

# ORGANISATION OF RELATIVES OF MISSING CYPRIOTS (UK)

## ΟΡΓΑΝΩΣΗ ΣΥΓΓΕΝΩΝ ΚΥΠΡΙΩΝ ΑΓΝΟΟΥΜΕΝΩΝ (ΗΒ)

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### NEWS BULLETIN MARCH 2018

**IDENTIFICATIONS:** The following have been identified and returned to their families. Haralambos Maratheftis from **Vasilia**, Theofanis Antoni from **N. Horio Kythreas**, Papachristoforos Karayiorgi from **Davlos**, Yiannakis Psaltis from **Aradhippou**, Nicholas Yiannakopoulos, Eleftherios Anthis, Manousos Triantafyllides, Georgios Papalambrides from **Greece**, Yiasoumis Kavalierou, Georgios Kakoutsas, Solon Solomi, Pavlos Solomi from **Komi Kebir**, Costas Kyriacou from **Mitsero**, Eleftherios Milioti from **Pyrga Ammohostou**, Ioannis Skalistis, Andreas Christou from **Lefkosia**, Christodoulos Hadjichristodoulou from **K. Zodhia**, Vasilis Yiannaka, Michael Shialouna from **Eptakomi**, Christina Nicolaou from **Troulli**, Demetrios Xenofontos from **Tricomo**, Kyriacos Kalatha from **Avgorou**.

**NEW YEAR'S CAKE CUTTING:** On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2018 we held our annual New year's cake cutting at St. Barnabas Church Hall. A memorial service was held at St. Mary's Church for those identified and buried and prayers were said for those still missing. His Very Reverend Bishop Athanasios presided the proceedings and after cutting the cake he distributed it to all those present, including the Cyprus Consul General Mr I. Koukoularides, the President of the Federation Mr C. Karaolis, the E. Secretary of the Federation Mr A. Karaolis, members of St.Mary's Church Committee, ORMC (UK) members and many friends and supporters. Our many thanks to all the ladies who offered cakes and helped in organising the event.



**OUR BEST WISHES TO ALL OUR MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS FOR A HAPPY EASTER.**

**WINE FESTIVAL:** This will take place at Pickets Lock on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May. We will be there as usual with our stand giving information.

### EXTRACT FROM THE SPEECH DELIVERED BY OUR TREASURER AT THE FUNERAL OF HIS UNCLE AND COUSIN:

.....A progressive farming entrepreneur in a small farming community, and well respected by both communities, Turkish and Greek Cypriots at the same time. The whole family has shown and shared so much respect to our mix community and have always believed in co-existence and equal opportunities. Unfortunately, as the story unfolds such values not only did not help and did not count but also proved to be the beginning of a tragedy that would take 43 years to resolve. Auntie Panagiota has given all her life looking for you, wanting to bring you home safe. She has never left any opportunity go by, whether in Cyprus or abroad. She never held back in seeking for that someone that can help bring you home. I have heard her many times blaming and asking herself why she didn't challenge your decision to stay back. I am sure however, considering the trust and respect you shared with our Turkish community you would have taken the same decision again. I hear Christina, my cousin, saying we must offer our hands and help heal the open wounds. Enough is enough she says. If from what we see today, this family can still stand up and say that they can forgive for the sake of peace and co-existence then surely we all owe to give it a chance. I personally struggle to understand how they can manage that and how they can forgive. It all started from their own home, by our Turkish Cypriot neighbours, our friends. It is also sad that for such a long time none of them had the courage to come forward to help find the location of the mass grave. The silence over 43 years deepened the wounds of the initial crime. It is not too late to try and make up lost time. Unfortunately, there are many more missing Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Only co-operation and individual initiatives can help bring them back to their loved ones, Greek Cypriots or Turkish Cypriots. We have all, in our own way missed you so much and for so long we have been living with the glimmer of hope that one day we will meet again. In reality you were never away and certainly you will never be away from now on. Rest in peace. We will always love you and will never forget you.

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE:** The next meeting of the Committee of Ministers, which is responsible for the Supervision of the execution of the European Court of Human Rights judgments, will be on 6 June this year. The Cyprus v. Turkey ECHR case on our Missing Persons will be again on their agenda. During their previous meeting, when this issue was debated, the Ministers decided that... *due to the passage of time, to underline the urgency for the Turkish authorities to advance their proactive approach to providing the Committee on Missing Persons in Cyprus (CMP) with all necessary assistance to continue to achieve tangible results as quickly as possible, and in this respect called upon the Turkish authorities to give unhindered access to all possible military zones located in the northern part of Cyprus and by providing the CMP, without a formal request, with any information from the relevant archives, including military archives, in their possession on burial sites, and any other places where remains might be found...* We will wait for Turkey's report to the Ministers before we submit the ORMC(UK) response.

**CMP:** Researchers from the CMP (Committee of Missing Persons) from Cyprus are in London since the 12<sup>th</sup> March looking at British Government, Cyprus archives in the hope of finding some information about of our missing. We wish them all the best.

**DONATIONS:** Mr Y.Kashimeri £50, Mrs G. Antoniou £50, Mrs E. Gavriel £20, Mrs K. Pafitis £10. MANY THANKS INDEED.