



## Paschalides visits Ypsonas Industrial Area of Limassol

Commerce and Industry Minister Antonis Paschalides toured the third Industrial area of Ypsonas last week where he visited three manufacturing units and he spoke to management and employees. Following his tour, Paschalides chaired a meeting during which he heard from several local industry managers and spokesmen. On the agenda were a number of issues including the specific problems being faced by the local industries and the impact of the general economic situation as well as their general concerns about the ministry itself.

Paschalides followed the meeting by answering questions put to him by local journalists during which time he commented on the fact that "despite the downturn and concerns of the economy generally, Cyprus exports have grown by 10% in the last year."

When asked about the specific purpose of the meeting, Paschalides said his visit was an opportunity to "find solutions to problems and to deal with the issues and concerns of the local industrial area." He mentioned a specific issue that is causing frustration; the area allocated for the construction of the multi-purpose centre in the industrial area. This will be leased to the Industrial Association with rental fees that will reflect the needs of this particular area. Further discussions were held about transport issues around the industrial area and the government policy on subsidised rents of the units.

# Global issues on the local map

## BERENGARIA ROTARY CLUB HOSTS ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

Limassol's only cosmopolitan Rotary Club, the Berengaria, will host an Environmental Fair on Sunday February 6 in the Conference Room of the Columbia Plaza in the Old Town. It will feature 22 projects from local schools, businesses and volunteer organisations, with both group and individual entries, submitting projects that will be judged by a panel of eight respected community members including Andreas Christou, the Mayor of Limassol, the Commissioner of the Environment, Charalambos Theopemptou and Andreas Metaxas who is President of the Water Board Committee and General Manager of the Limassol Water Board.

President of the Berengaria Cosmopolitan Rotary, Bill Dahmer said: "The aim of the competition is to raise environmental awareness among students, the local community and the general public by highlighting global issues at a local level. Cyprus is an island particularly vulnerable to the impact of climate change, because of its dependency on a largely tourism based economy; clean beaches and water, a sustainable environment are very important to its future...hopefully the Environmental Fair will give this a higher priority on the island."

The projects will be judged based on their actual environmental impact and will be acknowledged accordingly and rewarded



**ACTIVE:** Rotary Club members at the Limassol Water Museum

with prizes, taking into account the year group, their efforts and their successful achievement and implementation.

The emphasis will be on the actual environmental impact of the project. Judges will be looking to see how practical solutions and the successful implementation of the projects will be achieved making them effective and viable. In the same way judges will be looking to see which of the projects are highlighting global issues, but have the most pertinence to Cyprus and which could have most impact on the island at a local level. The issues being considered are agriculture practices, air quality, alternative energy & bio-fuels, clean beaches, climate change, garbage disposal, health concerns, land use choices, litter, pollution, preservation of wildlife and marine habitats, recycling,

sustainable development, tourism, transportation, water conservation and waste water recycling.

The challenge for the participants is to provide practical solutions to local environmental problems with the triple 'P' principle in mind, 'People, Planet and Profit'. Are they socially and economically viable for example?

Dahmer explained: "The Environmental Fair is one of our three annual community projects (the other two are the School Speaking competition and the Football Festival held every year); this gives us the opportunity to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need in Cyprus and overseas and to get involved on a local level."

There are three age ranges within the pupil groups, from Primary to year 6, year 7 to 9 and year 10 to 12; in the adult groups there

are schools, volunteer organisations and businesses. Prizes will be awarded based on the age groups, number of participants and the quality of the actual project submissions.

There are 59 participants submitting their projects on the February 6 and there will be cash prizes and Gold, Silver and Bronze plaques awarded to the winning entries.

There are 19 Rotary Club branches in Cyprus and Limassol's Berengaria Cosmopolitan Rotary Club is very active in its charity work, social and environmental efforts.

On a global scale, the Rotary is a volunteer organisation of 1.2 million business and professional leaders, who are united worldwide to provide humanitarian service and to help build goodwill and peace on a local level; since the first Rotary Club was founded in 1905, more than 32,000 Rotary clubs have been established in more than 200 countries worldwide.

The Berengaria Cosmopolitan Rotary in Limassol reflects the multi-cultural ethos of the club with its international mix of members from countries as diverse as Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, England, Germany, Kenya, Lebanon, Netherlands, Russia, Scotland, Serbia, Ukraine and the USA. For further information on the regular weekly meetings and how to become a Rotarian Club member visit their website: [www.rotary-cyprus.org/limassol](http://www.rotary-cyprus.org/limassol).

## LIMASSOL NOTES

### Take a walk on the wild side

I was thinking this week...Having survived Blue Monday (hope you all did, too), I decided it was time to really shake off the winter doldrums and move into 2011 with a new, totally positive focus. So, what better way to start than with an energetic regime of fresh air and exercise to blow the cob-



By *Andrienne Philippou*

webs away (and shed some of the unwanted Christmas excess)? So, reminded by a dear friend that walking along the seafront is fun and free, I donned my trainers, grabbed my water bottle and hit the Molos. What a blast! To begin with, if you start early enough, parking's

a doddle. I left my car on a side street a short distance from the seafront and walked a few minutes to really get myself into the right frame of mind. (Actually, main incentive was to save money on ever-rising parking fees at municipality car parks, either way, walking was the priority). Got to the road and began my bracing stride.

I started off pretty low key (it was my first day, after all), and was going at a fairly brisk pace but was also taking time to enjoy the view, to breathe in the sea air and to allow myself to feel energised by the warmth of the dappled rays of sunshine as my journey progressed. I found myself smiling (a lot) at nobody and nothing in particular... simply smiling. I also found as my walk continued, that this very pleasurable pastime is clearly enjoyed by many others who delight in taking an invigorating stroll and

have established this activity as part of their morning routine. You could tell, in the time it took me to get from the Municipal Garden to the Old Port and back, several seasoned walkers/joggers had already passed me twice. No worries, this was about being 'in the moment', not being in a race!

But what a revelation this walk turned out to be; old, young, male, female, athletes, pensioners, professionals, students, parents, kids... even the animals came out to play and join in with the fun. I had no idea this little microcosm existed, a mini society of activity, communication, interaction and friendship based on the communal principal of getting a bit of fresh air and exercise.

I also realised how lucky I am to live in a town where the sea is on my doorstep, a walk costs nothing and smiling opens up all sorts of adventures.

I made a couple of new friends, was invited to join a group of total strangers for coffee and backgammon, bumped into an old acquaintance and met a new business contact. I counted 13 cargo tankers waiting to dock in our bustling Limassol port, I saw three little sailing boats bobbing on the horizon and I was full of admiration for the 11 people I counted swimming happily in the nippy January sea. And all in the space of 40 minutes.

Most of all, I couldn't understand why I haven't done this more often? In fact, why don't I do this every morning?

And for those of you out there bemoaning the cost of gym subscriptions and your exercise class not being available when you are... well, I look forward to bumping into you tomorrow morning on the Molos! I'm the one smiling...