



Newsletter

SPRING 2022



Phil's Mutterings Well a year has passed since I

was elected Association Chairman at last year's AGM and in this edition of the Tree you will find a synopsis of this year's AGM, which to those that attended it I say a big thank you for giving up your time to attend our associations most important day in the year. Those of you who know me, will know that on the subject of the ATA I can talk the hind legs off a donkey and often do, especially at committee meetings. But I will admit that delivering my first speech as chairman gave me the collicle wobbles. Fingers crossed next year it won't be so bad. Over this last year our association has grown in numerous ways most notably in the vast number of new members we have, so this coming year presents myself and every committee member with a challenge – how to accommodate the wishes of these new members whilst ensuring those of our long-standing members are not forgotten. I and every committee member is looking forward to undertaking this challenge which we hope can be achieved.

The friendly listening association with a heart, supporting good causes in Northern Cyprus for the benefit of everyone is the tag that has this last year been seen on

every page of our website and on our literature, to me this sums up what the association is all about and I hope it is for you too! However, the association can only support local good causes if you the association members let us as a committee know what you would like us to support. Please give us some ideas!

Our association's committee has changed over this last year and now has a more diverse make up of members on it, all of whom will over the course of this coming year will be striving to provide association members with everything they would like from an association as proud and respected as ours.

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Visit our website for up to date information on the Associations



and also remember to



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QUIZ PAGE 5

Sadly, we watch the battle to defend Odessa where some of went to the opera or ballet in the stunning Opera House which today is surrounded by sandbags. We hope our brilliant guide and the people who looked after us are safe. Looking internally to the future of the ATA, the changes in the last year have been amazing – new members, new forms of communication and a higher profile than is recent years. Many have contributed to this but we must acknowledge that Philip has led this change and thank him and all the other members of the committee for their work. Change can be hard but organisations have to evolve or die stagnant. So I look forward to future tours, trips out, social events and pray for a safe and peaceful world.

I am writing this as the weather is at last sunny and I have started thinking about packing for the first ATA tour in over two years. We are so lucky to have people like Gülder amongst us. Over 15 years she has organised entertained and educated dozens of ATA members and their friends. We have visited so many places which are not assessable to us now.

joycekibris@aol.com

Joyce

RECYCLING SCHEME

The association is pleased to announce two new bottle top collection box locations for its blue plastic bottle top recycling scheme that turns plastic bottle tops into useful items for those in need, such as wheelchairs for the Orthopaedic Disabled Association in Lefkoşa.

In recent days both the ARUCAD University in Girne and the Olive Press Bowls Club in Lapta have agreed to donate their own blue plastic bottle tops to the ATA recycling scheme, and also to have an ATA collection boxes located on their premises in order to encourage others to donate bottle tops as well.



Vacide Goren, General Secretary, of the ARUCAD University commented that the University was pleased to be able to encourage its students to participate in such a worthwhile scheme whilst at the same time teaching them to understand the benefits that such a scheme has on our environment!



Whist, Martin & Ann Appleton of the Olive Press Bowls Club, were equally enthusiastic saying “we see supporting the ATA in this scheme is beneficial for everyone concerned in this wonderful scheme especially those who will receive wheelchairs via the scheme”.

For more information about the Recycling Scheme visit the Recycling Page of our website: - www.angloturkishassociation.com

Bottle top collection box locations are **Creditwest** bank branches in Girne, Alsancak, and Çatalköy, plus **Eziç** Premier in Girne, **Gloria Jean's** in Alsancak, **Olive Press Bowls Club** in Lapta and at the **ARUCAD** University in Girne.

MEMBERSHIP FEE 2022

PLEASE NOTE: the membership fee for 2022 is 65TL and payment is now OVERDUE!



Don't Leave it to others to arrange a Social Gathering for our members. Offer to help arrange one at your favourite restaurant – **it's easier than you think!**

For more information; email:

events.ata.trnc@gmail.com or come along to a Member's Clinic and ask 'How do I do it'.

Phil's Mutterings continued

Continued from page 1

Having new committee members does though mean that we have lost others from the committee, and with this in mind I would like to thank both Nicky Montgomery and Caroline Houghton for all the long hours of hard work they have put in year after year after year. What both of you have done for the association since you came on the committee all those years ago in the respective roles of Treasurer and Secretary has been nothing short of brilliant, you have both helped me in my role as vice-chairman and then again guided me during this last year as chairman. Association members won't realise what an undertaking the two important roles you occupied are both on your time and health, but I do and believe me, if it wasn't for both of you two I wouldn't be today's association chairman. Please look after yourselves, be good, enjoy life again to the fullest and most important of all – remember that you are an ATA member who other members hope to see at our association activities for a long time to come. Hugs and kisses to you both!



The following companies have recently joined our Discount Provider scheme or renewed their membership of it; more information can be found on the Discount page of our website



FREE ONE MONTHS (4 x 1 hour weekly lessons) individual, couples or small group

BEGINNERS LEARN TO SPEAK TURKISH LESSONS (not available for existing students) **Contact: Meral: 0542 883 1826**

For more information visit the Discount Page of website www.angloturkishassociation.com



ONE MONTH FREE BOWLING

including as much help as you need to get playing

Tel: 0533 880 1196 - olivepressinfo@yahoo.com



Valid for all A.T.A. members & children (excludes current Olive Press members)

DISCOUNTS!



imitation is the sincerest form of flattery - Oscar Wilde

HAVE YOU looked at the Discount Page on our website lately – nothing there that interests you! Then email our Vice Chairman **Hatice Kerimgil** with suggestions of the type of business that you would like a discount at or suggest a local TRNC business that you would like to be given a discount at. We need your feedback to try and help provide you with what you want! Hatice's email address is: -

vchair.ata.trnc@gmail.com



Visit the 2021 Events & Social Gatherings pages of our website for information on the activities the association undertook during October, November & December

and as seen in both **CyprusToday** & **CyprusScene.com**



January 18th – Despite the cold, rain and windy weather members and their guests visited the Taskent Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre to see first-hand the excellent work the centre does and was full of praise for the way its dedicated staff gave them an inspirational few hours. From monkeys to goats, tortoises to birds of prey, snakes to emu's, iguana and even a talking parrot, the centre is home to a vast array of animals. Following a lengthy tour of its facilities and an enjoyable meal in its restaurant, Debbie Bird of the ATA presented a sizable donation to Sedar Tuksal of Taskent Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre to assist them with their good work.

January 28th – organised by ATA member Joyce Oxley, members and guests were treated to true Turkish Cypriot hospitality at the Pine Bay Club Hotel, renowned for its breakfast's, a never-ending supply of wonderful dishes, after the sixth or was it seventh perhaps tenth dish almost everyone was ready to throw the towel in, but, after a second wind and even more dishes ATA members showed what they are made of by devouring a further array of delicacies, enjoying every one of them.



February 16th - Alsancak solicitor Ayten Birkaya, gave members and guests a very informative talk on the prickly subject of Wills & Probate at a packed Blue Song Restaurant, Lapta. Debbie Bird of the ATA said; the comments from those on the day were that the talk had been so informative and useful for them, and, that Ayten had impressed everyone by presenting a talk in a professional but friendly manner rather than lecturing everyone. Something which resulted in the talk over-running, and so we must thank Ayten for her time and willingness to answer question upon question from those attending the talk. After the talk, everyone enjoyed a wonderful three course meal with the conversation around the dining tables being about what they had learnt from Ayten and what they must now do!

February 28th – Members and guests enjoyed the delights of a Caribbean meal at a packed Coconut Bar & Bistro in Bahçeli, and if that wasn't enough the sun shone and for a few hours everyone imagined they were in the Caribbean! Organised by ATA member Sandra Whyte and restaurant owners Barbara and Octave Meulenaere, those attending were soon commentating on how differently special and exciting ordinary ingredients had been turned into a rich tapestry of visual colour and tasty delights.



March 16th – Members and guests were enthralled as they enjoyed a walk along the 'Green Line' in Lefkosa as tour guide Gültür Kuran led them on a wonderful voyage of discovery members and guests were spellbindingly transferred back in time to the 1950', 60's 70's before being transported back to the 2020's as she told from personal experience story after story about life in Lefkosa during these times, whilst also inter mingling her stories with informative information about the various fascinating places visited along the walk, the Lapidary Museum, Eaved House, Bandabuliya, Büyük Han, Lokmacı Gate and Yiğitler Bastion to name but a few places.

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March 28th – Organised by ATA members Ann & Steve Lee, members and guests enjoyed the delights of a lunch at the Tervetuloa Restaurant in Alsancak, which specialises in local Turkish Cypriot cuisine. Starting with a great selection of mezes and ending with a complimentary brandy everyone present was left amazed at the great value for money the meal was – perhaps this was why 50 places for lunch sold out within days.



1. What does Bahar mean?
2. Where is the Mosque depicted on the one lira coin?
3. Name the Ukrainian city with an opera house visited by the ATA.
4. Name the new book by Turkish author Elif Shafak set in Cyprus and London.
5. What is the name of the bitter orange used by the British here to make Marmalade?
6. What is the most common bird of prey in Cyprus?
7. What is the traditional open market day in Famagusta?
8. Which of the following does NOT control one of the four de facto regions of Cyprus?
 - A) United Kingdom
 - B) Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus
 - C) Greece
 - D) United Nations
9. Name the large gulls found on the small islands off the tip of the Karpaz?
10. What was the name of the last Queen of Cyprus?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 12

COMMENTS about the *Winter 2022* edition of the *Tree Newsletter*



'I'm now looking at the website more often, especially the discount page, thanks'

'Couldn't be at Christmas Lunch so it was nice to be able to have ago at the Festive Quiz'

'An interesting way to inform us newbies about the ATA, Keep it up'

'A really informative read – well done!'

Public opinion is a compound of folly, weakness, prejudice, wrong feeling, right feeling, obstinacy, and newspaper paragraphs. – Robert Peel

I do not take a single newspaper, nor read one a month, and I feel myself infinitely the happier for it. – Thomas Jefferson

GUESS the Celebrity Competition

Sponsored by
creditwest
Creditwest Bank Kibris



January winner

**Christine
Zaliwski**

receiving her
prize from our
association
chairman

Every post to our associations Facebook Group & Facebook Page about a member clinic contains a photograph of a famous celebrity. **Enter in the post's comments your guess as to who the celebrity is** (before a post containing their name is published) to be in with the chance of winning a fabulous prize donated by **Creditwest** bank. There are both monthly and year end prizes to be won if you can guess correctly. More information can be found on the Members Clinic page of our website.



February winner

Jules Hall

receiving her prize
from our association
chairman



March winner

Jules Hall

receiving her prize from our
association chairman

Due to there being a number of people tied for first place in each of the three months, a draw was held at our Social Gathering meals of all those who were tied for that particular month, with the monthly winner picked at random by a member attending the meal and the winner announced in front of everyone.

If you are not a member of our Facebook Group or Liked our Facebook Page why not do so now and be in with a chance of winning a fabulous prize.



WEBSITE

When was the last time you took a good look at our informative website?

www.angloturkishassociation.com

If you have IT skills in particular with Wordpress AND are willing and prepared to help the association adapt and evolve its website, please contact our association chairman by email; chair.ata.trnc@gmail.com YOUR HELP and assistance could be valuable in helping the association continue to grow. You do not have to be permanently resident in Northern Cyprus to give your help, as IT is a global thing.

GOOD CAUSES

The committee seeks your advice as to which TRNC Local Good Causes you would like the association to support in 2022. This is not person or animal related charities but actual good causes for the benefit of local residents and children of the TRNC, some of the previous good causes we have helped can be viewed on the Charity Projects Page of our website;

www.angloturkishassociation.com

Please email your suggestions to our Treasurer **Tim Morgan**. Tim's email address is: treasurer.ata.trnc@gmail.com

The 34th AGM of the association took place on Saturday 12th March at ARUCAD University and was well attended by its members. After an opening address by the association's Chairman and Erbil Arkin the Honorary President of the association, a Davan was formed and the meeting proceeded at a leisurely pace without any contentious agreements to the agenda. The main item on the agenda being the election of the committee for 2022 closely followed by election of the audit and disciplinary committees, reports from the Chairman and Treasurer were well received and are: -



"Well, let's get started now we've got a quorum."

A copy of the full CHAIRMANS AGM report

can be viewed on the events page of our association's website.

A synopsis of it reads: -

The Association's profile has dramatically increased over this last year through constant newspaper and radio coverage.

The Association's activities, be it Events or Social Gatherings have been so popular that they are selling out within days of being publicised.

The Association's Recycling Scheme has grown out of all recollection.

The Association's website and social media sites have attracted more visitors to them month on month.

The Association's member clinics have increased from one a month to 8 a month with

2 more due to start in the near future.

The Association's Guess the Celebrity competition, is a talking point for members and the public alike.

The Association's Discount Provider Scheme has been revamped. With the scheme encompassing an ever-increasing number of companies across an ever-growing diversity of company types. From Doctors to Yapi Markets, Restaurants to Banks, Hotels to Estate Agents, Insurance Companies to Builders, Vets to Solicitors and not forgetting Turkish Lesson Providers and Sports Venues to name but a few.

The Association's sponsorship agreement with Creditwest Bank continues to grow and evolve as the relationship blossoms.

The Association has this year pioneered the digital APP Local Pay from Creditwest Bank in order to pay your membership renewals and joining fees (a first for any association/organisation in the TRNC). Because of Local Pay there is no excuse for our swallow members in the UK, America, Australia, Scandinavia, or a multitude of other countries not to pay their membership fees.

The Association has built up its financial reserves in order to help local good causes in the coming years, rather than have to ask members to put their hands in their pockets to help specific individual good causes, which in 2020 when tried in respect to the Karakum Special Needs Children's School resulted in only seventeen members contributing.

The Association's communications, an all-embracing topic encompassing many different formats (website, social media sites, local press & radio, the Tree Newsletter, display posters, notice boards, word of mouth, etc), but in essence is all about how the association spreads the association's news both to its members and the general public, has been a great success, as has been proved in the raising of the association's public profile. One of the benefits of having good communications is that it is reflected in attracting new members along with an obvious increase in finances.

The Associations activities this last year, despite having to cope with another Covid-19 pandemic effected year have been a success one after the other, selling out activity after activity. The only exception being our Tours programme, which because of international uncertainty regarding Covid-19, couldn't take place. We didn't close down in July and August and refrain from having activities as in previous years, we just simply changed the events from a day time activity to one in the evening, and in doing so attracted different member participants. From those on our Strawberry picking trip when the coach stopped outside of a member (who was on the trip)'s family childhood home to wave and shout hello to the members mother. TO those who went through the Keyhole to tour the hidden surprises of a house in Girne's Turkish quarter, which from the outside appeared a small untoward house like all others in the street, but on the inside opened up into room upon room of historical artefacts many of which were priceless and modern art of every conceivable kind – even a full-size World War one Sopworth



Camel aeroplane in the basement. OR the tear-jerking talk given by Jarra Brown about the repatriation of British Servicemen and women back to the UK following their deaths whilst on active service around the world. AS would be expected a visit to Gülçe's Chocolate Shop in Lefkosa before it opened to the public was heavily oversubscribed, but then again so were all our other events throughout the year. FROM a simple tasting event of Turkish Cheeses and Wines TO a talk on the Lapta Bronze Age cemetery, the association has packed in a busy year including our annual boat trip and fun seasonal

Christmas quiz and festive meal. It is because of the diversity throughout the year that our Events have not only sold out time after time but also achieved such good press coverage. Which in turn raises our associations profile. Our four-week cookery course where those attending learnt and ate traditional Turkish Cypriot Village meals, was so well received, so much so, that members and non-members alike are constantly asking us to do another. Social Gatherings during this last year have exceeded expectations, yes, we have dined at some old favourites such Azra Claire's, Dogus Adres and the Black Olive. But through those members who helped to organise our gatherings in 2021 we have visited new ones such as Driftwood, the Eagles Nest, Shayla and many others. Selling out month after month has become the norm, whilst those who ventured up into the mountains on a balmy summer's evening to our Turkish Cypriot evening (and those who read about it in the local press) will never forget the belly dancing!



Throughout my report you can see that there is a repeating trend, that is of the associations profile being raised. But this has only come about because this last year all the cogs in the machine that is our association have worked together thereby enabling the ATA to grow on all fronts. Something which each and every one of us all should be proud of.



Not everything though is a bed of roses. As an association we don't ask attendees of our events or social gatherings to pay up front, but we do expect them to pay. We have constantly been getting people book to attend an event or social gathering only to cancel or not turn up. Our events and social gatherings are constantly sold out, by not turning up deprives someone who would have turned up the opportunity to enjoy an ATA activity. Not to mention the cost incurred to the association by establishments who want to be paid for providing the service we as an association have asked them for. Be it a coach company, restaurant, tour guide or events venue they all want paying for what they are contracted for.

We have had members booking others in for an activity, only to find on the day that someone else has also booked that person in to

attend. Unless these habits change the association will have to go down the route of asking everyone to pay in advance.

On another point. I, and, I am sure all those who have contributed to the associations growth this last year are disappointed at the apathy which exists amongst some members. The let someone else do it attitude is certainly alive in some people.

I have already said that in 2020 only 17 members contributed to the associations appeal to help the children at the Karakum Special Needs Children's School. After last year's AGM a questionnaire was

sent to every member asking for their thoughts, ideas and suggestions, a simply tick box questionnaire which could be completed in two minutes, a questionnaire aimed at finding out what members wanted from their association – only 47 members replied.

When for various reasons the committee needed new members to join it – only 3 members volunteered.

When we have repeatedly asked members what good causes, they would like us to support – only 2 members have ever responded.



Our committee comprises of 8 individuals who freely give up their time for the benefit of all members and the association as a whole, some help,

assistance, suggestions and ideas from others no matter how small, is always welcome! The more help, assistance, suggestions and ideas the committee gets the more our association will continue to grow.



During this coming year our committee will be looking to make changes to our constitution in order that will enable our association to thrive for many years to come. Our weekly membership clinics will continue to increase in number across Northern Cyprus and also include some at venues and in some instances at times where they can be held to allow for a more social orientated clinic. Going back to basics, our association will be introducing not only another cookery course this year but also a Turkish Lesson course as well. It is envisaged that our website will be modified and updated in its appearance. As I said at the beginning of my report, over this last year the profile of our association has dramatically increased and through the few changes that hopefully that will take place this coming year, and by ensuring that everyone pulls in the same direction at the same time, our associations profile will continue to grow, which in the long term will benefit all members.

Finally, as our membership continues to grow across all its spectrums, the result will be in a continued evolution of our association into something which each and every one of us will be proud to belong to!

AGM TREASURERS REPORT

After thanking his predecessor Nicki Montgomery for the help and assistance she has given him since his taking over the position of treasurer from her last summer, and also the Association's auditor – Ayçu Güven. The treasure stated that the association's finances after a year of consolidation were in a healthy position, hence for the foreseeable future the annual membership fee will remain unchanged at 65TL per year, and suggestions as to what good causes the association could support in the coming year or years were being solicited.



It was highlighted that committee members undertake their respective roles without seeking any financial rewards, with the consequence that outgoing expenses for the association were able to be kept to the barest necessary.

Year-end closing balances were; Deposit Account (TL) 35,105 Deposit Account (£) 2,031 Current Account (TL) 31,289

Ayça Guven was thanked for once again being the Associations Auditor and re-elected to the position.

AGM MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Association membership continues to grow with 120 new members in 2021, which considering the effect Covid-19 had on association activities during the year was a great achievement. By increasing the number of Members Clinics from one a month to six weekly clinics at various Creditwest Bank branches, where informative association posters are also on permanent display is certainly paying dividends. With a year-end total of 389 members, overall association membership is up in excess 30% on the previous year. This is made up of 228 Existing Members, 120 New Members, 29 Life Members and 12 Honorary Members.



Total Membership in 2020 was 281 members, 2019 it was 256 members, in 2018 it was 272 members, 2017 it was 267 members and in 2016 – 277 members.

AGM SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michael Gabb, Heather Martin, Ann Moyan and Haluk Djemal were elected on to the association's Disciplinary Committee.



Sally Gabb, Jules Hall, Ken Proadlove and Morton Coles were elected on to the association's Audit Committee.

some lead others follow – Sigmund Freud

A newspaper is a circulating library with high blood pressure. – Arthur Baer

MEMBERSHIP

A new member clinic has been opened at the Olive Press Bowls Club in Lapta on the 1st and 3rd Saturday's of the month, between 11am until 1pm.

In addition to renewing your membership, finding more out about the association or discussing ATA matters. You can also enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or even a lunchtime pint! Not forgetting watch others as they play or try and play bowls.

EVENTS & SOCIAL GATHERINGS

If you are a swallow member living in the UK, would you be interested in attending an association social gathering in the UK during the summer of 2022. If you would, email your name, telephone number and city where you live to: - events.ata.trnc@gmail.com if there is sufficient interest, the possibility of organising one will be explored (possibly on the same date as one being held in the TRNC).

APPRECIATION AWARD

If you know of a person or company that you think is deserving of an Appreciation Award from our association because of the outstanding support they have given to our association, please email your name, contact telephone number, together with the name of the person / company you consider worthy of such an appreciation certificate along with an explanation as to why you consider them to be suitable for a certificate, to: -



angloturkishassociation@gmail.com

All suggestions for such an award will be discussed by the associations committee and if deemed acceptable a certificate of association appreciation will be awarded.

Receiver of the associations first Appreciation Award is Ayça Havva Güven of Mete Güven Co Koll.Şti and is seen being presented with her award by our association chairman.

Ayça has helped the associations Treasurer's for a number of years maintain that the accounts of the association are fully

legal and compliant with all TRNC Government requirements without ever seeking payment or reward for her services. The ATA is greatly appreciated of this and cannot thank Ayça enough for her help.



COMMITTEE

The associations committee for 2022 is: -

Chairman: Philip Lloyd *Vice Chairman:* Hatice Kerimgil *Secretary:* Ayten Birkaya *Treasurer:* Tim Morgan
Other Committee Members: Debbie Bird, Paul Moody, Meral Yilmaz, Gözde Bilir

On island activities (Events & Social Gatherings) are organised by Debbie Bird
Off island activities (Tours) are organised by Gültür Kuran

If you are able to offer any assistance to the 2022 committee, there are a number of opportunities available if you are interested, including; website administrator, facebook moderator, admin, committee assistants, member clinic helpers, plus others; training will be given for all these roles if required. Apart from common sense, there are no formal qualification requirements, just a desire and willingness to be involved. Likewise, the ability to speak Turkish (even a small amount) whilst not necessary would be useful. If you are interested in finding out more about how you can help the association, please email our chairman at chair.ata.trnc@gmail.com



Q1/. Spring Q2/. Taksim Square, Istanbul Q3/. Odessa
 Q4/. 'The Island of Missing Trees' Q5/. Turunç Q6/. Kestrel
 Q7/. Thursday Q8/. C - Greece (The UK controls the
 sovereign bases which are UK territory, UN controls the buffer
 zone) Q9/. Audouin's Gulls Q10/. Catherine Cornaro (A
 Venetian she was regent from 1473 -1474, then Queen in her
 own right from 1474 - 1483 when she was forced to abdicate)

BACK TO THE PAST

FROM THE PAST

BACK TO THE PAST



www.angloturkishassociation.com

The entire contents of this Newsletter have been done so using journalistic licence by its Editor & Association Webmaster in an attempt to provide an informative, fun and enjoyable to read Newsletter, comments irrespective of who they appear to come from, any reference or comment from named individuals are included in this. Please address any comments in respect to this to the Newsletter Editor and not to any named individual!

angloturkishassociation@gmail.com