

Alkionides 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner
13th May 2023



Welcome

The Alkionides UK Board of Trustees and Committee would like to welcome you to tonight's exciting 25th Anniversary celebrations! We are honoured by the presence of our Patron, H.E. The High Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr Andreas Kakouris and his wife Kareen.

We are grateful to the Greek Orthodox Community of St. Panteleimon Church for hosting many of our events over the years.

Thank you for helping us bring some "Halcyon Days" (Alkionides meres) to Cypriot families in need.

We wish you a very pleasant evening.



Our first post-Covid face-to-face meeting, at the Athanasiou residence
with Consul General Mr T. Gotsis and our beloved Trustee
Mr. Akis Ioannides, 2022



Alkionides UK Committee 2022-2023

President: Marie Parisinou-Nicholsby
Co-President: Tatiana der Avedissian
Secretary: Eugenie Papadopoulos
Treasurers: Leandros Sideris
Angelos Athanasiades
Nicholas Nicolaides
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Members: Galatia Rossides Liliana Malla
Stella Dinienis Helen Vasiliou
Maria Athanasiou Maro Chrysostomou
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Linda Kyriacou David Nicholsby
Rebecca Hatjiosif Monica Kourtoumbelidou

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YOU CAN HELP TOO! CONTACT US:

Telephone: 0791 396 8639 or 07794 329493

email: enquiries@alkionides.org

About the charity
ALKIONIDES UK
Registered Charity No. 1125976
www.alkionides.org

Alkionides Charity was founded in Cyprus in 1998 in order to act quickly to provide help to Cypriot families in need, in cooperation with the Welfare Services.

- ❖ **Alkionides UK** was registered in 2008 with the aim of helping low-income Cypriot patients who come to the UK for essential medical treatment that is not available in Cyprus. In 2014 **Alkionides UK Birmingham & Midlands** was launched in order to support Cypriot patients attending Birmingham hospitals.
- ❖ **Alkionides UK** is a non-profit, charitable organisation made up of dedicated volunteers. Administration and other costs are kept to an absolute minimum so that **you can be assured that your donation reaches those in need.**
- ❖ **Alkionides UK** covers accommodation costs and provides moral support to these families. Some stay for a few weeks or months, while others require longer treatment. Alkionides Birmingham and Midlands organise outings for families with children with special educational needs, funded by the Keith Coombs Trust.
- ❖ **FUTURE PLANS FOR ALKIONIDES UK CHARITABLE COMPANY:** With the help of Chrysanthos Protopapas, the charity has converted to the required status in order to purchase a property to house the patients. Donations from sponsors and events raised close to a million pounds. Additional donations will enable us to buy a bigger house in a better area.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL.



Heritage Walk through Sonning Village with our Patron, H.E. the High Commissioner, Mr Andreas Kakouris, May 2022

Sponsored Walk on Hampstead Heath with our Patron, H.E. the High Commissioner, Mr Andreas Kakouris, April 2023



Athletes for Alkionides UK

Tatiana and Eugenie receiving their well-deserved medals



Aggelina Lakkotrypi, 1st year student at Bath University will climb Mt. Kilimanjaro to raise funds for Alkionides UK



Our triathlete,
David Nicholsby

Alkionides Memories from 25 years

1998	Alkionides charity registered in Cyprus with founding president Marie Parisinou-Nicholsby.
1998	Co-operation with Cyprus Welfare. Larger fund-raising events organised such as Bazaars at the Asty Hotel, sponsored events and Annual dinner dances held at the Laiki Sporting Club and Bank of Cyprus Athletic Centre.
2001	First communication system for motor neuron patient, Miranda. This allowed her to speak to her children. PwC and the Falcon School donated four more of these systems.
2001	First of many annual sponsored events at private schools in Nicosia, including the Junior Grammar School, The Falcon, The Junior School, The English School and others.
2002	Opened the first charity shop offering free clothing, toys and books, to low-income families.
2002	Helped three underprivileged families acquire their own homes by covering the deposit, through a government housing scheme.
2003	Established a six-week summer programme for twenty children with special needs, which continued for 7 years.
2004	Alkionides Limassol start organising successful Christmas Bazaars and Ladies Nights at the Nicolaides residence.
2005	Founding President, Marie Nicholsby moves to the UK. The late Georgia Polyviou takes over as President of Alkionides Cyprus and embraces the cause. The charity continues to help thousands of families and students.
2007	Alkionides UK garden party
2008	Alkionides UK charity registered in the UK. Fund-raising events include concerts, BBQ's, Greek Evenings, talks, book presentations and cultural tours.
2009	First of seven Heritage Trips to Cyprus.
2010	The 'Nest' was established in Paddington to provide free accommodation and support to lower income patients and their families from Cyprus.
2011	Assisted Cypriot homeless individuals in crisis in the UK.
2013	Alkionides Cyprus responded to the financial crisis by providing essentials from a warehouse in Dali, generously provided by the Papaleontiou family.

2014	Alkionides Birmingham and Midlands was formed and soon after started helping patients with amyloidosis at Queen Elizabeth hospital. The community provided amazing moral support and donated a special chair for the hospital.
2014	The first of many Blue Bird sessions – musical evenings organised by vice-president Tatiana der Avedissian, Eugenie Papadopoulos and Monica Kourtoumbelidou. Tatiana and Demetris ran the Athens Marathon.
2015	The Nicolaidis family (Nicholas and Paola) complete personal challenges in aid of Alkionides – climbing Mount Cameroon, 3-peaks and Mt Atlas. Eugenie and Stavria ran in Amsterdam and Anna the Bristol Marathon. Triathletes Louise and David.
2017	The ‘Nest’ moves to Kensington.
2018	Joint press conference with Alkionides Cyprus to celebrate 20 th anniversary at RIK ESTIA. Gala dinner in London attended by the First Lady, Mrs Andri Anastasiadou. The work of the charity was featured on the RIK News.
2018	Alkionides Birmingham and Midlands organise annual outings for families with children with special educational needs.
2019	Vasilopita luncheon – the last major event before we were all impacted by the pandemic.
2019	Book launch with Kyriaki Papaleontiou Demetriou
2020	Committee meetings continue via Zoom during the pandemic.
2021	Alkionides UK president visits Minister of Health and President of Parliament in Cyprus highlighting patients ‘challenges’.
2021	Fundraising events also move to Zoom and include musical evenings, cookery demonstrations and Pilates exercises.
2021	Devastating loss of Alkionides Cyprus president Georgia Polyviou.
2022	Tragic loss of community pillar and Alkionides UK Trustee Mr Akis Ioannides.
2022	Alkionides (UK) registered as a company limited by guarantee with the help of the office of the late Xenophon Protopapas.
2023	‘Nest’ house hunting starts in earnest.

Alkionides Birmingham & Midlands

We are grateful to Keith Coombs Trust for sponsoring events for thirteen Cypriot families in Birmingham with children with special educational needs. Liliana Malla, Helen Vasiliou, Doula Koumi and Fotoulla Lytra organised this wonderful party. Sponsors Demetrios Markou and Kyriacos Akathiotis were invited. A big thank to the Estia.

Party at the
Estia in
Birmingham
with “special”
friends,
February 2022



Wonderful comments were received from the families:

‘Thank you so much for today! My kids loved it!’

‘Memories through wonderful times!’

‘Thank you to everyone who made today happen!! God Bless you all!’

‘My boys were truly looking forward to seeing the other children again!’

‘Thanks to God!’

These families had the opportunity to enjoy a summer trip to Warwick Castle as well as an outing to Disney-on-Ice. Alkionides Birmingham & Midlands bought school uniforms for several of the children, which they wore with great pride.



An outing at the safari park, November 2019

Our philanthropists Mr & Mrs Joe Koumi have been opening their home every year in order to raise funds for people experiencing hard times. These became the famous “Bailey’s Nights”. In November 2022, Doulla and her friends focused their determination on raising funds towards the house purchase for the Alkionides ‘nest’ in London



Saint Panteleimon



The Alkionides UK committee is extremely grateful to The Very Rev'd Protopresbyter Father Constantinos Papageorgiou, the St. Panteleimon Church and St Agatha Ladies' Sisterhood committees for their continuous support. We have always been warmly welcomed to host many successful events here that have helped us raise the necessary funds to help our compatriots during their times of greatest need.



**Greek Orthodox Community of
St Pantleimon & St Paraskevi
of Harrow & Districts**



Programme

7:30 p.m. *Cocktail reception*

Musical entertainment by: Nicos Savvides

8:00 p.m. *Welcome address by founding president Marie Parisinou-Nicholsby*

A few words by our Patron, H.E. The High Commissioner, Mr Andreas Kakouris

8.15 p.m. *Buffet Dinner: Home-cooked food prepared with love by our 'master-chef' ladies!*

We are very grateful to Makkas Winery Ltd for donating the wines

10.30 p.m. *Our future goals by co-president Tatiana der Avedissian*

Some heart-warming extracts from the 'Nest' guest book read by Anna-Maria White

11:00 p.m. *Grand Raffle Prize Draw*

We greatly appreciate our generous sponsors



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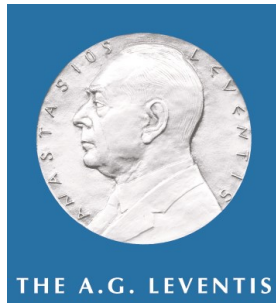
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The Keith Coombs Trust

Changing lives, creating memories...



Christmas carols at the 'Nest', December 2022



Happy girls leaving the
'Nest' after singing
Christmas Carols



Angelos Athanasiades in search of a
property for our 'Nest', April 2023



Free seven night holiday for two



Prize includes:

Designated return flights from London Gatwick or Manchester, 7 nights self catering at the Kalami Bay studios and return shared transfers.

Terms & conditions:

- Valid for travel between 05 June - 02 October 2023 and 03 June - 30 September 2024 - excluding school holidays.
- Subject to availability.
- The prize must be taken as one package and does not include travel between the winner's home and the airport, travel insurance, food and drinks, personal expenditure or incidental costs, other than where mentioned.
- It is the responsibility of the prize winner to ensure that they and their guest have a valid passport and travel insurance and obtain any necessary vaccinations and visas for their trip.
- Once confirmed the booking cannot be amended.
- Contact Rachel Jelley to confirm your prize (rachel.jelley@sunvil.co.uk)

**2019 Luncheon at St Panteleimon and Book Presentation
by Kyriaki Papaleontiou Demetriou**



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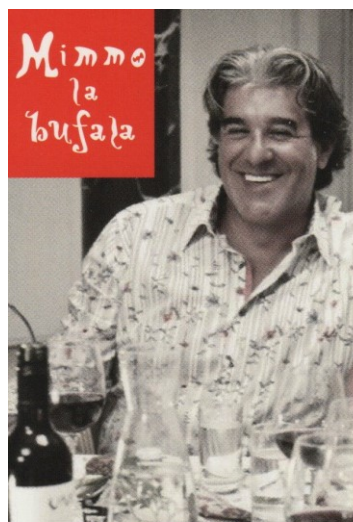
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The store room in Dali during the financial crisis 2013 with the late president Georgia Polyviou, Kyriaki Demetriou and volunteers.



A visit to a very busy ‘Nest’. Friendship and smiles mean a lot.





Marie and Galatia
presenting a
plaque to Mrs
Niki Stakis,
October 2021,
Troodos

Thank you

In 2023, our 25th anniversary year, we aim to buy our own 'Nest' in London. This would not have been possible without the help of major sponsors who believe in us.

- CAPITAL GROUP
- THE A.G. LEVENTIS FOUNDATION
- ALKIONIDES CYPRUS
- THE REO STAKIS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
- ALKIONIDES BIRMINGHAM & MIDLANDS with Mr & Mrs J. KOUMI
- JOMARO
- CHRISTOS LAZARI FOUNDATION
- NATIONAL PHILANTHROPIC TRUST, by recommendation of H.E. Archbishop Nikitas of Thyateira and Great Britain
- and others

Mrs Edme Leventis receiving a
plaque from Marie, May 2022



*With Compliments and Best Wishes
for a Successful and
Enjoyable Evening*



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ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΣ 2022 - ΑΠΡΙΛΙΟΣ 2023

Η ΦΩΛΙΑ.

Η "φωλιά" δεν είναι απλά ένα σπίτι,
ένα δωμάτιο, ένα κρεβάτι. Είναι μια
τεράστια αγκαλιά, ένα καταφύγιο,
ένas χώρος για να τρέξεις όταν
οι μέρες είναι δύσκολες, "βροχέρες" και
"έκληρες". Νύχτες που δεν περνούν,
μέρες που δεν κυλούν... στεναχώριες,
κλάματα, νοσταλγίες αλλά και παυόμενες,
ευλογημένες στιγμές. Όλα αυτά, εδώ, στη
φωλιά. Κάθε δωμάτιο και μια ξεχωριστή
ιστορία. Κάθε ιστορία και μια διαδρομή.
Μια σέχνη που μας έχει διδάξει πολλά.
Και είμαστε ευγνώμονες για κάθε "μάθημα".
γιατί έτσι γίνεται πιο δυνατοί.
"Αναγκασθήκατε" να μεγαλώσετε πιο γρήγορα,
απόστολα, θάνατα. Να εκτιμήσετε τα απλά,
τα μικρά, τα "δεδομένα", τα αήττητα που
τελικά είναι πολύ ευγενικά.
Γιατί τίποτα δεν είναι πιο ευγενικό
από την γη.

Ένα τεράστιο ευχαριστώ σε
Αλκυονίδες που ήταν ευνοεινόμενοι
μας σε όλο αυτό το "ταξίδι".

Είμαστε ευγνώμονες για όλη την
βοήθεια, αγάπη και σειρήνη που
μας προσέφερετε απλόπερα.

A recent comment
from our guest book
at the 'Nest'.

"Not just a house,
but a warm hug and
a shelter with
Alkionides next to
us, a huge thank
you!"

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