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The magazine of  
Paphos Third Age



[www.paphos3rdage.org](http://www.paphos3rdage.org)

Editors: Keith and Marian McEwen

December 2020



## ***KEITH ADAIR***

### ***Sends his message from the chair***

Dear Members,

For most groups the year continues to be a challenge with much uncertainty around any full resumption of group activities in the foreseeable future.

However, some groups are still managing to get out and about. Those who gather in each other's homes like Current Affairs and Around the World in 80 Dishes continue to thrive. You can read their news in the coming pages along with reports from two outdoor groups who have thoroughly enjoyed late summer excursions.

Thank you, all the groups who have contributed to this edition.

Due to ongoing restrictions around public venues and meeting sizes, three important events on this year's club's calendar have been impacted.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner, which had involved much time in the planning, had to be cancelled.

The AGM was able to go ahead, although at a different venue and with a changed format this year - a report of the proceedings can be read on the Committee page.

The Annual Group Leaders Meeting and Lunch planned for late November had to be postponed but it will be re-scheduled for the Spring of 2021. This is a special event each year as it is the time when the club is able to formally thank all Group Leaders and assistants in recognition of their hard work and commitment during the year.

Finally, I wish everyone Seasonal Greetings and hope that the New Year will bring us all more cheer.

Kind Regards  
Keith Adair  
Chair

# **P3A committee members**

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<b>Chair</b>	Keith Adair
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Keith McEwen
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Harper
<b>Secretary</b>	Karen Ikin
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Dale Ikin
<b>Groups Coordinator</b>	Simon Welch
<b>Magazine Editors</b>	Keith and Marian McEwen
<b>Website Officer</b>	Ros Sparrow
<b>Events Organiser</b>	Marian McEwen
<b>Co-opted Member</b>	Sue Lourensz

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Contact details: <http://paphos3rdage.org/committee.htm>

## **Report on the P3A Annual General Meeting, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

The AGM this year saw a change of venue and arrangements due to the issues surrounding the Coronavirus. With the Avanti Hotel closed the meeting was held at the Tsiakkas Taverna, Kissonerga. 60 Members attended and many stayed on for a lunch following the formal meeting. All Covid regulations were observed.

The meeting was Chaired by the Vice Chair [Keith McEwen](#) as Keith Adair was not able to attend due to isolation issues.

It was recorded that this was the 11<sup>th</sup> P3A AGM and the Secretary had brought the minutes from the first meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2010.

The report from the Chair praised the Groups and Group Leaders for their contribution in coping during this most difficult year. Many Groups have managed to create ways of continuing to operate in one way or another.

He said how encouraging it was to see many new Groups and Members had joined this year. Our membership currently stood at 878. This figure had included double the amount of turnover than usual so thanked the Membership Secretary for all the extra work and time involved.

He referred to the ongoing saga of Club Registration and hoped that it would be resolved very soon.

He announced that the Group Co-Ordinator, Jean Alston, has stepped down and thanked her for all her effort in the role over the past two years. Jean is succeeded by Simon Welch.

The Treasurer gave a full report. He said it had been the busiest year he can remember and is hopeful that the Registration process will end very soon and we will be able to open a Bank Account. He talked through the figures which were agreed and accepted by all present.

Only one candidate had stood for each post on the P3A Committee and all were elected unopposed.

With all formal business concluded the meeting closed after 25 minutes.

### **Other Committee news,**

We are very pleased to welcome Sue Lourensz who has joined us as a co-opted member.

## New Groups in 2021

As the new Groups' Co-ordinator, I'm looking forward to the time, hopefully in the next few months, when we can all once more enjoy the wide range of Groups that P3A offers. Reviewing our existing Groups however, I have been reminded that we are very good at some things, like walking, cooking, eating and leisure pursuits among others. Are there areas though where we are not so proficient? I see it as part of my new role to identify areas where we could try to establish new groups, and for this, I need your help and ideas. What new Groups should we try to establish? Here are a few ideas of my own:

### **Computing and IT**

Most of us grew up in a world where computers were huge machines that hardly impacted on our everyday lives, a world our children and grandchildren can hardly imagine! How many of our members though are still puzzled by IT? Who would like a short course, say "Computing for the Terrified", maybe looking at the basics of how to write a letter, use Facebook, keep safe online and keep safe the precious photos that may be on their computers?

Others with a more technical bent may enjoy a forum in which to discuss all things "techie"?

### **Creative Writing**

Using our imagination is a great way of fending off mental decline and writing can be a great way of using our brains. Such a Group could be for budding authors, or maybe for those who just want to have fun with words?

### **Art Appreciation**

The artists of yesteryear hid many messages in their paintings, which can often be read like a book. Are there any artists or art teachers out there who may like to run an occasional session helping the rest of us read a Rembrandt or de-code a Degas?

If you'd like to run one of these Groups or you've an idea for a new Group, please get in touch with me, Simon Welch, the Groups' Co-ordinator [simonwelch@gmx.com](mailto:simonwelch@gmx.com)

## Group Leaders Needed!

The P3A would not exist without the work put in by our Group Leaders, a role that can be both enjoyable and deeply fulfilling. Sometimes however, for different reasons, a Group Leader may find him or herself unable to continue in that role. During the time since the start of the pandemic, and the consequent suspension of most of our Groups, three of our Group Leaders have found themselves unable to take up the reins of their respective Groups when we can all go back to our activities. We thank them for their hard work, but are now looking for new Group Leaders for their Groups, detailed below.

**Chess for Beginners** Do you love Chess? Would you like to help other discover this fascinating game? Due to personal circumstances, the current Group Leader is unable to continue; the Committee would like to thank Bruce for his work founding this Group. If you would like to take up this role, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

**Jazz Appreciation** Do you know Duke Ellington from Count Basie, and Acid Jazz from Swing? The Jazz Appreciation Group is a popular group of jazz lovers who enjoy sharing their love of all the different genres that make up Jazz but find themselves looking for a new Group Leader to organise their monthly meetings. As leader, you will need to research and present a 45min/1hour talk each month illustrated with clips from You Tube and playing them through a computer to a large screen, and encourage each member to do the same with their favourite artists on a rotating basis. A great way to meet new friends with similar interests.

**Sustainable Planet Earth** We are all of us very aware of the many issues affecting our home planet and the ways in which mankind is impacting on it. From plastic in the sea to the loss of the rain forests we are all of us directly and indirectly responsible for what mankind is doing to our planet. This Group has fallen into abeyance and is thus looking for a new leader to take it on. How the new Leader wants to run this Group – as a discussion Group, using external speakers or in some other way – is up to them and their members, but this is a great opportunity to share your views with others. Whether you think Greta Thunberg is the saviour of the planet or an ill informed child, if you've got an interest in environmental matters, why not take this Group in its previous or a new direction

## NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

### ARCHAEOLOGY

“Sitting in front of a washing-up bowl, with a scrubbing brush in your hand, may not seem like an exciting way of spending an autumn morning, but members of the Archaeology Group just love it.

Our Group regularly help several of the overseas Archaeological teams who work in Paphos, especially the Polish ones from Krakow and Warsaw who have been digging in the Kato Paphos area for many years.

From the Hellenistic and Roman periods, pottery is a major source of information, especially for dating, and we help the professionals by washing and cleaning up the thousands of pieces which they uncover every year.

We have had a long relationship with the staff from Krakow. They are the only outside archaeologists who have been digging in 2020, even though they were not able to bring students this year.

Over 25 P3A members were able to ‘pot-wash’ this year and had the chance to examine the new trenches near the Agora as they were dug. The Polish experts in particular have been able to establish that the Kato Paphos site was a flourishing town well before the Roman period. “

Geoff Cosson

Group Leader



## The Photography Group's Trip to the Troodos

Sixteen members of the P3A Photography Group enjoyed a relaxing two-day break in the Troodos in early October. We all stayed at the Ambelikos Hotel in Potamitissa which comes highly recommended as a base for a tranquil country holiday. We took the scenic route following the Diarizos Valley stopping off en route at the Extreme View Cafe Restaurant and later in Troodos village. Along the way the views in the road were quite breathtaking.

It was good to relax, enjoy each other's company and breathe the country air over our two days away, meeting up at breakfast and over the evening meal to chat and discuss our different experiences exploring the surrounding countryside. Some of us visited the Rose Factory and Sweet Factory in Agros. Some visited the church of St Nicholas of the Roof in Kakopetria and the Cyprus Railways Museum at Evrychou. The Botanical Gardens and Geopark Visitor Centre on the site of a former asbestos mine at Amiantos, were both very interesting. We were also very close to the renowned Kyperounta and Tsiakkas wineries, the highest altitude vineyards in Cyprus.

Those of us who enjoy walking followed the quite vertiginous 3.5km Nature Trail near the Fire Lookout at Madari where we were nearly as high as Mount Olympus. The views to the north and south, though misty, revealed the whole breadth of the island. From there we drove down to Langoudera to see the beautiful Byzantine frescos dating back to 1192 at the lovely church of Panagia tou Araka, now restored thanks to UNESCO. Afterwards some of us even managed to fit in a spot of geocaching.

A lot of us chose fresh trout for dinner on our second night and it was fantastic. We ate beneath a vine in the courtyard of the hotel and above that the stars shone bright as we talked, ate and took part in a quiz. A good time was had by all and we returned refreshed by the experience which was a good opportunity to forge new friendships.

Chris Levene



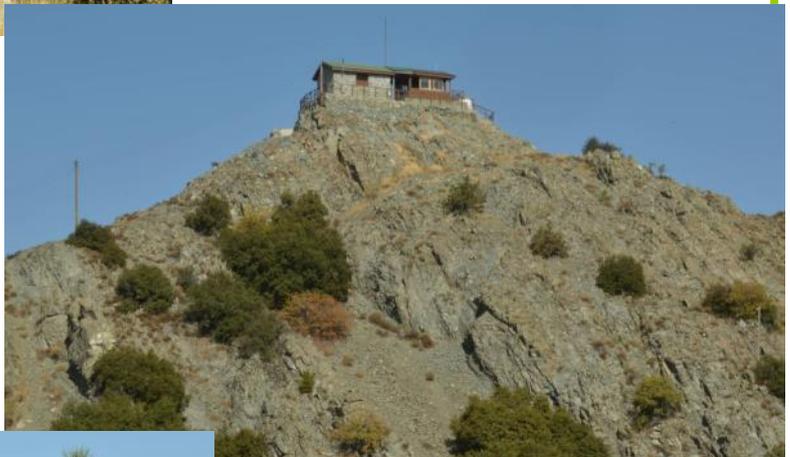
Photography—cont'd

*On the trail*



*Chris and Bill*

*Madaris Fire Lookout*



*The Madaris trail*

## Quiz Group

Quiz nights at Neo's have taken place prior to the recent curfew on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

The number of teams participating is dwindling somewhat, and is due mainly to Covid restrictions. This of course is understandable. Those attending seem to be having a good time relieving me of six bottles of wine each time!

There is now also a quiz within a quiz comprising of 5 questions, four true or false and one general knowledge. This ran for a couple of sessions and was then won by a brand new team!

Here are the questions see how you do.

Note that there is only 15 seconds allowed to ponder each question and you must get them all correct.

1. T or F. The Greek phrase Hippo Campus in English means Sea Horse.
- 2 T or F. The word Littoral means the strict meaning of a word or phrase.
- 3 T or F. Viridian is a shade of green.
4. T or F. Dhaka is the capital city of Bangladesh.

General knowledge: How many people have walked on the moon? 4, 8, 12, or 16.

How did you do? Answers below.

Do come and join us, teams up to four although we can allow five.

Any enquiries please email me : [mickcotton20@hotmail.com](mailto:mickcotton20@hotmail.com)

*Answers: 1 T 2 F 3 T 4T. 12 people have walked on the moon*

## Discovering and Exploring the Real Cyprus Group

We do just what the title says. We look for and visit the Cyprus behind the Tourist Trappings and Superficialities that are what most holidaymakers encounter during their short stays on the island.

Have a look at the photos on <https://photos.app.goo.gl/CsyzxiXuFtFQYeEE7> to learn more. A typical hard day's discovering.

If any of any of this appeals to you contact Brian or Suzanne [Brianandjeanincyprus@gmail.com](mailto:Brianandjeanincyprus@gmail.com) 96136047 You will be most welcome.

## Boules

### ***What is so special about Boules?***

- You can learn the basics in 5 minutes.
- Most of our members had never played before.
- You can play at any age.
- It is inexpensive.
- Men and women have an equal chance of winning.
- It is gentle exercise in the fresh air.
- 

Permanent Resident or Swallow, we look forward to meeting you soon.

Brian or Angela. [p3aboules@outlook.com](mailto:p3aboules@outlook.com). 96136047

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Current Affairs Group meets regularly on the first Thursday of the month. Sadly, with the COVID19 virus restrictions we missed one meeting due to the lockdown. When we did resume in June we were limited to just 10 members to abide by Government regulations.

We have 16 regular members, but normally 3 or 4 are travelling or are otherwise committed, so the average number attending meetings is 12. Consequently, for our recent meetings we had to ask for volunteers to step down. (Our P3A Treasurer John Harper was happy to do so as he is still conducting his financial tutorials on the internet: these sessions last throughout the night as most of his students live in the Far East).

For seven years our Group Leader, Hugh Atkinson and his wife Liz, hosted every meeting at their villa overlooking Coral Bay. Since he managed and chaired all the meetings, it was finally decided to share the load. Now the venues for meetings and the discussion leaders are rotated: this has proved to be extremely popular, with each leader putting his/her own stamp on 'their' meeting.

Our members originate from many different countries and have enjoyed varied International careers.

We have members from Canada, New Zealand, the US, Wales, South Africa, Scotland, Cyprus, Ireland and England.

Besides senior business executives, we have a QC and judge, a schoolmaster, Army officers, a management consultant, an Army helicopter pilot, a chartered accountant, a financial advisor and an international lawyer. We also have authors in the Group. John Harper and Anne Rapley have just published their memoirs; Barbara Stapel has written about her worldwide experiences, while Robert Bowman-Clarke is currently completing his sixth book entitled 'Anvil'. Hugh has written three historical novels and a short story book under his nom de plume, Mark Charlton-Kings.



At the moment there is a waiting list to join the Group. If and when a member leaves, we contact an applicant and invite them to a meeting, initially as a guest. However, with the current COVID19 restrictions we are not considering any new membership applications.

At this time we are remembering Christopher Solomon, who died last year: he was once a Current Affairs Group Leader. Also, we wish John (and Hannie) Lay good luck now they have moved to Spain.

Finally we hope Linda Maidment makes a full and speedy recovery following her two nasty accidents.

Hugh Atkinson

## Around the World in 80 Dishes

We continue to meet and enjoy different cuisines, giving us as much pleasure in researching recipes as tucking into the meal itself.



Our menu for October took us to Germany and we enjoyed a tasty meal of German Fish Balls with green sauce and Smoked Trout dip for starters, followed by Sauerbraten, Schnitzel and German potato salad and finishing with Black Forest Gateau.



In November, we turned to Sri Lanka and enjoyed a most delicious meal of Sri Lankan Tuna Fishcakes with sweet chilli dip and Sri Lankan Samosas, followed by Prawn Curry, Pumpkin Curry, Spinach and Lentils, Spiced Baked Chicken all served with Kiribath (coconut rice) and a relish called Pol Sambol.

For dessert (and yes, we did have room!), we enjoyed Watalappen with roasted cashew nuts.

(Unfortunately we all enjoyed the food so much, we forgot to take photographs until it was too late!!)

What could be more enjoyable than spending a convivial evening in good company and eating delicious food? If you enjoy cooking and like the idea of exploring different cuisines with like-minded people, please contact me. Our current group is full with nine members but I am more than happy to collect a list of names to start a second group. The minimum number required for a group is six- bearing in mind that we meet in each other's homes and need to accommodate people around the dining table.

Carolyn Hart Tel: 97 762371

## ***The Perils of Probate!?!***

What is probate? It is the process by which the wishes expressed in your Will are carried out, so if you have a Will you will go through probate... if you have any assets.

The perils of probate are that it is **always** slow, complicated and expensive, sometimes it is **very** slow, **very** complicated and **very** expensive. So why would that be? The nature of the process, with its checks and balances, its potential tax liabilities, potential alternative claims and now its mixture of jurisdictions create a bit of a quagmire.

Your executor not only has to find your assets, they then have a bureaucratic maze to navigate, starting with verification of the Will and witnesses, submitting asset lists, getting Grant of Probate, clearing any tax liabilities, opening and closing bank accounts, gathering assets, submitting statements to the Registrar, etc. Additionally, it is now possible to elect to have a different jurisdiction's rules apply to your Will (eg English Law, if you are an English national) and that can only complicate matters further.

The option to use a different jurisdiction is attractive, as Cyprus Forced Heirship rules will apply, otherwise. The greatest impact of these rules is on immoveable property, where control of the distribution of property is lost. That means an individual's share of a property may not go entirely to the remaining spouse, but be divided between the spouse and children.

However, a Cyprus lawyer cannot be expected to be familiar with the inheritance laws of another country, so they should seek the advice of lawyers in the other jurisdiction – more delay, more cost!

It makes sense to have a separate Will for each country that you have assets in, and the process in the UK can be relatively quick; for residents it is often possible for the executor to do it themselves, but that is not the case in Cyprus. Frequently, the executor is a relative who doesn't live in Cyprus and the Probate Registrar is unlikely to allow them to deal with the estate, unless they use a local lawyer.

What to do?

Avoid probate!

Jointly held assets (such as bank accounts, but not including property, in Cyprus) will go to the remaining account holder without great delay and without the need of Grant of Probate. It therefore makes sense to hold assets, where possible, in joint accounts. This can be a problem with Premium bonds and ISAs, but there are alternatives.

Gift to heirs prior to death. A gift in your lifetime is not subject to probate rules (although there can be Inheritance Tax issues) and is a very effective method of getting assets distributed according to your wishes, without delay.

For those who want to keep control of their assets a Trust might be an option. A Trust can provide control and access, as well as ensure that assets are distributed according to your wishes even beyond the grave.

The most difficult area is Cyprus property. The solution depends on individual circumstances; it might make sense to gift the property to one spouse or the other (depending on who has children), direct to the children now, or to use a Trust. A Trust is the most expensive option, but will still cost a lot less than probate, and ensures that you keep control.

Trying to deal with complicated legal and financial questions while grief-stricken is never easy. All in all, there is a huge benefit in taking the time now, while you are alive, to arrange your affairs in a manner that will help your heirs.

Lou Cunningham - Blevins Franks