

A surprising visit



Recently we had an email by a Mr Philip Davies who is a policy adviser in the faith engagement team at the Department for Communities and Local Government. His job involves engagement with the Christian communities in England on behalf of the Government. He was keen to know what issues faith communities are facing and to hear about the contribution they are making to their local communities. He was interested in understanding more about smaller faith communities, particularly those outside London.



Mr Davies asked whether he could visit our Church and it was arranged for Friday 24th of November at 2pm. He was hosted by Fr Vissarion and Michael Papadopoulos. Mr Lambros Pittas and his wife Angela, as well as our dearest Magda Softi, a former teacher of our Greek school, were also present and Mr Davies talked to them extensively. Mr Davies wanted to find out how the community coped, and what was the relationship between the Greek Orthodox Community and the wider British society. Fr Vissarion and Mr Papadopoulos answered all his questions and showed him around the Church and the school.

Mr Davies seemed pleased with the visit and suggested that the minister of Faith, Lord Bourne, should also visit our little church. This is being discussed at the moment and it has been provisionally penned in for the 21st of December at 2.00pm.