



Research - Education - Preservation

Newsletter no: 6 (Spring 2017)

Upcoming events

LHF London 1st Social networking and ephemera evening – 29 June 2017

The 1st Levantine Heritage Foundation social networking and bring and share family ephemera evening in London, Royal Thames Yacht Club, 6-9 pm.

Flyer: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/1st-Levantine-Heritage-Foundation-networking-gathering-flyer.pdf>

To book tickets, please register here: <https://1st-lhf-networking-evening.eventbrite.co.uk>

Please help spread the word and support us in any way you can. This is an opportunity where you, our supporters take centre stage, help create interest groups, and we help spread the word / create dedicated web pages to elicit further participation in these focus groups and hopefully some questions of the past will have answers from this networking. We are particularly keen on potential group leads to come forward and we are happy to publish the remit and / or broadcast the video talk of the aims of your dedicated group that can be wider than family investigations.

26th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner gathering in London– 21 September 2017

with guest speakers Dr Jonathan Conlin, senior lecturer in modern history at Southampton University on 'Very Loyal Subjects and Friends of Our Country: The Gulbenkians and Ottoman/Turkish Economic Development, 1880-1935' and Nicholas Pelham, author and Middle East correspondent of The Economist, on his Alexandrian and Levantine background

Flyer: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/26th-Levantine-Heritage-Foundation-dinner-gathering-flyer.pdf>

Booking: <https://26th-lhf-gathering.eventbrite.co.uk>

2nd LHF-Istanbul Conference in association with Beyoğlu Municipality – 20-22 October 2017

Title: 'Levantines as pioneers of Modernization in Industry and Trade in the Ottoman Empire' - [call for papers](#) - enquiries: [lhf-ist\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:lhf-ist[at]levantineheritage.com)

Recent events

Our last gathering on the 24 April 2017 was again a thoroughly enjoyable evening and we were honoured to have as the guest speaker Haydn Williams: 'Turquerie: An 18-Century European Fantasy' – [flyer](#) for this event: - video soon [here](#) on our [YouTube channel](#):



Speaker Haydn Williams (extreme right) and guests at the 25th Levantine Heritage Foundation dinner, London, 24 April 2017.

Our last conference was in London: '**The Levant & Europe: Shipping and Trade Networks of People and Knowledge**', 2-4th November 2016, London - [Programme](#) - [booklet](#) - [press](#) - [gallery](#) - [videos](#):
We were very happy with the outcome, some of the presentations will soon feature on the website and we would like to thank again our sponsors and volunteers that made this event possible.

Requests

Joining us, supporting us, sponsorship

Levantine Heritage Foundation is reliant on membership subscriptions, donations and sponsorship and our work is mainly done through volunteers and site contributors. Our talks in London are free and associated networking activities such as the post-talk dinners are priced to break even to make them as affordable as possible given the convenience of a central London location. Major events, such as the upcoming Athens 2018 conference and other planned events which need detailed preparation, cannot be financed by ticket sales alone. We do have a small number of commercial sponsors and supporters to whom we are very grateful and we seek further partnerships and commercial sponsors. We have a number of package levels for this sponsorship and if you would like to discuss these opportunities further please contact our Chairman Quentin Compton-Bishop on [chairman\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:chairman[at]levantineheritage.com) and thanks again! [Further info](#):

Membership of the LHF is set at £20 a year and there is a discount for a 5 year purchase, and the links to pay are on this page of our website - <http://www.levantineheritage.com/join-us.html>

Purchasing copies of past LHF Conference books:

If you wish to purchase copies of conference presentations books: **First Levantine Conference**

in **Istanbul**, 'The Levantines: Commerce and Diplomacy', held in Istanbul November 2014 - [programme](#) or

Levantines Past, Present, Future Symposium, Izmir, November 2010 - [details:](#)

Please refer to the pricing instructions here ([doc](#) / [pdf](#) version), and send the correct amount (including postage) through our [paypal buttons](#) (or bank transfer - details on support us page) with your address details please:

Current research

Calling our friends for exchange of information and potential networking

Zeynep Cebeci Suvani ([interview](#)), one of our trustees, is conducting a research on the Italian title deeds from Istanbul between the years 1870-1910. She has built a database for 1100 title deed records and if you have a particular name, you are looking for, you can contact her at [zeynep\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:zeynep[at]levantineheritage.com)

Contributor [Mehmet Yüce](#) has spent a good part of his life to study the history of football in Turkey, from its humble beginnings from the small pool of Levantines enjoying this sport to the country as it gradually trickled to the wider communities of Istanbul and Izmir and beyond. He has published 4 books on this subject and his final book is scheduled to be published hopefully next year. He has made much use of the resources on the Levantine Heritage website, but would like to be able to connect with descendants who may have memorabilia or photographs to further illuminate this story. The key individuals who helped establish football in Turkey were Harry Edwin Pears and James Edward La Fontaine. Also of significance were Dupont Costominos, Aleko Kaliya, Arthur Whittall, Richard La Fontaine, Yorgo Stelianidis, Yanni Vassiliadis, Edward La Fontaine and Clark Comber, Mr Highton, Horace Armitage, Wilhelm Kohlhammer and Emil & Joseph Oberle. He will be grateful if any readers could assist in connecting him with descendants who may have extra information via: [mhmtyc\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:mhmtyc[at]gmail.com)

Recently our member and site contributor [Frances Clegg](#) independently secured a modest grant to pursue a research project close to her heart. Her family (Hughes) resided in the Levant in the early 20th century and were in the region till the 1930s, based in the neighbourhood of Bornova. Old documentation which she has inherited, and which provides addresses of houses, has proved problematic as virtually all street names have been altered, sometimes more than once. She hopes to work with local researchers to create a cross-reference table to match old and new street names which will also benefit other descendants, as domestic addresses were often noted in church burial records etc. This project will also partly assist in the envisaged 'Levantine map of Bornova' project which Mark Giraud has generously committed himself to. Frances will be grateful for the supply of old addresses through personal records, letters etc. via [frances.clegg\[at\]btinternet.com](mailto:frances.clegg[at]btinternet.com)

External Events

9th International Symposium of Turkish Sea Trading

4-5 May 2017

Istanbul University – [info](#)

Nomad Tent 5th Annual Symposium: 'Travellers and Treasures of the Ottoman World'

6 May 2017

Edinburgh, Scotland – [info](#)

Lecture: 'Aleppo: World City to War Zone?' – Philip Mansel

8 May 2017, 2.30 pm

Bridport Literary Festival – [info](#)

Twin lectures on: European Refugees in the Ottoman Empire

The Royal Swedish exile in the Ottoman Empire, 1709-14 - Prof. Dr. Johan Martelius / Polish political émigrés in the Ottoman service as engineers in the 1850s-1870s - Paulina Dominik, M.A.

11 May 2017, 7 pm

Orient Institute Istanbul – [info](#)

Seminar: Travellers in Ottoman Lands: The Botanical Legacy

13-14 May 2017

Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, Scotland – [info](#)

Twin lectures on: Choosing a new homeland

In search of a better life. German-speaking craftspeople and journeymen in Late Ottoman Istanbul - Dr. Richard Wittmann / A Jewish Novelist writes on Ottoman exiles in Berlin - Dr. Esra Almas

13-14 May 2017

Orient Institut Istanbul – [info](#)

Conference: The medieval Mediterranean: cultural, religious and economic exchanges

20 May 2017

The University of Leeds, England – [info](#)

Exhibition: The Characters of Yusuf Franko: An Ottoman Bureaucrat's Caricatures

Until 1 June 2017

Anamed, Beyoğlu, Istanbul – [info](#)

'Multiculturalism from Late Antiquity to Modernity', 18th Annual Postgraduate Colloquium

3 June 2017

University of Birmingham, UK – [info](#)

Conference: Communities, Imaginations and Emotions in the Medieval Mediterranean

10-12 July 2017

Gent University, Belgium – [info](#)

Conference: Twelfth Biennial Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East

21-24 July 2017

Norwich, England – [info](#)

Conference: Congress of Ottoman Social and Economic History (ICOSEH)

24-28 July 2017

Sofia University, Bulgaria – [info](#)

Recent Publications

Les Levantins de Smyrne XIXe siècle: Environment communautaire et religieux

[The Levantines of Smyrna in the nineteenth century: Communal and Religious Environment] -

Rinaldo Marmara, Arkas, 2016

Souvenirs d'un Journaliste: Izmir il y a 60 Ans

[*Souvenirs of a journalist in Izmir 60 years ago*] - Alfredo Giovanni Galizzi, Libra 2016 -

[information:](#)

Prostitution in the Eastern Mediterranean World: The Economics of Sex in the Late Antique and Medieval Middle East

Gary Leiser, I.B.Tauris, 2016 - [information:](#)

The History of the Church Diplomacy in Turkey

Buğra Poyraz, Libra, 2016 – [info](#) – [interview:](#)

The Young Turks and the Ottoman Empire: The Aftermath of the 1908 Revolution

Noemi Levy-Aksu, I.B.Tauris, 2017 - [information:](#)

Mediterranean Encounters: Artists Between Europe and the Ottoman Empire,

1774–1839 - Elisabeth A. Fraser, Penn State University Press, 2017 – [information:](#)

New digitisations:

Constantinople ; ses cités franques et levantines (Péra, Galata, banlieue), Bertrand Bareilles, 1918 – [link:](#)

The Young Chaplain: Recollections of my father, 1772-1871 – Marianne Johnston, 1876 – [link:](#)

Latest Website additions

interviews:

Bugra Poyraz: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/interview16.html>

Oğuz Aydemir: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/oguz-aydemir-interview.html>

Photo galleries / analysis:

Anna Narly postcards bundle: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/anna-narly-postcards.html>

Bulwer's castle: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/bulwers-castle.html>

Haidarpasha explosion: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/haidarpasha-explosion.html>

Kadıköy phone exchange: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/phone-exchange.html>

Artigiana appeal poster: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/artigiana-appeal.html>

Gilchrist Walker minutes book: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/gilchrist-walker.html>

Coffee culture: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/coffee-culture.html>

Fioravante Usoni gratitude document: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/usoni.html>

Former San Paolo & San Domenico Dominican Catholic Church: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/san-domenico-galata.html>

Guys postcards: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/guys-postcards.html>

Van Heemstra photo: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/van-heemstra.html>

Menemen postcard and factory: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/menemen.html>

Smyrna paintings: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/smyrna-paintings.html>

For membership: [membership\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:membership[at]levantineheritage.com)

Becoming a member is easy. Our members enjoy significant advantages, including a quarterly bulletin. Please check our link to discover them and subscribe. <http://www.levantineheritage.com/join-us.html> This will support our ongoing work.

- We have had a number of friends who have elected to become life members this year and last (£500), for which we are very grateful as these funds will help continue our ongoing mission.
- Do you have a Levantine heritage? [Search](#) for your family names on our website. Discover family histories and photographs. Meet potential relatives at our events.
- Are you an historical researcher of the Eastern Mediterranean and Levant? Check out our reference material and join our network of academics. Present a paper at one of our conferences.

Gift Aid: please sign '[Gift Aid Declaration](#)' for us to reclaim UK tax.

For enquiries: [contact\[at\]levantineheritagefoundation.org](mailto:contact[at]levantineheritagefoundation.org)

For information on upcoming Istanbul 2017 Conference: [lhf-ist\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:lhf-ist[at]levantineheritage.com)

Our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/LevantineHeritageFoundation>

Our Updated Mission Statement: <http://www.levantineheritage.com/pdf/Mission-Statement-for->



Gathering of members of the Izmir Levantine Association group, 20 March 2017

You have received this newsletter as you have indicated that you wish to receive this or have shown a past interest / contributed to our project. If you wish to no longer receive this communication, please e-mail us [contact\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:contact[at]levantineheritage.com) to indicate you are no longer interested.

Next newsletter is scheduled for 31 July 2017, contact us if you wish for an entry / announcement.

Craig Encer

General Secretary – [secretary\[at\]levantineheritage.com](mailto:secretary[at]levantineheritage.com)

The Levantine Heritage Foundation

The Levantine Heritage Foundation is a non-profit association with a constitution prepared and adopted according to the guidelines of The Charity Commission for England and Wales.
Trustees: Quentin Compton-Bishop, Craig Encer, Dr Philip Mansel FRHS, Dr Axel Corlu, Dr Kalliopi Amygdalou, Zeynep Cebeci Süvari, Jonathan Beard, Nuri Çolakoğlu