

**A joint event by the Hellenic Observatory, LSE
and the Association for Cypriot, Greek & Turkish Affairs**

**Wednesday 25 February 2009
5.30 pm – 6.45pm**

London School of Economics
Room U8, Tower 1
Clement's Inn, near Aldwych
London WC2A 2AE

CYPRUS SETTLEMENT: WHO BENEFITS?
The Keith Kyle Memorial Lecture on British-Cypriot Relations
by Caroline Flint, MP
Minister for Europe



Caroline Flint, MP for Don Valley, was appointed Minister for Europe in October 2008. Her responsibilities include European Union and Europe; Russia, South Caucasus, Central Asia; Balkans; Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova; OSCE and Council of Europe; NATO; and Public Diplomacy Board. From January until October 2008 Caroline Flint was Minister for Housing. Between June 2007 and January 2008 Ms Flint was Minister of State for Employment and Welfare Reform. Previously, as Minister for Public Health, she was responsible for taking the Health Act 2006 through Parliament.

Caroline Flint has a strong interest in supporting Cypriots to find a solution to the Cyprus problem and has made it one of her top personal priorities. Following a successful visit to the island in October (in her first week in the job) she has maintained a close interest in developments and visited the island earlier this month, meeting both leaders. In January she announced a UK donation of 50,000 Euros to the UN Mine Action Centre in Cyprus which helped this important confidence building measure continue its work

The lecture is dedicated to the memory of Keith Kyle, an important scholar, historian, broadcaster, political commentator, a friend of Cyprus, and a long-standing and active member of the Association for Cypriot, Greek & Turkish Affairs. Soon after his death on 21.2.07, the ACGTA, reflecting the respect and affection its members, decided to establish an annual Keith Kyle Memorial Lecture on British-Cypriot relations and to ask each year a distinguished speaker to delivery it. The first lecture was given by the Rt. Hon. Geoff Hoon, MP.



This is an extract of an obituary which was published by the ACGTA soon after Mr Kyle's death

Keith Kyle (born 4 August 1925, died 21 February 2007)

Keith had a very keen interest in Cyprus. In addition to being a member of the Friends of Cyprus, he had written extensively on various facets of the island's conflict. Perhaps most notably, he was the author of a Minority Rights Report that was widely praised for impartial and objective analysis of the Cyprus issue and even now remains a masterpiece of balanced writing. It was this objectivity, coupled with a natural gift for public speaking, which made him such a sought after participant at conferences and other events. He would always impress audiences with his ability to present a well-reasoned, and reasonable, account of the modern and contemporary history of an island that he obviously loved. It was notable that despite his frailty and ill-health, he attended a conference on Anglo-Cypriot relations in London in December last year. It was the last chance for many of us to talk to him. Likewise, the book review published in this issue of *The Cyprus Review* is one of his last pieces of work.

However, his work was certainly not limited to Cyprus. As a historian of the British Empire and the post-colonial era, he wrote on a number of different regions and conflicts. In particular, he built up a reputation for covering the turmoil in Africa in the 1960s and 1970s, writing on Kenya and Congo. But he was perhaps best known for his work on the 1956 Suez Crisis. In fact, he was widely regarded as the world's leading authority on the subject.

But Keith was far more than a historian. He had a truly remarkable career across a number of fields. After serving in the Second World War, he forged a very successful career as a journalist, working for the BBC and *The Economist*, amongst others. As a broadcaster, he became extremely well known in Britain for his reports from the world's war zones. Similarly, he had a very successful career at the policy end of academia. In addition to having been a fellow at Harvard University and a senior associate member of St Antony's College, Oxford University, he spent many decades at Chatham House, otherwise known as the Royal Institute for International Affairs. He was also a visiting professor at the University of Ulster.

He also involved himself in politics. After leaving the Conservative Party in protest at the Suez Crisis, he joined the Labour Party and stood as a candidate for Parliament on four occasions. One can only speculate as to what might have happened had he been elected. As one obituary noted, he would have made a wise foreign secretary. Indeed, it was a testament to his standing in British life that in the days following his death a number of leading newspapers in Britain carried prominent obituaries. It was particularly pleasing to read that the esteem he held in Cyprus circles was universally shared. He will be remembered by all of those who met him as an extremely kind and modest man. He was, in every sense of the word, a gentleman and will be greatly missed.

James Ker-Lindsay