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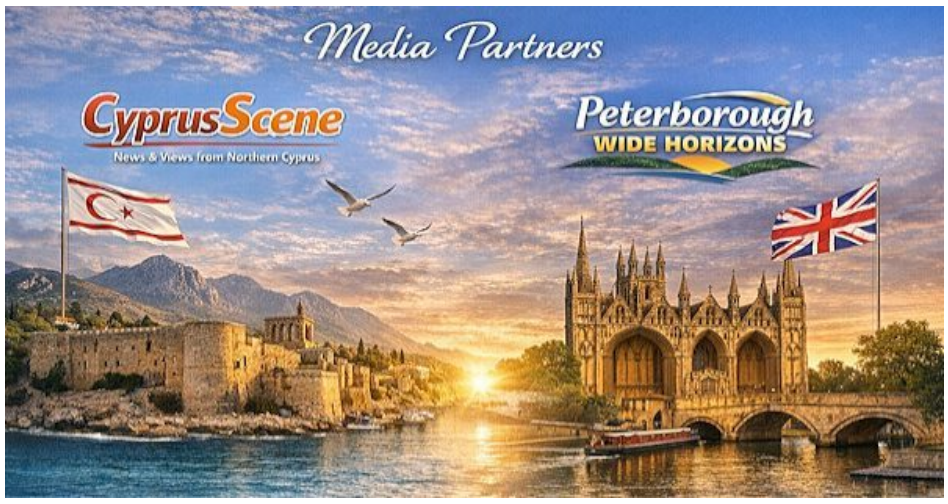
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1st May 2026

CyprusScene and Peterborough Wide Horizons Shared Future



By Chris Elliott…

Running **CyprusScene** for many years has been one of the most meaningful and rewarding projects of my life. What began as a simple effort to share news, stories, and community voices from across **Northern Cyprus** gradually grew into a respected online publication with a loyal international readership. Over time, CyprusScene developed a strong following in the **UK, Cyprus, the US, and Turkey (including Northern Cyprus),** creating a unique blend of perspectives and interests. That broad readership has always shaped the way the platform evolved, encouraging me to publish stories that connect people across borders and experiences.

As my work continued, I felt a growing desire to build something similar for the city I now call home. That idea became **Peterborough Wide Horizons,** a new community-focused publication designed to highlight the stories, events, and local voices that make Peterborough such a vibrant and diverse place. Creating this platform from the ground up—designing the website, shaping the branding, building the content structure, and preparing the first wave of articles—has taken a great deal of time and dedication. But it has also been incredibly fulfilling. Peterborough deserves a publication that reflects its character, celebrates its people, and gives space to the stories that often go unheard.

Now that Peterborough Wide Horizons is firmly established, I am ready to move into a new phase **running both CyprusScene.com and Peterborough Wide Horizons side by side,** giving each the attention, consistency, and care it deserves. With two platforms rooted in community storytelling, this next step feels like a natural progression, especially considering the long-term readership of CyprusScene. With the UK as the largest audience, followed by Cyprus, the US, and Turkey (including Northern Cyprus), blending content from both publications is not only logical but exciting. It allows readers to enjoy a wider range of stories, perspectives, and cultural insights.

This new chapter also marks the return of the **CyprusScene Online E-newspaper,** which many readers have been waiting for. I am delighted to bring it back, refreshed and expanded. The e-newspaper will once again showcase the best of CyprusScene, but it will now also include selected news and reviews from Peterborough Wide Horizons. This creates a publication that reflects both parts of my life: the island where my publishing journey began and the city where it continues to grow.

Balancing two platforms is a challenge I welcome. My commitment remains the same: to provide clear, engaging, community-focused content that informs, inspires, and connects people. Whether it's a local event, a cultural feature, a historical insight, or a personal story, my goal is to give it a home and an audience.

Thank you to everyone who has supported CyprusScene over the years, and to those now discovering Peterborough Wide Horizons. Your encouragement makes all of this possible. Together, we will continue exploring and celebrating the wide horizons—both near and far—that shape our shared communities.

So May 2026

May arrives with rising public frustration, renewed political debate, and growing pressure for real solutions. In both the UK and the TRNC, people are dealing with their own ongoing problems — from strained public services to long-standing structural issues that never seem to get the attention they deserve. Across both communities, the message is similar: residents want accountability, practical action, and leadership that listens. This month captures that shared mood — the concerns, the conversations, and the choices that will shape what comes next.


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Provocative and unacceptable remarks made by Christodoulides

Statement of the TRNC Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the remarks of Greek Cypriot leader Nicos Christodoulides.

We strongly condemn the provocative and unacceptable statements by the Greek Cypriot leader Nicos Christodoulides, which clearly reflect the archaic Greek Cypriot and Greek mentality.

In a speech delivered during a ceremony marking the anniversary of 25 March 1821, Christodoulides stated: "We must draw on the methods used in the struggle of our Greek brothers to gain their freedom; guided by the lessons of that struggle, we must continue our own efforts for the liberation and reunification of our homeland."

Massacres that could be described as genocide.

As is well known, during the Greek Rebellion in the Morea, the Turks living in the region were subjected to massacres that could be described as genocide, and were subjected to starvation and severe deprivation. Turks were not only massacred, but their properties as well as religious sites were looted, and their cultural heritage were destroyed.

Mr. Christodoulides appears to aspire to wage the same struggle against the Turkish Cypriots, whom Greek Cypriots—despite the support they received from Greece—failed to eliminate through similar methods between 1963 and 1974. It is clear that the Greek Cypriot leadership has yet to draw the necessary lessons from history.

We urge Mr. Christodoulides to abandon this provocative mindset without delay and remind him that, otherwise, he will have to bear the consequences.

In another statement, Greek Cypriot leader Christodoulides claimed that Turkish Cypriots could only have a say regarding the Sovereign British Bases in Cyprus only after first reintegrating into the so-called "Republic of Cyprus", and that Türkiye would only have a voice only after recognizing the so-called "Republic of Cyprus".



Greek Cypriot state established by force of arms

The so-called "Republic of Cyprus", referred to by Nicos Christodoulides, is a Greek Cypriot state established by force of arms, and neither is it possible for Turkish Cypriots submitting to the authority of the so-called "Republic of Cyprus", nor for the Motherland Türkiye to recognize it. We call on the Greek Cypriot leader, who went beyond his limits and demonstrated no restraint in his improper rhetoric, to put an end to such actions and statements.

The Greek Cypriot leadership must awaken from these obsolete illusions.

The Cyprus issue is a national cause of the Turkish nation, and this struggle will continue with determination until the rights of the Turkish Cypriot people are fully secured. The Greek Cypriot leadership, which in the past could not achieve its ambitions of establishing hegemony over the Turkish Cypriot people and will not be able to do so in the future, should respect the sovereign equality of the Turkish Cypriot people.

We expect the Greek Cypriot leadership to act with reason and common sense.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Yılmaz: GC Military Privileges Endanger the Island



Vice President of the Republic of Türkiye, Cevdet Yılmaz, stated that as tensions escalate in the Middle East and Eastern Mediterranean, the Greek Cypriot Administration's decision to grant of usage privileges to third countries at its military bases poses a risk to everyone on the island.

Yılmaz, who arrived in the country for a one-day visit, made remarks during a joint press conference with Prime Minister Ünal Üstel at Ercan International Airport:

"The fact that the island is being used for operations in the Middle East poses a risk to all countries in the region. The developments that have taken place this week have made this abundantly clear.

The Greek Cypriot Administration, acting as if it owns the entire island, has making decisions that exceed its authority while disregarding the will and sovereign equality of the Turkish Cypriot people. Its attempts to position itself amid great power rivalries, particularly through its recent military engagements and base policies, have increased security risks concerning the island.

Greek Cypriots continue to ignore Turkish Cypriots interests

The Greek Cypriot Administration displayed similar attitudes during the genocide in Gaza and embarked on an excessive militarization effort with Israel's support. In this context, Türkiye's responsibility as a guarantor and its historical obligations have become even more evident.

As the guarantor and motherland, our military presence on the island for more than half a century has contributed to the island's overall security and stability and has served as a guarantee for peace. Not only the TRNC but also the Greek Cypriot Administration has benefited from this stability and developed in a secure environment. For more than 50 years, there has been peace and tranquility on this island. Where there is no security, there can be no development and no prosperity."

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Türkiye's FM: End Isolation of Turkish Cypriots



Fidan: "It is essential to end unjust and inhumane isolation imposed on Turkish Cypriots"

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, Hakan Fidan, delivered remarks to the press following the Informal Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Turkic States (OTS).

Fidan stated that recent developments in the Middle East have raised serious concerns across the region. He noted that OTS member states stressed they were closely monitoring the situation and expressed their desire to prevent the conflict from escalating or spreading further.

Addressing the Cyprus issue, Fidan recalled that the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has held observer status in the OTS since 2022, describing this as a strong demonstration of the unity and solidarity within the Turkic world.

He also emphasised the need to end the unjust and inhumane isolation imposed on Turkish Cypriots. Referring to them as an inseparable part of the Turkic world, Fidan added that supporting initiatives aimed at lifting these isolations constitutes a historical responsibility.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

TRNC President Erhürman denounces GCA group's attack on citizens

TRNC President Erhürman denounces GCA group's attack on citizens.

President Tufan Erhürman issued a statement condemning an attack carried out by certain groups from the Greek Cypriot administration targeting civilians sitting in a park near the border area dividing the capital Lefkoşa.

TRNC President Erhürman called on both the United Nations Peacekeeping Force and the Greek Cypriot leadership to take the necessary steps regarding the incident in which a group gathered on the GCA side threw stones and explosives at TRNC citizens in the Yiğitler Bastion area.

Erhürman noted that none of the citizens had been harmed in the incident and emphasized that he strongly condemned those responsible for the attack.

Pointing out that the attack took place in an area that bears responsibility both for the Greek Cypriot leadership and for the UN Peacekeeping Force, as it is like an intermediate zone and also used as a route by the UN Peacekeeping Force, Erhürman stated that contact has been established with the UN Peacekeeping Force and his counterparts in the south regarding this incident, saying "On a day like April 1, when everyone could anticipate such incidents, it is unacceptable that no precautions were taken in such an area."



TRNC President Tufan Erhürman



He also added that "We will follow up to ensure that the authorized bodies of the Greek Cypriot leadership urgently initiate the necessary judicial investigation and that those who carried out this attack are subjected to the required legal proceedings."

The RoC still celebrates EOKA

On the side of Lefkoşa controlled by the Greek Cypriot administration, Greek Cypriot groups gathered on Wednesday to mark the anniversary of the founding of the terrorist organization EOKA.

Around noon, they carried out an attack using stones, sticks, and improvised explosives against civilians sitting in Yiğitler Bastion on the TRNC side of Lefkoşa, from the zero point of the border and the UN-controlled intermediate zone. Following the attack, TRNC police increased security measures in the area, while UN Peacekeeping Force soldiers also took security measures in the intermediate zone.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

Türkiye condemns EOKA anniversary rhetoric

The Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Türkiye issued a statement addressing the remarks and activities held by the Greek Cypriot administration of Southern Cyprus to mark the anniversary of EOKA's founding.

The Ministry stated that portraying EOKA's past acts of violence on the island as a "freedom struggle" through one-sided and distorted narratives undermines ongoing efforts toward a lasting settlement and harms the current climate of stability.

Speaking following a weekly press briefing held aboard the TCG Anadolu as part of the Blue Homeland-2026 Exercise, the Turkish Ministry of Defence officials responded to questions.

The Ministry stated that presenting the violent acts carried out by the EOKA organization on the island in the past through one-sided and distorted narratives as a "freedom struggle" damages ongoing efforts for a permanent solution and the current climate of stability.

Türkiye condemns EOKA anniversary rhetoric.

It added that the statements and events marking the anniversary clearly demonstrate that historical facts continue to be misrepresented.

According to the statement, conveying such distorted narratives to children and young people in the Greek Cypriot side weakens the foundation for mutual dialogue and understanding on the island.

The Ministry also pointed to recent provocative actions against civilians in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, describing them as



reflections of the same mindset.

The Turkish Ministry also stressed that Turkish Cypriot side continues, as always, to maintain a constructive and good-faith approach aimed at achieving a fair, lasting, and sustainable solution.

It also underscored that all necessary measures would be taken decisively against any threats or acts of violence targeting the security of Turkish Cypriots and the sovereignty of the TRNC.

Finally, the statement emphasized the importance of avoiding initiatives that could escalate tensions and of preserving the peace and stability established following the 1974 Cyprus Peace Operation.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

Üstel Slams 'Revived EOKA Mentality' and Flag Burnings



Prime Minister Ünal Üstel strongly condemned the dangerous revival of the EOKA mentality in South Cyprus, as well as the burning of the flags of the Republic of Türkiye and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

According to a statement released by the Prime Ministry, Üstel emphasized that recent developments in the Greek Cypriot administration clearly demonstrate attempts to revive a dangerous mentality that targets peace, stability, and tranquillity on the island.

Üstel noted that portraying the crimes against humanity committed by the EOKA terrorist organization as "heroism" not only distorts historical facts but also constitutes a systematic incitement of hatred and hostility. He further underlined that the open endorsement of such an understanding by the Greek Cypriot administration, as well as by certain political and religious figures in the international community, is utterly unacceptable.

Üstel stated, "The rhetoric and discourse employed by Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodoulides, Archbishop of the Greek Orthodox Church, Yeorgios, some Greek Cypriot politicians, and certain international figures who have adopted this mindset do not serve peace but rather fuel conflict on the island. Such hate speech fuels hostility among younger generations and places at risk the peaceful and stable future that our island deserves."

Highlighting that the burning of the flags of Türkiye and the TRNC by Greek Cypriot youth during Easter events goes beyond mere provocation, Üstel reiterated that these acts clearly demonstrate disrespect, hostility, and animosity toward the existence of the Turkish Cypriot people.

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office



The Road to Zodia – An Uncomfortable Truth | Cyprus



An Uncomfortable Truth- Part 1: *The Road to Zodia (Cyprus)*

We are sharing here an introduction by UK-based Oz Orman about the latest video he has produced on Cyprus's past, available on the YouTube channel Morton Park FC, which features many fascinating historical videos about Cyprus, as well as UK faces and places.

"No one chooses to be a refugee. We all deserve to have a home and to be safe." — Hangama Amiri

Readers' Mail……
From Oz Orman……

My next video project, described as an interesting and thought-provoking film, highlights the impact of the Cyprus Crisis of 1974 and the chaos that followed on both Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. Initially, many believed their stay in the village of Zodia/Bostancı, near Morphou/Güzelyurt, would be temporary.

The film tells the story of Savaş, a ten-year-old child embarking on a dangerous journey northwards with others, evading Greek forces along the way. He lived in the village of Agios Ioannis (St John), northeast of Paphos in the south of the island. The Turkish Cypriot community referred to this village as Aydınköy or Ayyanni.

Savaş and his family were relocated to the buffer-zone village of Bostancı (Zodia) in western Cyprus. Having lost their home in the south, they also lost the familiarity and routine of daily life, their livelihood as farmers, and their sense of place in the world. The family had to adapt quickly while living under the constant threat that the property they occupied after 1974 might be returned to Greek Cypriots as part of a future peace settlement.

The story then transitions to life in an unfamiliar town and the political realities that followed. Turkish Professor Kerim M. Munir, writing in the Cyprus Mail in September 2025, observed that for many Greek Cypriots, history begins with the Turkish intervention of 1974, with little willingness to confront the chain of events from 1963 onwards — including the breakdown of the Zurich–London Constitution, intercommunal violence, and the 1974 Athens junta coup.

Beyond Munir's observations, there was also a humanitarian emergency on the island from the late 1950s into the 1960s, caused by government policies and the drive for Enosis. Munir further notes that, for Turkish Cypriots, 1974 is remembered as salvation, often with limited acknowledgment of Greek Cypriot displacement and trauma, alongside changing landscapes that increasingly reflect Turkey's economic, cultural, and political influence—sometimes at the expense of a shared Cypriot identity.

This dual amnesia, now deeply entrenched, serves neither truth nor reconciliation. It inflates victimhood, deflates empathy, and prevents either community from recognising itself in the mirror the other holds up.

While researching this video project, I explored the Greek Cypriot perspective and discovered material relating to Zodia, now known as Bostancı. I felt it was both appropriate and important to highlight this viewpoint within the context of the film.

I know the village of Bostancı (Zodia) well, having relatives who live there and having visited the settlement during trips to Cyprus.

The Road to Zodia – An Uncomfortable Truth (Part One) is a story of refugees, displacement, and perseverance during a turbulent period in Cypriot history—the effects of which are still felt today.

By Oz Orman

To watch the video below click the link:

https://youtu.be/hUDkS69En_Q



If any of our CyprusScene.com readers and followers have news and reviews of Northern Cyprus or the UK, please send them to kyreniacommentator@cyprusscene.com and we will try to publish them for you.

President Erhürman Issues Written Statement on the Cyprus Issue



TRNC President Tufan Erhürman issued a written statement on Tuesday, 28th April 2026. The statement reads as follows:

“Hardly a day goes by without an announcement of a new agreement or a new statement by the Greek Cypriot leadership regarding the Cyprus issue.

On the one hand, whilst a new agreement on military cooperation with France is being announced, on the other, it is being claimed that the ‘process has already started’ regarding the new initiative expected from Mr. Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations, after the elections and the EU term presidency in the South.

Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, also made statements recently, noting that the Cyprus issue is directly linked to regional stability and prosperity — a view with which I fully agree.

EU’s, Ms. von der Leyen is making many comments on the Cyprus Issue

However, the same Ms. von der Leyen also referred to the need for “Europe not to be left under Russian, Turkish, and Chinese influence” and referred to the energy-related Great Sea Interconnector project in a manner that appears to overlook the existence of the Turkish Cypriot people. This comes in addition to her earlier remarks, including references to ‘innovation in Cyprus in the shadow of Byzantine churches’ and the so-called ‘looking through the barrel’ ritual.

We are, of course, under no obligation to respond to every single statement made. However, when such statements come one after another, it seems inevitable that a simple question and an equally simple call need to be raised.

The question that needs to be asked is this: Is there anyone who truly believes that a solution on this island can be reached by ignoring the existence of the Turkish Cypriot people?

And the call is this: I respectfully call on all those who say they support a solution in Cyprus to once again assess whether all these developments truly contribute to it.

As to our position? Guided by the will of our people for a solution, we are here — resolute and determined — with patience, composure, and a serious sense of purpose.”

Source:

TRNC Public Information Office

Üstel: Initiatives ignoring Turkish Cypriot rights are unacceptable

Prime Minister Ünal Üstel emphasized that any initiatives disregarding the rights of the Turkish Cypriot people are unacceptable, underscoring that these legitimate rights must be taken into account in all actions undertaken in the region.

Üstel issued a written statement commenting on recent remarks by Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodoulides concerning a prospective defence agreement with France, which is expected to involve a French military presence in South Cyprus.

He noted that the statements made by Christodoulides and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen indicated that the Greek Cypriot Administration and the European Union have deviated from rational and sensible policy approaches.

Provocative arrangements are being made.

Expressing concern over what he described as efforts to alter the military balance on the island, Üstel warned that such initiatives could undermine regional security, regardless of how they are presented.

He stressed that the Turkish Cypriot side remains committed to safeguarding its rights and security, reiterating that the past experiences on the island highlight the importance of avoiding steps that could lead to renewed tensions.



Prime Minister Üstel further stated that efforts by the Greek Cypriot Administration to establish new military balances on the island are misguided and pose risks to overall security. He added that, despite being presented under the guise of “humanitarian purposes,” the planned agreement with France constitutes a new element of the Greek Cypriot side’s armament policies and broader regional strategic agenda.

Source: TRNC Public Information Office

Share your TRNC and UK NEWS and REVIEWS here, by emailing them to kyreniacommentator@cyprusscene.com

BRIDGE (and LOVE) WILL HOLD US TOGETHER



Lizzy Chaloner and John Waterfield March 2026

In sharing this Bridge Newsletter, we're reminded of those extraordinary days during the Covid emergency when club members, scattered across different towns and countries, could no longer meet in person. Yet the spirit of the game — and the friendships behind it — never faded. Players stayed connected by meeting online, keeping the camaraderie alive across borders.

In this edition, we also discover the remarkable life story of a couple whose past is every bit as fascinating as the game that brought them together.

"BRIDGE (and LOVE) WILL HOLD US TOGETHER

(With apologies to the late Neil Sedaka and Captain and Tennille)

It is often heard these days that fewer Brits are coming to the TRNC, and most leave before they reach an age where health issues drive them back to the tender arms of the NHS in the UK. This quarter, we focus on a bridge couple who have done the exact opposite, by forsaking the UK for the TRNC at the ripe old ages of 74 and 80, writes Colin Pearson.

John Waterfield and Lizzy Chaloner *arrived in February 2025, having first visited North Cyprus together in 2022. On a visit to Kyrenia Castle, they encountered Serhan Güneyli, an official government guide, who subsequently put together for them a series of tours around the island. Serhan became a friend, and on this first visit they formed the idea of moving here. The climate and the more laid-back atmosphere of the TRNC were the principal reasons for their moving here, together with the fact that Lizzy had lived in Cyprus as a child.*

This was coupled with a growing disillusionment with the UK – the way in which numerous freedoms have been removed, and the failure of politicians to live up to the standards of their predecessors. As purchasers of a house in the hills east of Esentepe, they encountered the usual challenges of those brave enough to enter the second-hand property market (pending Kocan still with the last but one owner, leaking swimming pools, and uncertain plumbing and water supply).

On the plus side, they did feel emboldened by their decision to paint their house a pastel shade of pink. They brought one cat from the UK with them (originally a rescue cat from Egypt), and since being here have adopted, or been adopted by, four more. All of these have been neutered with the help of Kyrenia Animal Rescue.

Lizzy's links with the island go back to 1954 and 1955, when she lived and went to school in Nicosia. Her father had been a navigator with the RAF and was now working as an air traffic controller at Nicosia airport. Lizzy subsequently joined the Civil Service in London. It was in the 1970's that she took up bridge and played for the Inland Revenue team in the Civil Service league. Later she moved to Edinburgh, then Cheshire and Oxfordshire, where her children grew up, and she followed a second career in the mental health field. After moving to Wales, she worked as a complementary therapist.arrived in February 2025, having first visited North Cyprus together in 2022. On a visit to Kyrenia Castle, they encountered Serhan Güneyli, an official government guide, who subsequently put together for them a series of tours around the island. Serhan became a friend, and on this first visit they formed the idea of moving here. The climate and the more laid-back atmosphere of the TRNC were the principal reasons for their moving here, together with the fact that Lizzy had lived in Cyprus as a child.

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BRIDGE (and LOVE) WILL HOLD US TOGETHER

John was born in Japan where his father held a diplomatic post, and he subsequently moved as a child to Chile and New York, before being sent to boarding school. During holidays he visited Mali and India, where his father was now working. After two degrees at Oxford University, he embarked on his first career as a music teacher, spending seven years at a Steiner school on Lake Constance, bordering Germany and Switzerland, before returning to Hereford in the UK.

Some years later, having to support a family of two children, he acquired an IT qualification and landed a job, but found the work very tedious. He finally settled on being a translator, which turned out to be a more lucrative career. John learned to play bridge in the family at a young age. His American mother played to a high standard, not normally matched by his father who said he played bridge like he played poker, and whose bidding was not to be depended on.

John also learned chess as a child, and has been a life-long player, representing Wales in international events, Lizzy accompanying him to Dresden, Bilbao, Rhodes, Crete and

Continued on page 9 >>>>

continued....BRIDGE (and LOVE) WILL HOLD US TOGETHER

Skopje, where they played bridge with members of the English team between chess matches. Having studied English at university, he has retained his interest in language and literature and has three published books to his credit: a translation of Rilke's Duino Elegies, a book of poems (Lost Children) and a book on Shakespeare (The Heart of his Mystery).

Lizzy and John met in 2009, and found bridge was a game they had in common. Moving to Monmouthshire, they soon joined the U3A bridge club in Usk. They both now play regularly at the Korineum Monday bridge club but have so far resisted the allure of online bridge.

The online BBO Tournaments have now been in existence for 6 years and the results for the year are detailed below along with those of the Monday Korineum Bridge Club. . . .

ISLANDSBC ONLINE BRIDGE CLUB HALL OF FAME 2025/26

MONTH	MONTHLY LEAGUE WINNERS			MOST IMPROVER PAIR IN MONTH		
Apr-25	Colin Pearson	Phil Conkie	61.1%	Ayse Zobu	Loulou Van Geuns	39.5%
May-25	Göker Başoğlu	Huseyin Cenktas	62.4%	Barbara Illingworth	Janet Slack	21.8%
Jun-25	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	57.5%	Tony Scott	Irene Scott	8.5%
Jul-25	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	60.8%	Mehmet Cenktaş	Yüksel Ferit	16.1%
Aug-25	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	62.9%	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	23.2%
Sep-25	Colin Pearson	Jane McVey	61.7%	Barbara Illingworth	Janet Slack	20.0%
Oct-25	Colin Pearson	Jane McVey	61.6%	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	21.8%
Nov-25	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	59.0%	Barbara Illingworth	Janet Slack	18.9%
Dec-25	Hüseyin Cenktas	Mehmet Cenktaş	61.0%	Hüseyin Cenktas	Mehmet Cenktaş	19.9%
Jan-26	Colin Pearson	Jennifer Jenkins	60.5%	Pam Engels	Lalitha Scott	33.4%
Feb-26	Colin Pearson	Jane McVey	61.3%	Colin Pearson	Jane McVey	32.5%
Mar-26	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	59.8%	Mehmet Cenktaş	Yüksel Ferit	24.9%

KORINEUM MONDAY BRIDGE CLUB HALL OF FAME 2025/26

MONTH	MONTHLY LEAGUE WINNERS			MOST IMPROVER PAIR IN MONTH		
Apr-25	Colin Pearson	Phil Conkie	60.2%	Colin Pearson	Phil Conkie	2.3%
May-25	Sharon Harding	Rupert Harding	57.6%	Brian Lawrence	Peri Wing	22.4%
Jun-25	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	61.5%	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	21.0%
Jul-25	Colin Pearson	John Ingham	55.8%	Brian Lawrence	Sue Starling	2.1%
Aug-25	John Ingham	Steve Stockwell	52.5%	John Waterfield	Lizzy Chaloner	10.2%
Sep-25	Mike Bezzant	Derek Matter	54.4%	John Waterfield	Lizzy Chaloner	12.5%
Oct-25	Janice Harper	Susan Cahit	56.2%	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	15.2%
Nov-25	Janice Harper	Susan Cahit	62.4%	Janice Harper	Susan Cahit	11.1%
Dec-25	Brian Lawrence	Sue Starling	53.3%	Brian Lawrence	Sue Starling	10.0%
Jan-26	Colin Pearson	Dick Sandeman	65.5%	Rosie Anstey	Yvonne Astbury	9.5%
Feb-26	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	58.4%	Beth Cameron	Stephen Spain	12.1%
Mar-26	Colin Pearson	Mike Bezzant	57.1%	Jenny Armstrong	Tony Armstrong	13.4%

To read more of ISLANDS ONLINE BRIDGE CLUB, click below
https://www.bridgewebs.com/islands/

ISLANDSBC ONLINE BRIDGE YEARLY LEAGUE POSITION 2025/26

Position	Names	Average	Highest	Lowest	Played
1	Colin Pearson & Dick Sandeman	58.46	73.89	44.44	34
2	Göker Başoğlu & Hüseyin Cenktas	55.18	69.17	32.50	42
3	Colin Pearson & Jane McVey	55.04	70.00	35.83	42
4	Hüseyin Cenktas & Mehmet Cenktas	54.62	68.13	40.00	44
5	Ayse Zobu & Loulou van Geuns	51.56	67.78	35.63	23
6	Beth Cameron & Stephen Spain	50.61	65.83	36.88	32
7	Jenny Armstrong & Susan Cahit	50.40	63.33	33.33	47
8	Caroline Hall & Lalitha Scott	50.26	62.22	40.00	28
9	Barbara Pooley & Tracy Coleman	49.55	56.88	42.86	15
10	Ayse Zobu & Gilly Steer	49.42	66.25	37.50	20

KORINEUM MONDAY BRISGE CLUB YEARLY LEAGUE POSITIONS

Position	Names	Average	Highest	Lowest	Played
1	Janice Harper & Susan Cahit	53.53	68.75	40.63	31
2	Derek Matter & Mike Bezzant	52.32	62.50	39.58	27
3	Beth Cameron & Stephen Spain	51.51	66.67	25.00	37
4	John Waterfield & Lizzy Chaloner	50.20	61.90	37.50	47
5	Rupert Harding & Sharon Harding	49.83	58.85	37.50	12
6	Brian Lawrence & Sue Starling	49.80	60.65	37.50	33
7	Brian Lawrence & Peri Wing	49.65	61.98	32.41	12
8	Jenny Armstrong & Tony Armstrong	48.91	67.71	37.50	26
9	Patrick Monvid & Tim Morgan	48.40	60.12	36.31	30
10	John Ingham & Steve Stockwell	48.01	59.52	27.78	16

TFR CHAIRMAN HORST GUTOWSKI PASSED AWAY



It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of Horst Gutowski, Chairman of TFR (The Foreign Residents in the TRNC).

Horst was a deeply respected gentleman, a true friend to many, and someone who gave so much of himself to the community over the years. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to his family, his partner Heidi, and all who knew him.

Readers mail….
From Ralph Kratzer (TFR)

I am devastated to tell the membership that my friend and colleague for decades, our highly esteemed TFR Chairman for many years, Horst Gutowski, passed away last Wednesday, 8th April 2026, in Girne State Hospital after a short illness.

I personally have never met a more kindly, friendly, and understanding gentleman than Horst. And all people who met him will agree.

The only consolation we have is that he did not have to suffer for long.

Our sincerest condolences to his family, his partner Heidi, and all his friends.

You will never be forgotten, RIP my friend.

FUNERAL DETAILS…
After consulting Horst Gutowski's sons and partner, it was decided that his funeral will be held on Wednesday, 15th April 2026 at 11.00 am, at Lapta International Cemetery.

The service will be held by Celebrant Rosie Anstey.

It would have been his wish that the mourners wear casual clothes…

It would also have been his decision that, instead of flowers, donations for the TRNC cancer charities Tulips and Heartbeat are welcome.

A donation box will be provided at the cemetery.

May 2026: Two Nations, One Feeling — Enough Is Enough

May 2026 brings a shared sense of frustration across two nations separated by geography but united by experience. In both the United Kingdom and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, communities are feeling the same pressure — rising costs, strained public services, and a growing belief that progress has stalled.

The UK: Pressure Without Relief

In the UK, the conversation is shifting from patience to persistence. From healthcare delays to housing shortages, people are questioning whether promises of reform will ever translate into real change. Local voices are growing louder, demanding accountability and practical solutions that reflect everyday realities rather than political headlines.

One issue dominating public concern is illegal immigration. Many communities feel the system is under strain and want clearer policies, stronger enforcement, and a process that feels fair and manageable. It has become one of the most prominent national demands of 2026, shaping debates in towns, cities, and Parliament alike.

The TRNC: Isolation and Determination

Across the Mediterranean, the TRNC faces a very different set of pressures. Illegal immigration is rare, and permission to stay is tightly regulated through structured residency rules, work permits, and regular checks. The system is predictable and closely monitored, meaning the challenges seen in the UK are not mirrored in Northern Cyprus.

Instead, the TRNC's long-standing struggle centres on isolation. The absence of direct flights and international recognition continues to limit opportunity and connection. Every journey through another country is a reminder that progress remains unfinished. Yet despite these barriers, the determination of the TRNC's people endures — building communities, businesses, and cultural ties that thrive even without full recognition.

Shared Frustration, Shared Hope

What unites these two nations is not politics, but people. Both are calling for fairness, dignity, and visibility. In the UK, that means systems that



work and borders that feel properly managed. In the TRNC, it means recognition, direct links, and the right to be seen without unnecessary obstacles.

May 2026: Two Nations, One Feeling — Enough Is Enough

These issues may differ, but the underlying feeling is the same: communities want to be heard, respected, and supported.

The Turning Point

May 2026 feels like a moment of reckoning. Communities in both the UK and the TRNC are saying clearly: enough is enough. They want leadership that listens, systems that function, and international relationships that respect their realities. The call is not for division, but for connection — for bridges that bring people closer rather than barriers that keep them apart.

What the Future May Bring

As the month unfolds, the message from both nations is unmistakable: progress must be more than a promise. Whether it's fair access to healthcare and controlled borders in the **UK,** or direct flights and recognition for the **TRNC,** people are **DEMANDING** change that matters. **May 2026 is not just another month — it's a reality check.**

May in Peterborough: A Turning Point for a City Ready to Be Heard



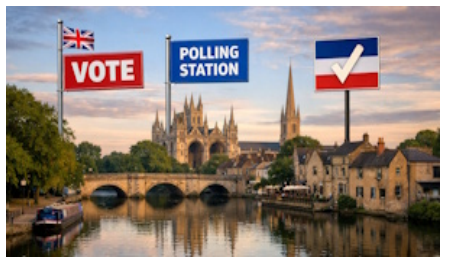
May in Peterborough always feels like a turning point — lighter evenings, fuller parks, and a sense that the city is waking up again. But this year, that shift carries something deeper. Across neighbourhoods, from Orton to Werrington, people are talking about the same pressures: rising costs, stretched services, and the feeling that too many promises have been made without enough change to show for it.

Yet there's also a spark — a growing belief that Peterborough's voice matters, and that this city deserves to be heard. May isn't just another month on the calendar. It's a moment where residents are looking around, looking ahead, and quietly deciding that things need to move forward, not stand still.

Local businesses are adapting, community groups are stepping up, and conversations about fairness and opportunity are becoming louder. Whether it's the challenge of housing, healthcare, or simply keeping the city centre vibrant, Peterborough's people are showing resilience — and a readiness to shape their own future.

This month is about more than warmer days. It's about renewal — of confidence, of community, and of purpose. As the city moves through May, the message is clear: Peterborough is ready to be heard, ready to act, and ready to turn the page toward something better.

Because change doesn't start somewhere else — it starts right here, with us.



Peterborough, UK May 7 Elections: Renewal After Rejection



Reformers Waiting And Ready To Make A Differences

After attending a number of recent Peterborough City Council meetings, it has been striking to watch how the question of holding elections on 7 May moved from uncertainty to confirmation. Earlier proposals for the vote were initially rejected during council discussions, leaving many residents unsure about what would happen next.

That position has now changed. The elections will go ahead, and preparations are fully underway.

We attended the official briefing session for prospective council candidates, where those considering standing for election were given guidance on the nomination process, campaign rules, and the responsibilities expected of an elected councillor. The session was well attended and reflected a genuine appetite for community involvement at a time when local decision-making feels more important than ever.

Potential Candidates. Are Ready And Waiting

During the briefing, we had the opportunity to meet a number of potential candidates. Their enthusiasm for serving the community was clear, and we wished each of them every success as they prepare for the forthcoming elections.

For residents across Peterborough, the upcoming vote represents an opportunity to shape the future direction of the city. Whether standing as a candidate or taking part as a voter, May 7th will be a significant moment for local democracy.

7 May Elections: Local Voices Demanding National Change

Local Choices, National Impact

Who hasn't felt frustrated by local or national decisions that affect daily life?

The ballot box remains the strongest way to demand change — and to say clearly that we want it now.

On 7 May 2026, voters across England will choose new local councillors in one of the most important election cycles in years. For cities like Peterborough, these elections shape how services are delivered, how budgets are spent, and how local priorities are heard at the national level.

Peterborough: Local Needs, Real Impact

Peterborough continues to face familiar pressures:

* housing shortages
* road and transport issues
* waste and environmental concerns
* support for vulnerable residents

The councillors elected this May will influence regeneration, planning, and community services for years to come. These decisions directly affect quality of life — from neighbourhood safety to social care.

National Picture: A Changing Political Landscape

Across England, voters are moving beyond traditional party lines. Reform UK, Conservatives, Labour, Liberal Democrats, Greens, and a rising number of independent candidates are all competing for influence.

This shift reflects a wider demand for practical, local solutions rather than national rhetoric. Councils are increasingly run by mixed administrations, coalitions, or independents — a sign of changing public expectations.

Shared Lessons for CyprusScene.com Readers

For readers in Cyprus and beyond,



the UK's local elections offer a clear view of how community-level democracy works within a national system. Local councils manage the issues closest to everyday life — housing, transport, environment, and care — yet their decisions shape wider debates on sustainability, inclusion, and accountability.

Across Europe, the rise of independents and smaller parties shows a growing appetite for grassroots representation and local empowerment.

Time for change.

It's easy to vote as we always have. But with declining living standards, weakened community pride, and years of poor management, this election is a chance to demand better — through a democratic voice that insists on change now.

Why Your Vote Matters

Whether in Peterborough or London, these elections remind us that democracy starts locally. Every vote cast on **7 May 2026** helps shape how communities grow, how services are delivered, and how local leadership connects to national direction.

To read nore from the last e-newspaper click link - https://cyprusscene.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/CyprusScene-Issue-306.pdf

1st May 2026

7 May Elections: What They Mean for the UK and the Wider World

As the United Kingdom approaches the 7 May 2026 local elections, communities across England will once again decide who manages the services that shape everyday life — from social care and housing to waste, planning, and local transport. These elections do not determine the national government, but they do offer a clear signal of how people feel about the country's direction.

This article remains strictly neutral and does not endorse any party or candidate

A Moment of Reflection for the UK

The UK enters these elections at a time of visible pressure on public services and rising expectations from local communities. Several themes are shaping the national mood:

* **Cost of living pressures** continue to influence household priorities.
* **Healthcare access,** especially social care and community health, remains a major concern.
* **Housing demand** is increasing, placing planning decisions under scrutiny.
* **Community safety** and policing visibility are key issues in many areas.
* **Immigration and border management** remain central to national debate, with strong public interest in effective, controlled systems.

Local elections often reveal how people feel about these practical, day-to-day issues rather than national political personalities.

What the 7 May Elections Can Indicate

While local elections do not predict the outcome of a future general election, they can highlight:

* **Public satisfaction or frustration** with current national policies
* **Shifts in support** for major parties
***The rise of independents and local groups**
* **Regional differences** in priorities
* **Levels of public engagement,** shown through turnout

Once polls close, observers will look for changes in council control, gains or losses, and how different parts of the UK express their expectations for the months ahead.

(As required during election periods: readers should rely on official, certified results once votes are counted.)

Why the World Watches UK Local Elections

Although these are local contests, the UK's political direction carries **international significance** Many countries — including Commonwealth partners, EU neighbours, and regions with strong UK ties — follow these elections closely.

1. International Confidence and Stability

The UK's political climate influences:

* investor confidence
* trade expectations
* diplomatic engagement
* mperceptions of long-term stability

Local election outcomes can signal whether the public wants continuity,



change, or a shift in priorities.

2.The UK's Role in Global Policy Debates

Issues such as

* border management
* migration
* climate policy
* security cooperation
* economic reform:

are watched by international observers who look for clues about the UK's future stance.

3. Communities Abroad with Strong UK Links

For regions like the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, where many residents have UK connections, the UK's political direction matters for:

* travel and mobility
* consular expectations
*recognition and diplomatic engagement
* cultural and economic ties

The UK's local elections may be domestic in scope, but their outcomes are followed closely by communities who maintain deep personal and historical links with Britain.

A Shared Global Moment

The UK is not alone in facing rising costs, pressure on public services, and debates about borders and identity. Many countries are experiencing similar tensions. This makes the UK's local elections part of a wider international picture where communities everywhere are asking for:

* fairness
* stability
* effective governance
* respect for local needs
* clear long-term direction

The UK's results will be read not only as a domestic signal but as part of a broader global conversation about how societies respond to change.

Closing Reflection

The 7 May local elections will not decide the UK's national government, but they will reveal how people feel about the country's current path — and how the UK is viewed internationally. At home and abroad, communities are watching closely, looking for signs of stability, clarity, and the direction the UK chooses next.

Share your TRNC and UK NEWS and REVIEWS here, by emailing them to kyreniacommentator@cyprusscene.com

Paston Farm Hosts a Packed Business Exhibition



By Chris Elliott……

When I recently visited the **Paston Farm Community Centre,** I expected a steady flow of activity — but what I found was far more impressive. The place was buzzing with visitors, conversations, and a real sense of local energy as people explored the many stalls at the business exhibition.

The centre was buzzing with visitors and exhibitors — and I had a chat with the organisers for a video interview.

Every corner of the centre was alive with interaction. Residents stopped to chat with exhibitors, ask questions, discover new services, and support the small businesses that help shape our community. It was one of those events where you could feel the value of bringing people together under one roof.

As I moved through the exhibition, it became clear just how much effort had gone into organising the day. The layout was welcoming, the exhibitors were enthusiastic, and the visitors were genuinely engaged. It was a perfect example of how community spaces like Paston Farm can create opportunities for local entrepreneurs to connect with the people they serve.

I was also able to record a video interview with the organisers, who spoke passionately about why events like this matter — not just for business growth, but for strengthening community ties and giving residents a chance to discover what's available right on their doorstep.

The exhibition was a reminder of how vibrant and resourceful the Paston area truly is. I left feeling inspired, and I'm looking forward to sharing the video interview so others can hear directly from the people who made the day such a success.

Click the link to watch the video - https://youtu.be/C1qcxY6ABco



CareCo Peterborough: Outstanding Support for Mobility Needs

Readers' Mail

Dear Peterborough Wide Horizons,

Choosing the right mobility equipment can be daunting, especially when you're trying to balance safety, independence and day-to-day practicality. My recent experience with **CareCo Peterborough** showed just how much difference genuine expertise and proper customer care can make.

I visited the Peterborough showroom to look at **mobility scooters and household ramps,** and the team could not have been more helpful. They took the time to understand my mobility needs, explained the differences between models, and guided me toward the scooter and ramp combination that would work best in my home environment. There was no pressure — just clear advice, patience and real understanding.

Although the Peterborough branch could only show me the **range of ramps online,** he final choice to meet my needs was suggested by their **online support team.** By sharing a photograph of my doorway, they were able to assess the entry space and recommend the most suitable ramp — a simple but effective way to ensure the right fit before purchase.

Once the decisions were made, delivery from their **Braintree, Essex distribution centre** was impressively fast. Everything arrived exactly as promised, which made the whole process smooth and stress-free.

What truly sets CareCo apart is their **after-care and support system.**

Their online help route via **WhatsApp** is exceptional. If you have a concern or something doesn't seem quite right, you can speak to a real person through text chat. When needed, they may ask for a short smartphone video so they can actually see the issue. This simple step makes a huge difference — it allows them to understand the problem immediately and offer clear, reassuring guidance.



For follow-up questions, they also provide a responsive **email support route**, ensuring nothing is left unresolved.

In a world where customer service often feels automated or rushed, **CareCo Peterborough** deliver something rare: **human support, practical advice, and genuine care** or people who rely on mobility equipment every day.

A first-class experience from start to finish — and a service I'm very glad to recommend.

NHS Knee Operations — But No NHS Dentists?



An explainer for Peterborough residents.

Many people across Peterborough are asking the same question: **How can the NHS fund a knee operation — even in a private hospital — yet offer no access to an NHS dentist?**

At first glance, it makes little sense. Teeth are part of the body, dental pain can be severe, and oral health is closely linked to overall health. Yet access to NHS dentistry has become one of the most difficult parts of the healthcare system.

The explanation lies not with individual dentists or patients, but with how NHS dentistry is funded and organised.

NHS dentistry is not treated like the rest of the NHS

Most NHS services, such as hospital surgery, operate on a demand-led basis. If a patient needs a knee replacement and meets clinical criteria, the NHS must fund it. If NHS hospitals do not have enough capacity, the NHS can and does pay private hospitals to carry out the operation.

Dentistry works very differently.

Dentists are i**ndependent contractors,** not NHS employees. NHS dental care is only available where a practice holds an NHS contract — and each contract is strictly capped, with a fixed amount of funding and a fixed volume of treatment.

Once that limit is reached, the practice is **not allowed** to provide any more NHS care, even if patients are in pain and even if the dentist wants to help.

A capped system means care is rationed

In Peterborough, as in many parts of England, demand for dental care far exceeds the number of NHS appointments available.

Unlike knee surgery:

* Extra dental need does not unlock extra NHS funding
* The NHS does not automatically commission more dental care
* Patients are often told there are “no NHS places available.”
* This is why many residents struggle to register with an NHS dentist — sometimes for years.

Why this matters for patients awaiting surgery

There is a little-known but serious consequence of the dental access crisis:

If a patient is due to have an NHS operation, the procedure can be postponed or cancelled if they have an untreated dental infection.

Hospitals routinely require patients to be free from active oral infections before surgery — especially joint replacements — because bacteria from the mouth can enter the bloodstream and increase the risk of post-operative complications.

This means that people who cannot access an NHS dentist may find their surgery delayed through no fault of their own.

The payment system is part of the problem

Since 2006, NHS dentists have been paid using a system called **Units of Dental Activity (UDAs).**

In practice, this means:

* Simple and complex treatments can attract the same payment
* Time-consuming, high-need patients are often underfunded
* Rising costs for staff, equipment, materials, and regulation are not fully reflected

Many dentists report that providing NHS care — particularly complex treatment — can be financially unsustainable. As a result, some practices reduce their NHS work or stop offering it altogether.

NHS Knee Operations — But No NHS Dentists?

Why this affects Peterborough particularly hard

* A growing population
* High levels of dental need
* Limited NHS dental contract capacity

Urgent dental care is still available locally through **NHS 111** and dental access centres, but this is **short-term pain relief,** not routine ongoing dental care.

For many people, the only realistic option for regular check-ups is private dentistry — **something not everyone can afford.**

What would it take to fix the problem?

Health policy experts broadly agree that restoring NHS dentistry would require:

* Making dental care a genuine NHS entitlement
* Removing hard funding caps
*Replacing the UDA payment system
* Investing properly in the dental workforce
* Shifting the focus towards prevention, not crisis treatment

These would be major policy changes, not small technical adjustments.

The reality today

The situation in Peterborough reflects a wider national issue. People can receive NHS-funded surgery in private hospitals, yet may be unable to access NHS dental care locally.

This is not because dentistry is unimportant, but because it has been systematically underfunded and deprioritised for many years.

Until that changes, difficulties accessing NHS dentistry are not a temporary failure of the system — **they are the expected outcome of how it is designed.**

All information in this article relates to systemic NHS commissioning and funding arrangements. No statements should be interpreted as criticism of any individual dental practitioner or private dental provider.

Editors Note:
As we reach the end of the week and celebrate the release of our new online e-newspaper, we also look ahead to an important moment for many of our local readers. In the coming days, communities across the reagons will be heading to the polls, using their vote to call for changes in how councils operate and to express their views on the wider direction of the country. Whatever your perspective, this is a chance to take part in shaping the decisions that affect everyday life.

Specsavers Home Visits Bring Essential Care to Your Door



Returning from a shopping trip, we were surprised to see two Specsavers cars parked near our home. The message on their doors caught our attention immediately: **"Caring for your sight and hearing at home."**

As long-standing Specsavers customers, we had no idea they offered **home eye tests and hearing tests.** For many of us who can travel easily, this service may never be needed — but for others in our community, it can make all the difference.

This discovery prompted us to look deeper and share the information with our readers across **Peterborough Wide Horizons** and **CyprusScene,** especially those who may struggle to leave home for essential health checks.

What are Specsavers Home Visits?

Specsavers Home Visits is a nationwide service providing **NHS-funded eye tests and hearing tests** for people who cannot leave their home unaccompanied due to health or mobility issues.

The service covers:

* Private homes
* Care homes
* Sheltered or supported accommodation

Mobile opticians and audiologists bring specialist portable equipment, offering the **same standard of care** you would receive in a Specsavers store.

What the Visit Includes

* A full NHS-funded eye or hearing test
* Updated prescriptions for glasses
* Advice on hearing aids and aftercare
* Access to NHS optical vouchers (if eligible)
* Delivery of glasses to your home
* Follow-up visits if needed

This ensures that people who are housebound still receive essential checks that support independence, safety, and well-being.

Who Is Eligible for a Home Visit?

To qualify, a person must meet **two conditions:**

1. They must be unable to leave home unaccompanied, due to:

* Mobility issues
* Long-term illness
* Physical disability
* Dementia or cognitive conditions
* Frailty or risk of falls
* Being blind or partially sighted

2. They must also qualify for an NHS-funded eye or hearing test, such as:

* Aged **60 or over**
* Diagnosed with **diabetes** or **glaucoma**
* At risk of glaucoma (as advised by an optician)
* Aged **40+** with a close relative diagnosed with glaucoma
* Receiving certain benefits (Income Support, income-based JSA, Pension Credit Guarantee Credit)
* Holding an **NHS tax credit exemption certificate**
* Holding an **HC2 or HC3 certificate**
* Eligible for an **NHS Complex Lens Voucher**

Specsavers will confirm eligibility during the booking process.

Why This Service Matters

Many people in our community face challenges such as:

* Limited mobility
* Lack of transport
* Living alone
* Recovering from illness
* Long-term health conditions

For them, attending a high-street optician or audiologist is simply not possible. Specsavers' home-visit service ensures **no one is left without essential sight and hearing care.**

Good vision and hearing are vital for:

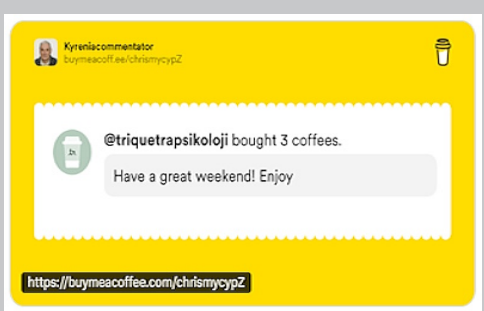
Preventing falls
Maintaining independence
Staying connected with family and friends
Managing daily tasks safely
This service helps protect those who are most vulnerable.

Anyone can enquire — for themselves, a neighbour, or a family member.

Specsavers will check eligibility and arrange a convenient appointment time.

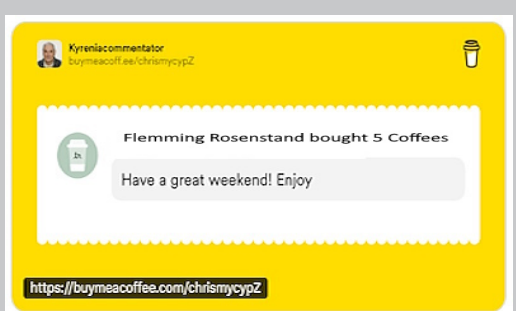
For more information about Specsavers Home Visit's and to apply, please click below

https://www.specsavers.co.uk/home-visits





Please "Buy me a Coffee" if you like our work as it helps our production costs



Care Home Highlights Non-Verbal Connection in Dementia Support

Readers mail…..

From Hampton Grove Care Home….

Hampton Grove Care Home in Peterborough is proving that while dementia may take away words, it can never diminish the person within. The home's activity coordinator, Becky, recently shared a moving tribute to resident Karen and her husband, Pete, highlighting the profound "silent" communication that defines their daily bond.

Power of Non-Verbal Connection

Karen, who is now non-verbal, continues to connect with staff and her husband through facial expressions, warmth, and a lingering "spark" of humorous personality. The story, which was recently shared on social media, has resonated deeply with the local community, with family members and friends describing the couple as an inspiration.

Pete, who visits Karen daily, has integrated with the home over the past number of years, and who himself is living with a serious health condition, has been praised by other resident's families for his tireless support to other residents, with local Diane Lewis, who shared, "Without his help, we would be at a loss." Pete is often seen around the home, helping here and there and also pottering about in the home's garden, ready to connect with everyone who visits or resides at the home, along with bringing heartfelt warmth to the home's staff.

Understand more about dementia

Gillian Lewis commented on the home's social media page, "That's an amazing thing to do, so that helps other people understand more about dementia it's not an easy job what the staff do and Peter is an amazing person he helps everyone in the home if he is able, your kindness and patience are a virtue are what you are





all about, good work Hampton Grove"

Pete shared, "Dementia changes how someone speaks, but it doesn't change who they are. Connection, humour, and love are felt far beyond words. Sometimes a smile or a touch says more than a conversation ever could."

General Manager Stefan said, "Pete is a welcome face in the home, bringing his sunny disposition to all he connects with, and through his sharing of communication, this is in line with one of our Free community events we will be holding."

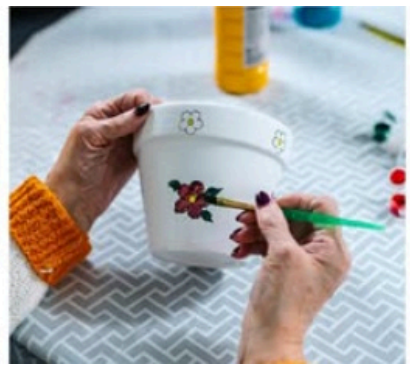
To support local families navigating similar journeys, Hampton Grove invited the Peterborough community to a special event: " **"Talking Positively to Someone Living with Dementia."** This event took place, and this session offered practical advice, emotional support, and insights into maintaining meaningful connections when verbal communication becomes difficult.

To read more of Barchester Hampton Grove click below
https://www.facebook.com/BarchesterHamptonGrove











Help Protect Your Community — Become an On-Call Firefighter

Residents across Cambridgeshire are being urged to step forward as on-call firefighters, as local fire stations face ongoing challenges in maintaining emergency response cover.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is calling on people who live or work close to a fire station to consider joining their local crew and helping respond to emergencies alongside their existing commitments.

Group Commander Paul Oliver, head of the on-call area of the Service, said: "Almost every fire station in Cambridgeshire relies on on-call firefighters from their local community to respond to emergencies, whether that's fires, road traffic collisions, flooding or assisting other emergency services. Without that support, we risk not having a fire engine available when it's needed most.

"We are looking for people from all walks of life to join us. You don't need previous experience, just commitment, reliability and a willingness to learn. The role is flexible and can fit around work, family life or study.

"On-call firefighters live and work within their communities and respond when needed, carrying a pager that alerts them to incidents. They then have five minutes to get to the station and crew the fire engine.

"To ensure we can provide cover throughout the week, we typically need around 12 firefighters at each station, with individuals offering around 50 hours of availability. This can be spread across the week and fitted around other commitments.

"Being an on-call firefighter is



incredibly rewarding. You could be helping someone on the worst day of their life, making a real difference when it matters most.

"In return, firefighters are paid for incidents and training, receive an annual retaining fee, and benefit from development opportunities, access to station gyms and a health care plan. There are also opportunities to take on additional responsibilities over time, such as driving fire engines."

Anyone who lives or works within five minutes of a fire station is encouraged to find out more by visiting the Careers section. Opportunities are available at stations across the county, with a particular need for weekday daytime availability.

The great news is that eight new on-call firefighters join stations across Cambridgeshire, click below to read more:

https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/news-and-incidents/news/

Fire Crews Test Skills in Cambridge High-Rise Exercise



A fire breaking out at home is frightening enough, but for those living in tall buildings, the risks and challenges are far greater. That's why a major training exercise held recently in Cambridge offered valuable reassurance about the readiness of our emergency services

.On Thursday, March 26, firefighters from Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, and Essex came together at Hanover Court in Cambridge to test their response to a high-rise fire. They were joined by colleagues from the police, ambulance service, and Cambridge City Council, creating a full multi-agency environment.

The scenario simulated a rapidly developing fire inside a residential block of flats, including a small hazardous materials element. The fire spread affected several flats, and crews were tasked with rescuing residents in difficulty. Multiple casualties were presented with conditions ranging from smoke inhalation and burns to trauma injuries, providing a realistic test of coordination, communication, and patient management under pressure.

A spokesperson for Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service said:

"We would like to thank everyone involved in planning, supporting, and delivering the exercise. The level of engagement and professionalism shown throughout was excellent.
The learning gathered from the exercise will now be reviewed and used to inform training, operational procedures, and future exercises across the service."

This is the first in a series of large-scale training exercises planned across the county during 2026, all aimed at strengthening preparedness for complex incidents in high-rise buildings.

To read more and see more pictures of this exercise, click below:

https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/news-and-incidents/news/

Forthcoming Events - TRNC

CyprusScene.com

The Leisure Line

"WHAT'S ON WHERE"

Click link to view https://www.facebook.com/groups/204052504285085

Forthcoming Events - UK

PETERBOROUGH

WIDE HORIZON

Click link to view https://www.facebook.com/groups/1907026046519625



Click link to view https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61583477646792

1st May 2026

Emergency TRNC Telephone

mobile numbers are prefixed 0533 or 0542 or 0548
landline numbers are prefixed 0392

POLICE

Emergencies	**155**
General	228 3411
Girne	815 2125
Lefkosa	228 3311
Gazi Mağusa	366 5310
Guzelyurt	714 2140
Lapta	821 8512

FIRE

Emergencies	**199**
Forest Fire	**177**
Girne	815 2111
Lefkosa	227 1259
Gazi Mağusa	366 5389
Guzelyurt	714 2200

AMBULANCE

Emergencies	**112**

HOSPITAL

Girne	8152266/815 2254
Lefkoşa	228 5441;
Gazi Mağusa	3662876/3665328
Güzelyurt	714 2125

ELECTRICITY

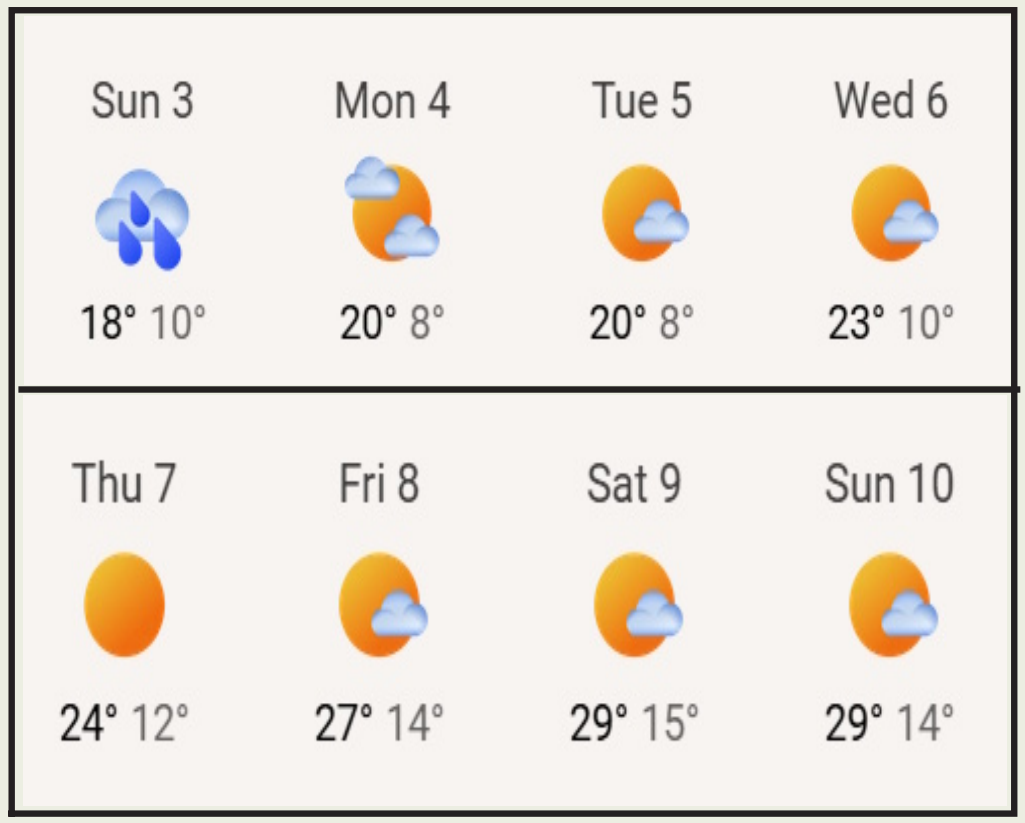
Electrical faults	**188**
Lefkoşa	225 3436
Girne	815 2223
Gazi Mağusa	366 5514
Güzelyurt	714 2122

WATER

Water problems:	
Lefkoşa	228 3315
Girne	815 2118
Gazi Mağusa	366 4483
Güzelyurt	714 3516

8-day TRNC Weather Forecast

3rd May to 10th May 2026



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Get the latest CyprusScene Enewspaper for all your news

Mehmet Musa Sets New World Record
A 60-Day Strength Challenge

By CyprusScene Editorial Team

Welcoming Community News from Cyprus and the UK.

At CyprusScene, we are always delighted to receive news from our readers, contributors, and the wider Turkish Cypriot community. It is especially encouraging to see more stories arriving from both Cyprus and the United Kingdom—stories of achievement, identity, and pride.

Today, we are pleased to share an inspiring message from Mehmet Musa, a Turkish Cypriot born in Islington, London, with family roots in Northern Cyprus, whose determination and discipline have earned him international recognition in the world of strongman sports.

A Remarkable Feat: 300-kg Walk for 60 Days.

Earlier this year, Mehmet undertook an extraordinary personal challenge: walking with 300 kg of weight every day for 60 consecutive days.

This demanding test of strength and endurance was followed closely by the UK's Olay Newspaper, which reported on his progress during the challenge. Since then, Mehmet has successfully completed the feat and has now been officially recognised with a world record by the Record Holders Republic.

Message from Mehmet Musa

*"Hello, I am Turkish Cypriot and I was born in Islington, London. I have a family in Northern Cyprus, I have news I want to convey to you. The news I wanted to convey was also published in the Olay Newspaper in England. This news is about strongman sports. Recently, I completed a personal challenge and set a new world record.

I did a 300-kg walk every day for 60 days in the gym. I set a new world record and was recognized by the Record Holders Republic.

I would be very pleased and appreciate this news to be published in CyprusScene news.

I am very proud to be a Turkish Cypriot and it would be a great honour for me to have this news published in CyprusScene news.

Please find the news article in Olay Newspaper UK in Turkish click here

The above article was published during my contest. Since then, I have completed the competition and received a world record.

Yours sincerely,

Mehmet Musa

Source email (Turkish)





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IT'S ON DAYS LIKE THESE!

Results: MORMENEŞKE GBSK 2 ESENTEPE KKSK 4

By Richard Beale, with additional match reporting by Paul Cooper.

Those of you who are of a certain age may remember the original 1969 film "The Italian Job" and the beautiful theme tune sung by the late great Matt Munro, "On days like these".

Well, yesterday's visit to Mormeneşke reminded me of a line in the song "And it's on days like these I remember singing songs and drinking wine."

Well, the drinking of wine came later; there were songs celebrating a great Esentepe win amongst the team and supporters. A record 10 ex pats enjoying good food at the AYTOTORO MEZE EVI at Yeniboğaziçi, great company before the match. I remember 9 of you keeping dry and me getting soaking wet, but who cares the team won, and this was a giant step for Esentepe preserving their Super League status. Back to Esentepe Sports Bar watching Man City and Arsenal (I have no allegiance to either team), but I have to buy beer and wine at 100 TL each !. A great day to remember.

Sunday, April 19, 2026: AKSA Super League: Mormeneşke Cemal Balses Stadium

Weather: Overcast early on, then rain later.

This crucial win sees Esentepe avoiding automatic relegation, they are in 9th position in the League 2 places above the relegation play-off places. 3 matches left to play, 2 at home against teams below us, should be 6 points from those, and being realistic, we won't get anything when we visit the potential Champions Cihangir in 2 weeks' time.

Again, this was a "make shift " Esentepe team, without two of their influential players, Sander (suspended) and Benjamin (only fit enough to play part of the game and also Tuğra (injured). Top scorer Lukman was playing but is also carrying an injury. With Kaya in an unaccustomed position at right back and Semih in midfield. The team did well to fight and battle and deserved the win.

Mormeneşke, starting the match 3rd from bottom, had to win this match; a draw would not help them much.

Esentepe started with a 4-2-1-3 formation with Salih playing in the "Benjamin role'.

Mormeneşke started well with their Nigerian forward Daniel Kehinde looking dangerous when on the ball.

In the 13th minute, Esentepe goalkeeper Ali produced a good diving save from close range to prevent Daniel Kehinde from opening the scoring for the home team.

It was a very competitive match between two desperate teams in need of points.

Probably against the run of play, Esentepe took the lead in the 26th minute from a rare source. SALIH KARAL long free kick way out on the left, sailed straight over the goalkeepers' outstretched hand and into the back of the net —maybe a little wind assisted! **0-1.**

Salih, who was having a good



ESENTEPE KKSK



match volleyed a shot just wide.

Mormeneşke should have equalised in the 38th minute, Emre getting the better of Kaya, saw him through on goal, but a combination of Devran coming over to challenge and the recovering Kaya, forced the home team striker to shoot wide of goal.

Esentepe were working hard in midfield but failing to create anything, Ali had been far busier of the two keepers.

Salih corners were causing problems for the Mormeneşke defence. From one, Semih got his head to the ball, bringing a great reaction save from Remzi, diving to his left to push the ball away for another corner.

From that corner (45th minute), Semih again got his head to the ball again, which was blocked, falling to DEVRAN GÜNEŞ following up to score, to send the many travelling Esentepe supporters into raptures and to enjoy the half time interval.

Continued on page 22 >>>>

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continued.....IT'S ON DAYS LIKE THESE!

Results: MORMENEŞKE GBSK 2 ESENTEPE KKSK 4

HALF TIME SCORE :0-2

It was a different story at the start of the second half, Mormeneşke taking charge, forcing Esentepe onto the back foot, penned in their own half for long periods. The rain started pouring, making the surface treacherous. A long cross from Daniel Kehinde bounced on top of the Esentepe crossbar.

It was all one-way traffic with no rest bite for Esentepe, a goal was threatening, and it was no surprise when it came in the 55th minute. From an Arda corner, the home team's giant central defender, Kobina Amoah sent a header crashing against the crossbar. Esentepe defenders were slow to react, and DANIEL KEHINDE, following up, smashed the ball home to give Mormeneşke hope. **1.2.**

Esentepe immediately made a change, bringing the half-fit Benjamin in place of Dinçer in the 60th minute.

This had the desired effect as Esentepe managed a couple of efforts themselves, Lukman on a run shot just past the left-hand pos, and Mehmet Ada shot just wide as Esentepe appeared to have stopped the one-way traffic.

There was a huge sigh of relief from the Esentepe bench and supporters when they made the game safe in the 75th minute. Esentepe started a fantastic, flowing move down the right-hand side, passing across the box to LUKMAN ADESHINA, who casually and nonchalantly side-footed the ball into the corner **1-3** ——cue for some more wild celebrations!

Then Sulyman had a right-footed shot well saved by goalkeeper Remzi.

The 3rd goal seemed to have knocked some steam and resistance out of the home team as the visitors looked very comfortable.

Lukman who is carrying a knock, was replaced by EGE CAN AÇIKPORTALI in the 78th minute, who, with his first touch of the ball, scored Esentepe fourth goal with a shot that was deflected in off Arda. **1-4,**

Ege should have scored again a minute later, squirming free of his markers he shot wide.

82 minutes, the Mormeneşke crossbar was struck from a Benjamin shot as the home team were wide open at the back as they pushed men up field.

With literally the last kick of the match, substitute AHMET CAN KİRŞAN hit a low shot from outside of the box, which skidded along the wet surface to score a very late goal.

FULL TIME SCORE: 2-4.

Cue again at the end where the team celebrated with their supporters — a giant step for Esentepe in retaining their Super League status — the job is not done yet, but play as we did against Mormeneşke —— " And were almost there" —- another golden oldie song from Andy Williams — Who !

SUMMING UP:

A battling, hard-earned win, and a confidence booster, supporters played their part as well. SALIH KARAL was Esentepe's best player, having his best game of the season, playing in a more advanced role, which seemed to have suited him. Special mention to Kaya Bahadır, who had a good match as did Semih Arslan in midfield, he's not the most skilful player, but he gets stuck in and puts his body on the line, you can't ask more than that.











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ESENTEPE "ARE ALMOST THERE"

Result : ESENTEPE KKSK 3 YENİBOĞAZİÇİDSK 1

By Richard Beale, additional reporting by Malcolm Curtis.

Esentepe recorded their third consecutive win and have taken massive strides to avoid the relegation "play off" places.

Saturday, April 25, 2026: AKSA Super League: Esentepe Erdal Barut Stadium

Weather: Sunny and warm.

It was a good weekend for Esentepe not only did they win but most of the teams below lost. 2 matches left in the season, 1 point out of those 2 matches may be sufficient, 2 points probably, 3 points definitely, —-trouble is next weeks last away match is against the probable Champions Cihangir — the Champagne may need to wait on ice until our last home match against another relegation play off place team Mesarya.

Esentepe were once again without midfielders Benjamin and Tuğra, both were on the bench, both carrying knocks. Sander was recalled after suspension, and Ege Can Açıkportali was given a start upfront.

A glorious, warm, sunny afternoon attracted a good-sized crowd, including some ex-pats of all nationalities. Esentepe started in what looked like a 4-2-1-3 line-up with Salih once again playing in the advanced midfield role.

2 minutes Yeniboğaziçi Captain Ramazan had a volley that turned over the bar.

Following a long Esentepe punt upfield, which fell nicely into the path of Ege Can, who lobbed the advancing goalkeeper Emre, only to see his effort hit the bar and be cleared.

6 minutes Ege Can was involved again, hooking a superb volley which caught a slight deflection and just missed going in on the right-hand post.

Following that corner, the ball went out to Salih, who put in a wicked low cross that went across the Yeniboğaziçi goal without any player from either side managing to get a touch to it.

Yeniboğaziçi winger Darius Dee Johnson looks a decent player, very lively in the opening exchanges.

It was a very bright start to the match by both sides.

Esentepe took the lead in the 23rd minute after good work down the right by I think it was Sander whose pulled back a cross was met by MEHMET ADA ARIKAN with a tremendous volley that rocketed into the net, giving Emre no chance. **1-0.**

Esentepe Salih Karal, as he did in the last match, was very prominent, enjoying the freedom in his new attacking midfield role.

After a scrappy period of play, Esentepe increased their lead in the 42nd minute, when Nehir, who was having an excellent match, was up in attack, tried a shot, which he miscued, the ball probably took a slight deflection, falling invitingly to EGE CAN AÇIKPORTALI to finish cooly. **2.0.**

EGE CAN was on the scoresheet again, deep in injury time in the first half, nonchalantly side-footing in a cross from the edge of the box after good hold-up play by Lukman.



ALİ is beaten by RAMADAN low shot 3-1

HALF TIME 3-0.

Yeniboğaziçi brought on the tough and strong Yunus Kalaycı who went to centre back, pushing the big, powerful Ali Özay upfront.

Very scrappy 15 minutes with nothing to note.

60 minutes Esentepe Semih Arslan was on the end of a hard shot full in the face, he was poleaxed and immediately surrounded by concerned players and medics. Semih may have been knocked out, and the game was delayed for a while. Eventually, he was helped to the sidelines where an Ambulance was called for —it may be that he has broken his nose. Semih is such an unlucky player, he always seems to get nasty injuries, but his style of play is robust, puts his body and head in where it hurts, a brave lad.

64 minutes, Esentepe goalkeeper Ali produced a good diving save from a free kick by Ramazan, injuring himself in the process. Again, there was a delay.

With the delays and injuries, the match had become very scrappy. Esentepe had lost its first-half momentum. Yeniboğaziçi, with nothing to lose were making a spirited effort to get back into the match.

Their spirits rose in the 68th minute when they pulled a goal back from their Captain RAMADAN AGDAÇ, who beat Ali on his right-hand side with a low shot from the edge of the box, which might have taken a slight deflection.

76 minutes a superb pass from substitute Dinçer finds Sulyman cutting in from the right beating his marker, with only the keeper to beat but shoots wide, should have been a goal, a golden chance wasted.

That was Esentepe's first attack of the second half !—-it had been that bad.

As my additional correspondent reported scrappy, scrappy, scrappy but at this stage of the season its the 3 points that matter.

With 5 minutes of extra time being played, Yeniboğaziçi's best player, Ramadan sent an unstoppable volley that rocks the Esentepe left-hand post.

FULL TIME SCORE : 3-1

From POW Camp to Heritage Hub — Thorney's Untold Story

A recent mention of a WWII prisoner-of-war camp in Thorney, Cambridgeshire, was enough to spark a visit — and there is no better place to begin than the Thorney Heritage Museum. The museum is housed inside the striking Bedford Hall, part of the 1848 redevelopment of Thorney by architect Samuel Sanders Teulon. This redevelopment, which also included the Tank Yard buildings, was commissioned by Francis, the 7th Duke of Bedford, as part of his vision for a model village.

Inside this impressive building sits the equally impressive Thorney Heritage Museum — a compact but rich collection of photographs, posters, artefacts, and displays that tell the story of the village, its people, and its remarkable past.

The museum's website also offers a series of "Thorney Footprints" — beautifully presented historical snapshots that explore key parts of the village's heritage:

Thorney Footprints to see, click below

*** Learning and Labour**
*** They Are Remembered**
*** Muddle and Go Nowhere (Railway)**
*** Decoy, Deer, and Smugglers Thorney River and Causeway**

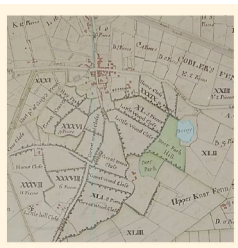
There is far more to see than words can fully capture. On our first visit, we created a short video slideshow from our photos, which you'll find below. We hope it gives you a taste of what the museum offers — and encourages you, as it did us, to return and discover even more about this fascinating village.

To see Thorney Footprints click here
https://www.thorney-museum.org.uk/thorney-footprints



They are Remembered


Muddle and Go Nowhere


Decoy, Deer and Smugglers







To watch video of Thorney Museum, click here
https://youtu.be/n0UAHBJ5Dfg