

'OHI' DAY



Decorated statue on the Island of Poros for Ohi Day



School children marching on Ohi Day



"Ohi" Day 'No means No'

October 28th is "Ohi" Day or "No" Day. In 1940 Italian dictator, Mussolini issued an ultimatum to General Metaxas demanding that Greece allow Italian troops to occupy the country or Italy would declare war and invade. Refusing to be dominated by the Italian captors, Metaxas rejected the ultimatum with a simple **'ohi – no'**. Italian troops in Albania attacked Greece's border and so Greece entered WWII.

The events of 1940 are commemorated by a public holiday in Greece and Cyprus and celebrated by Greek communities around the world. The occasion is marked with street parades by students in school uniform or national dress and followed by military remembrance services, folk dancing and feasting.

The marking of this day is cherished in Greek history. Celebrations of 'Oxi' Day today, give Greek people the opportunity to show their own spirit to Greece and the resistance and how in future generations it should be continued.

These special cultural events are very important to most Greek residents in nursing homes and it is important to give people the opportunity to be able to celebrate these events in their new home.

Suggestions to celebrate the day with your client:

- A special morning tea with traditional Greek food such as baklava; koulourakia or kourambiethes (Greek cookies)
- Residents could take part in a quiz game with questions relating to Greek history; language or culture
- Themed decorations such as blue and white balloons; Greek flags; pictures of Greece and the Islands
- Pictures could be done as a slideshow with a computer and projector
- Greek music
- The family could be invited to attend for the celebrations

The CPP project officer would be happy to assist in organising such an activity.