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May 2018

Prince of Whales in Greece

11th Annual London Greek Film Festival
7-12 May 2018

The Battle of Crete - A Decisive Moment of World War II

Interview with Dr Angelos Chryssogelos -
EU: current challenges and future prospects

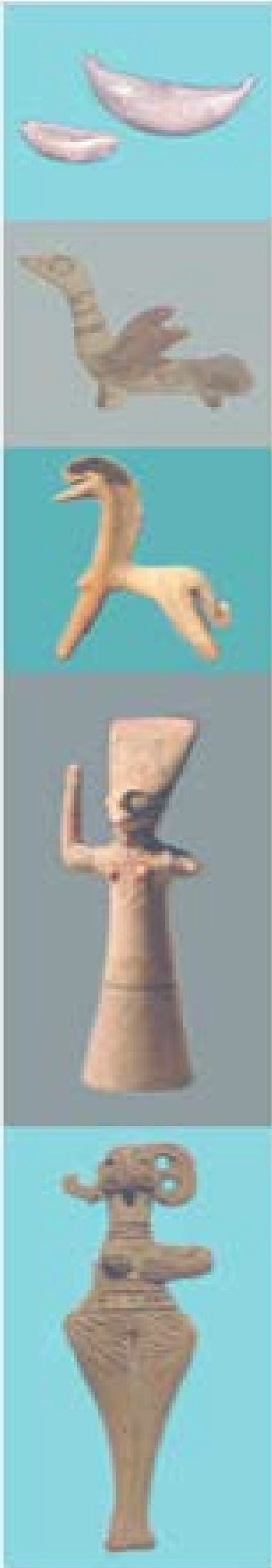
Greek Energy Forum Awards 2018

Post-crisis Greece: Priorities for a sustainable
recovery

Educational Program for Children - 'A
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Agenda



Prince of Wales in Greece

The Prince of Wales and Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall made a three-day visit to Greece. The visit came as the Prince's Trust International, an initiative founded by Charles that has helped nearly 900,000 disadvantaged youths in the UK, expanded its skills training activities to Greece. The heir to Britain's throne has spoken of his love for Greece ahead of his official visit to the country. Speaking to Kathimerini newspaper, he praised Greece and explained the reasons why he is fascinated with the country. "Apart from anything else, Greece is in my blood and I have long had a fascination for her ancient culture and history, not to mention the fact that I have been so fortunate to have visited some of Greece's many beautiful and unique places," the British royal said. Charles' father, Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, was born in Corfu in 1921. The royal couple's visit started on the 9th of May with laying a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in central Athens, in honour of those that had fallen.

Prince Charles: «Greece is in my blood»

After that they met with President Prokopis Pavlopoulos and later with Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras. On the following day, the royal was granted a reception with the head of Greece's Orthodox Christian Church, Archbishop Ieronymos II.

The prince was led to a room full of paintings of former archbishops of Athens and was welcomed by other Greek bishops, before signing the visitor's book.

The Archbishop told him: 'Welcome to the land of half of your ancestors.'

Charles has long been interested in Orthodox Christianity, privately visiting monasteries in Romania and Greece - where his paternal great-grandfather reigned and his father, Prince Philip, was born. Later this day The Prince of Wales kissed an icon depicting the resurrection of Christ as he visited a church in Athens.

Charles was touring the Byzantine Church of Kapnikarea, one of the final pit stops of his tour of the Greek capital, on Thursday when he came across the ancient tableau.

On the 10th of May, he also visited Piraeus port for a tour of the HMS Echo and the HMC Valiant, which cooperate with the Hellenic Coast Guard in search-

and-rescue exercises. Later on the same day, Prince Charles attended a meeting of the British Council for the International Higher Education Program at the Stavros Niarchos Foundation. On the 11th of May, the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall travelled to Crete to visit the archaeological site of Knossos and then visit NGO offices for refugees. Charles and Camilla took part in the Cretan Dance, called siganos, which involves linking arms and rotating in a circle. Prince Charles, dressed in a pale beige suit, was seen smiling as the dancers moved in the sunshine. At the end of the dance, which was about three minutes long, Charles said: "Great fun." The Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall visited the Knossos Archaeological site where Professor John Bennet, director of the British School at Athens, gave them a tour of the area on Friday morning. Charles made his way around the site, before learning about the research the British School at Athens has done at Knossos and taking part in a 'Cooking Like Minoans' event. The Prince of Wales was asked to add honey to a Greek pot containing a lentil dish during the cooking demonstration. Later in the day, the royal couple went to the village of Archanes, where they visited stalls displaying local initiatives, Cretan crafts and produce.



Meeting with the President

In a meeting that President Prokopis Pavlopoulos at the Presidential Mansion regarded as "historic", he and his wife Vlassia Pavlopoulou-Peltsemi received the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall at the Presidential Estate in Athens on the 9th of May.

In regards to the visit, it was pointed out by Mr Pavlopoulos that the bonds of friendship between the two nations go as far back as the establishment of the Greek nation itself, noting the battle of Navarino and Lord Byron as the key points between them. President Pavlopoulos also spoke of Prince Charles' Greek heritage through his father, Prince Phillip, and extended his hopes that there will be more visits to come in the future.

Speaking to the room, President of the Hellenic Republic Prokopios Pavlopoulos hoped for the "return of the Parthenon Marbles."

President Pavlopoulos: "It is precisely this tradition, combined with the bonds of friendship that connect us, which makes us hope for the return of the Parthenon Marbles"

He said: "It is precisely this tradition, combined with the bonds of friendship that connect us, which makes us hope for the return of the Parthenon Marbles and that the restoration of the unity of this glorious cradle of our Culture will ultimately be successful".

Pavlopoulos was referring to the Classical Studies and the Greek civilization that takes place in the United Kingdom, as well as the cooperation between the two countries for the studies.

The Parthenon Marbles have been on display at the British Museum in the Duveen Gallery since 1816.

Prince Charles also spoke of the deep bonds that connect the two countries and shared his gratitude for his first formal invitation to visit Athens.

"The relationship between our two countries goes back such a very long way," Charles told Greek President Prokopis Pavlopoulos at the presidential palace in Athens.

"I know we have shared an awful lot together over many, many years," he said.

Britain was among the powers that in the 19th century helped Greece secure independence from

the Ottoman Empire, and the two countries were allies in both world wars.

Finally, he too talked about his wish to have the opportunity to visit Athens again.

In a meeting with Prince Charles, Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras noted that he had accepted an invitation from his British counterpart Theresa May to visit London on June 26.









11th Annual London Greek Film Festival 7-12 May 2018

With the support of the General Secretary for Media and Communication, the annual 11th London Greek Film Festival was completed at the 12th of May. The awards ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of Greece in the UK, Dimitris Karamitsos-Tziras, as well as the Embassy's Press Councillor Mrs Elena Soupiana. The Festival took place at Theatro Technis in London from 7 to 12 of May under the supervision of the Founder and artistic director, Christos Prosyliis.

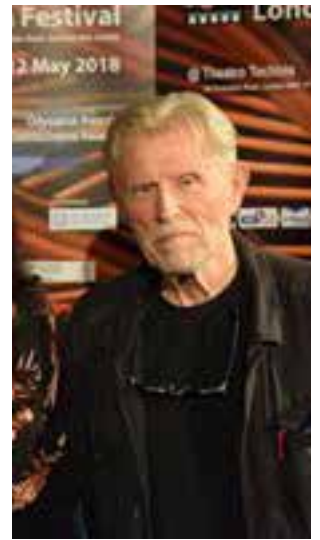
The Odyssey award won the 'Success Story' film by Nikos Perakis, for the Best Feature Fiction Film award, the best actor award (Konstantinos Markoulakis), the best actress award (Tonia Sotiropoulou), the best photography award (Claudio Bolivar) and the Best Screenplay award by Katerina Bei.

The London Greek Film Festival is a project that promotes Greece or Greek related feature fiction films, short films, documentaries, animation, experimental films, video art and other kinds of moving image and filmmaking; promotes and supports also, the Greek culture in general, emphasising in modern authors, creators and artists and in ancient Greek culture.

Founder and artistic director of the festival is the Film/Theatre Director and Writer, Christos Prosyliis. Starting on 2008 from the scratch, he is willing to make the London Greek Film Festival one of the cities' greatest celebrations of Greek culture. London Greek Film Festival is a project developed by CosmoCinema Ltd, owned and administrated by London Greek Film Festival Ltd, based in London, UK.

The London Greek Film Festival is annual and provides a welcoming space to artists, filmmakers, producers, actors, practitioners, academics, technologists and art-film lovers for discussion, education and networking. Films and screenplays accepted, from: Greek Origin Individuals and Production Companies from all over the world, with no specific subject in their work (Greek Diaspora or Greek-Cypriots included), or International Individuals and Production Companies from all over the world, with film or screenplay related to Greece (i.e. subject, myths, history or filming in Greece).





LEST WE FORGET

THE BATTLE OF CRETE - A DECISIVE MOMENT OF WORLD WAR II

When British and Commonwealth soldiers fought along Cretans for freedom

On 6th April 1941 the Wehrmacht attacked Greece from Yugoslavia. King George and the Greek government under Prime Minister Emmanouil I. Tsouderos fled to Crete – which remained free – on 23rd April.

From 14th May onwards the Luftwaffe began systematic bombing of the island. Operation Merkur ('Hermes') began in the early hours of 20th May 1941.

The first wave of paratroopers attacked the north of Chania prefecture, while the northern reaches of Rethymnon and Heraklion came under attack from the second and third waves in the late afternoon.

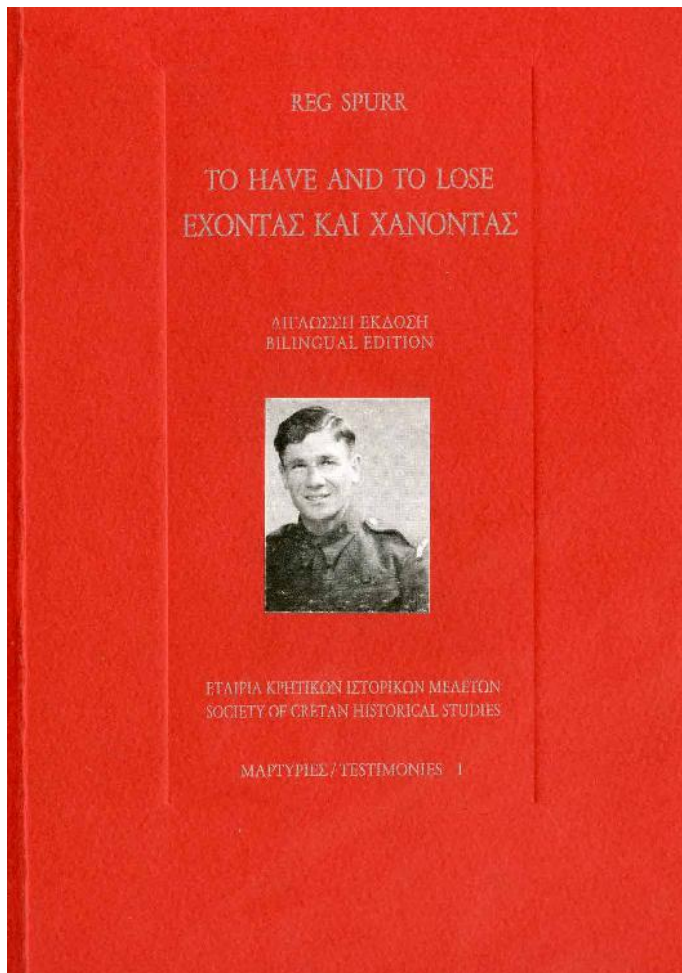
Men of the 5th Cretan Division were trapped in Northern Greece. The island was defended by:

- ✓ approximately 30 000 British Commonwealth troops;
- ✓ new recruits from various training camps;
- ✓ cadets from the Evelpidon Greek officer training academy;
- ✓ cadets from the Gendarmerie Academy;
- ✓ gendarmes serving on the island;
- ✓ reservists;
- ✓ hundreds of civilians, celebrated or anonymous, regardless of sex, age, political persuasions or social class.

Significant numbers of clerics also joined battle.

The defenders held their positions at Rethymnon and Heraklion until 29th May, despite the fact that the German had taken Maleme airfield on 22nd. Allied forces began to evacuate from the island on the night of 28th/29th May 1941.





Reg Spurr, TO HAVE AND TO LOSE

(Testimonies vol. 1, Society of Cretan Historical Studies)

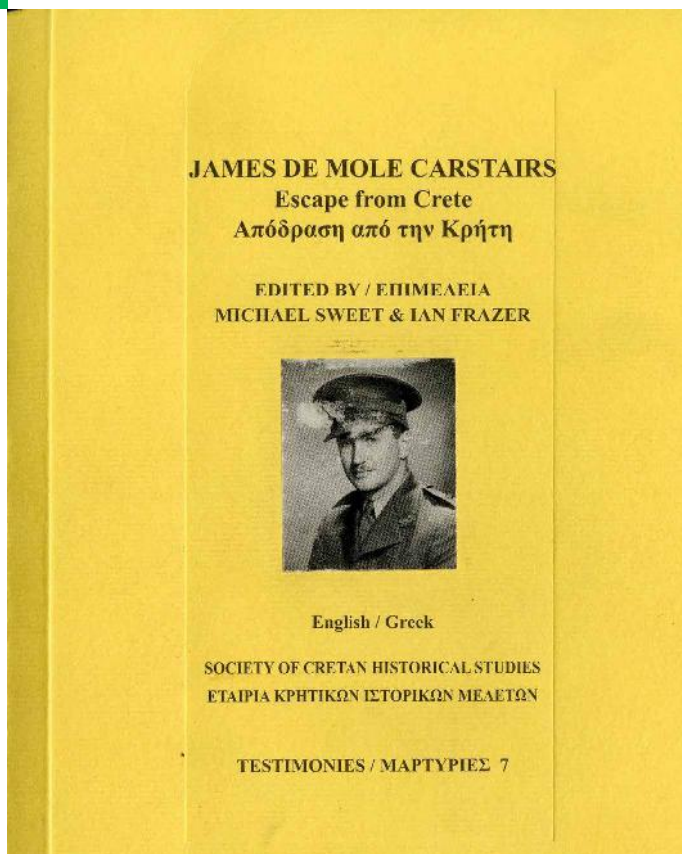
Narrative by British soldier Reg Spurr of his participation in the Battle of Crete. Reg Spurr was born in Leeds, West Yorkshire in 1921. In 1936 he joined the Army. On 31 October 1940 he embarked on the light cruiser HMS Ajax sailing from Alexandria to Crete. There he took part in operations against German paratroops in and around the city of Heraklion. Spurr remained on the island from the end of October 1940 to the end of May 1941.

"Well here I was, chatting to these very pretty girls in Crete. I wasn't naïve as I was in York, but I still hadn't much confidence. As time went by, I used to look forward to seeing in particular one of these girls and would spend hours sat on a low wall with her, as we tried to teach each other our respective languages. The other chap started walking out with the other girl, leaving the one I was interested in, whose name I found out was 'Maria', who would stay and talk to me. Very soon, she started taking my 'rooka' (washing to you), she would also bring me eggs which I would fry for my supper. I think there was no doubt she thought something of me." (p. 164)

"The parachutes seemed to be coming down all over the place. I was surprised to see how low the planes were when their passengers baled out. My very first thought then, I well remember, but only for brief moment, was 'I hope Maria is alright'." (p. 187)

"Parachutes were coming down everywhere. Three dropped about twenty feet away, two in the narrow street and one straddled a wall. The two in the street were already dead. The one who straddled the wall seemed to try to balance himself, then it looked as if he was pulled down from the other side of the wall and there was an agonizing scream. Robbo got to a gateway in the wall near where the para had gone first. I was a couple of paces behind. Just inside the gateway was a woman of about forty. She had a wicked-looking carving knife in her hand, the German's throat was cut wide open. He was still making a gurgling noise. The woman, far from being afraid, looked very, very angry and started slashing at the parachute cords, then started to cut open the German's clothes, obviously looking for weapons to substitute for her carving knife. She was dressed in traditional Cretan dress and looked up only to scream something in Greek with a quick point further up the street." (p. 188-189)





James De Mole Carstairs, *Escape from Crete. War Diary 1941*

(Testimonies vol. 7, Society of Cretan Historical Studies)

Australian Lieutenant James De Mole Carstairs gives an hour-by-hour account of his participation in the Battle of Crete in the Chania area, his stranding on the island, his six-month wanderings, hiding in the mountains and his eventual escape at the end of November 1941. James De Mole Carstairs was born in Melbourne, Australia, on 12 October 1914. His father's family was originally from Scotland. In 1939 he enlisted in the army. In December 1939 he was commissioned lieutenant in 2/7 Battalion, Australian Imperial Force.

"20 May. The Hun kept us on our toes all day as they bombed our area. We were not the initial target area. We had a good view of paratroops as they dropped wave after wave over Rethymno, seven miles up the coast. The main attack was at Maleme aerodrome, beyond Suda Bay, where New Zealand troops were the main force. Word reaching us, however, was as usual very confused and we were subjected to endless rumors. A plane downed near us in the bay. Reports of Germans dropped in Tommy battle dress caused us to order all in that dress to be treated as fifth column. Any of our troops wearing that dress

"Just in front of me was a young Cretan couple. I don't know if they were married or not, but they seemed to be arguing. He had what looked like an old musket. I noticed he also had, tucked into his belt, a very long bayonet. She had a home-made bandolier hanging from her right shoulder to her left side. Tucked into her sash (she wore Cretan national costume too) was a very large carving knife. I passed some remark to her about a gun, as I thought she didn't have one. She laughed turning sideways so I could see, and showed me what I thought was a shotgun. He then, in pretty good English, said to me, 'I told her to let me have the gun, while she waits here, that will be better for her, won't it, English?'" (p. 196-197)

"Despite their ancient weapons those Greeks and Cretans (let's make no mistake, the Cretans liked to be known as Cretans, not Greeks), had the will to fight. If enthusiasm was to win the Battle of Crete, the Germans had no chance at all." (p. 199-200)

"Looking inside the building, I was horrified to see a young woman lying in an enormous pool of blood. I would say she was about six months pregnant and looked as if she was still writhing in agony. I'm afraid I couldn't help myself, I was sick in a corner, I felt terrible.[...] Her wounds, mostly in the stomach, were made with a bayonet or a knife. At that moment I could willingly have cut up any German into small pieces. I think it was then that the full horror of war made its first impact on me." (p. 203-204)



got rid of it very smartly, the order being 'If in doubt shoot.'" (p. 40)

"As we passed through Suda the devastation was terrible to see and worse to smell, that unmistakable smell of death both by fire and other means." (p. 41)

"25 May. By this time the troops were tired beyond feeling anything, and nerves were so taut they were at breaking point. I was frightened to get into a slit trench lest I could not bring myself to climb out again, so moved all the time from tree to tree, around the trenches. I never got into a trench again during the Cretan campaign. It was not bravery but the thought that if I did, I would freeze there, and be unable to move. No doubt we all felt much the same. That night we went out wiring again until 0330 hrs. We had forgotten what sleep meant." (p. 46-47)

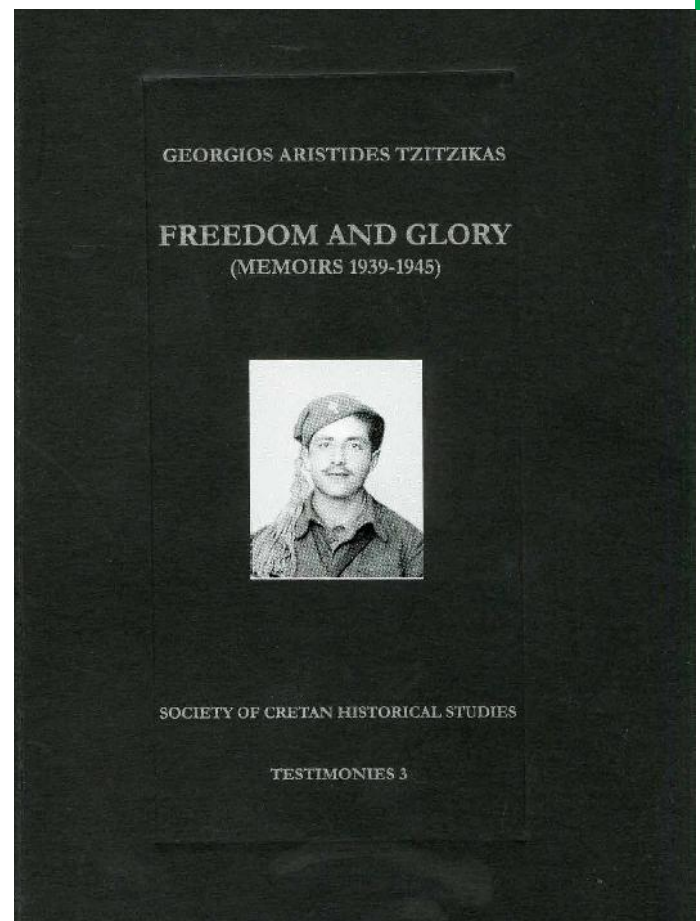
"27 May. 0100hrs. Withdrawal commenced. A ten-mile forced march. No time to collect personal things dumped earlier. I regretted two letters just written home, my prized stamp collection, the second lot addressed to Win, several other personal belongings." (p. 48)

"29 May. A hot day, no food at all, only a third of a pannikin of water per man. Stinking hot, and thirst is almost unbearable. I would never wish my worst enemy to perish in that way." (p.55)

Georgios Aristides Tzitzikas, FREEDOM AND GLORY

(Testimonies vol.3, Society of Cretan Historical Studies)

Cretan Georgios Tzitzikas recalls his participation in the Battle of Crete. Georgios Tzitzikas was born in 1918 in Ano Meros, Amari Rethymnon. Eighth of ten children. He was conscripted on 4 April 1939 and served on the Greco-Bulgarian frontier as an anti-



aircraft gun layer. Following the collapse of the front on April 1941 he returned to Crete and took part in the Battle of Crete, in the Rethymnon district. He later joined the Resistance.

"In the night I saw a tall, slender woman, dressed in dark clothing – a long black dress- holding a gun, fire, revenge in her right hand, and in the other a small child of about four or five, a boy. This woman held revenge, fire and death in one hand and love, life for her child in the other, and she said to me:

'My husband's away soldiering in Albania and I've been fighting the Germans as long as it was light. Now it's dark I need to go somewhere and shelter



my child. Take my gun and give it to anyone who hasn't got one.'

I gave her my rifle, the broken one, and told her:

'You take mine, it's broken, and first thing in the morning find a carpenter to fix it, because we're very short of them.'

I'm sorry, I'm truly sorry that I never asked her who she was, because, in the fifty-odd years I've been alive since then, I've always believed that she was Crete herself with fire in one hand, revenge, and motherly love, devotion, in the other." (p. 41-42)

"Anyway, bodies were dropping right and left, they were like sheep throughout the trench, a small pit full of bodies." (p. 45)

"About a month later I needed to go down to Rethymnon and, as I passed through Pervolia on my father's donkey, I stopped and went to the place where I'd killed the first German. I found his grave on the exact spot where he had fallen. There was a cross but unfortunately I didn't write down the details." (p. 53-54)



SOLDIERS OF THE ROYAL BRITISH ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE!

There are MANY OF YOU STILL HIDING in the mountains, valleys and villages.

You have to PRESENT yourself AT ONCE TO THE GERMAN TROOPS.

Every OPPOSITION will be completely USELESS!
Every ATTEMPT TO FLEE will be in VAIN.

The COMMING WINTER will force you to leave the mountains.

Only soldiers, who PRESENT themselves AT ONCE, will be sure of a HONOURABLE AND SOLDIERLIKE CAPTIVITY OF WAR. On the contrary who is met in civil-clothes will be treated as a spy.

THE COMMANDER OF KRETA

*"My husband's away soldiering in Albania
and I've been fighting the Germans
as long as it was light.*

*Now it's dark I need to go somewhere
and shelter my child.*

Take my gun and give it to anyone who hasn't got one"

Interview with Dr Angelos Chryssogelos - EU: current challenges and future prospects



The European Union was set up with the aim of ending war in Europe by fostering cooperation between member states. Since its foundation in the 1950s the European Economic Community – renamed European Union in the 1990s- has gone through changes. New member-states have joined the EU over the years, while some member-states adopted a common currency, the euro. 2010s has been a challenging decade for the European project, as Europe has been facing a series of crises such as the debt crisis, the migration crisis and the Brexit referendum.

On the occasion of Europe Day, @GreeceInUk spoke to Dr Angelos Chryssogelos, professor of international relations and politics at King's College London, about EU's prospects, potential conflicts and dilemmas, as well as EU's ability to respond to challenges and renew itself.

1) Your research interests include –among others- populism and its impact on foreign policy. To what extent do right-wing populism and euroscepticism influence European politics?

The rise of populism is definitely the main story in European politics in the last three decades. It is not a recent phenomenon, in that rightwing populists started gaining strength in some Western European countries already in the 1980s. But the recent conjuncture of crisis in the EU has assisted in the reinforcement of this trend.

Having said this, I sometimes wonder whether the focus on populism as such is really helpful for us to understand the real challenges that European societies face today. Often it seems to me that we are confusing the symptom with the disease itself. The successive victories of populist parties across Europe, as well as the entrenchment of illiberal populists in government in countries like Hungary, has given rise to a very vibrant debate about the future of liberal democracy in Europe. This is obviously a necessary debate, given that populism's favouring of direct and majoritarian conceptions of democracy challenge key norms of liberal democracy like institutional checks and balances on the unfettered majority rule.

Yet at the same time this debate about democracy often becomes an excuse to forget the actual policy issues that are at the root of the populist strength. Often it is enough for political demands to be carried by populists for them to be dismissed as threat to liberal democracy. This is a logical fallacy of course, but it helps those who want to postpone necessary changes in the EU architecture for it to become more equitable and sustainable.

Now, I am not suggesting that populism is not a danger to liberal democracy at all. But it is not a danger to liberal democracy everywhere, or at least it is not everywhere that its radical understanding of democracy takes centre stage. Often other, many times quite modest, policy requests lie at its core. Reforming the Eurozone in the direction of more social justice or supporting more countries at the forefront of migratory flows are not illiberal demands in and of themselves. The Five Star Movement and the Lega for example, that are trying to form a government in Italy, may be populist parties, but the frustrations they express with how Italy has been accommodated in the EU's economic structure or its migration regime are widespread and real.

Using populism as an excuse to postpone necessary reforms is a tactic that may ultimately catch up with the EU, with very unpleasant consequences.

2) *The Brexit referendum was a momentous event in the European history. Despite the initial fears that Brexit could trigger the end of the EU, EU member-states have so far shown unity in the negotiations with the UK, with some analysts even speaking of a renewed European unity. How do you see EU's post-Brexit future?*

It will indeed be very interesting to see how the EU shapes up after Brexit. Indeed, the relationship that the EU strikes with the UK may end up being the blueprint for the kind of relationships the core of the EU will end up building in a complex variegated network of overlapping policy ties with other European countries. One scenario is that at least Eurozone members with the willingness to deepen their relationship in the management of their common borders and security will eventually form a de facto advanced union, connected in various ways with countries that also join the euro but prefer to maintain more independence in border control and countries who do the opposite.

In this scenario, the UK would be part of an outer ring of countries with deep connections with the EU common market, regulatory cooperation or specific policy areas like security and defence. Next to the UK, this group of countries could include countries that do not want to formally join the EU, like Norway and Switzerland; countries that would like to but probably never will, like Turkey and Ukraine; countries that will eventually join the EU formally but will be kept out of the Eurozone and Schengen for a further period, like perhaps the Western Balkans; and even current EU members that however will prefer to stay in the periphery of deeper integration, as perhaps Poland or some other Visegrad countries.

The above scenario however is predicated on the fact that core EU countries will be willing to undertake the costs of further integration in areas such as the eurozone or migration. This means, among other things, that richer and bigger countries must underpin this cooperation with more solidarity and guarantees. In the aftermath of the Brexit referendum there was quite some mobilization in European capitals and Brussels around this agenda, with the election of Emmanuel Macron in France adding further momentum. The weakening of Angela Merkel however after the German election of 2017 significantly stalled this process.

Now an alternative scenario appears probable, with the whole of the EU continuing on its current trajectory of piecemeal and uninspired management

'The problem is that most EU government appear unwilling to contribute to joint solutions to [the migration] problem. [...] This is a problem that is not going away, especially if one takes into account the explosive demographics of the African continent. The current policy solutions under discussion will be probably become obsolete in the coming years as the magnitude of the problem increases.'

of its affairs, with little transfer of sovereignty to Brussels but increasing monitoring and curtailment of policy discretion of national policymaking. In this context, the place of the UK would be more akin to that of Turkey: an important geopolitical partner on EU's doorstep, with a deeply institutionalized cooperation in various policy areas, but also perhaps a source of friction in the future.

3) *Migration was a defining issue in the British referendum and continues to be a dividing issue in Britain and the rest of Europe, with many analysts speaking of a "lack of solidarity". How has the migration issue affected party politics and the relations between EU member-states and what could be done to bridge the solidarity gap?*

The migration crisis of 2015-16 was a momentous event in the development of the EU – perhaps more than the Eurozone crisis of 2010-15. We simply cannot appreciate its full effects because these are still unfolding.

Opinion polls across Europe show that immigration, identity and culture are the primary concern of citizens. They increasingly inform the way they vote, and especially affect the vote for rightwing populist parties. The refugee crisis also had a geopolitical dimension, deepening divides between groupings of EU members: the rich countries of northwestern Europe that have received the brunt of asylum requests and arriving immigrants; the countries of the Mediterranean like Italy and Greece that must face the first arrival of migratory flows, often with little outside help; and the countries of Eastern Europe that consider migration an affront to their national identity and a security threat.

The refugee/migration issue is currently in a lull, but these divides persist. The recent success of populist parties in the Italian elections for example had a lot to do with frustrations in Italy with the way the EU

'Greece is a strong supporter of Western Balkan countries' accession to the EU, not least because it hopes to benefit from this process diplomatically, economically and in terms of security. Greece therefore has an interest to contribute positively to this process.'

has left the country to deal with constant migratory flows largely on its own. The grip of populists like Viktor Orban over their countries also owes a lot to their capacity to present themselves as protectors of their countries' traditional identity against immigrants. And the refugee issue finally allowed the entry of a far-right party, the AfD, in the German parliament.

The problem is that most EU government appear unwilling to contribute to joint solutions to this problem. The Commission's project for mandatory relocation across the EU divided instead of uniting Europe in a common approach. On the other hand, this is a problem that is not going away, especially if one takes into account the explosive demographics of the African continent. The current policy solutions under discussion will be probably become obsolete in the coming years as the magnitude of the problem increases.

4) The negotiations for the next EU budget are expected to be hard-fought. What are the new battle lines forming and what does the discussion on the next budget reveal about EU's priorities? Also, what do you think about the Commission's proposal to have the right to suspend payments to countries with compromised judiciaries?

The battle lines in the EU budget negotiations are always drawn between the biggest net contributors – Germany and small northwestern members like the Netherlands and Sweden – and the net recipients, currently mostly post-communist countries in the EU's east. To be fair there seems to be a renewed impetus towards a generalized reform of the EU budget outlook this time around, also helped by the positive noises Emmanuel Macron made that he'd consider a reduction of EU contributions to agriculture so that other areas, such as education, benefit.

Having said this, the tendency in budget negotiations in the last two rounds was towards reducing the overall weight of the EU budget as % of total EU

GDP, and probably this will be the case this time around. EU budget negotiations are never a pretty sight, with the pettiness of the assembled leaders around the table bordering on the comical. One positive effect of the impending Brexit is that the UK, a country that has traditionally played a highly non-constructive role in such negotiations, will not be present this time around.

A new parameter is that the EU has hinted that it would like to have budget transfers linked with countries' commitment to the rule of law. This happens mostly because of Poland, a country with a very Eurosceptic government tampering with the independence of the judiciary as well as a country that disproportionately benefits from budget transfers. The proposal to link budget payments with political compliance appears logical, although of course it is also very convenient for rich countries in the West to be able to suspend payments to countries in the East using the rule of law as an excuse.

I am not sure whether this system would have the intended effect however. Eurosceptic governments such as the one in Warsaw feed off adversity with Brussels, and pro-EU sentiments in newer member-states are mostly tied up with expectations of economic gain from EU membership. It seems to me as a measure designed to appeal more to the public opinion of contributor countries in the West, which are growing very apprehensive of having to subsidize poorer members in the East that also have disruptive Eurosceptic governments. My prediction is that such a mechanism will be included in some shape in the final settlement, but it will be so watered down after long negotiations that it will be effectively toothless.

5) Recently EU has reaffirmed its commitment to the enlargement perspective for the Western Balkans. What challenges does the accession of the Western Balkan countries pose for the EU? How could Greece contribute and benefit from the enlargement?

Part of the EU modus operandi is its constant search for enlargement. Historically the EU has never had settled borders and probably never will. As such, the Western Balkans are an important 'other' for the EU's identity as a constantly expanding imperial project that projects specific values and practices of political and economic governance. In the current context, putting the Western Balkan enlargement on the table is also a necessary counterweight to the impending exit of the UK, which would see the EU for the first time lose a member-state. It is a reaffirmation of the EU's dynamism to be seen as

wanting to add new members from the Western Balkans.

Generally, Greece is one of the important EU member-states in this process. Greece is a strong supporter of Western Balkan countries' accession to the EU, not least because it hopes to benefit from this process diplomatically, economically and in terms of security. Greece therefore has an interest to contribute positively to this process.

Having said that, I would not expect any enlargement to happen any time soon. As the cool remarks of president Macron in the latest EU-Western Balkan summit showed, there are severe resistances in the EU itself against admitting new members. Given broad public concerns in various EU countries with immigration, security and the economic underperformance of the Western Balkan region, I don't see how the political will among all 27 EU member-states will be mastered any time soon for enlargement to take place.

6) The EU has always relied on deal-making to overcome its divisions. At the same time, the EU claims to be based on common values and European institutions have tried to forge a common European identity. How successful have these attempts been? Do you feel that the vision of Europe as a 'community of values' is still relevant and alive?

Europe is the part of the world with the biggest concentration of nation-states. The EU is a union of almost 30 of these states, each carrying a long history and zealous of its prerogatives. At the same time, all of these states, even the large ones, realize that they are becoming increasingly small and irrelevant in an ever-globalizing world characterized by the rise of continental-sized powers like China and India. The current shape of the EU emerges on the intersection of the self-understanding of European states as historical entities and their often-begrudging recognition that their relative weight in the world counts for less and less. These are conflicting forces of course, sometimes pulling the EU apart and other times pushing it forward towards greater cooperation. After decades of growing European integration, it has become clear that national identities are very sticky, and that any common European identity will only emerge as an addition rather than a replacement of national identities. The EU's best bet to attract at least some allegiance among European citizens is to convince them that it is necessary for their interests to be served in a globalized world, while convincing them that in so doing it will not be impinging on their sense of national belonging.



Dr Angelos Chryssogelos

Dr Angelos Chryssogelos teaches International Relations and Politics at King's College London. Dr Chryssogelos studied in Greece and the Netherlands before obtaining a PhD in political sciences from the European University Institute in Florence. He has been a postdoctoral fellow at the Hellenic Observatory of the LSE. Dr Chryssogelos has extensive experience working for think tanks and policy institutes. He is currently an associate fellow of the Europe Programme of Chatham House and a research associate of the Martens Centre for European Studies. His commentary on European and Greek politics has appeared on a variety of print and digital media. His research interests lie in the ways representative politics cut across international relations and foreign policy, with an empirical emphasis on Europe and Greece.

GREEK ENERGY FORUM AWARDS 2018

May 17th, Cass Business School

What is the Greek Energy Forum (GEF)?

The Greek Energy Forum (GEF) is an international energy think tank consisting of energy professionals holding international corporate posts and sharing a common interest in the broader energy industry in South-eastern Europe. The Forum was founded in 2013 and is headquartered in London, whilst it features branch offices in Athens, Brussels, Dubai, Nicosia and Washington DC. The expertise of the members of the GEF spans across the energy industry spectrum benefiting the Forum with a multi-disciplinary skill-set and a holistic approach to its field.

The main objectives of the GEF are:

- To establish an international platform of ideas and dialogue amongst energy professionals to enable change in the energy setting of SE Europe/East Med.
- To inform investors and public opinion on latest energy developments and "best practice" examples, successfully applied abroad
- To propose and communicate energy policy proposals and reforms to governments and decision makers

In an era of rapid developments in the sectors of energy and hydrocarbons in Greece and SE Europe, the GEF aims at utilizing the know-how and invaluable expertise of its members to contribute with innovative proposals and hence catalyse the growth of the energy industry in the region

The Greek Energy Forum Awards 2018

Since its establishment in 2013, the Greek Energy Forum (GEF) has provided a dynamic platform upon which energy professionals have the ability to network, share ideas and best practices on current industry developments and market trends in Greece and SE Europe, as well as propose and communicate energy policies and reforms to governments and decision makers.

Underpinned by this aspiration and the ideal of "Aien Aristeuein" the Forum established its first GEF Awards Ceremony in 2016, envisioning to acknowledge organisations and individuals who excelled and inspired through their vision, work



and contribution in the sectors of energy and hydrocarbons in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

Following the successful completion and continuing the legacy of the first GEF Awards, the Forum is aspiring to make it a tradition. The GEF Awards 2018 marked another milestone in bestowing those companies and individuals that have become benchmark of excellence, competence and innovation in the energy and hydrocarbons sector in the region.

This year, we made a few small, but highly significant adjustments in the way that the Awards are organised. First, the structure of the Awards Board was introduced. This was a Committee of distinguished professionals from our industry, selected through our Steering Committee, but also through an Open Call process, and it was tasked with the independent and unbiased selection of the nominees for our seven Award categories.

We were truly humbled by the calibre of the candidates who expressed their interest through this Open Call, and we are honoured by the fact that the impartiality and robustness of our awards process was endorsed by such an esteemed assembly.

Second, the selection of the winners this year took place through a public vote, where we managed to reach unprecedented levels of participation, having in excess of three and a half thousand votes from across all geographic our regions of activity.

Finally, by introducing the notion of the nominees and reducing the number of award categories down to 7, we narrowed the focus to what we believe are the core value points of the industry in our region. But also, we highlighted the fact that there are numerous best practice stories in each category.

Stories of hard work, dedication and commitment, that deserve and must be promoted on an international level.

To this extent, we believe that it is a responsibility of the Forum to act as envoy of Greece and the wider region in the international energy and hydrocarbons industry, by promoting its numerous best practices and success stories in this field, and thus highlighting this way its creative, innovative and forward-looking side.

The 7 Awards presented in the GEF Awards 2018 were the following:

1. Energy Influencer: Mathios Rigas – CEO, Energean Oil & Gas
2. Energy Innovator: Smart Islands Initiative
3. Energy/Hydrocarbons Company of the Year: Mytilineos Group
4. Energy Consultancy/Services of the Year: Kantor Management Consultants
5. Maritime Services of the Year: Gaslog
6. Social Responsibility: Hellenic Petroleum
7. Green Energy: Eunice Energy Group



Post-crisis Greece: Priorities for a sustainable recovery



(from left to right) Ambassador of Greece in UK Dimitris Caramitsos-Tziras, Michael Tsamaz, chairman and CEO of OTE Group, Professor Kevin Featherstone, head of the European Institute, Dr Vassili G. Apostolopoulos, CEO of the Athens Medical Group, Stratos Chatzigiannis, former president and member of the Chairman's Circle of the Hellenic Bankers Association UK and Nikos Drandakis, founder and CEO of Beat.

As Greece braces for a bailout exit, what strategy and priorities should it follow to sustain its recovery? That was the main topic addressed at a panel discussion titled 'Greece out of crisis? Building a competitive economy' that took place on the 21st May at the London School of Economics, in London. The event, organised by the Hellenic Observatory and the Hellenic Bankers Association UK, focused on the voice and role of business, inviting three prominent Greek businesspeople to present their views.

Dr Vassili G. Apostolopoulos, CEO of the Athens Medical Group, a leading health care services group in Greece and South-Eastern Europe, said that the cure of Greece's economic illnesses rests mainly with the government and the political system and highlighted some preconditions for sustainable recovery. In particular he stressed that Greece should not return to the past, rather, it should: maintain fiscal prudence and discipline; offer incentives for business and strive for political consensus regarding reforms. Apart from the reform effort, Greece has a need for a new national reform plan, one which should be embraced by the political system, as stated by Mr Apostolopoulos, while adding that Greece should focus on its comparative advantages and advanced synergies, in order to boost its competitiveness. He appeared fairly optimistic about Greece's economic prospects, naming some of the

recent major investments such as the Tesla and the Ellinikon development project, while noting that Greek exports are on the rise. Moreover, he stressed the need for Greece's rebranding. We must work collectively and methodically, in order to reconceptualise our country and move away from the concept of 'Greek crisis' to the concept of 'Hellenic growth and prosperity', he said, urging the drop of the term 'Greece' and the adoption of the term 'Hellas'. Concluding his speech, Mr Apostolopoulos called for hard work and a sense of common purpose in order to further achieve growth, stressing that 'we can make it happen'.

Nikos Drandakis, founder and CEO of Beat, a leading mobile taxi application, which allows users to choose and hail their taxi driver electronically, explained that Greece's biggest problem is the lack of a talent pool that is able to support the digital transformation of its economy. Speaking from his own experience as founder of a company that relies on data, smart systems, innovation and AI, he noted that, regrettably, most Greek talents in advanced technology have left the country, thus highlighting the problem of a 'brain drain'. According to Mr Drandakis Greece's priorities should be to retain talent; regain talent that fled the country and attract talent from other countries. In the digital era, capital follows talent, he said, so if we manage to attract talented people, we will also ensure capital



Panel discussion 'Greece out of crisis? Building a competitive economy'

investments. In essence, the big question is where do we want Greece to be in the new century? If Greece does not increase its talent pool to support the digital economy, then it risks turning to low technology sectors, such as agriculture and tourism, which cannot guarantee a sustainable recovery, he noted.

On a more optimistic note, Michael Tsamaz, chairman and CEO of OTE Group, the largest telecommunications provider in Greece and South-Eastern Europe, a subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom AG, spoke of positive indicators for the future of the Greek economy, noting that Greece has gone through difficult times, but has also achieved a lot, as it implemented harsh reforms, which were motioned in the right direction. Thanks to these reforms and to its own dynamic plan to overcome the crisis, OTE was able to transform itself from a state-owned company with high debts and low competitiveness into a modern powerhouse technology company, which is investing in new technologies and expanding its list of clientele. For OTE, as for Greece, the new destination is digital transformation, Mr Tsamaz said, underlining the importance of a vision that is needed for Greece to progress.

*Photos courtesy of LSE Hellenic Observatory,
photo credits: Robin Boot*

"The big question is how deep in our belief system exists the question 'where do we want this country to be in the new world, in the new century' and it all comes with a number of noes that you have to say as a leader to small groups that have vested interests in not allowing the country to change and move forward."

Nikos Drandakis, founder and CEO of Beat

"The most important thing for Greece now is a vision for itself, translated to concrete, down-to-earth strategy. Set the target, determine the objectives and follow with consecutive actions. Greece, like OTE did, has to leave behind mindsets and proceed with reforms to make the country truly business-friendly. Technology can be an ally in this effort."

Michael Tsamaz, CEO of OTE Group



Educational Program for Children 'A journey in an ancient ship' (with heroes from A. G. Leventis Gallery, British Museum)

On the occasion of the International Museum Day (May 18) with theme 'Hyperconnected Museums: New approaches, new publics', the Education Office London, Embassy of Greece in London, on cooperation with the Hellenic Centre, held with great success and audience participation, on Saturday 19th of May 2018, an educational program for children entitled "A journey in an ancient ship" (with heroes from the A. G. Leventis Gallery in the British Museum).

The program was designed and coordinated, by Dr. Anastasia Misirli, Headteacher of the Greek Preschool of London, Embassy of Greece in London, and was supported by the writer-educator Mrs. Mania Douka. The program included: a) Narration of a story, in which heroes were selected art objects from A.G. Leventis Gallery, b) Theatrical interactive



Εκπαιδευτικό θεματικό πρόγραμμα για παιδιά 5-12 ετών

Το πρόγραμμα περιλαμβάνει τη διήγηση της ιστορίας από το βιβλίο της Μάνιας Δούκα "Journey to Cyprus", με διαδραστικό θεατρικό παιχνίδι και εργασίες καλλιτεχνικής από την ομάδα κεραμικών "Κεραμειών βελ".

ΤΙΜΗ ΕΙΣΙΤΗΤΩΝ: €5 για παιδιά & ενήλικες
ΚΡΑΤΗΣΕΙΣ: Hellenic Centre 0204619260 & events@helleniccentre.org.uk

Ticket holders will be able to attend a fairytale tour to the A.G. Leventis Gallery at the British Museum on Sunday 20 May at 11am

Εκπαιδευτικό έντυπο



play, c) Becoming little ceramists, d) Educational leaflet with questions and plays and e) Fairytale tour in A.G. Leventis Gallery so that children meet the heroes of the story (took place only on Sunday 20 May, at the British Museum).

The clay workshop realized by the group 'Ceramist Traces', with Mr. Vasileios Anastasopoulos and Mrs. Vasiliki Raikou. Children had the chance to work through the material of clay and construct their own art object...a boat ... for their own trip, imitating this way the art objects of A. G. Leventis Gallery.

The aim of the present event was the contact and acquaintance of the children with art objects of the Cypriot culture. Specifically sought to promote cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue between the two countries therefore was chosen the A. G. Leventis Gallery. The program was based on the book by Mrs Mania Douka, entitled: 'With its wings of Alkyonis ' and 'Journey to Cyprus' and addressed to children 5-12 years of bilingual education. For this purpose was developed suitable educational material presented and distributed in the form of an educational leaflet to participants. Promotion and



communication of the program was undertaken by Mrs Sonia Apostolakou.

The event greeted by the director of the Hellenic Center, Mrs Agatha Kalisperas. Among other notable attendees was the Education Counsellor-Embassy of Greece in London, Dr. George Kosyvas and the Education Counsellor-Cyprus High Commission, Mrs. Maria Papalouka.

The educational program was implemented within the Bilateral Cooperation in the field of education and culture between the Ministry of Education and Religious affairs of Greece and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Cyprus. It was undertaken under the auspices of the Education Office, Embassy of Greece in London.

We are grateful to and thank A. G. Leventis Foundation for its support.

We would like to wholeheartedly thank all those who contributed to the realization of this event but more participants who watched children and parents and our volunteers.





On Tuesday 22nd of May a meeting was held between Mr Georgios Kosyvas, Head of the Educational Office of the Embassy of Greece and the members of the group 'Ceramicist Traces', Mr. Vasileios Anastasopoulos and Mrs. Vasiliki Raikou.

During the meeting the group proposed an exhibition about the art of ceramics so as to reinforce the co-operation between Greece and UK.

Greek Londoners - The area of Bayswater

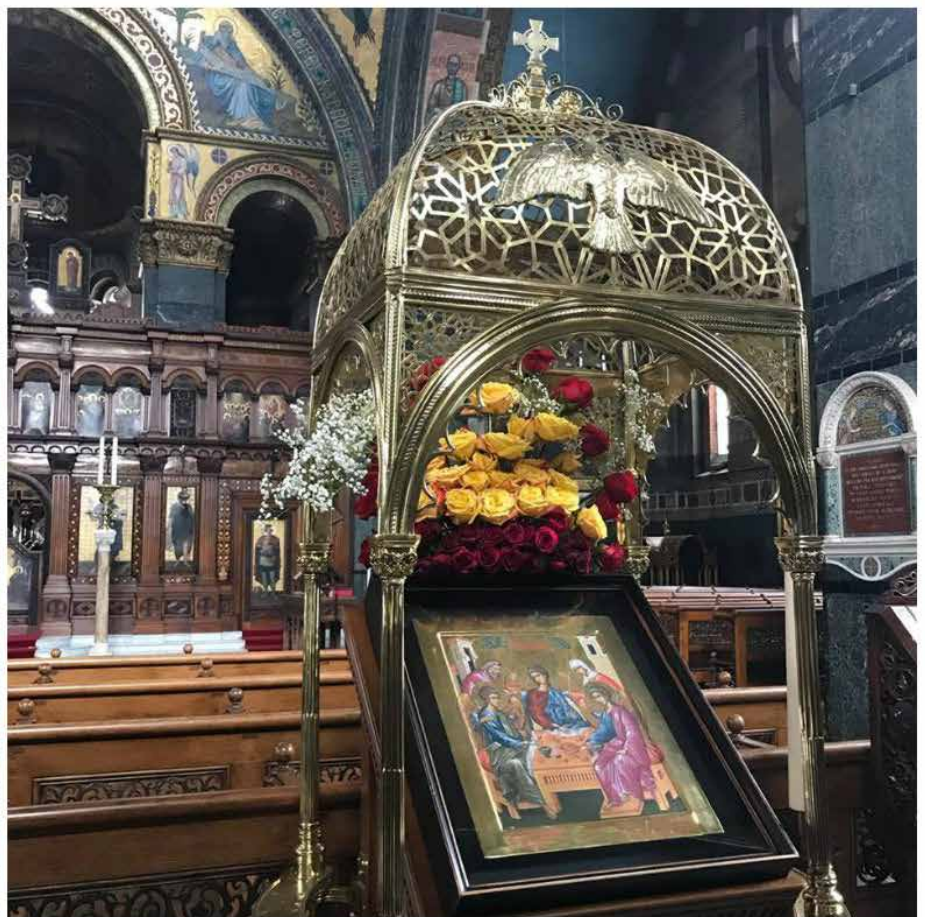
Bayswater is an area in west London with a considerable presence of the Hellenic community, which is highlighted by the presence of the Greek Orthodox church, Saint Sophia Cathedral in the region. We went to Bayswater and explored the Greek neighborhood, where we visited the Greek church and had the chance to talk with lots of Greeks that have become professionally active there.

Saint Sophia Cathedral

Saint Sophia Cathedral is a Greek Orthodox church, located on Moscow Road in the Bayswater area of London. The construction began in 1877 and on 5 February 1882 it was finally consecrated as the

Church of the Holy Wisdom by Antonios Chariati, Metropolitan of Corfu, as a focus for the prosperous Greek community that had settled in London. St Sophia is a Byzantine Revival design by architect John Oldrid Scott. From the outside the Cathedral appears relatively modest, only hinting at its style through the domed roof and arched windows. Inside it is elaborately decorated with polychromatic marble. In the centre of the temple there is a big cross composed of 54 candles, which is a symbol/characteristic of the church.

St Sophia was commissioned by a committee presided over by Emmanuel Mavrocordato. The cost

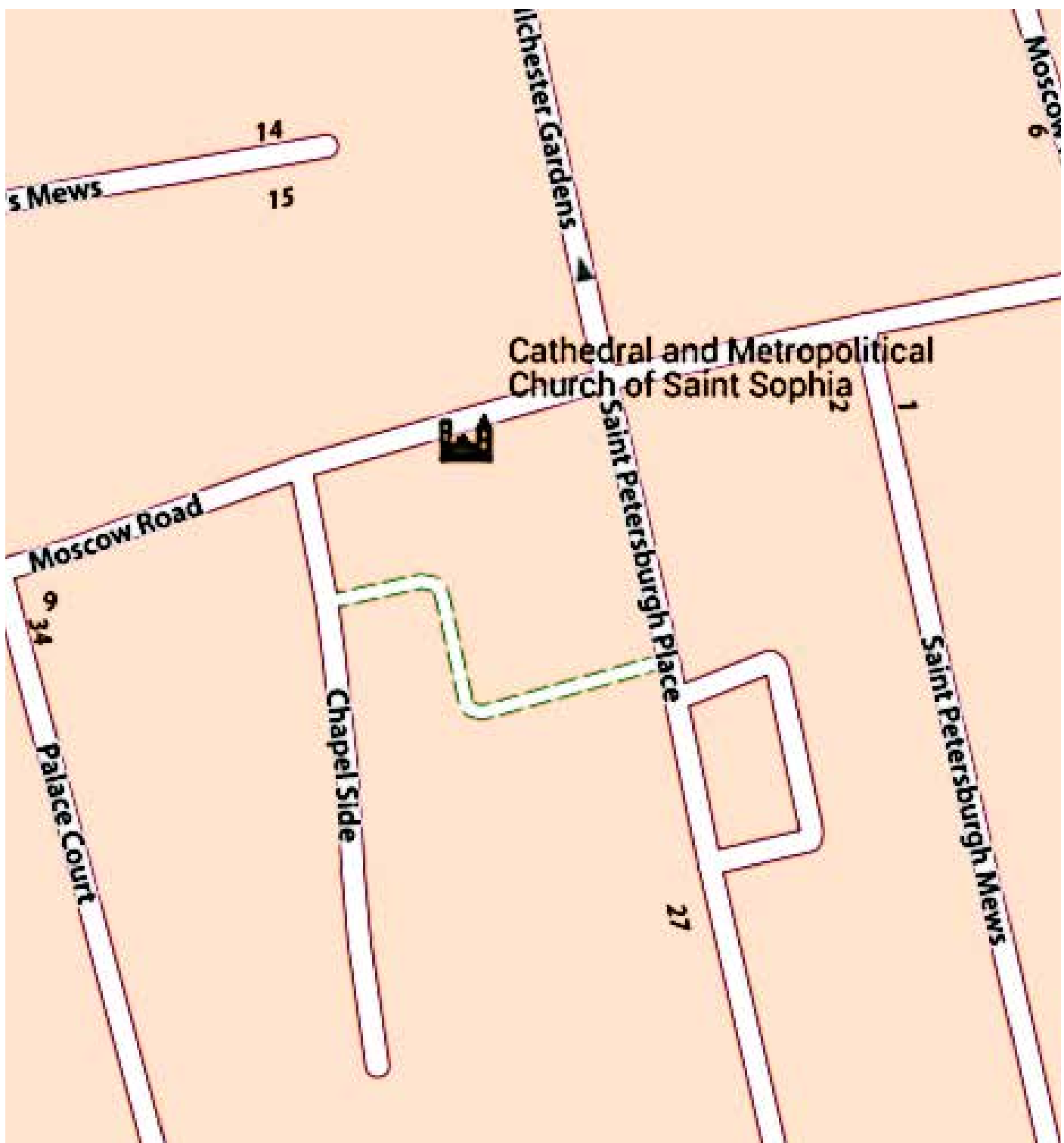


of £50,000 was raised in three years by the Greek community, including prosperous and influential London merchants and financiers. The first Liturgy was celebrated on 1 June 1879, 18 months after Eustratios Ralli laid the first stone. During World War II, London became the seat of the Greek government in exile, St Sophia therefore became the cathedral of the Greek Nation. It was bombed during the Blitz, but was subsequently repaired.

Nowadays, in addition to its regular Saturday and Sunday services, it hosts a Greek polyphonic choir, Byzantine music, and an associated school in which

pupils discover the history and language of Greece and take Greek dancing lessons. The church is being visited by all Orthodox in London, regardless of their nationality, has a rich tradition in charities and acts as a link among the Greek community and Greece. The cathedral recently opened a small museum to display some of the treasures donated to the cathedral by its 19th-century patrons and its links to London's Greek community. Last not least St. Sophia is open to school visits.

For more information, you can check their official website: <https://www.stsophia.org.uk/>





"Aphrodite"

In 15 Hereford Road in west London, one can find a small and lovely restaurant named "Aphrodite". A "taverna" owned by Mr Pantels and his late wife Rosana. He is a Greek Cypriot immigrant with a humble beginnings, a great love for food and a desire to bring a small taste of our heritage to West London. Along with tradition and strong family values they managed to build their dream from the ground up.

Up to this day, "Aphrodite" continues to be a family oriented restaurant. Pantelis as a proud owner

and the man behind the kitchen always sets high standards concerning his business. He is a man with a lovely personality who always makes time to greet his customers as they step through his door. Bringing food and cuisine into the discussion in a culinary way and matter, "Aphrodite" proud's itself as an establishment serving authentic Greek Cypriot Cuisine. One can find traditional family recipes cooked in perfection, using only fresh ingredients. From time to time this specific establishment founds itself in the heart and center of celebrations among the Greek and Cypriot based community throughout London.

Athenian Grocery

Based in 16A Moscow Road in Bayswater extremely close to Hagia Sofia Church "Athenian Grocery" constitutes the oldest Greek deli in the entire United Kingdom. Since 1952 offers to great variety of customers Greek and Cypriot delicacies. With an experience well over 60 years, the Athenian Grocery aims to introduce us to the eastern Mediterranean cuisine. One can find a selection of products that made and continue to make our culinary experience famous all over the world. Therefore, olives and olive oil, honey dairy products like feta and authentic Greek yogurt, meats and canned foods are a few great examples that one could come apart if decides to visit this lovely establishment.

The whole enterprise constitutes a family business runned by 4 individuals. Customers could be found all over UK, even in Scotland. It is quite important for the owners that achieved to communicate their culture and traditions through their capacity as well established deli offering somehow "exotic" delicacies to a broader multicultural London. Athenian Grocery, a necessity for the Greek community and a wonderful option for the locals.



May events

A Tribute to the Legends – Songs of Our Fathers

When: Sunday, 17 June 2018; 7:00pm for 9:30pm

Where: The Hippodrome Casino, Cranbourn Street, Leicester Square, London WC2H 7JH

DO NOT MISS!

100 years of the Koraeas Chair – a celebration

When: Monday 18 June 2018; 6:00-8:30pm

Where: Great Hall, King's College London, Strand Campus, Strand, London WC2R 2LS

EU citizens rights after Brexit

When: Monday, 18 June 2018; 6:00-8:00pm

Where: HIGH COMMISSION OF CYPRUS, 13, St. James's Square, SW1Y 4LB

Daemonia Nympe at the O2 Islington Academy

When: Saturday, 23 June 2018; 6:00pm

Where: O2 Academy Islington, 16 Parkfield Street, London, N1 0PS

Eleni Foureira live at KOKO

When: Friday, 29 June 2018; 6:30 for 7:30-10:00pm

Where: KOKO, 1A Camden High Street, London NW1 7JE

Women Of Rebetiko

When: Saturday, 30 June 2018, 7.30 pm

Where: Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS

The Photographs of Joan Leigh Fermor: Artist and Lover

When: Thursday, 05 July 2018, 7.15 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, Marylebone, London W1U 5AS

The Cloackroom Attendant

When: Monday, 30 July 2018, 9.15 pm

Where: The Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, Marylebone, London W1U 5AS

@GreeceInUK is a newsletter with a monthly roundup of news related to Greece, Greek Politics, Economy, Culture, Civil Society, the Arts as well as Greece's distinctive vibrant presence in the UK. Our ambition is to offer an accurate and rich source of information to those interested in Greece and her people.

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