Kyrenia Society Library to celebrate its 50th anniversary year

Why does the media want to ignore Northern Cyprus?

Susie's 2020 Quiz Winners

Dreaming of travelling and seeking adventure by Ahmet Abdulaziz

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Animal Welfare
Pages 8/9/14/15/22
Ministry of Health announcement for vaccination applications

The TRNC Ministry of Health announced that citizens aged 65 and over who want to be vaccinated can apply for the Covid-19 vaccine by filling out the form at http://asi.covid19.saglik.gov.ct.tr.

The Ministry of Health emphasised that all applications made by e-mail and via the web address published yesterday (18/01/21) are valid, but new applications will be accepted via:


Source : TRNC Public Information Office

Editor’s Note:

CyprusScene have queried the word ‘citizens’ and asked if the vaccine is available to all who live in the TRNC, i.e. expatriates, residency permit holders, homeowners etc.

Two members of our team, who have residency permits, have applied for the vaccine online on the above link which has been recorded as ‘Received’.

If we receive any clarification this will be published on the CyprusScene website.
Statement on decisions of Contagious Diseases High Committee

TRNC Ministry of Health statement regarding the decisions of the Contagious Diseases High Committee.

TRNC Ministry of Health stated that the decisions of the Contagious Diseases High Committee made on 11 January 2021 and published in the Official Gazette will continue to be applied until new decisions are determined.

The Ministry of Health stated that the new decisions issued by the Contagious Diseases High Committee on 16 January 2021 were discussed thoroughly at the TRNC Council of Ministers and it was decided to follow the current process for one week and, in the event of need, to apply the new decisions taken by the Contagious Diseases High Committee.

The statement is as follows:

“The Contagious Diseases High Committee made new decisions on 16 January 2021 regarding Covid 19 pandemic. As can be appreciated, the Contagious Diseases High Committee makes some decisions according to the number of cases to control the Covid 19 pandemic, however, taking a decision regarding lockdown is under the authority of the TRNC Council of Ministers.

The decisions taken by the Contagious Diseases High Committee on 16 January 2021 were discussed thoroughly at the TRNC Council of Ministers and taking into consideration the views of the Ministries regarding the economy, it was decided to follow the current process for one week and, in case of need, to apply the decisions of the Contagious Diseases High Committee taken on 16 January 2021. Therefore, the following decisions taken by the Contagious Diseases High Committee on 11 January 2021 and published on the Official Gazette will be valid until the new decisions are determined.

1) It has been decided that the decision to stop the activities after 22.00 of cafe, restaurant, patisserie, betting office, hairdresser, beauty centre, coffee house, gym, pitta shop, simit shop, barbershop, will be continued. People working in these sectors should repeat the PCR tests every fourteen days.
2) Residents of Pile or those working in Pile will be able to enter the TRNC without quarantine as long as they submit negative PCR test results done within 72 hours.
3) Due to the increase in local cases in the country, UN, EU, British Bases, Buffer Zone, Missing Persons Committee and Peace Forces employees will be able to enter the TRNC without quarantine as long as they submit negative PCR test results done within 72 hours.
4) Patients and their attendants residing in Northern Cyprus and receiving medical treatment in Southern Cyprus will be able to enter the TRNC without quarantine. The patient and accompanying persons (if necessary) who will be transferring for health purposes are required to submit the negative PCR test results done within the last 3 days upon arrival. In addition, patients and accompanying persons should repeat the PCR tests in the 7th and the 14th day of their returning to the TRNC.
5) It has been decided to extend the semester break in all primary and secondary education schools in the TRNC until the next decision.
6) Training centres, private lessons and course activities are suspended until the next decision.
7) It has been decided that the passage of persons residing in the North and working in South Cyprus is subject to quarantine until the next decision.
8) It has been decided that the passage of persons residing in the South and working in North Cyprus will be subject to quarantine until the next decision.
9) Students and their parents who reside in the TRNC and study in the south are subject to quarantine in the event that they enter the TRNC until a new decision is made.
10) As the education is postponed in the TRNC, students and their parents who reside in the south and study in the TRNC are subject to quarantine in the event that they enter the TRNC until a new decision is made.
11) Those who do trade under the Green Line Regulation without physical contact are exempt from the quarantine restriction.
12) It has been decided that only ambulances for health purposes can cross the Yeşilırmak Border Gate without quarantine. Other than that, quarantine is required.
13) Those who reside in Beyramudu can only make daily crossings to the British Bases for the purpose of agriculture and livestock without quarantine.
14) The decision for the restriction of more than 10 people to come together in houses is extended until a new decision is made.
15) For all kinds of entertainment activities, business opening ceremonies, weddings, cinema, theatre, birthday, collective worship, engagement, religious ceremony, etc. is extended until a new decision is made.
16) It has been decided that funerals can be held with the participation of only first-degree relatives.
17) It has been decided that team sports can be held, but without spectators.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office
Tatar issued commemorative message for martyrs of Azerbaijan

President Ersin Tatar issued a commemorative message for those who became martyrs on 20th January 1990 which is the turning point of Azerbaijan's struggle for independence.

In his message Tatar noted: "As the President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, on behalf of myself and my people, I wish God's mercy on the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the independence of Azerbaijan on 20th January 1990 and patience to their mournful families.

While the martyrs of Azerbaijan on 20th January 1990 died for the sake of independence, they also laid the foundation of today's victory. We remember them with love, respect and gratitude."

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Ministry organised Alevkayası and Onur Camping beach cleaning

A cleaning campaign has been carried out in the Alevkayası Picnic area and Onur Camping beach.

Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Environmental Protection Department, within the framework of the TRNC Environment Law, is providing an effective administrative framework that includes environmental threats. It is necessary to achieve and implement the measures to be taken against them with a more effective monitoring, control and controllable structure by encouraging sustainable development of environmental cleaning campaigns.

One of the activities carried out to raise awareness on environmental issues has now been initiated.

The Environment Department, whose main task is to inspect environmental sustainability, has also decided to carry out the cleaning campaign, which has started this year in order to raise awareness and set an example, in a different region every week, and accordingly this week at the Girne Alevkayası Picnic Area and Onur Camping Beach cleaning was carried out with the support of the relevant Municipalities.

The cleaning work was carried out by the staff of the Environmental Protection Department of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, emphasising the importance of environmental cleaning especially in the Covid-19 pandemic process by being sensitive to the disposal of masks and gloves, which are commonly used within the scope of new types of coronavirus measures, for both environmental cleaning and especially human health.

It is aimed to draw attention to the importance of preventing the spread of the pandemic.

Source (Turkish): Ministry of Tourism and Environment
President Tatar had a telephone conversation with Borrell

President Ersin Tatar had a telephone conversation with High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Josep Borrell yesterday (18 January 2021).

President Ersin Tatar expressed his views to Borrell about the 5+UN unofficial meeting and said that if sovereign equality and equal international status of both sides are respected, a fair solution will be possible in Cyprus. Tatar also expressed that 1080 vaccines sent by the EU have been received and thanked Borrell for their support. Stating that the EU will continue to send vaccines to North Cyprus, Borrell said that he will give the necessary instruction for this.

Furthermore, touching upon the halloumi issue, Tatar made a request for the EU Commission to appoint experts to supervise health and hygiene in the production of halloumi in cooperation with the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce, to protect the current function and status of the Turkish Cypriot Chamber of Commerce authorised within the framework of the Green Line Regulation, and a modification that would allow its trade through the Green Line Regulation to be carried out simultaneously.

Borrell expressed his pleasure to meet with President Tatar during his next visit to the island.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Confederation not perceived as abandoning an equal sovereign state

Ertuğruloğlu: "Talking about a Confederation should not be perceived as abandoning the claim of an equal sovereign state."

Stating that if a confederation is established by sovereign equal states, Foreign Minister Tahsin Ertuğruloğlu said that the basis of the work is two separate sovereign equal states, and there is no inconsistency.

Speaking at the General Assembly of the Parliament, Ertuğruloğlu said, "Talking about a Confederation should not be perceived as abandoning the claim of an equal sovereign state."

Noting that an expression of a federal solution should not be interpreted only as a federation, Ertuğruloğlu stated that there is both a federation and a confederation under a federal title.

Stating that if there will be a new partnership between the two sides, it can only be a confederation, Ertuğruloğlu emphasised the need to act on the basis of two sovereign equal states, and indicated the EU as an example to the confederation. Ertuğruloğlu stated that we should not be condemned to a single option.

Explaining that it is not possible for the Greek Cypriots to ask for a solution as long as the Turkish Cypriots are treated as a society within the so-called Republic of Cyprus, Ertuğruloğlu stated that in the current process, the Greek Cypriot side makes a pretence of wishing for a solution and keeps the Turkish Cypriots at the table which causes time to be lost.

In this context, Ertuğruloğlu stated that the United Nations caused the greatest damage to the Turkish Cypriots and when they expressed this, they were declared as an anti-solution side, yet they never accepted this statement. Ertuğruloğlu added that it was the approach of the UN and the Greek Cypriot side that moved them away from a solution.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Sennaroğlu elected as Speaker of the TRNC Assembly

Sennaroğlu elected as the Speaker of the TRNC Assembly, and Candan as the Deputy Speaker.

During yesterday’s General Session of the Republican Assembly, National Unity Party (UBP) Deputy Önder Sennaroğlu was elected as the Speaker of the TRNC Assembly and Republican Turkish Party (CTP) Deputy Armağan Candan was elected as the Deputy Speaker.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office
Çavuşoğlu: A Federation model in Cyprus is only a dream

Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu stated that a fair and sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem could only be created by a realistic point of view hence it is time to start thinking of a two-state solution for the island.

Minister Çavuşoğlu made evaluations to the Global Media Journal and underlined that over 50 years of talks on the Cyprus issue have yielded nothing because of the constant attitude of the Greek Cypriots who have never accepted the sharing of the power and wealth with the Turkish Cypriots.

Stating that the Greek Cypriot Administration rejects giving up the so called ‘unitary state’ Cavuşoğlu added: “therefore believing that a bizonal, bicommmunal federation would be a sustainable solution to the Cyprus problem is only a dream.”

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Doğruyol ‘The required initiatives are made for vaccines via EU’

According to the written statement from the Spokesperson of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Presidency, Berna Çelik Doğruyol, the TRNC Presidency made the required initiatives for the delivery of vaccines directly to the TRNC from the European Union.

In the statement it was underlined that TRNC President Tatar invited the Greek Cypriot Administration to give up their political passions and behave with common sense for an issue relating to human health.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Freedom Struggle Leader the late Dr.Fazıl Küçük commemorated

Freedom Struggle leader of the Turkish Cypriot People the late Dr. Fazıl Küçük was commemorated today (15th January) with ceremonies on the 37th anniversary of his passing.

The ceremony was held at the Dr. Fazıl Küçük Mausoleum in Lefkoşa. President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) Ersin Tatar signed the special memorial book and speeches were made by Mehmet Küçük the son of late Dr. Küçük, and President Ersin Tatar.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office
By Ahmet Abdulaziz....

More than fifty years ago, I had come across a newspaper story about how a young man had travelled most of the world, without spending anything. He was a Pakistani, from the same city where I was born. The newspaper had been publishing his adventures on a weekly basis in the weekend edition, and I had become crazy to go out for some adventure like that.

At that time I was a teenager, and was carrying out my studies which I had to continue. I had never thought of leaving my education unfinished, so under those circumstances, my only way out was to keep on reading the weekly account of his adventures.

The story of that guy was really fascinating, as he had left his school early, because he wanted to travel the world. He left home with a small amount of money in his pocket. He spent some really bad days while hitchhiking in Pakistan and then in Iran. With the help of people here and there, he managed to reach Greece, after crossing through Turkey.

In Greece, he got a job on a vessel. From that particular point, the real adventure had started. He started working on the vessel, which was going to Germany from Greece. Indeed the work was difficult, but he had already decided to overcome all difficulties. On the other side, his earnings were all being saved, since while onboard he was not having any expenses at all.

He reached Germany, and travelled a lot there, but still not spending much. He again managed to get a job on another vessel, which was going to the USA. Once again the same story repeated. The journey took more than a month, and when he stepped into the USA, he had a good amount of money in his pocket. He spent a good deal of time in the USA, and travelled a lot. He kept on exploring America, doing petty odd jobs to meet expenses.

Then a time came, when he again took a job on another vessel, which took him back to Europe.

He kept on travelling in different countries in the same way for years. After finishing seeing one country, he had been getting a job on some vessel to reach another part of the world, with a handsome amount of money in his pocket. He had seen most part of the globe over a span of ten years.

That weekly story in the newspaper, played the main part in making me an adventure enthusiast. Though I did not see most parts of the globe, due to obvious reasons, but wherever I went I acted like him. But that was not all for me. My next inspiration was the hippies movement. In those days (early 1970s) I came across some hippies, and learned how they used to travel. For me the point was travelling to seek adventure. I never wanted to be a hippie, but I always wanted to go for adventure.

Still somewhere in my mind, I see myself travelling to see the world, without any finance in my pocket.
DECEMBER NEUTERING FIGURES

Sorry for the delay but the numbers are now in, checked and verified, and we are very proud to announce that in the month of December we neutered 26 female cats, 10 male cats (36 cats in total) in just 3 weeks. EXCELLENT NEWS. Big thank you to everyone who helped us achieve these amazing figures. Team KAR and their amazing supporters have done it again!! Yeah!!

KAR IS ON INSTAGRAM

Yes, KAR has taken the plunge further into the world of Social Media and can now be found on Instagram. It's still very early days for us but would love those of you who use this platform to "follow" us so we can spread the word further. Search for us "Kyrenia Animal Rescue KAR". Any feedback is welcomed.
HARPER AND WILLOW (was Wilma)

Cast your mind back to August of last year and the wonderful story of Wilma (now Willow). She was dumped at our Rescue Centre 3 years previous when she was around 3 months old. She was a very lucky lady and found her furever home quite close to the centre in Catalkoy.

Now cast your mind back to last month and our beautiful Harper. She was dumped at the centre back in March last year with severe mental and medical problems. Many months of hard work, love, care and devotion by the centre staff and Harper became a loving, trusting dog ready for her furever home.

Cue Willow’s owners. They were wanting a companion for Willow and thought Harper would be ideal for the job. They met Harper at the centre and immediately fell in love with her. Everyone is so happy that these 2 sad stories finally have a fabulous happy ending.

HELP, WE URGENTLY NEED YOUR DONATIONS

Please, please, please we are desperate for your donations of Men’s, Women’s and Kid’s clothing, towels and bed linen, bric-a-brac, homewares, pots, pans, furniture, shoes, handbags, jewelry, anything and everything.

Without your donations we have nothing to sell in our shops and therefore reduced money to care for our animals in the shelter.

Please have an early spring clean and clearout and let us have what you no longer want/need.

You can bring your donations to our office/Gladrags in Karakum or to either of our shops behind the firestation in Girne, Monday to Friday between 10am and 1pm.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.
UCLG-MEWA Culture and Tourism Committee meeting held online

UCLG-MEWA Culture and Tourism Committee Administrative Meeting organised by Girne Municipality was convened online for the 2019-2022 term, and was chaired by Girne Municipality Mayor Nidai Güngördü.

The 52 member municipalities and committee co-chairs of the Culture and Tourism Committee, one of the six working committees of the United Cities and Local Governments Middle East and West Asia Regional Organization (UCLG-MEWA) was held as an online joint meeting chaired by Girne Municipality President Nidai Güngördü for the term 2019-2022.

Meeting; UCLG-MEWA Secretary General Mehmet Duman, Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü, Palestine Beit Jala Municipality Mayor Nicola Kamis, Balıkesir Metropolitan Municipality Mayor Yücel Yılmaz, Nevşehir Mayor Rasm Arı, Safranbolu Mayor Elif Köse, Gebze Mayor Zimur Bıyıkgöz and Cyprus Turkish Municipalities Union (KTBB) and Güzelyurt Mayor Mahmut Özçınar started with the opening speeches.

In his speech at the meeting, Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü stated that it is a very important idea and correct decision to hold such a meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic that has affected the whole world. Güngördü pointed out the importance of programming that can be done without breaking the ties and interrupting them, and stated that they are trying to fulfill the task assigned to the Girne Municipality in the first meeting held in Jordan in July 2019.

Güngördü said that they could not physically hold the meeting due to the pandemic, but that they held a meeting in Girne in November 2019 and that there was intense participation in this meeting, and he believed that the committee, where knowledgeable and experienced municipalities come together, would be successful. Nidai Güngördü stated that our country, and in terms of Turkey's historical and cultural heritage, is expressed as very rich with cultural heritage, inventory project partners to work with and others prepared to do so, and used in tourism this wealth will be protected and promotion carried out. He added that they have determined the agenda for 2021 together with the Municipalities and stated that it is a very important issue for the TRNC and Girne Municipality.

Güngördü stated that approximately 280 municipalities are members of the aforementioned Organisation and that they include various committees, and that they explained that the culture of Girne and the TRNC is an important area in the Middle East.

Emphasising that the "Olive Grove Festival" organised by the Girne Municipality is important, Güngördü stated that it was discussed that a trade network could be established with the Municipalities of other olive growing regions under the leadership of the Girne Municipality.

Drawing attention to the importance of establishing a trade network, Girne Municipality Mayor Güngördü said that another issue discussed at the meeting was that Balıkesir Municipality had assumed a task to create an unimpeded city from the current situation of Balıkesir in the 2021 work program. Güngördü stated that since July 2014, many activities have been carried out for disabled individuals in public buildings in the city and in the market centre in Girne, and that they put these as a condition for workplace opening permits and they want to be a part of this work in Balıkesir. He stated that they can do part of this under the roof of MEWA in Girne.

Girne Municipality Mayor Nidai Güngördü also made statements about a document book in which the TRNC will also be included, and stated that the book entitled "The Role of Local Governments in the Protection of Cultural Heritage" will be published in the near future.

Güngördü noted that a joint calendar can be prepared for many issues such as culture and art events.

Source (Turkish) Girne Municipality
Why does the media want to ignore Northern Cyprus?

Readers mail....
From U. Yilmaz ....

Dear CyprusScene,

Sadly I have only had robot replies but no replies with answers to a number of emails I sent about my cause for concern from Al Jazeera but then that is no great surprise as for years the Western Media has been far from impartial when reporting the Cyprus problem and I ask you to share my thoughts on the Truth of the Cyprus Issue with your readers.

Thank you,
U. Yilmaz

"Dear Al Jazeera,

Re: Project Force: Battle for resources in the eastern Mediterranean, A. Gatopoulos, 13th August 2020......
Link shown below [1].

Unfortunately, that report has only recently been highlighted on my iPhone. Nevertheless I feel I must write to you.

I live in the UK and over the years Al Jazeera has become my 'go to' channel for objective, in depth, local news from all over the world.

However, I was disappointed by Mr Gatopoulos’s report which followed along the lines of the Western media as far as Cyprus is concerned. Turkish Cypriots, although a minority, are co-owners of the 'Cyprus Republic' by the 1960 Zurich and London Agreements.

Link shown below [2].

Greece, Turkey and the UK guaranteed the sovereignty of the young republic. But Turkish Cypriots were forced out of the administration violently in 1963 and had to take refuge in ghettos in 3% of the island until 1974. The world media now acknowledges that it was Greece’s attempt to annex the island which precipitated Turkey’s peace initiative then.

There have been plenty of talks, meetings, UN and EU involvements since, of which I am sure you are aware.

In 1983, after frustrated attempts to return to a cooperative administration on the island Turkish Cypriots opted for an independent Republic, the TRNC. Nevertheless, they continued taking part in reunification talks.

The latest was at Crans Montana in 2017,

Link shown below [3].

However, the world and your News Editor continue to ignore Turkish Cypriot rights on the island. Yet, whichever way you define territorial waters, EEZ or continental shelf regulations, Turkish Cypriots’ rights should be upheld now and not deferred waiting for a solution that has not materialised in 56 years!

The TRNC is a fully functioning democratic state with parties, elections, parliament, judiciary etc and I invite you to follow an English language newspaper, https://cyprusscene.com to acquaint yourself with the country. Suffice it to say that in the present pandemic emergency they have proven to be an example to the rest of the world in protecting their citizens. And that achievement is despite embargoes depriving them of their human rights for half a century. Their success in surviving this long is due to their own resilience and the support offered by Turkey.

Yours etc,
U Yilmaz."


Poem by Nick Vye - Sanctuary

FANTASY MAN

I knew a man he was so uncouth,  
He always told lies, never the truth,  
He had a different story for every day,  
Never looked at you straight in any way,

He believed his own made up stories, 
Basked in them, with his own glory, 
Lived in a fantasy world that didn't exist, 
Dwelt in a dream world, hidden in the mist,

He could spin a tale, that held you close, 
You'd start to believe it at the most, 

He had all the actions with his hands, 
All his journeys across many lands, 
I suppose once you knew him well, 
You could realise and could tell, 
That anything he told you, 
Came right out of the blue, 

He was a lonely man with no friends, 
Why was he always trying to make amends, 
Couldn't he just be his true self, 
Then he wouldn't be sitting alone on the shelf...
Exclusive to you...
Hope 4 Pets - News Update

Stephanie Harrison-Croft - 15th January

After the long haul both Effy and Bailey are starting to settle into life in the cold UK with Jason Drewery and Tara Drewery.

Special thanks go out to Joel Harrison-Croft of A2B (link shown below) who battled through the terrible weather conditions with determination and grit to get them home and again delivered both dogs with the utmost care and concern x

https://m.facebook.com/81115299239144

Ray Toffee Wallace - 15th January

Forever homes needed for these 6 puppies (was Alsancak 8). Funny & playful, sure some people/children would have lots of fun with these box of tricks.

Stephanie Harrison-Croft - comment

Beautiful puppies. Hope4Pets have paid for all their veterinary treatments including bloods, vaccinations, worming, flea and tick treatments so far for all puppies and Mum Mitzi along with food.

All they need now is homes please.
Stephanie Harrison-Croft - 18th January

In just 6 weeks we have flown 9 of our Hope4Pets rescue dogs to the UK. The last being Daisy, Max and Bat who Bill Harrison-Croft (thanks again) and I took to the airport last night. We made it back just before the curfew started!

We are having these 3 puppies supported with some costs by Tamara who wanted to make a memorable contribution in helping dogs in the memory of her dear late father. Thank you Tamara, such a lovely tribute xxx

The 3 pups are still travelling but we will update accordingly with further news.

Thanks again go out of course to Elizabeth Stowell for her part in organisation that end and supporting all 3 puppies the whole way from beginning to end.

To Hasan Aligullu from ALG Logistics for again getting our dogs there in style with the help of all his great team and TA. To Niyazi Çelebi and Joanna Bartholomew for making a smooth final transition which helped me enormously x

Stephanie Harrison-Croft - 19th January

In brief as my bed calls I will update more tomorrow, as another extremely long day on the rescue front!!

Our latest 3 pups have now been delivered in style in the UK to their homes by the fab JH Couriers thank you once again for your impeccable care, concern and professionalism.

I met up with the lovely Scooby who we helped/helping, and is now in his much loved home with the equally lovely Linda Lamb and family and he is doing amazingly!! The 4 pups, that we are trying to find homes for, in the abandoned building, Bill Harrison-Croft and I met up with Karen Wells ... longgg story (Helen Brabben). 2 have found the most perfect of homes supported with bloods, vacs flea/tick/worming and neutering promise when old enough by H4P. 2 more pups featured are still looking for their homes as posting tonight. They are waiting for you!

Sleep on it peeps, and know we at H4P are doing everything possibly possible for the animals xx Zzzzzzzz
Kyrenia Society Library to celebrate its 50th anniversary year

Introduction by Chris Elliott....

Way back in June 2015, I visited the Kyrenia Society Library and published an article (link shown below 1.) and was delighted to receive the following news from Chairman, Sheila Mawhinney which shows just how this wonderful asset in the community has developed.

Readers mail....
Sheila Mawhinney, Chairman,
Kyrenia Society Library....

Over the last 50 years the Kyrenia Society has evolved from its initial roots of being a cultural organisation founded in 1971 to organise social meetings and trips to Turkey into what today the people of Girne refer to as ‘The British Library’.

Located behind Girne Law Courts and Post Office the library boasts an impressive collection of over 20,000 books covering all genera from Fiction to Non-Fiction, Autobiographies to Hobbies such as Gardening or Cookery, Reference books to Children’s books, plus many more and in numerous languages both in the written word and audio.

Run by a team of volunteers, who over the years have coped with numerous erroneous tasks; such as in 2013 replacing the entire roof and floor of the building (not a mean feat considering all its books had to be removed by hand to suitable storage and then returned likewise upon completion of the building renovation works) or in later times the computerisation of the library’s stock of books and customer details, this dedicated team of volunteers have built the library into what today can be considered a little gem open to all to use. A quiet corner in a bustling town where you can browse away to your heart’s content until you find the perfect book for you to borrow.

With library membership at only 50TL per year, why buy a book when you can borrow?

To celebrate its 50th anniversary year; the Kyrenia Society Library is undertaking the next phase in its development by its Chairman, Sheila Mawhinney says ‘Embracing the 21st Century and what it has to offer; such as using social media in order to take the library onwards towards its next 50 years.

Follow the library on Facebook or better still come along to the library and see for yourself the treasures it holds’. During 2021 the Library will be hosting a number of events throughout the year which is hoped to appeal to residents of Girne irrespective of age or nationality, commencing with a Photo Shoot with leading local author Namik Chavush

For more information, please contact the library via its Facebook Group (link shown below 2.) or by email (link shown below 3.)

2. https://www.facebook.com/groups/966336317210130
3. kyreniasocietylibrary@hotmail.com
Margaret Sheard and I started sharing news and reviews from Northern Cyprus as contributors in local newspapers but sadly most of these are no more.

Wanting to do our own thing we created the CyprusScene.com website in July 2012 and have been publishing ever since on a daily basis for the world to read.

Clearly, our ongoing success has been due to the many past and present authors or contributors who bring their news and reviews to be shared by us for our readers and we say a big thank you to them. Our wonderful readers continue to show their interest by following our news through our social media and website postings and those who prefer to read our news in our free online weekly download e-newspaper

So what comes next?

In support of past articles, we have produced videos and now with the changes created in communications and lifestyle due to the worldwide pandemic we will shortly be producing online video interviews so our contributors can reach readers in a one to one fashion.

For those readers wanting more information of our latest plans please email using the link shown below.

kyreniacommentator@cyprusscene.com

Girne Municipality will provide travel service to Girne Akçiçek Hospital for Covid 19 vaccine for citizens over 80 years old living within the municipality boundaries.

In the statement made by Girne Municipality, according to the vaccination schedule determined by the Ministry of Health, between 20.01.2021 and 22.01.2021 (on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) people aged 80 and over (those born before 01.01.1940) for the Covid-19 vaccine, they will be taken from their homes by the Social Affairs Branch teams and taken to Girne Akçiçek Hospital between 08.00-15.00, and then returned to their homes after vaccination.

For those interested, call 0533 870 20 10 to make contact with the Girne Municipality Social Affairs Branch.

Source (Turkish) : Girne Municipality

It seems that the number of COVID-19 cases are increasing in the Kyrenia area and there are many comments expressing concern on the social media.

CyprusScene wish everyone to stay home, stay safe and follow the measures which have been put in place by our Government.
TRNC event result, Susie’s Quiz Winners 2020

Readers Mail ....
from Susie Ford ....

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Every year we do a presentation on the results taken throughout the year with our regular quizzers!!

The results for 2020 are:

1st TYKE THAT -
2nd THE SHEBELLS -
3rd THE CHICKS & DICKS

The Losing Lemons of 2020 are - JUST 2½ OF US

SHUT YA GOB Winner of 2020 - PETER DUNNE

THE LUCKY NUMBER BOX FOR TULIPS WAS ALSO DRAWN, the number had previously been chosen in September 2020 by Chris Sedge - 187

The lucky winner was Charlie Bell who received a cash prize of 500TL and the other 500TL goes to Tulips. Thank you to everyone who had a go and helped raise these monies.

Here is hoping 2021 will be a better year for us all

Susie n Martin xxx
MERIT ROYAL
HOTEL & CASINO & SPA
Since 1948

Blue Sea
Seafood Restaurant
A feast right from the sea...

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We are sharing for readers who are seeking the latest facts and information news recently provided by the British Residents' Society.

**NO LOCKDOWN. PARTIAL CURFEW REMAINS**

As you are probably aware there was speculation over the weekend that we would be subject to tighter regulations governing the operation of businesses, similar to those of March 2020, from today.

However following a series of Government meetings it has been decided NOT to introduce these recommendations until a further review has been conducted in the coming week.

**REGULATIONS IN FORCE**

The Communicable Diseases Supreme Committee made some recommendations, due to the pandemic in our country, on January 16, 2021. You will appreciate that the Infectious Diseases Supreme Committee makes decisions regarding the implementation and / or the rules to be applied in order to control the pandemic according to the number of cases seen in the country. The final decisions regarding such action however is under the authority of the Council of Ministers.

The decisions taken by the Supreme Committee on January 16, 2021 were thoroughly discussed and evaluated in the Council of Ministers and decided NOT to implement the recommendations, but to further evaluate the situation at another meeting to be held in the coming week.

Considering the opinions of the Ministries related to the economy, it was decided to follow the process for another week and to bring the decisions taken on January 16, 2021, if needed, by taking the pandemic in the country into account.

Therefore, the decisions taken by the Communicable Diseases Supreme Committee on January 11, 2021 and entered into force by being published in the official gazette will remain in effect as stated below until the new decisions are published.

These are:

**The partial curfew introduced on 11th January from 10pm until 5am remains in place.**

**After 22:00, it was decided that the decision to stop the activities in the areas of cafe, restaurant, patisserie, bet office, hairdresser, beauty centre, coffee house, gym, pita shop, bagel shop, barber shop will continue in the same way.**

People working in these sectors should repeat the PCR tests every fourteen days.

**It was decided to extend the decision on not gathering more than 10 people in houses until the next decision.**

**Classrooms, study, private lessons, and course activities were suspended until the next decision.**

**Editor's Note:**

For those readers wishing to learn more of the British Residents' Society and registration as a member which can be started online please visit their website

[https://brstrnc.com](https://brstrnc.com)

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**Girne Municipality provide temporary accommodation for homeless**

Girne Municipality extends a helping hand to citizens who are homeless in cold weather.

In the statement made by the Girne Municipality, it was stated that people living on the street due to the increase in unemployment and financial difficulties due to the pandemic will be provided with a place to stay for a month.

For application and notification, they will be able to reach the Girne Municipality Social Affairs Branch by calling ALO 185 and 0548 890 55 00.

Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü said that these days when difficult times are experienced due to the Covid-19 epidemic that affected the whole world, unemployment and financial difficulties are increasing, it has been determined that there are people who do not have a place to stay within the boundaries of the town and live on the street during the cold winter days, he stated that it was decided they would be placed in hostels.

Recalling that solidarity is very valuable, Güngördü noted that the applications to be made to the Girne Municipality Social Affairs Branch will be evaluated by the Social Aid Committee and that they will provide accommodation for the needy people, albeit temporarily.

**Source (Turkish) : Girne Municipality**
Cooperation between Girne Municipality and Arkin Group

A protocol was signed between Girne Municipality and the Arkin Group for a restoration project within the boundaries of Bellapais Village, in the area which was used as the Turkish Cemetery before 1974.

According to the information received from Girne Municipality, it was stated that with the decision of the Council of Ministers on 4th October 2019, the area, which was a Turkish Cemetery before 1974 in the Bellapais location, was allocated to the control and responsibility of the Municipality of Girne.

In the statement made by the Girne Municipality, it was predicted that the cost of the project could be approximately 1,200,000 TL, based on a cost estimation at January 2021, and 1/3rd of this amount would be covered by the company and the protocol was signed.

Girne Municipality plans to build/restore a total of 544 graves and walkways, parking lot and ceremony area, consisting of 474 Muslim graves and 70 non-Muslim graves, in this project. Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü said in a statement on the subject that they are in constant cooperation with business people such as Erbil Bey, who lives in the city, and that they have signed good projects and will use them, and the idea of restoring the unused cemetery in Bellapais belongs to Arkin Group Director Erbil Arkn. Güngördü stated that it is also important for us that people give importance to the towns and villages in which they live, and that it is among the primary duties of the municipalities to beautify the towns where they live. He said that as someone who believes that it is right for people to have their graves at the closest distance in the towns where they live, he attaches great importance to the project and expressed his gratitude to Arkn Group Director Erbil Arkn for his contribution.

Arkn Group Director Erbil Arkn said in his speech that they signed a protocol with Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü to restore the Bellapais cemetery, in order not to forget the origins of the Bellapais people and to increase the usability of the cemetery. Stating that they want to add value to Girne and all of our people with what we do, Arkn expressed that they will support Girne Municipality in this project, and thanked Güngördü for his interest.

Source (Turkish) Girne Municipality

Girne Municipality increased its Covid-19 precaution inspections

Girne Municipality, Health and Police (Zabta) Branch Teams along with many commercial businesses serving the citizens, increased the audits of the businesses serving food and beverage.

According to the information received from the Health Department of the Girne Municipality, during the inspections on food businesses between 01-15 January 2021, controls were made on the issues of business permit, health record, general hygiene and Covid-19 precautions. 4 workplaces were closed due to their deficiencies and their activities were stopped. Shooters Coffee, Manipen Restaurant and Enn Biber Restaurant, were closed due to deficiencies, and as they remedied their deficiencies, activities were allowed again. Jashan Restaurant, which was also found to be deficient, is still not allowed to operate.

Foods that were found to be unsuitable for consumption in various quantities of vegetables, fruit, dairy products, sandwiches, etc. were confiscated to be destroyed from 7 food businesses.

Health and Police Branch Teams checked the compliance of enterprises with general Covid-19 measures in a total of 436 workplace inspections.

Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü made a statement on the subject and said, "We continue our work with responsibility and sensitivity about all the measures to be taken for the health of our people."

Güngördü pointed out that our people should pay attention to all warnings made as a precaution, and they should obey the rules of distance between tables and chairs in crowded places, and that they should wash their hands frequently and a mask should be used correctly and continuously to cover the mouth and nose.

He added “We carried out intensive efforts to protect the health of our people with many measures and practices we have implemented as the Municipality due to the pandemic. I would like to invite all of our tradesmen to cooperate in order to take the necessary precautions, especially to comply with the rules on masks and hygiene, and wish all our people healthy days.”

Source (Turkish) : Girne Municipality
Readers Mail ....
from Carole King ....

It was a little cool this morning when we set out for dog walking and we were all wrapped up to face the challenge lol.

Not that it mattered to the dogs all of who could not wait to get out and have their special moment with their own special walker, treats and cuddles in abundance and all 28 dogs/puppies enjoyed every moment.

Thank you to Penelope Wilkes, Stanley John Cudd, Joanna Leigh, Valerie Maskell, Lyn Hall, Adela Warrington and Mike Bezzant for braving the cold and going above and beyond. You are all wonderful.

We walked, Roxy, Blue, Tucker, Karmi, Dylan, Timothy, Elsa, Cooper, Theo, Santi, Mary, Ross, Florence, Jessica, Archie, Beverley, Kate, Samba, Juliet, Dottie, Leah, another and 6 puppies. Fabulous

https://www.facebook.com/carolewking

If you would like to join Carole and her band of dog walkers, please make contact on the Facebook link shown above.
How a Kyrenia nobleman was shot 60 years ago in the Congo

By Bertil Wedin......

My daughter Sophie has just found an exactly 60 year old photograph of the late Count Eric Bonde who was a Kyrenia resident for very many years. The picture shows what he looked like without a shirt one day in January 1961 in Katanga, Congo, Africa, when he had been shot in a battle between rebels and a United Nations military unit and was now smoking a cigarette while holding a Swedish army submachine gun.

Eric Bonde was a Swedish cavalry officer who left active service when he was still young and began studies in agriculture in Germany. He wanted to become a farmer. After graduation he settled in Kenya where he was employed as a farm manager and where he fell in love with a Danish air hostess who became Countess Bente Bonde.

At the outbreak of the “Congo crisis” in 1960, the Swedish General Carl von Horn was assigned by his friend, the then, UN Secretary General Dag Hammarskjold, to be the supreme commander of a multinational UN Force in the Congo.

Eric Bonde, a friend of Von Horn’s, was chosen to join the Swedish UN Battalion in Katanga. During a train transport, Swedish troops, Major Bonde included, were attacked by rebels. The Swedish unit won the consequent battle, but not without losses. He was himself hit by two bullets that penetrated his chest, but he survived. One of his soldiers yelled to him: “Sir, your shirt is red. You are bleeding. “ He replied: “Don’t be impertinent. My blood is blue.”

He took off his shirt, wiped off his red blood, sat down and lit a cigarette. Now this picture was taken. This was possibly to the day sixty years ago.

The Bondes and Carl von Horn later settled in Kyrenia on the northern coast of Cyprus where the Countess did voluntary work for the Red Cross.

Eric and Bente Bonde were well known in northern Cyprus, but they separated. The Countess died in her native Denmark and Major Count Eric Bonde ended his days in his Kingdom of Sweden.

Bertil Wedin

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The Wine Travellers Club in TRNC gained international identity

The TRNC Wine Travellers Club, founded and led by tourism professional Cem Tilki, who gives wine and wine culture courses, officially gained an international identity on 15th November 2020.

The transition of the Wine Travellers Club to full membership to the International Eurhodip, which is based in Brussels, where its candidate membership has been accepted, will be represented at the general meeting to be held in Leeuwarden, Netherlands in November 2021.

Eurhodip is an international non-profit association founded in Brussels in 1988. Eurhodip is an education support association for schools, providing programs and services for continuous improvement of the quality of hospitality and tourism education in a global perspective.

For more information visit the Wine Travellers Club, Facebook page shown below.

https://www.facebook.com/winetravellersclub
Girne Municipality carried out the general disinfection of all state schools in the region within the scope of coronavirus measures.

According to the information received from the Girne Municipality, the Health Department spraying teams disinfected the classrooms in public schools, teachers' rooms and other closed areas with air disinfection and steaming method within the scope of protective measures.

Schools in the Girne region have been disinfected with the application, which aims to protect the health of students and teachers and reduce parents' concerns about hygiene.

Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü made a statement on the subject and said it was aimed to protect public health with this disinfection process, prior to starting the education period, which was interrupted due to contamination that started to appear in schools.

Güngördü noted that while disinfectants recommended by the World Health Organisation and licensed by the Ministry of Health are used in all spraying and disinfection activities, these practices do not affect human health. Girne Mayor Güngördü pointed out the importance of teachers and parents to obey the rules of masks, hand hygiene and distance while the pandemic is still continuing and he wished all children and teachers a healthy and successful education period.

Source (Turkish) Girne Municipality

Girne Municipality continued tree planting work

Girne Municipality conducted afforestation work in Karaoğlanoğlu Cemetery.

According to the information received from Girne Municipality, Girne Municipality's Park and Gardens teams attended the event with the participation of Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü, Regional Muhtar, Municipal Council Members and their children, Girne Municipality Park and Gardens Department Supervisor Mehmet Atak and citizens living in the region. It was stated that 100 saplings were planted, mostly olive saplings, at the sides of the walkway and alongside the wire fencing in the cemetery.

In his speech, Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü said, “We aim to provide a breath of fresh air to future generations with the afforestation works carried out. The fact that afforestation works were carried out with intense participation has once again demonstrated the sensitivity shown to nature and the environment”. Güngördü also stated that they created awareness while working on afforestation in green areas belonging to Girne Municipality, and the support of the local people and children by participating in these activities has given us a special importance and he thanked all the citizens who contributed.

Source (Turkish) Girne Municipality
Girne Municipality extended a helping hand to the Elderly

The Municipality of Girne took the citizens aged 80 and over, who applied to the Social Affairs Branch and who could not go to the hospital, from their homes to the Girne Akçiçek Hospital for vaccination.

In the statement made by Girne Municipality, the first eight people over the age of 80, who applied to the Social Affairs Branch of the Municipality, were collected from their homes with safe conditions with previously disinfected vehicles and taken to the Girne Akçiçek Hospital for vaccination. Citizens accompanied by the Girne Municipality Social Affairs Department staff and (Zabita) Police teams were then taken back to their homes after being vaccinated.

Girne Municipality Social Affairs Branch Chief Misli Kadıoğlu stated that there are 30 more people, 7 of whom are bedridden, who requested transportation service from the municipality to the hospital, and that they will continue in line with the vaccine possibilities in the hospital.

Girne Mayor Nidai Güngördü stated that the duties of the municipalities have diversified and the services provided by local governments to the city have gained more importance during the Covid-19 pandemic period, and that they are trying to provide convenience in the current conditions for the elderly and patients in need of care and protection. Güngördü pointed out the importance of minimising the victimisation that may arise in vaccine organisation, emphasising that they are always ready to support the importance of public health and priority.

Source (Turkish) : Girne Municipality
### Emergency Telephone Numbers

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<th>Category</th>
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**HOSPITAL**

- Girne: 8152266/815 2254
- Lefkoşa: 228 5441
- Gazi Mağusa: 3662876/3665328
- Guzelyurt: 714 2125

**ELECTRICITY**

- Emergency: 188
- Girne: 815 2223
- Lefkoşa: 225 3436
- Gazi Mağusa: 366 5514
- Guzelyurt: 714 2122

**WATER**

- Water problems: 228 3315
- Girne: 815 2118
- Gazi Mağusa: 366 4483
- Guzelyurt: 714 3516

*Mobile numbers are prefixed 0533 or 0542 or 0548 landline numbers are prefixed 0392*

### Kyrenia Weather: 8-day Forecast

(from 22nd January to 29th January 2021)

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### Forthcoming Events in aid of Tulips

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(in aid of Tulips)

- Meryem Hotel
- Catalkoy
- Every Thursday Afternoon
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- 11am

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Late Şükrü goal wins it for Esentepe

ESENTEPE 2 - ESENTEPE ALL STARS 1
Friendly/Exhibition Match. Sunday, January 17.

By Richard Beale ....

A merge crowd on a brisk Sunday morning were thoroughly entertained in this practice/friendly match between Esentepe and Esentepe All Stars, made up of ex Esentepe players who have retired or play for other clubs.

For a side that has not played together, the All Stars provided a stern test for Esentepe who fielded a number of youngsters. Indeed for most of the match it was the All Stars that made the running as Esentepe youngsters struggled to make an impact.

You must take your hats off to the All Stars players, not getting paid for this match, giving up probably their only day of rest, they played for the enjoyment and pride, there was no doubt about it they wanted to win this match.

The All Stars defence was very experienced comprising of Ex Esentepe Captain for many years Berkan, now 40 years old, he still showed he has lost none of his ability to read situations. His defensive partner the Düzkaya defender the tough tackling Okan Kibar also was very secure, with support coming from full backs the veteran Şenol and the energetic Uğurcan provided the All Stars with a strong defensive barrier.

In the first half the All Stars made the running as Esentepe youngsters struggled to make an impact.

Apart from a Şükrü effort that struck a post, it was Tuğrul in the Esentepe goal who was the busier of the two goalkeepers.

The All Stars took the lead just after the break through their ex goalkeeper ALİ KARAL, playing as a striker and showing some fine skills. Ali was quick to intercept a poor pass and went on to beat Tuğrul in the Esentepe goal. 0-1

Esentepe youth and superior fitness levels as they train 3 times a week were beginning to tell on a heavy pitch due to the recent rains.

Esentepe equalised from the penalty spot in the 55th minute through NERSIN after Şükrü had been upended by Okan in the box. 1-1

A draw would have been a fair result until ŞÜKRÜ given space to poke a shot past Hüseyin 5 minutes from time. 2-1

There were many outstanding performances from the All Stars team but their Captain KAAN, playing in a more defensive role than usual stood out as their best player.

For Esentepe, who were disjointed at times, HÜRKAN again playing in an unaccustomed midfield position was the pick of the Esentepe players.
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