



THE HELLENIC CENTRE NEWS

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THE HELLENIC COMMUNITY TRUST

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 1010360

Overview of the Year 2007

Patrons

HE The Archbishop of Thyateira
and Great Britain, Gregorios
HE The Ambassador of Greece
Mr Vasileios Achilleas Pispinis
HE The High Commissioner
for Cyprus
Mr George Iacovou

Hellenic Community Trust Council

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The Hellenic Centre Executive Board

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Stamos J Fafalios
(Chairman, Cultural Committee)
Andreas Christodoulou
Daphne Economides
Sophie Kydonieffs
Irene Monios
Doulla Phyrillas
Constantinos A M Shiatis
George Tsaviriris.

Agatha Kalisperas (**Director**)

Maria Kalli
Evangelia Roussou
Kay Stavrinou
Jane Ronge

The closing months of the year 2007 saw a crescendo of activity and events. These events emphasised more than ever the importance and success of cooperation and collaboration between the governing bodies and the management team of the Centre and its member societies.

On 17 November, the combined efforts of the the Hellenic Centre, Cypriot Estia of London, Eteria Ellinon Epistimonon, The Hellenic Foundation, as well as the Macedonian Society of Great Britain produced a delightful evening of Greek Songs, ancient and modern by the world renowned singer Nena Venetsanou. The Great Hall was filled to capacity and the beauty of her voice filled the air to the obvious delight of the audience.

The annual Hellenic Centre Family Lunch organised by the Fundraising Committee was held on 25 November and this year it was decided that the proceeds would be for the benefit of the fire victims in Greece. The event more than lived up to expectations and the combination of Music Quiz and Charades made for an afternoon of competition tempered by lots of fun and laughter.

The Centre was delighted to welcome Mr Takis Arapoglou, Chairman and CEO of the National Bank of Greece on 27 November to a dinner where he was the guest speaker, organised by the Hellenic Centre and the Hellenic Bankers Association-UK. Mr Arapoglou gave an address prior to the dinner and circulated with guests beforehand and afterwards. The tickets for this event were almost sold out before they were available and the evening proved to be a huge success. It is hoped it will be the first of many such events.

Finally, on 10 December, the Centre hosted an evening dedicated to the historic political figure Konstantinos Karamanlis on the 100 years' anniversary of his birth, held under the auspices of the Ambassador of Greece, HE Mr Vassillis Pispinis. We were delighted that Mr Achilleas Karamanlis, the brother of Konstantinos Karamanlis, attended the event and gave a short address. The programme for the event comprised six speakers, Professor Konstantinos Svolopoulos, Professor Kevin Featherstone, Sir Michael Llewelyn-Smith, Dr Spyros Economides, Mrs Chryssy Karydi, and Professor George Babiniotis. The evening continued with a video presentation and finally a reception sponsored by the Greek Shipping Cooperation Committee. The Great Hall also had a splendid photographic exhibition around all its walls. It was a just and fitting tribute to such a man and an excellent note on which to end the year.

The preceding months of 2007 also had many social, cultural and educational events the variety of which continues to fascinate and are detailed on the following pages. We would like to thank you all for your support and look forward to welcoming you again to the Centre during 2008.



The Hellenic Centre, 16-18 Paddington Street, London W1U 5AS

www.helleniccentre.org

T: 020 7487 5060 F: 020 7486 4254