

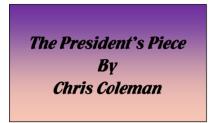
KAMARES VILLAGE HOUSEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Paphos, Cyprus

# KAMARES VILLAGE MATTERS

Kamares Village Houseowners' Association Newsletter

Issue 88, July 2023



I don't have it in me to be light hearted this month. Rod Morement joined the KVHA board at the same time as I did. He was quick to take on tasks, efficient in carrying them out, and slow to take credit. This year he volunteered to be our acting Membership Secretary, until prevented by what we all thought would be a temporary bout of ill-health. When he went for his operation, he expected to need six weeks' recovery.

It was a shock to all of us when we heard that the recovery never happened. All our thoughts are with his family.

No-one reading the Security in Kamares WhatsApp group or any of several Facebook pages can be in doubt about increased concern over burglaries and even the possibility of violence. We needed to know the true position and especially how to make our homes and persons safer. So I am grateful to the Paphos police for giving a crime-prevention presentation at the Kamares Club last Thursday, July 13th. If you were not able to attend, or need a reminder about anything, please see the report below.

I was shocked (as much as anything by my own ignorance) to learn that most of Cyprus's domestic water supply comes from five desalination plants, at huge cost. There is all sorts of advice available on how to conserve water, but I thought readers might be interested in how the average family household uses it.

# Toilet 28%, bath 21%, garden irrigation 14%, kitchen 13%, car washing and outdoor cleaning 9%, washbasins 8%, washing machines 7%

Now, my usage is nothing like this, which still got me thinking about how I differed and where I could sensibly make savings.

Still on the subject of water - sort of: there has been some discussion about what to do if your absent neighbour's swimming pool becomes a stagnant breeding place for mosquitoes. The temptation may be high, but you are not allowed go and drain it. The council has a bit more power, and might do something like adding chlorine, but it is very unlikely to do any more, for fear of being sued. If the problem is allowed Public to persist, YOU could contact the Health Service, email pafphs@mphs.moh.gov.cy or telephone 26804445/6/7. I haven't had occasion to try, but I'd be interested to hear from anyone who has.

Most people will have heard that local government is being reorganized throughout the country, but we had very little idea which villages' administrations would be combined. Now we know that our local group will consist of Tala, Mesa Chorio, Tremithousa, Mesogi, Armou, Marathounta and Koili, but we have no idea what will be centralized or how the system will operate. Apparently there will still be elected Council members and Mukhtars. It sounds pretty similar to what we have now, but I'm sure it won't be.

And by the way, you've got until 2nd October to submit your income-tax return and pay your taxes. Chris Coleman

### POLICE PRESENTATION AT THE KAMARES CLUB, 13th JULY 2023 at 4:30p.m.

Approximately 50 people attended the presentation by police officers Andreas Stylianou and Nicoletta Iakovou.

### Neighbourhood Watch

This is going to be expanded everywhere, and everyone is urged to join the scheme and you can then pick up a sticker from Tala Council.

For Tala, please contact the local representative, Cathi Delaney, by email to <u>toffee@cytanet.com.cy</u>

In response to Cathi's question, in absentia, as to why she was not getting as much crime information from the police as she used to, the reason given was that the Community Police Department had just restarted a few months ago, after closure for three years because of Coronavirus. Update on this situation is still awaited.

### CCTV

Cameras can be installed only on one's own property. However, a community has the right to apply to the Commissioner of Personal Data giving reasons for placing surveillance cameras on public roads. Paphos Municipality has applied and so far been unsuccessful [so good luck there]. Such a system would have to be installed by a professional security company with the right licence.

### Home and Personal Security

The days have gone when one can be lax about security, and throughout the meeting both officers emphasised the need for homes to have effective and reliable security, i.e. an alarm with a monitoring service, CCTV capable of producing clear images, movement-sensitive lighting outside, lighting with timers for inside, robust locks on windows and doors, fencing. Also to deal only with those security companies that are licensed. It is a false economy to go for cheaper systems and not to have monitoring. Alarms and cameras also help the police to gather more information, such as time of the burglary.

Police records show that many break-ins are through unlocked doors and even small open bathroom windows. Always check that doors and windows are locked when going out, and to upper floors etc when not in use, even when on the premises. There are special locks for windows and sliding doors. Consider fitting a chain to the front door, and always exercise caution before opening it.

It is recommended to keep cash, jewellery and other valuables in a large, heavy, fitted safe. Small safes are too easily removed.

The police find that older people in particular tend to keep too much cash at home, and are also inclined to give away too much information. But everyone should exercise caution about disclosing personal information, for example possessions/valuables, absences etc., on sites such as Facebook (including not posting photos if away), or discussing in public places where conversations may too easily be overheard. Usually, break-ins are at properties where it is known the occupiers are absent.

Cooperate with neighbours, by checking on each other's homes during absences, removing leaflets, mail etc., and generally keeping an eye open. Make a note of anyone or anything suspicious (eg a vehicle registration number, colour, make and model), which helps the police.

It is a sensible precaution also to have a neighbour to call on in case of injury or other emergency.

### Dealing with an Intruder

Members of the public should never expose themselves to danger. And must never take the law into their own hands. If being threatened or attacked, then appropriate but not excessive force is allowed in order to defend oneself. If excessive force is established, the occupier could face criminal charges. Likewise, security-company personnel and also the police.

### Profile of Typical Burglar

There is no specific pattern as to culture, ethnicity, age, or gender. Also, because of the economic situation, anyone could be a burglar.

### Statistics of Violent and Non-Violent Crime

Local police cannot provide this information: it is maintained by headquarters. But criminality, not only burglaries, is growing and much is drug related.

### Sentencing

A burglar for example can be caught many times and, despite evidence from witnesses, DNA and finger prints, be given a lenient sentence. Courts take into account excuses such as personal/family problems. There is also a pattern of those with a history of crime who might get two years in prison, repeating the offences on release. It is necessary to put pressure on the government to change the law.

### **Deporting of Foreign Criminals**

This is the decision of the Ministry of Interior. However, such criminals can be deported only to return through the buffer zone.

### **Recruitment of More Police**

There has been more hiring of recruits, but they have to undergo three years' training at the Police Academy. Therefore, it is a slow process.

### **Private Security Firms**

These must be properly licensed. The following website shows the latest approved companies:

https://www.police.gov.cy/police/police.nsf/0/7e39ea829e48410bc225852200604063/\$FILE/i diotikagrafia%207-7-2023.pdf

The property owner or tenant must do due diligence to ensure that (a) the security company has the right licence and (b) has the licensed personnel to perform their duties. The only weapon a security officer is allowed is a baton, which may only be used for defence.

### Kamares

This area is known to have many unoccupied properties and to have a labyrinth of streets. We can make it less of a target by making our homes as secure as possible - and by being alert to anything suspicious.

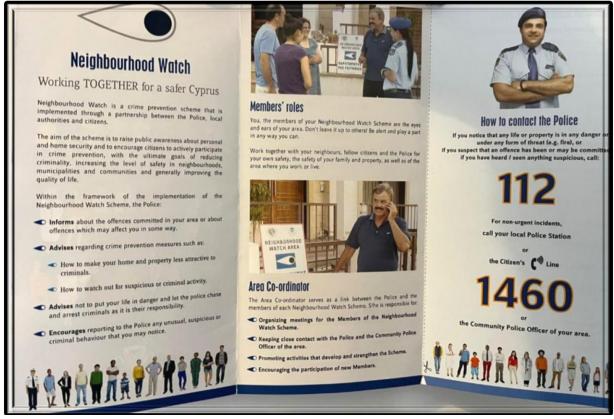
### In Conclusion

Thanks were extended to Andreas and Nicoletta. It is good to know that the police are "with us" and available for any situation. And although much of the advice, especially about home security, is already known, it was useful to have this re-emphasised. The meeting also served to reinforce relations with the police, and to demonstrate to them the concern of residents.

Thanks also to the Kamares Club for facilitating the use of the premises for the presentation.

Contacts for the Police are: 112 for Emergency and 26 806060 for Paphos Police Call Centre. Leaflets are available at Kamares Club Reception.





### KVHA MEMBERSHIP For Residents and Associate members

KVHA membership forms and envelopes are next to Reception; please complete and put in Box 19. €5 per household. Please note only hard copies accepted.

NO CHEQUES - CASH ONLY PLEASE, AS IT COSTS €5 TO DEPOSIT THE CHEQUE !!

Your card(s) will be placed in your mailbox or if you do not have a mailbox, will be available at Reception.

\*\*\*\*\*Each member of the household needs to fill in a form please\*\*\*\*\*

# Please note that non-Kamares residents can become Associate Members, but cannot vote at meetings. Ask your neighbours and friends whether they would like to join.

If you are out of Cyprus, please contact the Membership Secretary on membership@kvha.cy and pay your €5 on return.

### KVHA website – kvha.cy

### \*\*\*\*\*ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING\*\*\*\*\* Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00p.m. \*\*\*\*\***O**\*\*\*\*

### **RECYCLING BINS**







Sadly, more rubbish was dumped either side of the bins but has now been removed
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# ENTRANCE TO KAMARES





Ovalabout update, not much activity apart from concrete and pipes being laid.

# \*\*\*0\*\*\*

# LIBRARY



Opening hours for the Library every Wednesday from 2:00-4:30p.m. The Library is under the pool, opposite the Medical Centre. Come along and pick up/exchange books. Many popular authors – all alphabetical order, therefore easy to find your favourites.

### \*\*\*\*

### **ASIAN NIGHT UNDER THE STARS**

86 residents and friends attended a very successful Asian Night with Alexandros entertaining on saxophone and violin. Chinese lanterns adorned the trees and a tasty Asian buffet was enjoyed.









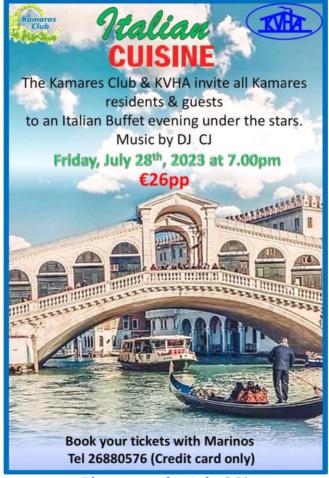




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# NEXT EVENT

# Italian night on the patio – Italian music during the buffet with dancing later



Please pay by July 26<sup>th</sup>

\*\*\*\*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 22<sup>ND</sup> - BBQ ON THE PATIO with ANDROS, Guitarist/Singer SEPTEMBER - TBA TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup> - HALLOWEEN END OF NOVEMBER/DECEMBER - RESIDENTS' NIGHT - CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> - CHRISTMAS BALL with WHITEMOUSE DUO

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### JOINTLY ORGANIZED BY KVHA AND KAMARES CLUB

Quiz nights on Wednesdays starts at 7.30p.m. Food can be pre-ordered. Quiz is €2.50pp and run by Andy. Happy Hour and food are not requirements to attend the quiz, but why not make an evening of it? Support your club!

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### **PORCELAIN LESSONS**

*Tuesday mornings in the Palm Room from 10.00a.m.-1.00p.m. Please call Ruth Neidhart on 99620992 for more details.* 

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### **KAMARES CLUB RECEPTION**

# The Reception is open from 8:00a.m. until 5:00p.m. Monday-Friday Saturday from 8:00a.m. until noon; Sunday closed

### **KAMARES CLUB BAR & RESTAURANT**

\*\*\*\*Open to all, not just for residents\*\*\*\*

The restaurant and bar are open for breakfast and lunch from 8:30a.m. with last orders for the kitchen at 3:00p.m. and bar 3:30p.m. every day. Open to everyone, dining in the restaurant or on the terrace.

### **SUNDAY LUNCHES**

€19pp with a 10% discount for Residents Carvery and buffet will be from 1:00-3:00p.m.

*Booking is a requirement* at Kamares Reception or by telephone 26880576 at least two days prior.

Please note when an event is taking place, the bar and restaurant will be closed

\*\*\*\*\*Please note, when there is a Public Holiday the Club will be closed\*\*\*\*\*

FRIDAY SOUVLA LUNCH Noon-2:00p.m. – please check and book prior to the day on 26880576

\*\*\*\*\*\*

I miss Cyprus so much that sometimes I pre heat the oven for 20 mins, open it and just stand there so it feels like I've just landed.

Stay cool, drink plenty of water

\*\*\*\*\*



# **Emergency Medical Centre**

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Fotis Vasiliou, a Specialist Physician registered with GESY.

He will see patients from 2.30pm to 5.30pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

He will be available on Tuesday, July 18th.

He will be away from July 20th to July 30<sup>th</sup>; from August onwards he will be available every week.

If you would like to keep a check on your blood sugar levels the medical centre can monitor this for you. Each Saturday morning Nellie one of our nurses will be holding a clinic to monitor this for you. If you wish to partake of this service, please call the medical centre to arrange a time. The medical Centre closes at 1:00p.m. on Saturdays.

A doctor will be in attendance on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays 9:00am-noon. Dr. Pradeep is available Tuesdays and Thursdays. Appointments should be made except for emergencies.

As you know Dr. Pradeep is a GESY registered doctor. If you wish to register with him, or need a medical consultation, you must make an appointment with the reception on 26653328.

The following information remains current:

The Medical Centre is open from 7:00a.m.-7:00p.m. Monday - Friday.

Closed Saturday afternoon from 1:00p.m. and all day Sunday.

When visiting the Medical Centre it is mandatory to wear face masks and only **one** person is allowed into the reception at any one time to avoid infection.

Appointments should be made for a consultation with the Doctor with exemptions for emergencies.

# FURTHER SERVICES

EMERGENCY NUMBER 99329434

Home visits by a nurse for injections, change of dressings etc will be introduced if there is a demand for this service.

Mobility aids are available for a small fee ie crutches, toilet seat etc. You will be informed of any updates on the above.

Maureen Pollard, a trustee of the Emergency Medical Centre, has requested that if any members of the Medical Centre have changed their email addresses to please inform the Medical Centre or Maureen so that the database can be updated. A number of emails are being returned and this is thought to be because the email address is no longer valid.



## **USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency Number for Ambulance, Fire or Police	112 or 199
Police and Fire Services - Duty Officer	1499
Police – burglary, attempted burglary, suspicious activity/reporting parking violation	26806060
Medical Assistance - Hospital Information GESY	1400 17000
Paphos Citizens Advice	26822400
Kamares Club Reception Kamares Medical Emergency	26880576 99329434
Larnaca and Paphos International Airports – flight info	77778833
<b>Electricity – Tree pruning ie tree touching wires</b>	1800 – press 3 then 5 for Paphos – give your Account Number
Street Lights – To Report a Fault (EAC)	1800 –press 3 then 5 for Paphos - give pole number and street name required
Water problems Office hours Out of hours Daniel Nikiforos	26652412 <u>kstala@cytanet.com.cy</u> 99327262 99630613
Whatsapp Security group (Anna)	97846439

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The KVHA does not necessarily endorse the views expressed in this publication.