

77th Edition

The Agiot

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Village News



eastern Clean Monday is March 3rd; western Ash Wednesday is two days later this year when Easter is celebrated on the same day by all churches, April 20th. That will make it easy for anyone wishing to come to witness the unique Corfiot celebrations of the festival – great fun!

Mandy is growing fast; it is becoming difficult to distinguish between her and her dad.

By Dr. Lionel Mann

ED.

Sitting outside in the warm sunshine in February is a good reason for living on Corfu. We have been subjected to left-overs of the storms that have plagued the West, but nothing like as bad. I can remember the regular 'February filldyke' that we experienced in East Anglia, an area in the rain shadow from the prevailing westerly winds, and that is all that we have here after Italy has been drenched.

As evidence of 'hard times', many lopped trees can be observed dotted around the island. For those on very low incomes, needs must, even though this type of felling is illegal and shameful to nature. This particular example in Agios is on the land of not impoverished persons. What justification?

Zayra is out of hospital and being cared for by her son. Uncle Angelos is still reported as being in 'etsi-ketsi' condition. Wolfgang is back home and improving. He will go to Germany for treatment.



Carnival season ends on Sunday and

In Memory of Julia Grice

Julia Grice passed away in February, following a long fight with cancer. Anybody who met Julia would have been impressed by her positive attitude to life and her bravery. She really was a diamond. She first came to Agios in the early part of this century and was back again for the last time for Agiotfest 13, enjoying the day with a smile for all, despite her pain. Commiserations go to her loving husband Mike, who



shared the 'worst' as well as the 'better' with this noble spirit.

From her husband Mike:

Thank you to everyone of Julia's friends who have gathered today to celebrate her life. The family have been overawed not only by the number of people who attended the church service but also those who came to her wake. Sleep well my dear - be with you soon. X

This is the link to Julia Grice's photo album used at her celebratory wake on Friday 21st February.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/atbtaijflmfgsf3/Ur7imw9uMn>.

I can't thank Meagan Sarah Photography for her help and assistance in scanning, re-editing the old photographs and printing them in such a short space of time.

All the photographs were taken during the day (as you were told to do) and please treasure these and use them to remember the warm, kind, caring and smiling woman she was.

The collection to Macmillan Nurses has reached over £900 and is still coming in - i'll advise of the total in the next few weeks.

AGIOTFEST: AUGUST 30TH 2014 AGIOS IOANNIS, CORFU.

By The Minstrel



THE DATE IS SET. ALL WHO CAN PLEASE PUT THE DATE IN YOUR CALENDAR AND DON'T MISS THE 6TH AGIOTFEST, LONGEST-RUNNING ROCK, FOLK AND JAZZ FESTIVAL IN CORFU.

No acts have been confirmed as yet, but several negotiations are under way and I hope to publish something of interest in April.

One can never be sure, but I think this is going to be another good'un. The team we have remains largely unchanged. Because of that strength and their commitment to this cause, it is little wonder the Festival has gained the sound reputation that it has.

A couple of new people are set to join the team and in future issues there will be more news on this too. Please go to www.facebook.com/agiotfest for daily posts. If you have not already done so, please register your 'like' on the page.

Later on you can get more comprehensive news at www.agiotfest.com It is not TOO late to put forward suggestions for acts. Simply mail in.

From the Editor

Thanks for your comments and mails, they are all welcomed and encouraging.

Refer to 'Fleishpots from the North'; a most interesting treatise

on whisky and whiskey [hic!], well worth the read. And try to answer the quiz set by Mark and mail in your answer!

A joyous welcome to our Spring

from Hilary, informative substance. A big thank you to all our contributors. If anybody wants to submit their own, here is the place to do it.

Letters to the Editor

Ed,

Re answer to quiz in Agiot?

Can only think question Sasa Stolic refers to a Serbian Pop star who either sang "white Christmas" or was No1 at Xmas in Serbia

Hard one that!

Les Woods

Les, I think we are still awaiting an answer to this one!

Ed.

What a lovely read!!

Robert Bennett,
Glasgow.

What a lovely comment. Ed.

Hi Mr Ed,

Thanks for the latest news I hope you and your family are all Ola Kala.....

I am coming to Corfu in April and will arrive Sunday the 13th of April in the afternoon. I look forward to meet again.

Leen.

Dear Paul,

how is Lionel Mann keeping?
Great to hear from you and I will download your newsletter! Kind regards

Angel Butler

Lionel is taking a special potion- unknown origin- which is making him younger. He sends his regards Angel. He cannot see well but still manages his article with the largest font.

Ed.

Hi Ed,

I have had a quick browse through The Agiot, good read as always, noticed some excellent news there is a date for this years Fest, any ideas who will be on this year? can I put this news on twitter.

you know you have our support,

Ken & Jan xx

Thank you Ken and Jan. Many ideas, as you can read in the short article. Nothing confirmed as of going to print. Yes please, Twitter away!

Ed.

THE AGIOT

Good morning from WELLINGTON

We are having a belated summer
Trust all well in CORFU
Or
KEKERIA

ANGELO
WELLINGTON
NEW ZEALAND
Greetings New Zealand.

Video Corner

There is only one Corfu

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?v=10151916266481857&set=vb.119250641856&type=2&theater>

Ronnie Corbett and Harry Enfield

http://www.bbc.co.uk/comedy/clips/p00ctlvg/the_one_ronnie_clips_blackberry_sketch/

The Hermit Of Gully Lake

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

Mr President

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-pzlZPRvx8#t=76>

Never lose your head.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-NzRMPsnC3s>

When Nitsa was Young

By
Lord Biro

Chapter 8: Going to Germany

On August 25th 1957 Kostas and his Nitsa were married in Agios Ioannis and settled to connubial bliss.

A new job opportunity opened for young Kostas. The old airport was about to be rebuilt and expanded. Workers were required for the heavy manual labour required [no luxury of bulldozers then].

Kostas enrolled and for four years he worked at the Kapodistra terminal, for a wage of 50 drachmas per day. The area of the current airport was marshland, and extremely muddy, Kostas recalls. The men had to load vast quantities of this mud to be removed from site. It was hauled to deep hollows of land near the Varipatades quarries. Then began the back-breaking slog of laying-by hand- the massive foundations required.

In September of 1961 this work was complete. During this time their first daughter Lula was born in April of 1958, followed two years later by Anna.

With the work finished Kostas was young and adventurous, and not in a frame of mind to go back to the land. The taverna [in those days a small kafeneio] did not provide sufficient income for a growing family. There were no tourists then, only local trade. But opportunities for foreign guest-workers beckoned in Germany. Also, he lost his brother in September of 1960, followed by a favourite Uncle Nikos in 1961, so an 'escape' was on the cards.

Karamalis had an agreement with Germany for 250,000 workers to travel north. Some things never

change in Corfu. First, many bureaucratic hurdles had to be leapt. An application to fill in, a passport to obtain, various 'pieces of paper' and, ominously, a certificate from Corfu Police to confirm that Kostas was not an active Communist. A problem. The police refused this permit, telling him that he was 'left-wing', therefore not desirable. 'You can go only if you sign this', and handed him a declaration for him to sign that he was anti-Communist. Kostas refused, always being very much his own man, saying he was Socialist but no further left than that. 'Then you can't go!' the police persisted.

As it often does, fate played its hand. About a year before this incident a young local politician named Lyknos had come to Agios Ioannis, searching for votes for his upcoming candidacy. He fell into discussion with Kostas, during which time he noticed and was enchanted by the pretty little toddler at her father's side; Anna [who now runs the taverna]. So smitten was he, he offered to be her Godfather.

Mr Lyknos rapidly rose to be Minister Of Agriculture in the Greek Government and Kostas was quick to go to see him for some mediation with his impediment. By this time he had been applying, unsuccessfully, for nine months. The Minister, still a Corfu resident, went to see the police, who immediately issued the required permit. [Vismos!]

Then Kostas could go to Athens, for there he had to go before a 'Board of Medical Examiners'. Only the fittest applicants were wanted. He set sail from Corfu on the Angelika, which was making too much smoke and noise for the eighteen

hour voyage to Athens, via the Corinth isthmus. After successfully satisfying the Doctors he boarded the Kolokitronis with 800 other souls, bound for Brindisi. The party consisted of men and couples. Kostas had left his wife and young family in Corfu, while he scouted the opportunity.

Over a day on the boat and a long train journey north[eight to a cabin] at Munich he got off with about seventy co-workers. Buses took them to their destination, Windischeschenbach. [try saying that after a coup of Kostas'reds!!], in Neustadt (Waldnaab), Bavaria.

Here twelve people alighted and were soon allotted a single-room each in 'New Houses', where they shared kitchen and toilet facilities. The housing was next to a large porcelain factory. Work began the very next day.



[I should add here that, during this tale, Kostas suddenly sprung up from the kitchen table, as he had done last month, with cramp in his leg, Nitsa again scuttling after him with fingers and cream. Is this a stage act I was beginning to wonder? He retired to his bedroom above the taverna and a little while later, relaxing in his bed, he continued with his narrative.]

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When Nitsa was Young
Continued from Page 4

He was given an apron and his job every day was to carry 600 stacked trays of moulds, each weighing 60 kilos [no wonder he is such a strong man], from the workbenches where women sat, four or five metres to wagons, which were then pushed by other workers into the firing ovens, where the temperatures reached 1200 degrees C.

After his first week he was moved into his permanent lodging, where he had his own toilet. This cost him 60 Marks per month, but in time the factory provided free accommodation. In this new dwelling he stayed for his first nine months.

His first impression of Germany was the hard work and the small money. For his labours he earned 2 Marks and 12 pfennigs per hour, for a seven hour day five days per week. But the houses were good, warm and clean and overtime was available. There was free health care and a wash-room for laundry. They were

allowed a one hour break between 8.00.A.M and 11.00.A.M in the canteen, where Kostas spent one Mark for a snack and refreshment.

There was not much to do in spare time, except write to Nitsa in Corfu. There was not a telephone. Every two to three weeks a room was offered for music and dancing, a band played and food and drink could be had. This was a time to socialise with other Greeks and also workers from Spain, Portugal, Italy and Yugoslavia. Kostas learnt as much of these languages during this time as he did German.

There was one church [Catholic], which Kostas attended once. Kostas did not like the cold German winter.

After nine months he sent his wife an invite to join him through his employer. The year was 1962.

She had to go through the same hoops as her husband to get all the necessary papers but there was no problem this time with the police. Off to Athens she went for her medical examination. On the way back to

Italy the boat docked briefly at Corfu. The girls were taken down to wave to their Mum from the quay. Lula remembers crying and being too sad. It would be a long four to five months before she would see her Mum again.

Eventually, in the summer Kostas returned to Greece to fetch his daughters. He was laden with seconds from the porcelain factory, welcome gifts for the villagers. As the boat approached the island he was impressed by the suntanned sailors, working bare-chested on the decks, their skins in sharp contrast to his pale northern complexion.

At home he had a heroes welcome, of course. Lula could not contain herself and ran into his arms, but Anna shrank back, not recognizing this 'strange white foreigner'.

He stayed in Corfu for five days before returning to Germany, this time with his Princesses.

Hilary's Ramblings

By
Hilary Paipeti

On Rain and Springtime

17/2: No sooner, in last month's column, had I fretted over lowish levels of rainfall (though Lionel, who doesn't tramp across fields and ditches like me, wrote last month that he thought it had been

plentiful) than the heavens opened. Someone was listening, as they do, and we had ten days or so of wet weather. Apart from a couple of severe squalls, this was the 'right sort of rain', the kind of moderate, steady precipitation which soaks the ground and trickles down to the aquifers, instead of running off as heavy downpours do.

So now the fields are a little squelchy and the ditches at least trickling, though not at the levels of the last couple of winters.

Why, when our annual rainfall is about twice the amount of many places in the UK (and all in a much shorter period) do we not get flooding of the sort suffered on the Somerset Levels and along the Thames and Severn? According to some scientists, it's not all about downstream flood defences, but more to do with management of water in the rivers' upper reaches. For example,

Welsh hill farmers in the Severn's catchment planted bands of trees as shelter for their sheep - and found that water from flash rainstorms ran into the ground rather than over it. In fact, rain on trees is absorbed an astonishing 67 times faster than rain on grassland. It's estimated that partial forestation of a catchment reduc-

es downstream flow by nearly 30%, and full forestation by 50%. Here we must thank those Venetian subsidies which prompted 16th and 17th century Corfiot farmers to cover our hills with olive trees, thus turning the ground into a vast sponge that holds onto the water and releases it slowly - the reason we generally don't suffer summer drought either.

Here in Corfu we additionally benefit from past and present maintenance of our watercourses. Take the Ropa River, of which a tributary runs past the end of my garden. The Ropa Plain was drained also in Venetian times, and from being a huge shallow lake it is now a patchwork of pastures bordered by ditches which continue to drain the land, and larger conduits which carry rainfall quickly into the main channel, all clearly man-made.

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Hilary's Ramblings
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The vast rainfall which hits the hills of the west coast and cascades into the Ropa Valley has been tamed.

Elsewhere, the relatively steep lie of the land means quick run-off has carved well-defined watercourses naturally. Low-lying Corfu Town doesn't flood to any large extent due to good drains (again mostly a legacy of Venice). Our Ropa River has a very steep fall of 39 metres from the plain to sea level, keeping floodwaters moving quickly downstream.

So I remain unworried about that creek at the foot of the garden.

Since rain here is rarely constantly heavy (though sometimes it feels like it is!), you can choose to walk in the breaks, or at least when precipitation is lighter. Rain or shine, I am obliged to take a walk at least three times a day due to my two dogs being both house- and garden-trained, so suitable clothing is needed. The more torrential sort of Corfu rain gets through anything except guaranteed waterproof gear. Unless your trousers are also waterproof, there's a big downside to a really good jacket. It's called 'Cagoule Thigh', and it's an unpleasant affliction caused by rain running off your waterproof and soaking into your trouser leg above the knee. It then starts to wick upwards, resulting in an even more unpleasant malady when it gets into your underwear - 'Cagoule Crotch'. My own inexpensive rainjacket leaks at the shoulder seams and along the arms when I'm caught out in a heavy shower. When a certain level of wetness is reached in the fabric, the jacket then generously transfers the moisture into my previously cosy fleece, thus causing the ailment known as 'Fleece Shoulder'.

I wonder why sheep don't seem to be bothered by it?

20/2: With the weather generally mild (though in Lionel's view it's chilly) the spring flowering has been more advanced than in the last couple of years. Daisies and Marigolds and

tufts of Honesty are blossoming in drifts. Tall spikes of Asphodel have appeared and Mediterranean Hartwort is displaying its lace-like flowerets.

Asphodels grow in abundance all over Corfu. They have long slender leaves and flowers borne on a spike; white star-shaped flowers with a hint of pale pink around the edges. In Greek legend they grew on the Elysian Fields, where each one was said to represent a human soul.

Hartwort, or Tordillium, has a parsley-like leaf but in a form more softly rounded, and of a gentler green. In Greek it is called 'Mouscholano' (sweet-scented weed) and it is much prized in the mix of wild greens for boiling (horta) and especially when the mix is to be used for tsigarelli, in which the greens are re-cooked with oil and hot paprika. It can also be eaten raw, and indeed has a flavour similar to parsley, only sweeter. I can imagine some sleb chef 'discovering' it as a yuppy garnish, except it wouldn't be commercially viable all year round because the leaves die down after it runs to seed. Once formed, the seeds are amusing in close-up; they look exactly like a set of dentures.

A characteristic flower of February and March is the Anemone. When it opens, the flower is an intense purple, fading day by day almost to white. About the name: It's taken from the Greek word 'anemos' meaning 'wind', a reference to the way the flowers on their slender stalks bend and tilt according to the direction of the breeze. Think about this Greek word when you pronounce the name and you are less likely to get it wrong - because many folk mistakenly call the flower 'Anemony'.

I think this is due to the fact that we are more familiar with saying 'an enemy' than 'anemony', so we tend to switch the last two consonants.

Later in the season and higher in the hills, a second native anemone blooms. This is Anemone blanda, so called because its colour is less vibrant than its in-your-face-purple cousin. Actually, the flower is far from bland; its

shade hovers somewhere between pale violet and sky blue. It's a lovely sight to see the two species growing side by side.

I love the flowers at this time of year, and it's a shame that by the time the bulk of early-season visitors arrive they have faded and gone straggly.

21/2: Sometime between 7.30 and midday on Thursday 20 February, Spring sprung. Though I am not always observant during my brief early morning dog-walk, I would surely have noticed if the trees were in leaf. They weren't; they carried just the red-tinged fuzz that indicates budding.

But by the time of our later main walk, green had burst forth on some specimens. Isn't it nice to be able to identify the moment Spring arrives?

The mass leafing makes me wonder whether the arboreal world perhaps possesses an Interroot, an underground Internet, so to speak. It may go something like this:

OldManWillow on Facebook: 'Shakin' it this Spring! Have a look at my trelfie *. I'm in leaf! R u yet?'

[* We were unable to post the pic for technical reasons - Ed.] [Ed. pressing the wrong button is a common error.]

Twigger: '@weepingwillow r u leafing? I am lol.'

Meanwhile, a campaign by 38 Detrees is aiming to better coordinate next year's foliation. The message read: 'This Spring, 2014, about a third of our community managed to leaf together. Let's get it up to 90% next Spring! We can do it! Wiggle a root if you want this campaign to go ahead!

'On behalf of 38 Detrees, Hawthorn, Vine, Bush.'

The History Of Carnival In Corfu

Collection from the museum, translated by Aleko Damaskinos.



This Article was originally posted in <http://www.corfu-museum.gr>

Original Article by John Petsalis

English Translation by Aleko Damaskinos

We commence by describing the Corfu carnival with the following publication in the literary section of the newspaper "ACROPOLIS", Volume 1, Number 10 (1888).

In Corfu they all frequented with their families the clubs and other common meeting places, wearing every type of mask and fancy dress. The aristocrats co-exist with the working class and the working-class daughter dances and inter-mixes with the wealthy boys. Even the older men forget their hated old age, flirt and take part in the merriments and many times.....dream of their former love life.

Freedom reigns between the sexes and of course they all forget their house rules during these three weeks of amusement. Everybody has a great time, enjoying the dances and the full debauchery of these occasions.

The "Triad" (Three Sundays of car-

nival) as our ancestors ridiculed it and called it Lahanofaon" (Cabbage eater) because during Lent this custom was introduced for all to eat great quantities of greens vegetables.

Carnivals were social celebrations and didn't have any religious connotations.

Very few are the ones who fast during this period, mainly the clergy and the lay people of the church or "takounades" as they were called by Laskaratos, because most villagers are mainly non-meat eaters due to poverty and not due to any religious belief.

They don't intend to become meat-eaters for these days in order to be cleansed on Clean Monday, so they say farewell to meat!

According to the origin of the word "carnival" derives from the Frankish word "carne-vale" ("enjoy meat").

In most villages a small dance takes place in the forecourt of the church and many with fancy dress make their appearance carrying gold, silver, precious stones and every conceivable sort of decoration.

During the British Protectorate though our satirical poets did not leave unscathed the dances performed by the authorities and the aristocratic congregations to which common people were alien to. They rejected and satyrised all the happenings in that area, in other words the archaic customs of the people and their dignity. Carnivals were closely connected to theatrical performances. The theatre is the soul, the centre and focus of everything.

The feelings of flirting, falling in love and the intentions of people and their relationships all wake up again! We find all these virtues in the theatre and we are all very interested. They please us. During the carnival period we have the "Mantsies", the very active evening parties in which their "financed feelings" will be seen.

The writers of satyrisms and the singers will shine in the heaven of poetry.

Pockets will be emptied, pass-keys will be made for the drawers of the parents. They will release pigeons and sugared sweets, often even codfish and "kavalorizes" (roots of the cauliflower), animal horns and.....

The theatre was always the arena of victims and many times there were bloody confrontations because of a black or blue eyed girl singer! The usual ending of the last performance was an act of vandalism and so they broke up the seats and the lamps.

Ilias Tsitselis

The History of the Carnival in Corfu
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CARNIVAL IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS

Carnival has its origin in the ancient Greek rituals of Dionysos.

In the Ionian Islands though, especially in Corfu the greatest influence was from the carnival of Venice.

Carnival in Venice was a very old custom and it is mentioned for the first time in 1094.

It is possible that these festivities took place on the island even before that time with fancy dresses and impertinence...

Children and many people sang on the roads :

“Sior mascara ve conosco
Se de bianco se de rosso
Se de verde se de giallo
Siora mascara andemo al ballo”

And in translation :

“Mrs masked one, I know you
If white or red, green or blue
Mrs masked one lets join in the
dance”



The Nobility wore the same fancy dress costumes. A black silk cloak and on their head a three peaked hat.

The men's masks were white and the women's black.

THE HISTORY OF THE THEATRE IN CEPHALONIA (1600-1900)

By Spyros Evangelatos in Athens, 1970, page 14

On Corfu festivals and other festivities took place at the now demolished “Porta Reale”.

The ridiculous carnival festivities

during the Venetian rule by Morosini took place under the stone-built and impressive arcade. In Venice even the Cardinals danced.

Mrs Aliki Nikiforou-Testone in her book : “PUBLIC CEREMONIES IN CORFU, DURING THE VENETIAN RULE” (1999) writes the following on page 411 :

“Formal dinners” (banchetti d'onore)

The official opening for the carnival ceremonies was given by the dinners, offered by the Bailo (Title of a Venetian Governor) on the first Sunday of the “Triad” (The three weeks of carnival) in honour of Corfu Town.

The invited guests to the Vailos Palace did not exceed forty people. Special seats, slightly different to the others for the Catholic Archbishop who wore a “roketo” (kind of dress). The Venetian representative wore a “Romana” (Venetian garment) and the Protopapa (Chief Orthodox Priest) when in attendance marked the code of rites which concern the Governor Captain (18th Century) together with the opposition of the Orthodox Church towards these carnival festivities lead us to the assumption that the absence of the Chief Priest from these carnival banquets were perhaps neither rare nor by chance. Next to Chief Priest was seated the delegation of the Town including the members of the Syndicate, Judges and the members of the “Conclavio” (members of the majority).

In order to reach the number guests, other Corfiots were invited according to the wishes of the Venetian host.

The adjutant of the Bailo issued all invitations three days before to eve-

rybody except the Venetian dignitaries and the Chief Orthodox Priest.

The invitations for these should be given by the Captain of Alavardieri the previous Saturday. On the second Sunday of carnival, the Governor Captain was the host. In his Palace the same events take place without it being the sole formal banquet given during the carnival period.

Banquets were also offered for all the officers of the Venetian fleet when it happened to be anchored in Corfu.

In order to find out what was offered at these banquets we must search on the accountancy books of the “Rason Vecchie” clerks who as we saw earlier controlled the financial management of the “Magistrati”.

The detailed receipts of all payments concerning these formal banquets at the end of the 18th century by the Town Council for the Venetian authorities (from the Corfu archives) help us to form a picture which possibly to a larger extent approaches the corresponding choices of the Venetian Administration.

It is known that the Town of Corfu during these occasions imitated the Venetian customs.

They offered pigeons, turkeys, all kinds of meat cooked with many spices and also fish and other seafood including caviar accompanied by rice or pasta from Venice. Cheeses and sweet wine were also included and were offered in abundance at these formal banquets which were organized by the Town. Some descriptions of the manifestations which accompanied these formal banquets are missing.

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The History of the Carnival in Corfu
Continued from Page 8

In the community archives there is no mention of any kind of music or recitation of poems which normally ended a banquet.

The Palace decorations were similar to the decorations used in all other formal functions.

We are not in the position to know more except for the general festive atmosphere prevailing in the Town. People wearing masks and fancy dress inundated the narrow alleyways (kandounia) of the Town., following a special permit issued by the Bailo....

In order to comprehend the habitual offerings at the banquets in the Serene Republic during the carnival period we must revert to a decision of the 14th century according to which it was forbidden for women to attend such banquets in the Venetian State for the entire duration of the carnival festivities, unless they had a close family connection with the host.

The “Bombaria”- The beginning of the Corfu carnival

The word “bombaria” derives from the word “momare” (to mime) and “bomba” which in the Venetian dialect means “Have a great time.

In Venice the “bombaria” are first mentioned in 1441 and it seems they were a dearly loved entertainment for the Venetians on formal occasions which of course included the carnival.

Initially these took place at gentlemen’s houses and later at public places.

Later they were connected to comedies which included a certain subject.

Mar. Sigouros “CARNIVAL IN THE IONIAN ISLANDS”

From the magazine “Panathinea”, volume 106 (1905).

It must be noted that the “momaria” was a kind of show which was connected to current events and also with the Venetian social problems.

Information we gathered allows us to correlate the “momaria” with the life in Corfu and we learn further that the “momaria” were spreading to the East through the Venetian communities who lived in the regions administered by them. It must be noted that the friendly attitude of the Corfiots towards the Venetian habits is a fact and the local authorities reinforced this feeling with public functions like the carnival.

The Serene Republic in this way wanted to become more acceptable in this manner in order to relieve the conscience of its citizens. We must not forget the presence in Corfu of the well known Antonio Molino, singer, actor who played the lute and the violin. He sang “madrighalia” and recited in the language known as “ G r e c h e s h e ” . He was in Corfu from 1526 to 1527 and became famous as an improviser and attracted the public. We must see that some recitations or some unfinished theatrical performances must have taken place from the time Antonio Molino arrived in Corfu.

On the other hand we must not disregard the possibility of theatrical performances or even some amateur productions in Corfu on the occasion of public rituals which were organized because of the islander’s outlook to Venice.

Carnival was also incorporated in these rituals.

The “madrighalia” is a kind of po-

lyphony but not in the ecclesiastical sense, vocal music which flourished in the Renaissance.

There are combinations of two to eight voices even though three or six would suffice.

The text which is turned into music is always worldly with poems and small sections of prose.

“Grecheshe” is a dialect spoken even today in Southern Italy, the “Grekanka” as it is known. Quite similar to the Italian language spoken by Greeks in Italy.



Platon Mavromoustakas

“ The spectacle in the urban area of the Corfu area- 1996 (February-March).

The circle of seminars with the subject “Modern Greek Theatre (17-20th Centuries).

We described the “mantis” before, but because of the problems they faced they were replaced by the “Kavalkines”.

Before we mention these (circa 1790) it is worthwhile to mention the writings of the traveler Ando Grasset Saint Sauver when he visited Corfu : “The Theatre was intended solely for social activities. Nobody watched the show! They visited theatre boxes in exchange for compliments.

Complete freedom reigned. Some played cards, others were eating... Some theatre-boxes looked like cheap restaurants while others remind us of gaming rooms”.

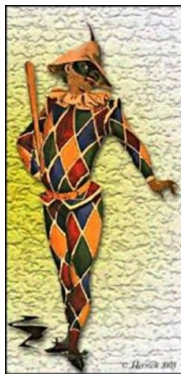
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The History of the Carnival in Corfu
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GIOVANNI GIACOMO CASANOVA-Chevalier de Saingat with Madame F at Corfu.

See above Platon Mavromoustakas "The "troupe" "Comedia dell'Arte" greatly influenced the fancy costumes until today and the most important personalities which emerged from here were :

The Harlequins



The most basic character of the Italian "Comedia dell' Arte" His ancestors were the servants of Aristophanes (The blonde in the "FROGS") not only of Plouto Terentio and the Byzantine mimes but also of the acrobats and jugglers of the Middle Ages.

PIERROTO

He incarnates the character of a simple, naïve but honest servant. He continuously makes blunders and always finds himself in a difficult predicament because he can't hide the truth.

During the last century and a half of Venetian Rule a Naval Officer, Captain or rear-admiral was in charge of entertainments and he was given a budget for an entire year.

He was obliged to bring to Corfu ballets and operas of the 18th century.

The Venetian Naval Officers were the first to standardise the carnival. Intense card-playing took place and there were four "casini" in operation : One for the Venetian Nobility, One for the Corfu Nobility, One for the army together with high government officials and one for the Naval Officers. These "casini" had special areas for people to meet and talk and many tables for playing cards. The card games were : "Tresette", "Briskola", "Passeta" and "Pharaoh".

The notorious Giacomo Casanova attended one and writes : "I spent most of my time in Kaffenions playing "Pharaoh" with a frenzy"!

On the Thursday (of burnt meats) during Venetian Rule and even in the 19th century the children of the aristocracy performed in shows of the "insane".

They dressed up as "mad-children" and turned upside-down the town with their disturbances.

Comedia dell' Arte is the name of the popular Italian comedy of improvisation which was very popular during the 16th and 18th centuries. Soon it was loved beyond the Italian borders.

"Comedia dell'Arte" means "Comedy of Art" not in the sense of artistry but in the sense of technical issues and professionalism. In other words the comedy evolving from the "technicians". These were professional actors in contrast to the amateurs.

It was a group of popular actors who created by themselves their costumes, masks and the peculiarities of their voice and also the various positions of their body. In this way they represented their characters.

It mainly relied on the actors and their improvisations rather than to

the writers of the comedy. Most actors should possess agility and be expert dancers. It was one of the first theatres to include women actresses.

Many dances took place and the last dance could not extend further than midnight on the last Sunday of the carnival, when they removed their masks according to the traditions.

It is mentioned in the archives that there were dances which lasted six days and two nights (veglione) and four nights wearing a mask (cavalchina).

The dances and entertainments did not stop during the Russo-Turkish siege (November 1798-February 1799).

During the British Protectorate the carnival festivities came under strict rules. At the same time strict conditions were applied for the functioning of the theatre

A newspaper of the United States of the Ionian Islands (Gazetta degli Stati Ionie) Number 1847 117 (15 March 1847) writes about the rules and regulations of the theatre signed by Andrea Moustoxidi and Petro Vraila-Armeni.

The performances were published in the formal Newspaper of the United States of the Ionian Islands, Number 1838 384 (23 April 1838)

It must be mentioned that the spectacles, mainly operas were what incited the Corfiots to fill up the "San Giacomo" theatre which ceased to be an area of any other kind of entertainment.

Later the post-midnight dances were moved to other locations in the Town. The quadrilles and "Lansiedes" were danced in halls which had a large dance-piste and an orchestra.

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Specialist dance teachers taught all who were interested making up the "kloo" of the evening especially at the important balls.

Apart from the one at the Municipal Theatre, the dances of the "Old One" will never be forgotten, with Pittako conducting the quadrilles at the "Gimnastirio", "Rolina", "Pikilion" (formerly the ETHNIKO cinema) and the dances in the halls of "Sotiriou" and "Skarabechio" and later at the "Phinika".

The Nobles and the upper classes enjoyed themselves dressed up as "Dominos" and "harlequins". They wore masks and set up stalls at the "Spianada" (The large square in the Town). These were decorated with flowers and other plants. They competed for the best decoration throwing at each other "rodola" (multi-coloured serpantines) and sprayed the passers by with "bombetes" (watered down eau de cologne).

The masked from the "Londonia" (Carriages) threw small bunches of sweet violets to all who passed by. These flowers were grown and cultivated for this purpose all year and on the last Sunday they walked along the "Liston" wearing their masks and waiting for the "Will" and the burning of the King of Carnival at midnight. We must mention that during the Venetian era, they organised equestrian Competitions (Jousting) according to the rules set by the Most Serene Republic. They were known as "Giostres".

The first testimony in Corfu is mentioned in the book by Andrea Marmoras "History of Corfu" in 1599. It is almost certain that these took place a long time before this.

Spyros Evangellatos mentions the following :

After the second world war was declared in Corfu and the carnival festivities were no longer active.

These festivities were re-installed with the initiative of a group of romantic and well known Corfu families in 1955 who decided to continue the traditional celebrations. The families Manessi and Kourkoumeli with great love and care organised these festivities once again and in this way the old Corfu festivities gave a new breath of life to all Corfiots with their dances in the streets and in the Corfu halls, at the "GIMNASTIRIO" and the "PHINIKA".

In 1962 the ORGANISATION OF CORFU FESTIVALS is formed.



nival, Sior Carnavalo!

About ten members got together on Thursday nights. They dressed up wearing masks and held each other by the arms, jumping in the streets and the narrow alley-ways (Kandounia) and mocked all their known people.

They bowed to the shop-keepers and knocked loudly on the knockers of the doors.

They cried out loudly "OO-OO SIORA MASCARA" and generally made a lot of noise. As a rule they were dressed in black satin, dressed as dominos, ladies of

the older times, servants, countesses and in any other form of attire known as "rag fancy dress". They wore black masks and did not remove them...easily.

They went into houses uninvited, but the lady of the house was always forewarned about their visit and with pleasure opened the door. "Hello!" "Welcome!" What can I offer you Mrs masked one? Would you like a coffee? Nothing! They said and never accepted the offer so that they would not remove their mask. They took a few offered sweets with their gloved hand and ate them on the way laughing and joking and sometimes smoked a cigarette in the doorway.

They never visited households which were in mourning and they never troubled the aged. Hurriedly they ended up in the halls of the "ORIVATIKOS" or the "PERIGITIKI" (The Mountain walking and Rambling Societies). The right-wing people went to the "PERIGITIKI". Later they all ended up at the "PHINIKAS" dance Hall. Description by our friend Annie "live" Nounesi.

The "PHINIKAS" dance hall those days held a dance twice a week called "Balle d' Enfants" (Children's dance with masks) and at the same time a "Balle Prolongee" (Dance for the grown-ups).

Who can ever forget the "sweet" voice of KOSTIS who became associated with the carnival? On the last Sunday in this building the dance of the committee always took place and we must not forget the Halls of the "GIMNASTIRIO".

The History of the Carnival in Corfu
Continued from Page 11

We must also never forget Mr Spyros who dressed up and impersonated Charlie Chaplin.

From the time when the carnival was once gain alive, the scouts under Kourkoumelis always constructed a worthy of note float which competed with the equally beautiful floats constructed by the Manessi family and some others. On the last Sunday, floats, groups of masked people and individual masked people headed to the lower esplanade for the award of their prize and later the burning of the "Carnavalos".

They all then made opprobrious gestures singing the following :

"Oh! Mr Carnavalos! What have they done to you? They lit a fuse and then burnt you..."

This praiseworthy endeavour to revive the carnival in 1955 find the people who had just come out of a hard war, an Italian-German occupation, a civil war and all that derives from the above, like mourning, poverty etc.

The ground was fertile for some freedom, gaiety and amusement. As time passed the halls for all these merriments multiplied and of course, every day entertainment for

all became easier and the relations between men and women reached "dizzy heights".

Because everything became very commercial the carnival was led to disdain and I don't think that ever again its creative incentive will be re-created.

This Article was originally posted in <http://www.corfu-museum.gr>

Original Article by John Petsalis
English Translation by Aleko Damaskinos



Nick the Clock's World

What Is Happening In Ukraine Is Far More Important Than Most People Realize

What the people of Ukraine are being put through is absolutely horrible. They are caught in the middle of a massive tug of war between the East and the West, and they are paying a great price for it. Ultimately, Ukraine will end up either being dominated by Russia (a bad outcome) or by the EU and the United States (another bad outcome). Most Ukrainians just want to be free and want to be able to build a better future for themselves and their families, but it is extremely unlikely that they will be able to escape the specter of foreign domination. Meanwhile, the violence in Ukraine is planting the seeds for a potentially much larger conflict down the road. The days of "friendly relations" between the United States and Russia are now gone. Russia is absolutely furious that the U.S. has fueled a violent revolution on its own border, and it is something that Russian officials will not forget for a very long time. In return, U.S. officials are taking an increasingly harsh stance toward Russia. In the end, the seeds that are being planted right now could ultimately blossom into a full-blown conflict between the superpowers in the years to come.

Let there be no mistake - the



United States is heavily involved in what is going on in Ukraine. Even [the New York Times](#) admits this. And the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine and the Assistant Secretary of State [have been caught on tape](#) discussing their next moves in getting a new government installed in Ukraine.

In addition, a number of non-governmental organizations inside the United States have allegedly been assisting and organizing the revolution in Ukraine for a long time. At least a few of these organizations have ties to George Soros. This is something that I discussed in a [previous article](#).

Some of the "progressive" NGOs that have been accused of fueling the violent revolution in Ukraine include the National Endowment for Democracy, Freedom House, and the Open Society Foundations (formerly known as the Open Society Institute).

Please don't misunderstand me. I am not taking sides. I am just pointing out that both sides in Ukraine are controlled. If I was living in Ukraine, I would want both Russia and the United States to go away and leave Ukraine alone.

Instead, Ukraine is being used as a battleground to fight a proxy war between the East and the West. Now that the opposition has gained the upper hand, it does not appear that Russian officials are in any mood [to recognize the new "government"](#)...

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev on Monday said Russia had grave doubts about the legitimacy of those in power in Ukraine following President Viktor Yanukovich's ouster, saying their recognition by some states was an

"aberration".

Medvedev also stated that he has "big doubts about the legitimacy of a whole series of organs of power that are now functioning there."

Last Friday, an agreement was signed by the two sides in Ukraine that was supposed to bring about a peaceful resolution to all of this. But the revolutionaries reneged on the deal and toppled the government instead. Needless to say, Russia [was quite horrified by this](#)...

The Russian Foreign Ministry criticized the West for turning a blind eye to what Moscow described as the opposition reneging on its agreement signed Friday to form a unity government and aiming to "suppress dissent in various regions of Ukraine with dictatorial and, sometimes, even terrorist methods."

So what does Russia plan to do?

That is the big question that everyone is asking.

They are not doing much of anything just yet. But there have been rumors [that we could potentially see some economic blowback](#)...

Russia and the Customs Union could temporarily limit increased-risk food imports from Ukraine, given fears of loose safety control, said Sergei Dankvert, head of the Russian veterinary and phytosanitary oversight service Rosselkhoz-nadzor.

"My Belarusian colleague and I are extremely concerned about the situation in Ukraine. We do not rule out that curbs could be introduced on the imports of products of high veterinary and phytosanitary risks from Ukraine," Dankvert told Interfax after talks with his Belarusian counterpart Yury Pivovarchik in Bryansk, and telephone talks with Ukraine's Deputy Agrarian Policy Minister Ivan Bisyyuk.

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Nick the Clock's World
Continued from Page 13

Of course what the U.S. government is most concerned about is any military action that Russia might take.

National Security Adviser Susan Rice says that what has happened in Ukraine reflects "[the will of the Ukrainian people and the interests of the United States and Europe](#)" and that it would be a "[grave mistake](#)" for Russia to get militarily involved.

But whatever happens over the next few days, nobody should think that the Russians are simply going to abandon their interests in Ukraine. Russia has a very important military base down in the Crimea, and the eastern half of the country is very pro-Russian.

So the struggle between East and West in Ukraine is likely to continue for quite some time to come. The following is an excerpt from [a recent WND article](#)...

The issue with Ukraine is whether it will join the E.U. or Putin's Eurasian Union. The country is roughly divided on this issue between eastern and western Ukraine. The eastern portion wants to remain with Russia while the western side wants to move closer with the West.

In southern Ukraine, where the

Crimea is located, Russian influence remains strong.

Because demonstrators who want to see Ukraine lean westward have become emboldened with their immediate success of ousting Yanukovich, it could make it more difficult for them to come to terms with any settlement agreement to reunify the country.

Moscow has a large naval military facility in Sevastopol in the Crimea and recently received a 25-year lease extension to 2042, with another five-year renewal option until 2047. In exchange, Ukraine received a multiyear discounted contract for much-needed natural gas.

And the pro-Russian eastern half of the country is actually the stronger of the two halves economically. So this will likely [complicate matters](#) for the EU and the U.S. as they try to bring Ukraine into their sphere of influence...

Seven of Ukraine's 10 largest private companies by revenue are either headquartered or maintain the majority of their operations in eastern Ukraine. These firms are owned by some of Ukraine's wealthiest and most influential individuals. Three of these 10 corporations – mining and steel company Metinvest, energy firm DTEK and its subsidiary Donetskstal – are based in the eastern industrial city of Donetsk and are owned by Ukraine's

wealthiest man, Rinat Akhmetov. Interpipe, the company that controls 10 percent of the world market share of railway wheels and more than 11 percent of the world market share of manganese ferroalloys, is based in Dnipropetrovsk and belongs to businessman and politician Victor Pinchuk.

The country's most important businessmen are embedded in the east, where their businesses make disproportionately high contributions to the Ukrainian economy and national budget.

In the end, this proxy war between the East and the West has left Ukraine with a [collapsed economy](#) and on the brink of civil war.

And what has happened in Ukraine has caused permanent damage in the relationship between the United States and Russia.

It won't happen this month or even this year, but someday the U.S. may end up bitterly regretting antagonizing the Russian Bear.

At least that is what I think.

So what do you think?



The World of Simon -

By
Simon Baddeley

Ήμασταν στην Αγγλία για το Καρναβάλι

Τελευταία βδομάδα του Καρναβαλιού και οι προετοιμασίες για την τελευταία Κυριακή, εναλλάσσονται με τη διασκέδαση...

Τελευταία βδομάδα του Καρναβαλιού και οι προετοιμασίες για την τελευταία Κυριακή, εναλλάσσονται με τη διασκέδαση. Έτσι τα μέλη του Χορευτικού

τμήματος της Φιλαρμονικής (γυναίκες στη μεγάλη τους πλειοψηφία), «έκλεισαν» το καφενείο Κεφαλωνίτη το περασμένο Σάββατο και ο χορός καλά κρατούσε...επί ώρες!

From Sunday, in the week before Carnival, rehearsal mixed with fun; the



Rehearsing for Carnival in kafeneio Kefalloniti

members of the dance department of the Band (mainly women), 'closed' the kafeneio Kefalloniti last Saturday and danced -hours into the night! (my translation)

Fleashpots Of The North

By
Mark Thompson

Here's the answer to the one-off post-Christmas quiz: the link between Lidl supermarkets and Ballindalloch Castle is Ben Bracken 12-year old single malt whisky. Between 1966 and 1995 the Tamnavulin distillery produced malt whisky. Though during this period of its life the whisky there produced was to satisfy the growing demands of whisky blenders given increased world-wide consumption. The distillery lies within the village of Tamavoulin (sic) in the district of Ballindalloch wherein is also situated the castle of the same name.

In 1993 ownership of the distillery passed to Whyte and Mackay when the company purchased Invergordon Distillers (the parent company of Tamnavulin-Glenlivet Distillery Co. Ltd.) The Tamnavulin Distillery closed in May 1995. The distillery re-opened in 2007 following extensive modernisation, including the installation a Saladin box!, and now has the capacity to produce 4 million litres of spirituous liquor per year.

During the period the distillery was closed or 'silent' Lidl supermarkets purchased the unsold reserves, bottled and offered it for sale as 'Ben Bracken' 12 year old single malt at an eye-watering €23.99 per 70cl bottle, at least in Corfu. Needless to say, given financial restrictions, I have yet to sample it in liquid form. Last Christmas however, as part of their 'Deluxe' range, Lidl's offered for sale a Seville Orange Marmalade laced with this spirit. It goes without saying that I invested heavily and not being greedy by nature the marmalade lasted throughout the year. Imagine

my disappointment therefore in the autumn when shopping at Lidl's for more of the same only to find that yes they had Seville Orange Marmalade in the 'Deluxe' range but this time only 'flavoured with (unspecified) Scotch whisky'.

This piece is not intended as a 'promo' for Lidl, nonetheless I can recommend the aforementioned 'Deluxe' range that is if you like salmon, hare, venison, pheasant, sea-food, fresh pasta, cheese, cured meats/sausages, jam, marmalade etc., and we do.

Talking of de luxe and whisky the preference of the current Mrs. Thompson is for Irish rather than Scotch whisky and during many visits to the other Emerald Isle, Corfu being the first or is it second with such a designation?, we've spent many happy hours sampling such diverse whiskies as John Powers, Paddy, Jameson, Tullamore, Bushmills, Tyrconnell. Though I would be hard-pressed to say that I actively disliked any one of the aforementioned I wouldn't choose Tyrconnell as my luxury item should I cast-up on a desert island.

Certainly the triple distillation of Irish whiskey adds considerably to its smoothness and the names of the whiskies, to me at least, are all redolent of the oft-invoked 'celtic twilight' recalling in some way, amongst other things, the music of Davy Spillane or Rory Gallagher or Eithne (Enya) or The Pogues, or Van Morrison or even The Saw Doctors, your choice.

In particular the name of *Tullamore Dew* seems to encapsulate for me essence of the 'Irish whiskey experience', though the origin of the name is somewhat more prosaic: whisky was distilled in Tulla-

more, County Offaly, and transported by canal to Dublin. To ensure that the barrels used to carry the whiskey were returned, when empty, to their place of origin the name of distillery and its owner was burned into the wood, thus Tullamore, DE Williams or in brief DEW.

Much as I love the whiskey of Ireland and I do, my first love is scotch, indeed my father taught me to drink whiskey using Johnnie Walker Red Label. Whilst it was difficult at the start I persevered and now I largely eschew most other spirits in favour of *uisge beatha* literally 'water of life'. I like highland malts, I like lowland malts, and I like the seaweed-influenced iodine flavour of Laphroaig and I like blended whisky as well as malt or at least some blended whisky.

Over the years I enjoyed JW red lable, gold lable and green lable but as yet not blue lable, however I think my luxury item, on that ubiquitous desert island, would have to be Highland Park the malt whisky from the most northerly distillery in the world, that is Orkney.

The writer and poet George Mackay Brown has spoken of the islands of Orkney standing 'beside an ocean of time' and to be there is to be surrounded by history. Be it the Ring of Brodgar, dating from between 2500-2000 B.C., the Brough of Birsay, extensively excavated by teams from the University of Bradford, the pre-historic settlement of Skara Brae, uncovered by a storm in 1850, the burial mound of Maeshowe, a Neolithic chambered cairn and passage grave, dating from c. 2800 B. C.

Fleshpots of the North
Continued from Page 15

The grave goods of Maeshowe are long gone; however graffiti from some of those who robbed the graves remains claiming, in Old Norse, that amongst things 'the writer is the strongest warrior of all and that his partner is the most attractive of all women'. *Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose* as the French have it.

That remnants of the Spanish Armada passed around the north of Scotland on their way home can be seen, even today, in the dark hair and olive complexion of some of the indigenous population. Some aerials and tops of the superstructure of some the wrecks of the German High Seas Fleet scuttled in 1919 can be seen at Scapa Flow. The Churchill Causeway or Barrier was built, by Italian prisoners of war, beginning in 1940 to prevent further depredations by U-Boats following the sinking of the RN

battleship HMS Royal Oak in Scapa Flow in 1939.

The barrier remains linking the islands of South Ronaldsay, Burray, Lambs Holm and Glimps Holm with Orkney mainland. As does the chapel, constructed by the Italian prisoners using the most basic of materials but which served to remind them of home and where their priest was able to say mass.

Coming up to date the oil terminal on Flotta is the second largest in the UK after Sullom Voe on Shetland, though the population of the island remains at a steady 80 and the primary school was forced to close, there being no children of the appropriate age on the island.

If you haven't yet done so I urge you try Highland Park whisky, as to do so is to taste in the words Flann O'Brien, Myles na Gopaleen or Brian O'Nolan, your choice, in a 'ball of malt' the sweep of history of the Orkneys, including not only those things I have mentioned but also many, many more.

And now for this months' quiz;
1. What links Archibald Philip Primrose, 5th Earl of Rosebery (1847-1929) and that enthusiastic, vociferous band of happy charmers, supporters of the Scotland football team, and collectively known as the 'Tartan Army'?

2. What do the following have in common?

- Queen Elizabeth II
- The head of the Roman Catholic Church
- The head of the Clan Chisholm.

The usual competition rules apply and one bottle of local wine for the 2 people giving the correct answer to both questions.

Mark Thompson,
In the fleshpots, dreaming of the northern isles

Aunty Lula's Love-bites

Stuffed Pepper with Mushrooms

- 4 Peppers (any colour)
- 2 tbsp. Olive oil
- 6 Spring Onions, trimmed & shredded
- 1 tsp. Cumin seeds
- 350g Mushrooms, wiped & diced
- 2 tbsp. Soy Sauce
- 125g Cooked long-grain rice
- 25g Porridge Oats
- 1 Egg, beaten
- 1 tbsp. Fresh chopped Parsley
- 2 tbsp. Grated Kefalotiri cheese
- Salt & Pepper
- 1 tsp. of Sugar

Go:

- Preheat the oven to 200°C.
- Heat the oil in a pan and fry the spring onions for 1 minute. Add the cumin seeds and mushrooms and cook for 5 minutes, stirring frequently.
- Remove from the heat and stir in the Soy sauce, rice, oats, egg, salt, pepper and sugar.
- Cut the tops off the peppers and carefully remove the seeds.
- Place the peppers in a roasting tin.

6. Spoon equal amounts of filling into each pepper.

7. Mix the parsley and Kefalotiri cheese together and sprinkle over the top of each filled pepper. Also sprinkle over the Olive oil.

8. Bake for 30 minutes or until the peppers are tender and the edges are just beginning to brown.

Bon appetit!

According to the time sheets all members are present....

The reality is they all clocked-in in the morning, and then went about their personal affairs !

European Parliament in session. These photos must be circulated... time and again and again.. ...



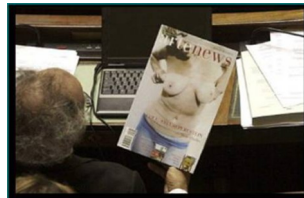
PRODUCTIVITY AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT... THEIR SALARIES ARE 12,000 EUROS A MONTH !



12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH



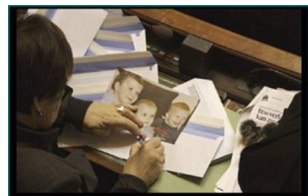
12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH



12,000 A MONTH

AND YOU, YOU HAVE TO WORK UNTIL YOU DROP

..

OF STRESS... UP TO THE AGE OF 60-65 OR OLDER !

Contributed by
Lucy STEELE, M.B.E.

Corfu Weather Statistics

	Max	Avg	Min	Read more at:
Temperature				
Max Temperature	20 °C	15 °C	10 °C	http://www.wunderground.com/history/airport/LGKR/2013/9/1/MonthlyHistory.html?req_city=NA&req_state=NA&req_statename=NA#PFq1VRYHlbugcTGF.99
Mean Temperature	16 °C	12 °C	8 °C	
Min Temperature	12 °C	8 °C	3 °C	
Degree Days				
Heating Degree Days (base 65)	18	12	4	
Cooling Degree Days (base 65)	0	0	0	
Growing Degree Days (base 50)	11	3	0	
Dew Point				
Dew Point	14 °C	9 °C	2 °C	
Precipitation				
Precipitation	41.9 mm	3.4 mm	0.0 mm	
Snowdepth - - - -				
Wind				
Wind	40 km/h	8 km/h	0 km/h	
Gust Wind	61 km/h	46 km/h	34 km/h	
Sea Level Pressure	1026 hPa	1017 hPa	1009 hPa	

Grab your coat and get your hat
 Leave your worries on the doorstep
 Life can be so free
 On the sunny side of the sea

Can't you hear the pitter-pat
 And that happy tune is your step
 Life can be a breeze
 On the sunny side of the seas

I used to walk in the shade with my blues on parade
 But I'm not afraid...this rover? s crossed over

If I never had a cent
 I'd be rich as rockefeller
 Gold dust at my knees
 On the sunny side of the seas

I used to walk in the shade with them blues on parade
 Now I'm not afraid... this rover has crossed over

Now if I never made one cent
 I'd still be rich as rockefeller
 There will be gold dust at my feet
 On the sunny
 On the sunny, sunny side of the seas

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Solemn Thoughts

By
Dr. Lionel Mann

Blood and Thunder Guts.

Partly blind, unable to read words or music, I have to pass hours sitting around with an active mind pondering matters of interest. For example, given that the total population of this world is said to be at least six-and-a-half billion, 6,500,000,000, probably rather more, and life expectancy is sixty-five, 65 years, possibly less, so simple mathematics suggests that an average of at least one-hundred million, 100,000,000, persons die every year, about two million, 2,000,000 a week, say three-hundred thousand, 300,000, daily, twelve thousand, 12,000, every hour, two-hundred a minute, averaging at least three every second, a very solemn thought! Of course most deaths are from natural causes, but starvation in deprived lands, road carnage and 'collateral damage', civilian men, women and children, victims of wildcat military adventures launched by murderous power-crazed warmongering politicians add to the total demise. It would seem that any youngster seeking easy employment might well consider trying the funeral business. Saint Peter must be kept quite busy checking in. Is his accommodation becoming crowded?

Anyway the birth-rate seems to be satisfactory so there is no cause for alarm. The fundamental base of civilisation is the family, father and mother producing and bringing up children. Anything that undermines that damages civilisation. Russia today, under Putin, Medvedev and the Dyma have governed far better than ever it was by the czars or communists, is wisely prosecuting only criminals who try

to subvert innocent unwary children into homosexuality, whereas Uganda and other countries who persecute homosexuals risk making martyrs of them. Violence in any shape or form is also a relapse into barbarism, a denial of civilisation; gays and lesbians should not be attacked, rather should they be pitied, encouraged to forsake unnatural behaviour and be led to more natural life.

Throughout history sexual deviation, promiscuity and immorality have been evidence of nations' approaching decline. Armed strength never insures against that; in fact devoting valuable resources to military activity and thereby leading to deprivation in social infrastructure hastens decline. In 1900 Great Britain was the most powerful nation in the world, vastly wealthy, an industrial powerhouse; now, after having tried to rule not only the waves but also the whole wide world and becoming needlessly and foolishly involved in a long succession of wars, Britain is impoverished, its industries and social services in tatters, a weak also-ran. When I was a child our globes and maps of the world in school showed large expanses of pink, the great British Empire "on which the sun never sets". Today there are two minute pink blobs, Falkland and Gibraltar and they are challenged. "How are the mighty fallen and the weapons of war perished."

Currently we see a so-called 'super-power' ignorantly, arrogantly and stupidly seeking world domination, meddling in the affairs of sovereign states, bullying weaker countries, sowing mayhem and disaster wherever it plods its clumsy feet. "Those who cannot remember the past are doomed to repeat it." It is doubtless not eager to study history for its own short past is a very unsavoury four hundred years of lies,

deceit, theft and murder. Interestingly it is one of the leading supports of sexual aberration. No comment!

In Asia there are some rising powers gaining in world influence. It will be interesting to see what effect their emergence will have.

Too the development of the European Union is a subject for serious thought. Europa is one of the greatest advances in the entire story of the human race; after more than two millennia of almost incessant strife the nations of Europe are trying to work together and to unite under common direction. Not only does it make sense in the interest of keeping peace, but also because no single nation on the continent is big enough to carry any weight in world affairs. As a Union we are strong and have powerful influence. Such a great endeavour as the formation of the Union has never before been attempted and there are bound to be teething troubles; great patience will be needed, but failure to reach a final bond is unthinkable. Most of the nations involved have seen in living memory their lands fought over and ravaged by foreign armies; we owe it to them to make sure that it never happens again. Every nation will have to sacrifice a sacred cow or two in order to meet Union requirements; national arrogance has no place when peace and prosperity are at stake. Patriotism kills. Nationalism slaughters. Chauvinism murders. Of course there will be opposition from those who see their own petty 'importance' threatened; if any wish to quit let them go; we shall be stronger without doubters.