival in the form of appointing Ticket Sellers / Promotional Outlets and general P.R I have been fortunate enough to meet a wonderful locally based, German Artist.

Her name is **Brigitte Martin** and declares that her art-works may be regarded as..... "Modern Expressionism" and is currently preparing an **FREE** exhibition in Gouvia's marina area at the **Kontokali Hotel Gardens on the 20th June**. She has adopted our Agiotfest adventure with such a great enthusiasm as she has undertaken to sell tickets for our event of the 12th September, I have been informed by her whilst walking back home following our recent meeting **BRIGITTE HAD SOLD 2 TICKETS.....Great Stuff Brigitte..... 1st prize for fastest seller goes to you.**

So in the ethos of our own quest I can proudly announce a complementary or allied **ART FORM** to our readership.

EXHIBITION - ART - FOR ONE DAY AND ONE NIGHT

Brigitte Martin, painter, has lived and worked on Corfu since 1994. She now offers an exhibition of her work for one day, extending

into late evening on **20th June 2009** on the outskirts of Kontokali village in the cool surroundings of a shady garden setting. The exhibition will begin at 16:00 pm, well before sunset, so come early to view these paintings in the changing light and see them to best advantage.

Bring a picnic and something to drink. So it's not just an **ART EVENT**, but an opportunity to have a party with friends.

Better park at the Kontokali Bay Hotel and follow the red arrows to the garden.

LATEST NEWS from THE DYLAN PROJECT -

Hot news just in from the UK from Dave Pegg informs me that he currently remains on his latest marathon tour on the **FAIRPORT CONVENTION ACOUSTIC TOUR 09** and in his own words is "quite knackered" shame for the poor old geezer, keep taking the **SANATOGEN** it might even restore a bald pate too. The boys continue to perform to packed houses the length and breadth of the UK, a testament to their magnetism and pulling power. They culminate the UK performances with the **Cropredy Festival** in August just a few weeks ahead of our own **AGIOTFEST 09** - so Dave and Gerry should be rested and recovered sufficiently in the period between to give their all along with **Steve Gibbons, PJ Wright** (currently in recording studios) and keyboardist **Philip Bond** in the **Dylan Project's** first **CORFU GIG**.

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The Road to Agiotfest 09
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PHILIP (00 Gauge) BOND – A Corfu Light Railway (C.L.R) fan – in miniature form has a great affection for everything Greek as you may guess from his recent communication with me.



“Thanks for the e- mail Phil,. I'm pretty busy at the moment. As you know things are a little tough-economically speaking- but I'm managing to stay buoyant. I'll try to answer your questions for the mag.

A brief history.

Born in the city of Worcester.

Started piano lessons at age 9. Lot of music in my family. grandfather was the bandmaster for the town band in Ireland. My piano teacher was a good friend of Elgar, he was also sub organist of Worcester Cathedral. He encouraged me to improvise from a very early age. I've been doing it ever since. Formed a duo at secondary school and it's gone on from there. Names that I've played with include Del Shannon, Eddie Holman, Ruby Turner and of course Steve Gibbons who I've worked with a lot over many years. Various guys from Jazz such as Tony Levin, Don Rendell, Harry Beckett and Henry Lowther. Written music for the BBC. Had a musi-

cal performed by the Liverpool Children's theatre.

Played Greek music for about 8 years. Backed a Greek Singer called Knoussis on a UK tour in the 80s. Worked with a lot of Greek musicians in England in clubs restaurants and weddings Christenings etc. I still play Greek music. I especially like the old school such as Hiorti, Gazangides, and the poetry of Gerge Seferis. I'm not sure what's happening in modern Greek music at the moment. Though I do listen to Ross Daly.

I'm playing Jewish music as we speak with a fiddle and double bass player and will be doing some gigs in England in the near future.

I play everyday, write and improvise. got my own recording set-up and do some everyday. I love all music. I get out of my musical comfort zones and enjoy learning new stuff. I've been a regular with the DPs for about three years though they called me up for odd gigs before then. **A previous visit to Corfu was for pleasure. It would have been in the mid 80s and we stayed in Kassioyi. Very nice.**

I don't play any traditional Greek instruments such as the Bazouki or Barglama. But I know a lot of Greek songs. Tsitatelli. Zebbecchiko, the women's dances in 7/8.

I like Greek culture film and literature. Z introduced me to Theodorakis, thence to the artists who resisted the Colonel's regime of the 60s.

I'm looking forward to reconnecting to all things Greek in September. I'm brushing up on my Kalamatianos!! Cheers to you and all your AGIOTFEST CREW/fans”-Phil Bond

As you may gather from Phil Bond's note he is a great addition to the Dylans and an enthusiastic Grecofile; we look forward to meet-

ing you too mate.

We may be able to chew the cud over a glass or two of **IONIAN BEER** too as the Micro Brewery based in Arillas has extended its range in producing a great **REAL ALE** that is **CHEMICAL FREE** Pilsner, Stout, Light Indian Pale Ale, Bitter now complement its existing **LAGER** brew and may be available “on tap” yes **DRAUGHT BEER** at **AGIOTFEST** this September. This ale is testament to the efforts of the Arillas Brewery and dedication to the quality of their product both in strength, flavour and presentation.

REAL ALE TO COMPLEMENT REAL MUSIC hic, hic !!

AGIOTFEST – Ticket Availability As previously stated, our ticket sellers grow in number and we have allocated/appointed **OFFICIAL TICKET OUTLETS** in Sidari, Acharavi, Arillas, San Seffanos and Afionas in the North West. Dassia, Kontokali and Corfu Town areas too are covered. Dutch hosts, Lenno and Seas offer a welcome visitor great hospitality and **JAMM SESSIONS** and **TICKET SALES** at their Taverna in Temploni called @Home .

Full details available of **TICKET AVAILABILITY** and **OUTLETS** on our. **FESTIVAL OFFICIAL WEB SITE:** www.agiotfest.com

Seating is limited to 1000 so hurry up and book your seat for this musical and festive extravaganza to gain advantageous positions. Standing area tickets on sale from late August are restricted to rear of auditorium positions however please note.

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The Road to Agiotfest 09
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DEMONSTRATION and FRINGE ACTS

Anyone interested in exhibiting art work, craft demonstrations or musical fringe acts seeking to perform at various locations around the village in the afternoon of AGIOTFEST DAY should contact me as soon as possible to arrange matters and discuss the possibility of inclusion in the event. - **PHIL MAWSON 6943050593**

FESTIVAL DETAILS

The evening AGIOTFEST 09 concert/main event is set to be in grounds near the centre of the village at 8pm(concert starts).

AGIOTFEST 09 OFFICIAL T-SHIRTS (Reservations advised), SOUVENIRS, PROGRAMMES/AGIOT SPECIAL EDITION will be available for purchase at the FESTIVAL LIMITED EDITION/QUANTITY come early to avoid disappointment as these items are set to become COLLECTORS ITEMS of VALUE in due course.

Keep posted by reading the AGIOT and see the AGIOTFEST TWITTER set up by Alan Smith on line HAVE YOUR SAY.

YAMMAS EVERYONE and ROCK-ON.

Phil Mawson JUNE 09

News From the North

By Uncle Bulgaria
Contributing Editor

You have to laugh one village up here is green motivated they have seperate recycling bins , tins in one, bottles in another , plastic in another, along come the dustbin truck and empties them all in one truck together. Is this a waste of EU money?

Swine Flue WHAT A FIASCO, all over the world big publicity , it's a big nothing, through out the world how many cases? how much money spent in prevention and advertising, what a load of cobblers. 3 weeks ago I was driving past the jail near English Cemetry and there were 2 ambulances outside with loads of police wearing their macho guns and surgical masks, the mate I was with said to one of the police "whats going on . swine flue" they answered yes 2 cases in the jail. What a load of crap, I suppose Corfu cannot be left out. Anybody heard about anything ongoing? I doubt it.

The other day I happened to accidentally tune in to Aqualand Radio, I have to say what a tosser the DJ was could not speak a single coherent sentence, must be an Island radio reject.

The tourists are here , boy are

they tight , example sitting in a bar / restaurant in Rodha and 4 tourists stopped and read the menu, priced it, and I heard one woman say to one of the guys, "If we all eat there it will cost 25 euros" how tight 4 people have grub for 25 euros, the island is doomed.

Generosity, John Taylorson a renowned England North West coast entertainer, here on holiday,eating in a Acharavi restaurant of good repute, from the kindness of his heart got on stage to entertain.

His brother Alan who lives here and likes to play with his organ , got up and gave accompaniment. All free of charge. (probably piddled).

What a shame that there were virtually no other guests to enjoy this virtuoso appearance. Like every restaurant in the North, the punters ain't got no dough, how do the restaurants get the punters through the door for christ's sake?

Lets hope that things will improve, in the meantime I am making a bomb selling straws to the tourists so they can buy one beer and share it.

Well that's it for now, I am and always will be,

Obnoxious Al.

Aunty Lula's Love-bites

Pork Chops in Barbeque Sauce

Ingredients:

- 4 Pork Chops
- Salt & Pepper
- 3-4 tbs Olive Oil
- 1 Green Pepper (diced)
- 1-2 Onions (sliced)
- 3 tbs Wine Vinegar
- 3 tbs Lemon Juice
- 2 tbs Worcestershire Sauce

- 1 tbs Mustard
- 300 ml Tomato Ketchup
- 2-3 tbs Brown Sugar
- 300 ml Water

Go:

1. Heat the oil in a frying pan and brown the chops on both sides, 2 at a time. Transfer to a large pan.
2. Add the sliced onions to the frying pan and sauté for 2-3

- minutes. Transfer to the large pan, with chops.
3. Stir in remaining ingredients. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and cover pan and simmer for 1 hour or until the chops are tender; turning them from time to time.
4. Serve.

CORFU WEATHER STATISTICS

So far this month the highest temperature has been 26C, but the forecast for the near future suggests something in excess of 30C with no mention of anything but sunshine. The single periods of rain that we have suffered has produced 1,00 mm., just enough to save a day's watering of gardens. However the total rainfall for the year has been 584,2 mm., rather more than usual. The average temperatures for last month were consistently higher than last year, but they were always tempered by more breezy conditions.

Records to date:

Rain in 1 hour: 19.7 mm at: 14:08 on: 14 Dec 2008 - We

inflated the dinghies.

Daily rain: 71.5 mm at: 17:43 on: 14 Dec 2008 - *We set sail.*

High temperature: 37.1 °C at: 15:09 on: 15 Aug 2008 - *Record ice-cream sales too.*

Low temperature: -10.2 °C at: 20:23 on: 06 Apr 2008 - *shiver!*

High wind gust : 183.2 kmh from 270° at: 13:58 on: 21 Dec 2008 - *we tied down Alfie and Andy.*

Corfu Light Railway

By
E. Porter

I should like to thank Phil Mawson for his illuminating and nostalgic article on the C.L.R. published last month. It is one of the unsung pearls of our island, this siding of history forgotten by so many, yet not all.

I would like to draw his attention to a small fact which escapes his excellent essay. The signal gantry at Bay in Agios Ioannis (between Mr. How Much's Supermarket and the Spider Bar), was in fact still in existence until 1991. This microcule of locomotive legend is attested to by well-known Agiot Mr Colin Christie of Oban, who many a night sat at Dino's bar and gazed wistfully skyward at this engineering masterpiece, sadly removed in the nineties after a piece of it crumbled away and smote a passing donkey.

I for one look forward to the return of Kerkyra steam.

Earnest Porter



"The Railwaymen"



"Hundreds gather to protest Global Warming"

Pomp and Circumstance

By Dr. Lionel Mann
Contributing Editor

Sir Henry Wood often recalled the astonishing spectacle at the London premiere of Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance March No.1" that he conducted with the London Symphony Orchestra in the Queen's Hall in 1902. "The audience simply rose and yelled. We had to play it again - with the same result; in fact, they refused to let me go on with the programme." After a long delay while the audience roared its applause he brought on the soloist for the next item, but he had to play the march a third time merely to restore order before being allowed to proceed.

At the time Elgar, later knighted, had been asked to set to music a "Coronation Ode" written by the poet Arthur Benson for the coronation of King Edward VII. Benson added to the Ode especially to accommodate the magnificent tune and wrote the words of "Land of Hope and Glory", which was a great success.

The march seems to have a rousing effect upon any audience. During my later years in New Zealand as well as being organist for a number of choral societies, N.Z.B.C. and the N.Z.S.O. when they needed one, I also played the four-manual-and-pedal monster in Wellington Town Hall. The National Party was holding its pre-election convention there and asked me to provide background music for their dinner

and to play for an hour before the Leader's Address by Sir Robert Muldoon.

"Background music" posed something of a problem on that giant, but I managed to avoid upsetting the soup. For the second occasion, however, I was able to "let my hair down" with a succession of quite boisterous numbers interspersed with a few more quiet pieces in order to give the audience's ears a chance to recover. When planning the programme I searched for something that would prepare for the leader's "rallying call". "Pomp and Circumstance No.1" was made to measure.

I generally avoid playing transcriptions; there is an extensive glorious treasury of music composed especially for the organ. For this occasion, though, I made an exception, bought a piano transcription of the march, from that prepared a version for organ and practised hard; the big tune is easy but the surrounding material has its moments!

I was completely unprepared for its reception. The packed audience sang along with the tune on its first appearance, fairly roared it for its repeat and then erupted into tumultuous applause. I had finished my programme almost exactly on time so I switched off the blower and the console lights, swung from the stool to bow and started to close the console shutters.

"No! Again! We want it again!" A voice roared above the racket.

I looked down to where the "top brass" had risen from their seats at the front of the stage. Everybody was clapping and nodding assent. When I reopened the shutters, switched on the lights and blower, the applause redoubled.

The second time around was unrestrained enthusiasm, and though this time I used even the deafening high-pressure reeds of the organ for the repeat of the magnificent tune, the audience of more than a thousand matched them in a veritable welter of sound.

Enough was enough. I had exceeded my time-limit by more than ten minutes and would need to hurry to avoid keeping a pupil waiting for his lesson. Quickly I closed the organ despite continuing applause and, rather than wasting time negotiating the artistes' rooms, hastened along the back of the stalls to slip out through the main exit. Descending the stairs to the foyer I passed Sir Robert ascending. I had kept him waiting and if looks could kill I should have dropped dead on the spot!

The National Party comfortably won the election, returning them to power, and I was invited to their celebratory reception. I had a great time and obviously had been forgiven for disrupting their timetable.

Scherzando says

People Observations

IF YOU TELL THE TRUTH, YOU DON'T HAVE TO REMEMBER ANYTHING.



Generally speaking, you aren't learning much whilst your lips are moving!

We are born naked, wet and hungry, and get slapped on our arse then things just get worse!?



If at first YOU don't succeed, skydiving is probably not for you?



Just remember you're unique. Just like everyone else.



Thought for next Month:-
Some days you are the bug, some days you are the wind-screen!



Never test the water with both feet



PROPERTY PAGES



Land in Pelekas

Delightful land not far from the historic village of Pelekas with sea views and very secluded. Four thousand square metres of olive grove for sale, priced € 120,000 or alternatively, the site can be divided into two and each two-thousand square metres plot thereby would cost €65,000.

Guide Price: € 120,000



Villa Felice

This magnificent 4 bedroomed villa is four hundred and fifty square metres and stands atop a hill on the outskirts of Almiros on the north coast of Corfu, within a mile or so of the lively small town of Acharavi. Featuring ensuite bathrooms and under floor heating, viewing is encouraged to see all the benefits of this property.

Guide Price € 2,000,000



Land near Messaria

This plot of land measures approx. 970 square metres and is situated near the picturesque old village of Messaria in the north of the island of Corfu, on the route to Sidari. A building of about 124 square metres would be allowable on this piece of land. Utilities are within immediate reach and a topography is available.

Guide Price € 50,000



Agios Douli

This is a detached village cottage, 85 square metres in size, set in 1000 square metres of garden. Situated in the traditional village of Agios Douli, North Corfu, on the way towards Roda. This cottage consists of 2 bedrooms, a bathroom, kitchen and a large lounge.

Guide Price € 120.000



Agios Ioannis - Panorama

This superb two stremmas is situated in the heart of Agios Ioannis, and yet is secluded with unbroken views over the valley below. There is permission to build up to two dwelling houses on this site but one house only may be the solution. Utilities are close at hand, as are schools, shops and easy access to Corfu town.

Guide Price: € 70.000



Hlomos

This is a two-bedroom village terrace cottage, with 75 square metres of living space. Newly modernised and renovated with some wonderful new features which include a featured working fireplace and a good quality spiral staircase leading to a top floor with amazing views.

Guide Price: € 120.000