

BLUE BERET



Nicosia Street Quest

In the past few months quite a few UNFICYP members have enjoyed participating in the exciting monthly Nicosia Street Quest, an event organised by orienteering aficionados and kindly hosted at the wonderful Centre of Visual Arts and Research (CVAR) premises on Ermou Street within the walled city. The idea is to have fun while exercising both mind and body. There are currently no prizes except the glory of winning. The CVAR Balthazar café/bar and lovely roof top terrace restaurant are an excellent venue for after-event beers and a meal.

The “Quest” aims to navigate up to 20 location points on the map of Nicosia (within the city walls) and answer a simple, non-cryptic question at each location – for example, what is the colour of the door at number 18, or how many mannequins in the shop window?. Each question is worth points and the overall time allowed is 60 minutes. There is one penalty point for every three

seconds late back. Participation is €2 per person and electronic timing, maps and answer sheets are provided at registration.

Some participants take it more seriously and run competitively while others amble around in groups of up to four people. Everyone is welcome, and families with children are especially welcome. Children under twelve must, however, be accompanied by an adult. Registration opens at 1845 and starts are available anytime between 1900 and 2000 hrs. A pen is required to write down the answers and it is prudent to take a small torch and wear bright or light coloured comfortable clothing.

The recent Nicosia Street Quest event for August was organised by Kyriakos Michaelides from UNFICYP’s IT section and was won by Canadian Capt David Marcotte from Ops Branch, closely followed by Major Simon Egan from Sector Two and Diana Bridger from UNPOL.



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