

Athens⁺Plus

Weekly newspaper published by The International Herald Tribune & Kathimerini SA • No 22 • Friday, November 7, 2008 • €2



A novel idea Ring my bell

Actor-director Angelita Tsougou talks about staging Sylvia Plath's "Bell Jar" and her plans to perform it in English. **Page 28**



Green shoots Panathinaikos win

Henk ten Cate's team shakes things up after a stunning 3-0 victory over Bremen in Germany. **Page 18**



Oh, James! Bond is back

Daniel Craig stars in "Quantum of Solace," which is showing around Greece this week. **Page 35**

Locals fight to save Exarchia neighborhood

Rise in drug-related crime prompts demands for better policing of central Athens district

Residents of the central Athens district of Exarchia have launched a public campaign to reclaim their streets after complaining that the area has become plagued with drug addicts and petty crime.

Locals, who recently held a protest to highlight their concerns, have told

Athens Plus that residents are coming together to protect what they regard as the neighborhood's distinctive character but say that the police are not doing enough.

Officers reject these claims, insisting that there are regular patrols. **Pages 2, 4-5**



his new book, "In Stakia: Passing Time in the Wiks of Crete," published by Lycabettus Press, records an enduring relationship.

A glimpse of Crete from the deck of a passing ferry was enough to hook Trudgill. A brief visit in the '70s offered a taster of the ingredients that would keep him coming back: a heart-in-the-mouth drive in a rented vehicle through spectacularly beautiful scenery, the silence of the countryside, delectable food and friendly locals.

Later, visiting with his wife, Jean, the couple learnt about events like the

Delving deeper into local history, politics, customs and language, Trudgill consults sources as diverse as the Acts of the Apostles (for its record of St Paul's visit to Crete) and works by contemporary historians, as well as the accounts of his Stakian friends, who discourse as eloquently on past triumphs and tragedies as they do on village news.

The resultant suggests of fact and myth are judiciously sprinkled throughout this serial visitor's homage to Stakia.



Experts' nitty-gritty on this year's wine news

Tom Stevenson's "Wine Report," published by Dorling Kindersley, has acquired the status of a bible among wine enthusiasts. Every year, he and his team of experts produce a pocket-sized, information-packed book on wines, vintages and trends.

Contributors express their own opinions on what's new, for better or ill, in the region they cover. They rate vintages, pass on industry gossip in the "Grapevine" section, and short-list wines and wineries as to quality, value, improvement and other categories, including one for the most unusual or exciting wines.

The latest edition includes chapters on wine science, wine and health, auctions, grape varieties and organic and biodynamic wines.

Once again, Greek wine maven Nico Manessis, who has an independent website at www.greekwineworld.com, contributes the Greek section. He notes a spin-off

from a wine cooperative that might prompt others, and argues for more professional treatment of wine after it leaves the winery.

Athens Plus asked Manessis for some insider info on the Greek wine scene. "Despite the crunchy times," he explained, "quality Greek wine, continues to make niche market inroads. The US, Europe and now Russia have increased shipments, focusing on the medium to small in size estates."

Asked for festive season tips, Manessis has suggestions that won't break the bank, even at this cash-strapped moment. His first two recommendations, at 6 euros apiece, are what he called "recession-proof": a 2008 Savatiano (white) from Pappiannaikos, and a 2007 Koidino se Mavro (red) from Mitravellas. For special occasions he suggests 2007 Ovilos from Biblia Chora (white) at €16, and 2005 Gala Estate at €21.



Nico Manessis contributed the Greek section to "Wine Report 2009."

GET IN TOUCH
Readers are invited to send their views and comments to books@athensplus.gr.

Stavros, singer Areta Karanasi and singer-assan Iani Herodoti. Readings will be followed by live music featuring suspense performers.

1 Ianos, 24 Stadiou, tel 210.321.7917

Writers' diaries

Writers' diaries are the subject of a discussion organized by Diavazo

magazine and Ianos bookstore at 12.30 p.m. on November 7. Literary critics Alexis Zyras and Katerina Schina, poet Titos Patrikos



and language and literature scholar Krystallia Makatou will talk about keeping diaries.

1 Ianos, 24 Stadiou, tel 210.321.7917.

Milionis launch

Come to the launch of Christopher Milionis's latest book, "Ta pikra glyka" (The Bitter Sweets), published by Metachmio, at 8 p.m. on November 13. Literary critic Alexis Zyras and poet Costas Pappa Georgiou will present the book.

1 Stoa tou Vivlio book arcade, 5 Pessmazoglou & Stadiou, tel 210.325.3989.