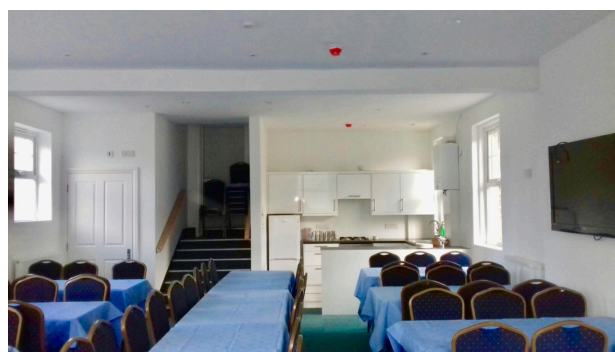
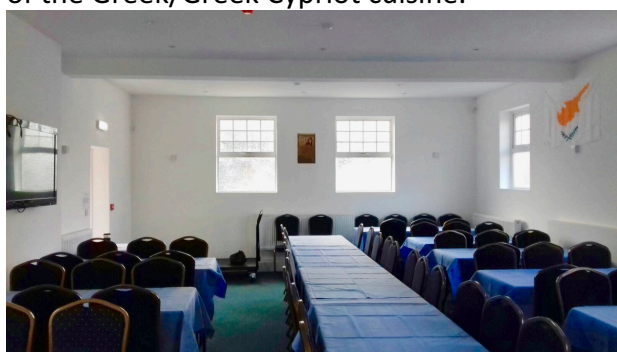


The 'Mermikides Community Centre'*

On the 17th of September, the lower ground floor of the Walmer Castle was opened for the first time. We had the good fortune to buy and develop this complex, because of a donation by two of our compatriots who passed away, a brother and sister, Jason and Daphne Mermikides. To honour their memory, we have named the lower ground floor 'Mermikides Community Centre'. It needs some finishing touches still, so at the moment it is used only as a Greek coffee shop. Very soon however, after some finishing touches, it will be made available for the Greek and general British community to rent at low cost for small functions like birthday parties, wakes, lectures, pensioners nights, or any other legal use. So, we hope that the 'Mermikides Community Centre' will serve not only the Greek community but also the general public 365 days a year. Anyone that wants to use it, will be able to do so subject to availability.



There remains the main part of the former pub and its kitchen to be finished. We hardly touched on that yet. When we held a BBQ and invited the local British people to it, we handed out questionnaires, asking them what they liked to see at the 'Walmer Castle'. Eighty seven per cent said 'a Greek restaurant'. That is what we are now striving to deliver. A Greek style restaurant, in keeping with our customs and culture. A restaurant that will cultivate and promulgate the culinary delights of the Greek/Greek Cypriot cuisine.



The whole community is excited about the project and we are very proud of our achievements. It was a hard struggle to find all the money needed to complete the task. We had drawbacks and knockbacks but, the first face, the flats, is finished. The second stage, the Mermikides Community Centre has now been concluded. The final face, the restaurant, is going to be started soon, and with God's help and the support of the community, Greek and English, we are confident that the whole project will soon be completed.

Michael Papadopoulos

*Any inquires please ring 079 1387 1387