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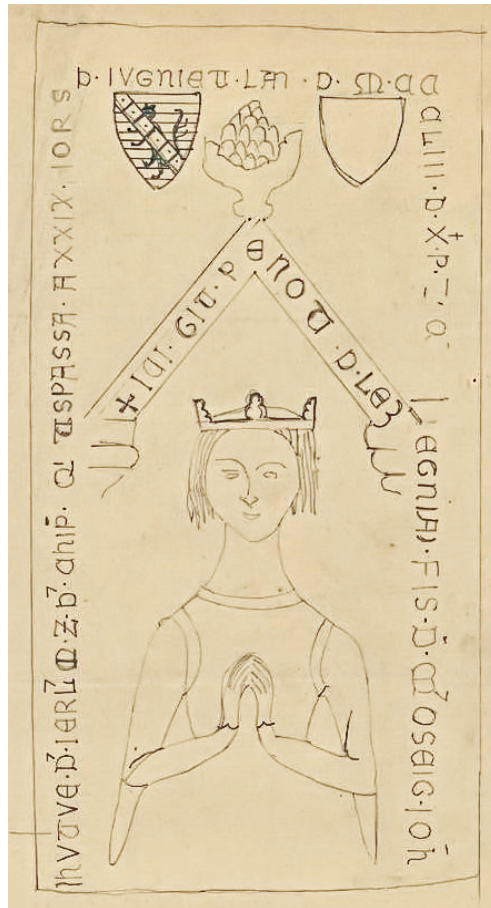
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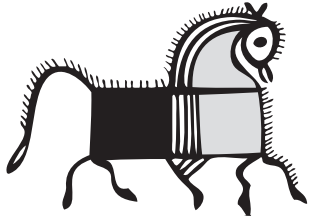
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La revue *Cahiers du Centre d'Études Chyprïotes* (abrégée CCEC) publie des contributions en allemand, anglais, français, grec, italien, et rend compte d'ouvrages qui lui sont envoyés.

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Avant-propos

L'année passée a été particulièrement éprouvante, et le domaine des études chypriotes n'a pas été épargné. Malgré l'annulation des missions et le report des manifestations, d'autres activités ont été maintenues et transposées sur support digital. Ce tournant numérique touche aussi notre revue. Désormais coédités par le Centre et l'École française d'Athènes, les *Cahiers* possèdent une maquette modernisée, élaborée par Carole Perret, ainsi que des normes éditoriales révisées, compilées par Anna Cannavò et téléchargeables depuis le site internet (<http://centredetudeschypriotes.fr/>). Les comités ont été transformés et renouvelés, distinguant un comité éditorial et un comité scientifique international, chargé de définir la ligne éditoriale de chaque volume et de superviser la procédure de double expertise scientifique de chaque article. Je souhaite remercier vivement les membres des différents comités de leur engagement et de leur enthousiasme : ils témoignent de la reconnaissance scientifique internationale dont bénéficie notre revue. Je souhaite remercier tout particulièrement Anna Cannavò, secrétaire de rédaction, et Antoine Hermary, rédacteur en chef, qui ont assumé, sans compter leur temps, la charge de moderniser les *Cahiers* et qui ont assuré le suivi éditorial de ce volume. Tous mes remerciements, enfin, à Véronique Chankowski, directrice de l'École française d'Athènes, et à Bertrand Grandsagne, responsable des publications de cet établissement, qui nous ont proposé la convention de coédition qui garantit la continuité de parution de la revue. Autre grand changement, les *Cahiers* existent dorénavant sous format numérique et ils sont candidats pour rejoindre la plateforme de diffusion d'OpenEdition. En conséquence, le numéro 46, 2016, désormais accessible, constitue le dernier volume consultable depuis le portail Persée (<https://www.persee.fr/collection/cchyp>). Élysabeth Hue-Gay (HiSoMA) et Jean-Luc de Ochandiano (université Lyon 3, Prairial) ont apporté aide et conseils aux différentes étapes de la transformation des *Cahiers* : qu'ils soient ici chaleureusement remerciés.

L'assemblée générale du CEC a eu lieu le 4 décembre 2020. Initialement programmée à l'université de Paris-Ouest Nanterre-La Défense, elle s'est tenue par visioconférence. Les membres ont à cette occasion voté l'hébergement du Centre au laboratoire HiSoMA, Maison de l'Orient et de la Méditerranée, Lyon. Un vote positif a été également émis par le conseil du laboratoire : je remercie vivement les membres du conseil et le directeur d'HiSoMA, Stéphane Gioanni, pour leur soutien constant aux recherches sur Chypre. Je remercie également l'université de Nanterre, à laquelle était rattaché le fondateur du Centre, Olivier Masson, qui a encouragé pendant de longues années nos activités. Nos relations restent étroites, notamment avec la bibliothèque de la Maison René Ginouvès. Agnieszka Halczuk, Nathalia Denninger et Anna Cannavò ont assuré la diffusion des informations du Centre, nourri et développé le site web ; Anne-Marie Guimier-Sorbets, Hélène Le Meaux et Philippe Trélat ont piloté les activités. Je remercie enfin la Fondation A.G. Leventis qui soutient cette année encore généreusement nos travaux.

Ce numéro 50 célèbre des anniversaires. Non pas les cinquante ans de la revue, mais son cinquantième numéro, car les *Cahiers*, comme le rappelle Antoine Hermary, ont été créés en 1984 et ils ont eu d'abord une parution semestrielle ; et le soixantième anniversaire de la République

10 de Chypre, fondée en 1960, dont Anastasia Yiangou analyse la formation. Un numéro rond et de grandes transformations éditoriales : le moment était opportun pour dédier cette tomaisson à la mémoire du fondateur de la revue, Olivier Masson. Il l'était d'autant plus que paraissaient cette année deux fascicules attendus du corpus des *IG XV*, l'un consacré aux inscriptions syllabiques, l'autre aux inscriptions alphabétiques (que présentent ici respectivement Artemis Karnava et Evangéline Markou puis Daniela Summa, le premier volume étant recensé dans la section « comptes rendus »). Olivier Masson, épigraphiste, philologue et éditeur de corpus : le dossier thématique, piloté par Antoine Hermary, Philippe Trélat et Michalis Michael couvre son champ d'expertise (sans oublier l'historiographie). Si l'Antiquité s'y taille la plus grande part, les périodes médiévale, ottomane et contemporaine n'y sont pas oubliées, creusant le sillon diachronique d'une approche pluridisciplinaire déjà éprouvée dans la tomaisson précédente des *Cahiers*, à propos des textiles. Textes anciennement connus et inédits, approches épigraphiques, philologiques, historiques, socio-linguistiques..., le volume offre un bouquet qui montre la richesse et la complexité des langues et des écritures qui ont façonné et façonnent l'identité chypriote.

Sabine Fourier

Présidente du CEC

Exploring linguistic hybridity and lexical creativity in the UK's Greek Cypriot diaspora: the Grenglish Project

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Petros Karatsareas and Anna Charalambidou
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***Résumé.** Cet article présente les résultats obtenus par le Grenglish Project, une initiative publique qui réunissait des membres de la diaspora chypriote grecque au Royaume-Uni dans le but de rassembler sur une large échelle une documentation linguistique reflétant l'histoire linguistique de cette communauté. Après un bref bilan socio-historique sur l'immigration chypriote au Royaume-Uni nous présentons les profils des principaux contributeurs au site web de ce projet, par comparaison avec le développement parallèle des variantes du grec parlées dans d'autres parties du monde. Nous mettons l'accent sur les mots d'emprunt qui ont été intégrés dans le système morphologique du grec chypriote avec l'adjonction de suffixes adaptés aux inflexions de la langue maternelle, comme *πάσον* /páson/ 'bus' et *πασέρης* /paséris/ 'chauffeur de bus'. Nous examinons enfin les conséquences des résultats de ce projet sur le statut du grec chypriote britannique comme une variante indépendante, et nous relevons les facteurs idéologiques et comportementaux qui définissent les perspectives de sa transmission entre les générations.*

***Abstract.** We present findings from the Grenglish Project, a public engagement initiative that brought together members of the UK's Greek Cypriot diaspora in a crowdsourcing effort to collect linguistic material that reflected the community's linguistic history. After a brief sociohistorical overview of Cypriot migration to the UK, we present the types of material contributors submitted to the project website with reference to parallel developments in Greek migrant varieties spoken in other parts of the world. We focus on English loanwords that were integrated into the morphological system of Cypriot Greek by the addition of native derivational and inflectional suffixes like *πάσον* /páson/ 'bus' and *πασέρης* /paséris/ 'bus driver'. We finally consider the implications of the project's findings for the status of British Cypriot Greek as a variety on its own right and address the ideological and attitudinal factors that shape the prospects for its intergenerational transmission.*

1. Introduction

Diasporic communities are sometimes perceived, not only by outsiders but also by their own members, as inward-looking groups that are frozen in time, “reflecting visions of a homeland, nation-state, or version of a language tied to a specific point of time in history, when refugees or migrants departed from the homeland”.¹ Such perceptions are often corroborated,

1 Koinova 2018, p. 1259.

reinforced and reproduced – especially among people based in the migrants' societies of origin and/or people with limited or even no familiarity with diasporic life – by alluding to the maintenance and continued practicing in diasporic settings of aspects of cultural expression that may be no longer practiced in the societies of origin. Or, if such aspects are indeed still practiced, they may be viewed and even stigmatised in anachronistic and classed terms. So-called 'villagey' and 'heavy' forms of Cypriot Greek as well as sociocultural practices such as the pinning of money on the clothes of the bride and groom as part of wedding celebrations (“πλούμισμα του αντρούνου”)² are occasionally used in this way as illustrative examples to construct a backward image of the UK's Greek Cypriot diaspora, known in Greek as the *κυπριακή παροικία*.

In this article, we present findings emerging from the Grenglish Project, a public engagement initiative that brought together members of the UK's *παροικία* in a crowdsourcing effort to collect linguistic material that reflected the linguistic history of the Greek Cypriots who migrated to the UK. The aim is to create a permanent record of Cypriot Greek as it has developed in the country not only for documentation purposes but also as a point of reference for people associated with the community to explore the interplay of language, migration, identity and history and to reminisce about their own experiences. Here, we position our contribution in the frame of current advances in the study of language and migration,³ the sociolinguistics of globalisation,⁴ and the linguistic repertoire approach to multilingualism.⁵ We view both language and migration as dynamic processes that shape each other in complex ways. Multilingual speakers are not the embodiment of two (or more) monolinguals, who speak a number of named languages that are kept separate by impermeable structural boundaries. Rather, multilingual speakers have rich and varied linguistic repertoires, consisting of linguistic resources that they acquire at different spatiotemporal points along their life courses and, in the case of speakers with a migration background, different points along their migration trajectories. Multilingual speakers draw on these resources in a free and productive manner in everyday linguistic practices and processes of meaning-making. These may include the creative mixing of features originating in different sets of resources (traditionally viewed as separate languages), which can become symbolic indexes of identity and belonging both on the level of the individual speaker and that of imagined and reified communities.

We begin with a sociohistorical and linguistic overview of the UK's Greek Cypriot community, detailing the history of migration from Cyprus to the UK in the course of the 20th century and sketching the linguistic profile of Greek Cypriot migrants with an emphasis on Cypriot Greek (section 2). We discuss the Grenglish Project in terms of the motivations that underpinned its conception and launch, the impact that it set out to achieve and methodological aspects of setting up the project website as the major tool for sourcing data from the public. We also out-

2 Ioannidou 2017.

3 Canagarajah 2017, Capstick 2021.

4 Blommaert 2010, Blommaert, Rampton 2015.

5 Busch 2012, Busch 2015.

line the response the project received from Greek Cypriot beneficiaries in the UK and Cyprus including stakeholders such as the media (section 3). In the presentation of the principal findings of the project, we first provide a holistic account of the types of material that contributors submitted to the project website. We then focus on one particular type of material, morphologically integrated loanwords, that is, words such as *πάσον* /páson/ 'bus' and *πασέρης* /paséris/ 'bus driver', which have been naturalised as *bona fide* (British) Cypriot Greek words by the addition of inflectional and derivational suffixes. We analyse the morphology of such words, highlighting similarities with and differences from parallel formations in diasporic varieties of Greek that developed in other parts of the world (section 4). We finally discuss the implications of our findings for the status of British Cypriot Greek as a variety in its own right, considering its relation to Cypriot Greek as it is spoken and used in Cyprus as well as the ideological factors that shape the prospects of its intergenerational transmission (section 5). We conclude on what constitutes Grenglish from the point of view of its speakers (section 6).

2. The UK's Greek Cypriot *παροικία*: sociohistorical and linguistic overview

2.1. MIGRATION FROM CYPRUS TO THE UK

According to Mettis, John Thymides (*Ιωάννης Θεμιστοκλή Θυμίδης*, also known as Stavros Thymides) is the first Greek Cypriot known to have migrated to the UK around the year 1900.⁶ 1902 is, however, conventionally taken in the literature as the onset of Cypriot migration to the UK with the first emigrants leaving Cyprus after an extensive drought that made life in the impoverished rural areas of the island even more difficult.⁷ Migratory flows to the UK remained rather restricted until the early 1930s, when colonial reports first mentioned England as a destination for Cypriot emigrants.⁸ By the end of the decade, a small Cypriot community had been formed in Central London's West End (Soho, Fitzrovia, Camden Town), consisting primarily of men who worked in the hospitality sector as waiters and kitchen porters but also as sailors in the East End docks and lace merchants.⁹ Between 1955 and 1959, the armed clashes between British colonial forces and the Greek Cypriot nationalist guerrilla organisation EOKA (National Organisation of Cypriot Fighters) as part of the struggle for *Enosis* with Greece and subsequent clashes between EOKA and the Turkish Cypriot, pro-partition TMT (Turkish Resistance Organisation) led to a total of 29,315 people emigrating from Cyprus, 24,792 (or 85%) of whom emigrated to the UK.¹⁰ This wave was facilitated by the partial lifting of migration controls that the British government had previously imposed on Cyprus.

6 Mettis 2001, p. 284.

7 Christodoulou 1959.

8 Constantinou 1990.

9 Smith, Varnava 2017.

10 Pavlakis 2002.

Emigration from Cyprus to the UK peaked during the first three years of the newly independent Republic of Cyprus. Between 1960 and 1963, 37,288 Cypriots left the island, an increase of 21% compared to the previous period. 33,028 (or 89%) people migrated to the UK,¹¹ which had by now become the most preferred destination of Cypriot emigrants, a position that it retains to the present day. The “mass exodus”¹² of the early years of independence has been linked to a high rate of unemployment in Cyprus combined with the passing of the 1962 Commonwealth Immigrants Act, which would limit the rights of Commonwealth citizens to live and work in the UK. Cypriots who had arrived in the 1930s-1950s were another significant pull factor. In 1964, there were 78,476 Cypriots in the UK (including people who had migrated themselves and their children), a marked increase compared to 1951, when the total amounted to 10,208 people.¹³ Another exodus took place in the aftermath of the 1974 war, with 1976 seeing 5,647 Cypriots emigrating. However, this time the UK was not the favoured destination, with only 726 people (or 13%) relocating there. Economic recovery and relative political stability in Cyprus eventually drove emigration numbers down by the mid-1980s.

London has consistently attracted the bulk of Cypriot emigrants throughout the various periods of Cypriot emigration to the UK.¹⁴ As their settlement in the British capital started to become permanent, extended family units were established and the occupational range of emigrants was broadened.¹⁵ Large numbers of women worked as dressmakers, predominantly at home but also in factories, while men worked as tailors, shoemakers, barbers and hairdressers. Family-run catering businesses like grocery shops, cafés and restaurants were another popular source of income as was the textiles industry. At the same time, there was a northward movement from Central London into the Boroughs of Islington and Haringey, following a path that has been associated in popular culture with London Buses route 29 and key stops along the way including Finsbury Park, Green Lanes, Turnpike Lane and Wood Green. Later expansions saw Cypriots move into Enfield and Barnet, where large numbers reside today particularly in Palmers Green, Southgate and Winchmore Hill as well as in Finchley. Less sizeable Cypriot communities are found in major cities such as Manchester, Birmingham and Liverpool, and in towns including Weston-Super-Mare, Hastings, Great Yarmouth and Mansfield. Extended families are at the core of everyday community life, which is underpinned by all types of “diaspora pillars”¹⁶ such as community associations of different types, complementary schools, sports clubs, community media such as the *Parikiaki* newspaper and London Greek Radio, parishes of the UK's Greek Orthodox Church and a broad range of commercial and recreational establishments that serve as socialisation hubs for members of the community.

The exact number of people with a Cypriot background in today's UK is understandably difficult to establish with certainty and accuracy. More modest estimates put the figure at 150,000

11 Pavlakis 2002.

12 Constantinou 1990.

13 George, Millerson 1967.

14 Cylwik 2002.

15 Anthias 1992.

16 Li, Zhu 2013; Li 2018.

people, while more generous ones put it at 300,000 individuals.¹⁷ These numbers do not typically include Cypriot students who come to the UK to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies at university or Cypriot professionals of the so-called brain drain who either migrate to or stay in the UK after completing their studies in order to secure employment in highly-skilled sectors.¹⁸ The numbers above generally attempt to capture the size of the so-called *κυπριακή παροικία*, the long-established diasporic community that developed out of the Cypriot emigrants of the mid-20th century. If students and professionals create and maintain social networks and connections with other Cypriots in the UK, these are often outside the *παροικία*.

2.2. THE LANGUAGES OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT ΠΑΡΟΙΚΙΑ

Members of the UK's Greek Cypriot *παροικία* are multilingual and have rich and complex linguistic repertoires that encompass both standardised and non-standardised varieties of English and Greek. As far as English is concerned, they use Standard English and non-standardised English varieties associated with their (socio)linguistic biographies such as Brummie, Cockney or even Multicultural London English, especially younger generations. In terms of Greek, community members use predominantly Cypriot Greek in everyday communication and Standard Greek in more formal instances such as in public events, community media, complementary schools and the church. Competences in these languages and varieties differ across age groups with older, Cyprus-born speakers being dominant in (Cypriot) Greek and often having a rudimentary knowledge of English.¹⁹ UK-born speakers, especially those belonging to the so-called third or even fourth generations in that both their parents and grandparents were born in the UK, tend to be dominant in English. Among these groups, we find an extensive amount of heterogeneity in competence and degree of use of Greek both across different speakers and even within single speakers along different points in their lifetimes. Overgeneralising somewhat, Cypriot Greek will be the variety they will be most likely to be familiar with, having been naturally exposed to it since birth at their homes and within their local community networks. Sustained exposure to Standard Greek will normally be through Greek complementary schools that operate in the UK, Greek-speaking media and online as well as through interactions with speakers from Greece.

Like many other languages, Cypriot Greek did not 'freeze' in time when it was transplanted from Cyprus to the UK by the early Cypriot migrants. Rather, it continued to develop and did so in a unique way, gradually acquiring an interesting combination of linguistic features.²⁰ Karatsareas has identified:²¹

17 Anthias 1990, Constantinides 1990, Constantinou 1990, Charlauti 2006, Pavlakis 2002.

18 Vryonides 2017.

19 Christodoulou-Pipis 1991, Gardner-Chloros 1992.

20 McEntee-Atalianis, Pouloukas 2001; Gardner-Chloros, McEntee-Atalianis, Finnis 2005; Georgakopoulou, Finnis 2009; Paraskeva 2012; Finnis 2014.

21 Karatsareas 2019.

- a) Lexical items (words) and phonological variants (sounds) that trace their origin to the local Cypriot Greek varieties that early migrants spoke, for example the varieties of Pafos or Karpasia. Many of these are no longer used or are becoming obsolete in Cyprus, having been replaced by more frequent words/sounds or by words/sounds that are associated with Standard Greek.
- b) A considerable amount of codeswitching between English, Cypriot Greek and Standard Greek in the same sentence or across different sentences.
- c) New words and structures that have been borrowed into Cypriot Greek either directly from English or in the model of English.

In diasporic communities, language shift from the so-called home, heritage or community language to the majority language of the host society typically occurs within two or three generations.²² The UK's Greek Cypriot *παροικία* is no exception in that respect. Anaxagorou predicted that Cypriot Greek would not be maintained past the second generation.²³ This was later confirmed on the basis of quantitative evidence showing that UK-born adolescents speak English with most members of their families with the sole exception of their grandparents with whom they used Greek.²⁴ More recent research has corroborated the finding that English is perceived as the first and dominant language for everyday interactions within the community.²⁵ In addition to English, pressure on Cypriot Greek is also exerted by Standard Greek and ideological associations that view the former as a 'dialect' as opposed to a 'language on its own right' and especially as a 'heavy', 'villagey', 'incorrect' or even 'broken' linguistic form or 'slang' whose intergenerational transmission is not encouraged and whose use is to be avoided even in informal settings such as the home.²⁶

To a certain extent, these perceptions reflect ideologies that are found in the original context of Cyprus, where the two varieties are associated with a set of distinct values. Matched-guise tests have shown that speakers of Cypriot Greek regarded speakers of Standard Greek as more educated, modern, pleasant, intelligent, interesting. In contrast, Cypriot Greek speakers were regarded as less educated but friendlier, more sincere and more humorous.²⁷ There is also a binary distinction between 'town speech' and 'village speech'.²⁸ 'Village speech' (*χωρκατικά*) is the basilect of the dialect continuum and is stereotypically associated with low levels of education, rural areas and old age,²⁹ whereas 'town speech' is the acrolectal variety of Cypriot Greek.³⁰ Speakers are aware of the different points of the continuum of Cypriot Greek and

22 Potowski 2013, Alvanoudi 2019.

23 Anaxagorou 1990.

24 Papapavlou, Pavlou 2001, cf. Gardner-Chloros, McEntee-Atalianis, Finnis 2005.

25 Hadjidemetriou 2015.

26 Karatsareas 2018, Karatsareas 2020.

27 Papapavlou 1998, Papapavlou 2002.

28 Tsiplakou 2004, p. 3; Terkourafi 2005, p. 326; Arvaniti 2006-2010, p. 18.

29 Charalambidou 2015, p. 122.

30 Pavlou 2004, p. 11.

often perceive themselves as speakers of a mesolectal variety.³¹ In practice there is a continuum of usage between local Standard Greek, acrolectal and basilectal Cypriot Greek and different registers can be employed agentively for a range of communicative purposes.³² For example, Terkourafi has shown that the variations of Cypriot Greek rather than being associated with the rural-urban continuum, are more related to register shifts: more basilectal varieties index a more informal style and more acrolectal varieties a more formal style.³³

That said, Cypriot Greek, and to a certain extent Standard Greek as well, is viewed as part of the community's cultural heritage but not considered essential for people's involvement in the different forms of community life and everyday activities. This means that Cypriot Greek and especially its, inevitably non-standardised, diasporic varieties, which carry forward notions of low (or, rather, covert) prestige, are facing the prospect of extinction in the context of the UK's Greek Cypriot *παροικία*.

3. The Grenglish Project

The motivation to embark on the Grenglish Project was based on initial observations about the distinct character that Cypriot Greek had developed in London's Greek Cypriot *παροικία* and the fervent interest and attention it received from community members on social media. For the purposes of our project, we chose the term "Grenglish", as it is most often encountered in social media to describe the British variety of Cypriot Greek and, as a portmanteau word, indexes the hybridity between (a variety of) Greek and English. We did not opt for alternatives that were suggested to us, such as "Cypglis" as the term would imply that the only language of Cyprus is Cypriot Greek, erasing the other languages of the island, especially Cypriot Turkish that developed in parallel ways in the UK diaspora.³⁴ Also, we discounted "Greeklis", as the term has been associated since the 1990s with Standard Greek or Cypriot Greek written in the Roman alphabet (typically in the context of digitally written language).³⁵

In May 2019, our community engagement project was launched in collaboration with UK-wide organisations and members of London's Greek Cypriot community. Our aims were to enhance and capitalise on the community's interest in its language and to create a permanent record of aspects of its linguistic history in a way that would involve community members and have a positive impact. We set out to bring together the Greek Cypriot *παροικία* in a collective effort to document and celebrate its language as a symbol of culture, an expression of identity and an emblem of diasporic migrant history. Fostering positive attitudes towards Cypriot Greek as a non-standardised variety was particularly important in this respect as was facilitating

31 Papapavlou, Sophocleous 2009.

32 Goutsos, Karyolemu 2004, p. 7; Tsiplakou *et al.* 2006, p. 266.

33 Terkourafi 2005, p. 326.

34 Adalar, Tagliamonte 1998.

35 Androutsopoulos 2012; Xydopoulos, Tzortzatos, Archakis 2019; Evripidou 2020.

the maintenance and acquisition of all Greek varieties in community members' linguistic repertoires, both standardised and non-standardised ones. On a more structural level, we also wanted to explore convergences and divergences in lexical borrowing between the UK's Greek Cypriot diaspora and other Greek-speaking communities across the world, including in the USA, Canada and Australia.

Our main tool for both data collection and community engagement was a dedicated project website (<https://www.grenglish.org>), which was built on a custom Drupal platform and is hosted by Amazon. We chose to use our custom-made website rather than mine data from social media as we wanted to encourage the active engagement of the community with the project.³⁶ We also wanted to ensure that the contributors gave us their informed consent to use their data, as participants' expectations of publicness/privacy vary greatly within and across social media sites.³⁷ We also created a dedicated Twitter account (@GrenglishProj) and used that as well as existing networks and contacts to publicise the project. In public calls for contributions, we invited speakers of Cypriot Greek in the UK to upload what they understood as 'Grenglish' material, including words and their meanings; photographs of things, places, events, activities that have something to do with Grenglish; stories that involve the use of Grenglish in the UK, Cyprus or elsewhere; and, thoughts, comments or feelings about Grenglish.

On the website, we did not elaborate on the exact definition of 'Grenglish', we did however provide two brief definitions in passing that pointed to morphologically integrated loanwords. In the homepage, we referred to Grenglish words as "English words that the UK's Greek Cypriots borrowed from English and turned into Greek"³⁸ and in the 'About' section we referred to the "borrowing of English words and their incorporation into the Cypriot Greek grammatical system".³⁹ As "one good case can illuminate the workings of a social system in a way that a series of morphological statements cannot achieve",⁴⁰ we foregrounded some telling⁴¹ examples in the project's website written in the Roman alphabet exclusively (in the home page) and also in both the Greek and Roman alphabets (in the 'About' section). These included:

- a) morphologically integrated loanwords: *pason* 'bus', *ketlon* 'kettle', *Chinezos* 'Chinese man', *νόττης/nottis* 'naughty boy', *νότισσα/nottissa* 'naughty girl', *μουβάρω/muvaro* 'I move'; and,
- b) phonological adaptations of English placenames: *Captain Tow* 'Camden Town', *Φίσιμπουρι Πιάρκ/Fishbury Park* 'Finshbury Park' and *Koungri* 'Woodgreen'.

Contributors were free to submit any material they considered to be 'Grenglish', and we allowed the publication of all examples, regardless of whether they fit our given definitions.

³⁶ For internet-based crowdsourcing of language data, see Leemann *et al.* 2016, p. 2.

³⁷ Spilioti, Tagg 2017, p. 166.

³⁸ <https://www.grenglish.org> (accessed 29 November 2020).

³⁹ <https://www.grenglish.org/#project> (accessed 29 November 2020).

⁴⁰ Gluckman 1961, p. 9.

⁴¹ Mitchell 1984, Andrews 2017.

Members of the community were able to submit their contributions quickly through the website, without needing to create an account and only needed to provide a name (or pseudonym), thus removing additional barriers for participation. Submitters were invited to allow us to collect detailed geotagging data, so that we could document the geographical distribution of specific linguistic forms. A minority of participants preferred to submit their materials via email or to the project's Twitter account.

All contributions to the website were automatically publicly visible. We also posted to the website contributions we received via email (provided the email senders gave their permission) and on Twitter. Adopting a reflexive-linguistic approach to internet research ethics,⁴² informants' full names or Twitter usernames were concealed before email and Twitter contributions were posted to the website. The website afforded us the opportunity to export all contributions in an Excel spreadsheet. This database formed the raw data of this article.

The project and its website received considerable publicity. The call for contributions was covered by all major community media, including twice by the *Parikiaki* newspaper (15/06/2019 and 10/08/2019) and also by *London Greek Radio*. Stevie Georgiou, a well-known British-born Cypriot comedian, released a promotional video about the project on his social media sites in May 2019. Media in Cyprus also showed interest in the project, which was covered by *Phileftheros* and *Politis*, the leading newspapers in Cyprus, and the English-language news site *In-Cyprus* in late June 2019. The authors were interviewed live on *Astra 92.8* radio station and *Alpha TV* in early July 2019. Local religious and arts community organisations in London have also supported the project. We were invited to present the project to the congregations of Greek Orthodox parishes in social events and via newsletters. In November 2019, we were commissioned by the Camden Arts Centre to organise a themed tour of Camden Town based on the findings of our project, which we titled "Exploring narratives and histories of Camden's Cypriot community". We also presented the project in the online festival that was organised in October 2020 by the High Commission of Cyprus in the UK to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the Republic of Cyprus.

4. The lexical stock of British Cypriot Greek

4.1 OVERVIEW OF FINDINGS

Garnering support from media and community organisations as well as individuals, the website attracted considerable attention. A total of 495 contributions were submitted on the Grenchlish website between May 2019 and September 2020, including a wide range of words as well as numerous anecdotes, memories and photographs. We extracted all the contributions that included lexical material and catalogued all the words that were submitted, building an index consisting of 2004 lexical submissions. Each submission was tagged for the following

42 Mackenzie 2017, p. 299.

information: English lexical item, Lexical item submitted, Source (website, email, Twitter), Contributor, Standard Greek equivalent, Cypriot Greek equivalent, Semantic field. The main semantic fields identified were: food and drink, clothing, household, type of establishment, everyday object, placename, profession and popular culture.

The transcription of the submitted words varied considerably. The majority of the submissions utilised the Roman alphabet with only 12% utilising the Greek alphabet. For example, for the most frequently submitted word *πάσον* /páson/ 'bus', the following transcriptions were recorded:

- a) Phonetically/phonologically-motivated representations using the Roman alphabet: *baso*, *bason*, *basso*, *paso*, *to mbaso*
- b) Transcriptions based on English orthography of the source word *bus*: *buso*, *buson*, *busso*, *bússso*, *bussoh*, *busson*
- c) Transcriptions using the Greek alphabet: *πάσο*, *το μπάσον*

Without accompanied oral data, it is hard to determine whether and to what extent the various transcriptions represent different phonological realisations or result from adherence to different orthographic conventions. For the purposes of this article, we have opted to present the words submitted with the Greek alphabet, including noting the Cypriot Greek phonemes that do not constitute part of the phonological inventory of Standard Greek employing the most commonly used, although far from standardised, orthographic conventions.⁴³ This a naturalised transcription⁴⁴ that conforms to written discourse conventions (e.g., spelling) and is thus accessible to the untrained reader. The direct correlation between (combinations of) letters and phonemes of the Greek writing system allows us to circumvent the idiosyncrasies of the English orthographic system. Of course, every transcription system is inherently partial, biased and ideological in as much as it reflects the theoretical goals of the transcribers.⁴⁵ Presenting the words submitted in the Greek alphabet enables us to present British Cypriot Greek not as exotic or alien but as a legitimate variety of Cypriot Greek. We also transcribe our examples in the International Phonetic Alphabet to show the phonetic features of the words submitted and to make them accessible to readers not familiar with the Greek alphabet. We exceptionally use an acute accent to indicate stress instead of a superscripted vertical line preceding the stressed syllable.

Although we anticipated to receive mainly submissions of English loanwords that were integrated into the morphological and phonological system of Cypriot Greek, in fact the submissions were more wide ranging. We grouped submissions to the following broad categories:

1. Morphologically integrated English loanwords

The most frequently submitted terms of this category (see Table 1) are stable in terms of their grammatical characteristics in British Cypriot Greek (e.g., grammatical gender, inflec-

43 Postalveolar fricatives [ʒ] and [ʝ] are transcribed here as ζι and σι, if they are followed by a vowel. Geminate consonants are transcribed as double letters.

44 Bucholtz 2000, p. 1461.

45 Ochs 1979, p. 44.

tional class), but lesser common ones can vary. For instance, all three submissions for ‘fan’ are assigned different genders and inflections: ο φάνος /o fános/, η φάνα /i fána/, το φάνι /to fáni/.

2. Phonologically adapted loanwords with no morphological integration

Examples include μπέκκι πλάουτε /^mbék^h:i p^h:áute/ ‘baking powder’ and κκάανσελ /k^h:áansel/ ‘council’. Names of places, celebrities and brands typically belong to this category: φέσποουκ /fésbuk/ ‘Facebook’, Μαξεσπέσες /maksespés:es/ ‘Marks and Spencer’s’, Φίσπουρι Ππα(κ) /físpuri p^h:a(k)/ ‘Finsbury Park’, Κουγκρίν /ku^ŋgrín/ ‘Wood Green’.

3. Words that are also found in Cypriot Greek as spoken in Cyprus

Some of the submissions included basilectal terms such as αψιουρίστηκα /apsurístika/ ‘I sneezed’, φκιόρα /fcóra/ ‘flowers’ and στούπωμα /stúp^h:oma/ ‘lid’.

It would appear that more than three quarters of the words in this category were perceived, at least by some speakers, as UK-specific morphologically integrated loanwords (Category 1) by virtue of their structure, which consists of a stem that has an English cognate followed by a Greek inflectional suffix. This was the case of words belonging to three distinct types:

- a) Words that both Cypriot Greek and English borrowed from the same or related languages. For example, πέννα ‘pen’, which was borrowed from Italo-Romance *penna*, was thought to be an adaptation of English *pen*, which was itself borrowed from Middle French *penne*.
- b) Words that were borrowed from English in Cyprus and have been used in Cyprus for several decades such as τσιέκκιν /tʃ^h:éc^h:in/ ‘cheque’.
- c) English words that are of Greek origin, e.g. μουστάτζιν /mustátʃin/ ‘mustache’.

A few Cypriot Greek words that are inaccurately but widely believed to be of English origin were also submitted, including αμπάλατος /a^mbálatos/ ‘idiot’, which is thought to be an adaptation of ‘unbalanced’, τσαέρα /ts^h:aéra/ ‘chair’, and συκκιρτισμένος /sic^h:irtizménos/ ‘exasperated’, thought to come from ‘sick and tired’.⁴⁶

Finally, we identified four instances of semantic shift. Most examples are generalisations of meaning⁴⁷ in the UK use of a pre-existing Greek word as seen in σερβίρω /servíro/ ‘to serve a customer in any setting’ in the UK but ‘to serve in a hospitality setting’ in Cyprus, and στάμπα /stám^mba/ meaning both ‘an instrument for stamping and ‘postage stamp’ in the UK and not just the former as in Cyprus.

⁴⁶ For a discussion of the folk etymology of these terms, see Sarantakos 2017. We can see in the submissions to the Grenglish website that some contributors orient to these false etymologies, as they mention in their English translations the words ‘unbalanced’ and ‘sick and tired’, which are not direct translations of the terms but point to their purported English origin.

⁴⁷ Warren 1999, p. 224.

4. Puns and Wordplay

These are often made for humorous effect. Examples include Έλα να σ' ακκάσω /éla na s ak^h:aso/ 'Elephant and Castle' literally 'let me bite you' and Κρικ Λέινς /krik léins/ 'Green Lanes' made to sound like Greek Lanes.

5. Cypriot Greek loanwords integrated into English

These are typically created by second- and third-generation Greek Cypriots and are of two types:

- a) Loanwords that have been formed by clipping Cypriot Greek forms, some of which include an -s suffix which is used in English to derive nicknames or pet names: *gooms* from κουμέρα /kuméra/ 'maid of honour', *cojack* from κοτζιάκαρη /kotjákari/ 'old woman', *negatch* or *nagatch* from νεκατσιώ /nekat^h:ó/ or ανακατσιώ /anakat^h:ó/ 'to feel disgust', *rezilz* from ρεζιλλικκιν /rez:il:í^h:in/ 'embarrassment, shame'.
- b) Loanwords that have been formed by the addition of English suffixes to Cypriot Greek bases as in *angouration* from αγγούριν /aⁿgúrin/ 'cucumber' and *nistepseeing* from νηστεύκω /nistéfkω/ 'to fast'.

The overwhelming majority of submissions fall under the first three categories. The development of phonologically and morphologically integrated loanwords does not necessarily preclude the maintenance of the original Greek words for the same concept. For instance, both πάγκος /páⁿgos/ and πέντσης /péⁿdzis/ are encountered for the meaning 'bench' and both πότσα /póts^h:a/ and πότλο /pótlo/ were submitted for 'bottle'.

A quarter of the words submitted were only mentioned once in our database. This is unsurprising, given the oral, ever-changing and non-standardised form of British Cypriot Greek, comprising idiolect, familylect⁴⁸ and also terms used widely in the UK. At the same time, a number of lexical items were submitted multiple times. The ten most frequently submitted words are shown in table 1.

English word	Word submitted	Times submitted
bus	πάσον	44
fish and chip shop	φισιάτικον	32
box	πόξιν/ποξιούιν	27
sausage	σόσιντζια	26
chicken	τσιίκιν /τσιικούιν	25
market	μαρκέττα	25
policeman	πολισιμάνος/-α	25
ambulance	άμπουλα	19
basket	πασκέττα	19
dustbin	τάσπιν	18

Table 1 — Most frequently submitted words to the grenglish.org website.

48 Van Mensel 2018.

All top ten words are (or, could be perceived to be) morphological adaptations of English loanwords, which we further explore in the next section.⁴⁹ Although there is significant variation in form in the corpus (for instance, the three occurrences of ‘business man’ are all different: *πίζινες μαν* /píz:ines man/, *πιζιναδόρος* /piz:inaðóros/ and *πιζινάρης* /piz:ináris/), in the higher-frequency words there is overwhelming convergence between the various submissions of the same term. The frequency of occurrence and stability of form of the words listed in **table 1** suggest that they are understood by their speakers to be indexical⁵⁰ of the variety of Cypriot Greek spoken in the UK.

4.2 MORPHOLOGICALLY INTEGRATED LOANWORDS

Our data suggest that the full integration of English words into the morphological system of Cypriot Greek was very common among early Greek Cypriot migrants who were dominant in Cypriot Greek and for the most part had a rudimentary knowledge of English. This is in line with the findings of studies on other Greek-speaking diasporas such as the ones in Australia,⁵¹ Belgium,⁵² Canada⁵³ and the United States of America,⁵⁴ as well as communities speaking other languages across the world, for example Hungarian speakers in Australia,⁵⁵ Sicilian speakers in the UK⁵⁶ and Cypriot Turkish speakers in the UK.⁵⁷ Another similarity lies in the fact that the vast majority of morphologically integrated loanwords that we collected were nouns, while a number of British Cypriot Greek loanwords have parallel developments in other diasporic varieties of Greek; see **table 2**.

English	British Cypriot Greek	Australian Greek ⁵⁸	Canadian Greek ⁵⁹
bill	πίλιν	μπίλια	μπίλι
box	πόξιν	μπόξι	μπόξι
bus	πάσον	μπάσι	μπάσι
bus driver	πασέρης		μπασέρης
car	κάρον	κάρο	κάρο
contract	κοντράτον	κοντράτο	
floor	φλόριν	φλόρι	φλόρι

49 Πολισμάνος (/polismános/ rather than /polifmános/) is also encountered in some varieties of Greek, and άμπουλα and τάσπιν are also encountered in the Cypriot Greek of Cyprus.

50 Silverstein 2003, p. 193.

51 Alvanouidi 2019, Tamis 1986.

52 Hatzidaki 1994.

53 Ralli, Makri 2020.

54 Seaman 1972, Economou 2001.

55 Hatoss 2016.

56 Rocchi 2006.

57 Adalar, Tagliamonte 1998.

58 Alvanouidi 2019.

59 Ralli, Makri 2020.

freezer	φρίζα	φρίζα	φρίτζα
market	μαρκέττα	μαρκέτα	μαρκέτα
roll	ρόλος		ρολός

Table 2 — Morphologically integrated loanwords in British Cypriot Greek, Australian Greek and Canadian Greek.

In British Cypriot Greek, fully integrated loanwords fall into two categories: direct and indirect insertions.⁶⁰ Direct insertions consist of an English-origin stem, whose sound shape has been adapted to the phonology of Cypriot Greek, followed by a thematic vowel and an inflectional suffix expressing gender, case and number (1).⁶¹ In indirect insertions, one or more derivational suffixes are found between the stem and the thematic vowel functioning as morphological integrators (2). Direct insertion is found with nouns, while indirect insertion occurs with some nouns (2a–d), adjectives (2e), verbs (2f–g) and verbal forms (2h).

(1) direct insertion

- a. ρόλ-ο-ς
 ról-o-s
 roll-TH-M.NOM.SG
 ‘bread roll’
- b. πάνκ-α-∅
 pá^hk-a
 bank-TH-F.NOM/ACC.SG
 ‘bank’
- c. πás-ο-ν
 pás-o-n
 bus-TH-N.NOM/ACC.SG
 ‘bus’

(2) indirect insertion

- a. πασ-έρ-η-ς
 pas-ér-i-s
 bus-DERIV-TH-M.NOM.SG
 ‘bus driver’

⁶⁰ Wolgemuth 2009.

⁶¹ The following abbreviations are used in the glosses of linguistic examples: 1: first person, 3: third person, ACC: accusative, DERIV: derivation, F: feminine, M: masculine, N: neuter, NOM: nominative, NP: non-past, PERF: perfective, PTCP: participle, SG: singular, TH: thematic vowel.

- b. μαναντζιέρ-αιν-α-∅
manaⁿdžér-en-a
manager-DERIV-TH-F.NOM/ACC.SG
'female manager'
- c. φακ-λίγκ-ι-ν
fak-líc^h:-i-n
fuck-DERIV-TH.N.NOM/ACC.SG
'swearing'
- d. φισι-άτ-ικ-ο-ν
fiʃ-át-ik-o-n
fish-DERIV-DERIV-TH.N.NOM/ACC.SG
'fish-and-chip shop'
- e. τσιύππ-ικ-ο-ν
tʃ^h:íp^h:-ik-o-n
cheap-DERIV-DERIV-TH.N.NOM/ACC.SG
'cheap'
- f. μοππ-άρ-ω
mop^h:-ár-o
mop-DERIV-1SG.NP
'to mop'
- g. ε-στίμ-ω(ν)-σ-εν
e-stim-ó(n)-s-en
AUG-steam-DERIV-PERF-3SG.NP
'it steamed'
- h. μπουκκ-αρ-ισ-μέν-η-∅
^mbuk^h:-ar-is-mén-i
book-DERIV-DERIV-PTCP-TH-F.NOM/ACC.SG
'booked up (F)'

In (1)-(2), the phonemes that compose the nominal and verbal stems copy all of the phonemes found in the original English words (/rəʃl/ → /rol-/; /baŋk/ → /paⁿk-/; /bʌs-/ → /pas-/; /manɪdʒə/ → /manaⁿdžer-/; /fæk-/ → /fak-/; /fiʃ/ → /fiʃ-/; /tʃi:p/ → /tʃ^h:ip/; /mɒp/ → /mop-/; /sti:m/ → /stim-/; /bʊk/ → /^mbuk^h:-/).

In other cases, the English forms were reanalysed so that their endings were mapped onto Cypriot Greek thematic vowels and inflectional suffixes. This process applied to nouns ending

in /ə/, which was reanalysed as an -a- thematic vowel (3). This matching was most possibly aided by the phonological similarity between the Greek thematic vowel and the open realisation /ɐ/, which is sometimes found in London English instead of the schwa in word-final position.⁶² In a limited number of cases, /ʌ/ was reanalysed as -a- following the deletion of a word-final nasal as in (3c). Reanalysis is also found in nouns ending in /i/, which was reinterpreted as an -i- thematic vowel (4), and nouns ending in /m/ with /i/ being reanalysed as an -i- thematic vowel and /n/ as the -n inflectional suffix (5). In these forms, the phonemic correspondence between the English forms and the British Cypriot Greek stems is only partial: /gʌvnə/ → /kavn-/ , /kəkə/ → /k^h:uk^h:-/ , /tʃu:m gʌm/ → /tʃ^h:ú^hg-/ , /nɔ:ti/ → /nɔt^h:-/ , /bɔki/ → /^mbuk^h:-/ , /lɔri/ → /lɔr-/ , /kɪtʃ^h:m/ → /k^h:itʃ^h:-/ , /tʃɪkɪn/ → /tʃ^h:ik-/.

- (3) a. κάβν-α-ς
kavn-a-s
gʌv'nɔr-TH-M.NOM.SG
'gʌv'nɔr'
- b. κκούκκ-α-∅
k^h:úk^h:-a
cooker-TH-F.NOM/ACC.SG
'cooker'
- c. τσιούινγκ-α-∅
tʃ^h:ú^hg-a
chewing.gum-TH-F.NOM/ACC.SG
'chewing gum'
- (4) a. νόττ-η-ς
nót^h:-i-s
naughty-TH-M.NOM.SG
'naughty (M)'
- b. μπούκκ-η-ς
mbúk^h:-i-s
bookie-TH-M.NOM.SG
'bookie'
- c. λόρ-ι-ν
lór-i-n

lorry-TH-N.NOM/ACC.SG
‘lorry’

(5) a. κκίτσι-ι-ν
k^h:itʃ^h:-i-n
kitchen-TH-N.NOM/ACC.SG
‘kitchen’

b. τσίικ-ι-ν
tʃ^h:ik-i-n
chicken-TH-N.NOM/ACC.SG
‘chicken’

Two different but frequently reported instances of reanalysis involved the back-formation of singular British Cypriot Greek nouns on the basis of the English plural forms ‘sausages’ and ‘oranges’. Here, the English plural suffix /əz/ was mapped to the Greek suffix -ες, which is also one of the available plural markers in the language. The resulting plurals σόσιντζιες and όριντζιες were assigned to one of two feminine inflectional classes, subsequently leading to the formation of the singular forms σόσιντζια ‘sausage’ and όριντζια ‘orange, orange juice, orangeade’.

- (6) a. sausages /sɒsɪdʒəz/ > σόσιντζι-ες /sosiⁿdʒ-es/ > σόσιντζι-α-∅ /sosiⁿdʒ-a/
b. oranges /ɒrɪndʒəz/ > όριντζι-ες /oriⁿdʒ-es/ > όριντζι-α-∅ /oriⁿdʒ-a/

Once integrated into the British Cypriot Greek inflectional system, loanwords participate in morphological processes, both inflectional and derivational, in the same way as native and other inherited words. Consider the past-tense form εστίμωσεν in (2g) or the participle μπουκκαρισμένη in (2h) above as well as the neuter stem allomorphy -μα- ~ -ματ- in (7a) as in the native αρώτημαν ~ αρωτήματα and the diminutive formation in (7b), which employs the most common diminutive suffix in Cypriot Greek -ού(ιν). Morphologically integrated loanwords are also subject to the same morphophonological rules as native lexical items.⁶³ This can be seen in the hardening of the glide /ria/ → /rja/ → [rka] in plural forms such as the ones in (8a) as in the native ζάριν ~ ζάρκα and in the palatalisation /sia/ → /sja/ → [ʃa] 8b) as in αμάξιν ~ αμάξια.⁶⁴

- (7) a. SG αππόιμμα-ν /ap^h:óim:an/ ‘appointment’
PL απποίμματ-α /ap^h:óim:ata/

63 Newton 1972.

64 Nevins, Chitoran 2008.

- b. πέριπιν /péripin/ 'baby'
πεπούιν /perúin/ 'baby (dim)'
- (8) a. SG λόριιν /lórin/ 'lorry'
PL λόρκα /lor-i-a/ → /lorja/ → [lórkɑ]
- b. SG πόξιιν /póksin/ 'box'
PL πόξια /poks-i-a/ → /poksja/ → [pókʃɑ]

The analysis of our dataset further showed that the processes of loanword integration in British Cypriot Greek were driven by the same range of phonological, morphological and semantic factors that have been found to be at play in the integration of loanwords in other Modern Greek varieties, including the standard language.⁶⁵ Nouns denoting male and female humans were assigned to masculine and feminine inflectional classes, respectively; for example, *λάλλος* /lál:os/ 'landlord' or *κκούινα* /k^h:uína/ 'Queen'. Nouns denoting nationalities were borrowed as masculine-feminine pairs such as *Ιντιάνος* /iⁿdiános/ 'Indian (m)' and *Ιντιάνα* /iⁿdiána/ 'Indian (f)'. Inanimate nouns were distributed across all three genders. Nouns whose English forms ended in consonants were assigned to the *iv*-neuter inflectional class as in *πίλιν* /pílin/ 'bill' and *χοτέλλιν* /xotél:in/ 'hotel'; the *ov*-neuter class as in *κάρων* /káron/ 'car' or *κκέτλον* /c^h:étlon/ 'kettle'; or, the *os*-masculine class as in *μάππος* /máph^h:os/ 'mop' or *ρόλος* /rólos/ 'roll'. Some nouns exhibit variation between the *ov*-neuter and *os*-masculine classes. This is found, for example, with *κκέτλον* /c^h:étlon/ ~ *κκέτλος* /c^h:étlos/ 'kettle' and *μάππον* /máph^h:on/ ~ *μάππος* /máph^h:os/ 'mop'. Nouns ending in /ə/, which as was mentioned may be realised as /e/ in London, were assigned to the *α*-feminine class: *μήτρα* /mítra/ 'meter', *χίττα* /xít^h:a/ 'heater' or *χούβα* /xúva/ 'hoover'. In such nouns, it was the phonological shape of the original English nouns that served as the model for the creation of the British Cypriot Greek copy and not their orthographical representation, which is the basis of Cypriot Greek loanwords such as the neuter noun (μ)πόιλερ /^mbóiler/ or /póiler/ 'boiler'. Native morphological integrators were used in the integration of verbs (-αρ- in *τσιαρτζιάρω* /tʃ^h:ardzáro/ 'to charge', -αρ- and -ισκ- in *μουβαρίσκω* /muvarísko/ 'to move', -ωνν- in *σιμώννω* /stimón:o/ 'to steam'), adjectives (-ικ- in *τσιίπικος* /tʃ^h:íp^h:ikos/ 'cheap'), and some attributive feminine nouns (-ισσ- in *κράφτισσα* /kráftis:a/ 'crafty', *πλόντισσα* /plóⁿdis:a/ 'blonde' or *στίντζισσα* /stíⁿdzis:a/ 'stingy').

5. The ephemerality of linguistic hybridity

The Grenglish Project showed that migration to the UK did not bring a halt to the diachronic development of Cypriot Greek. The language(s) that early migrants brought with them contin-

65 Gavriilidou, Mitits 2020; Ralli, Makri 2020.

ued to evolve post migration and be enriched by novel lexical items, both words and longer units such as phrases, that were borrowed (or, rather, copied) from English and added into the inherited lexical stock. Although not all of the lexical innovations were fully integrated into the Cypriot Greek inflectional system, many were, while all borrowings were adapted to the phonology of the language. These processes took place independently of the (socio)linguistic developments that saw the levelling of intradialectal differences in Cyprus and the rise of the pan-Cypriot koiné,⁶⁶ having as a result the divergence of British Cypriot Greek from the Greek-speaking contingent of the island and its rise as a separate variety in its own right.

The independence of British Cypriot Greek from Cypriot Greek as it is used in Cyprus was evidenced in some of the comments that respondents submitted on the project website alongside their examples of Grenglish words and phrases. The co-existence of older Cypriot Greek forms with English borrowings is succinctly encapsulated in a quote from Andreas, whereas Tom's use of *εξπριρότητα* /*ekspiriótita*/ 'experience' suggests that divergence between the homeland and the diasporic varieties is not merely lexical or even structural, it is also social. As British Cypriot Greek was transmitted to new generations of British-born speakers with varying degrees of transnational connections with and exposure to linguistic developments in Cyprus, the boundaries between what is and what is not Grenglish became increasingly blurred, as was also evidenced by the submission of words that are used not only in Cyprus but also in Greece. These attracted the attention of some submitters who commented on the linguistic knowledge of other submitters. See, for example, Angie's thoughts below:

My family also tends to use much more old fashioned words that people stopped using in Cyprus i.e. *Νερό της φουντάνας, κολάνι* instead of *ζώνη*. Often when visiting Cyprus English-Cypriot words will slip out, and people will be confused ie. *πόξι* for *κουτί* is the most common one I use.

Andreas

A greekification of the word "experience" that I had to wait until I was 18 years old and describing something as a good experience to a group of people who all laughed at me to find out that not everyone says it.

Tom

Some people think that a certain word is Grenglish when actually it is a Cypriot word i.e: *botsa* and *bounka*. I saw a lot of words like that in people's contributions. It's as though some people can't differentiate between Cypriot and Grenglish. I may sound like I'm being picky, but I'd like [to] believe that I know my language well for a Cypriot born in the UK.

Angie

⁶⁶ Terkourafi 2005, p. 310; Tsiplakou *et al.* 2006.

Andreas's and Tom's quotes also provide a glimpse to the reactions that the use of material that is perceived as British Cypriot Greek might trigger, especially but not exclusively among speakers of homeland varieties of Cypriot Greek. Our engagement with the public as part of our project brought to light linguistic ideologies about the perceived status of Grenglish material, that of British Cypriot Greek as a whole and even the worthiness of efforts to document and preserve it at all. We received comments assigning low value to British Cypriot Greek, often reproducing puristic⁶⁷ tropes that are commonly expressed in Greek-speaking contexts and which draw legitimacy from two powerful ideological schemata: the prestige of antiquity and the primacy of written language.⁶⁸ British Cypriot Greek forms and structures were constructed as deviations from these principles by virtue of their predominantly spoken use and the extent to which they mix material from (Cypriot) Greek and English, two bounded linguistic entities that are to be kept separate. Any interaction between the two, including the borrowing and integration of English linguistic material into (Cypriot) Greek and the combined use of English and (Cypriot) Greek in codeswitching or translanguaging⁶⁹ was seen as contaminating the Hellenic purity of the ancestral language. Such views sometimes incorporated allusions to the socioeconomic, educational and linguistic profiles of early Greek Cypriot migrants and associations between their perceived knowledge of English (or lack thereof) and the low value or quality of their linguistic creations. These are crystallised in two tweets, as well as in an email we received on 11 June 2019 in response to our call for submitters. In a public event that we held in a local Greek Cypriot community in autumn 2019, an attendee voiced the opinion that Grenglish was “not Greek, not English, nothing” and “not part of my heritage”, that designation only rightfully belonging to elements of ancient Greek culture that either survive or are taught in the Greek Cypriot *παροικία*.

Anyway, most of these words are just mispronunciations, transliterations and adaptations of our uneducated immigrant grandparents who did what they could with the very little they've known. Just some silly word creations which fall into the realm of “dad jokes”.

Twitter user: “Kouvenda”, 3 June 2019

Recording is a good initiative but let's not fall into a self inflicted trap of promoting incorrect use of English and Greek. By doing so we will be undermining the hard work and resources invested in greek schools around the UK to teach our children the proper use of Greek.

Twitter user: “Kouvenda”, 3 June 2019

Personally I do not agree with this project as the community schools have done the maximum to ensure that 2nd and 3rd generation children write and speak the correct Greek language and we do not need to present the ‘grenglish’ to confuse the community.

Email to Anna Charalambidou, received 11 June 2019

67 Thomas 1991.

68 Mackridge 2009, Mirambel 1964, Moschonas 2004, Moschonas 2009.

69 Li, García 2013.

The second tweet and the email further highlight the key role that Greek complementary schools play in reproducing, reinforcing and perpetuating language ideologies that hierarchise varieties of Greek with respect to notions such as correctness and properness. Standard Greek is promoted through institutional policies and everyday practices both inside and outside school classrooms as *the language*, the variety of education and achievement and the form of communication shared by people of Greek origin around the world. Cypriot Greek, in contrast, is portrayed as a *dialect*, a local and rural variety that may be an important constituent of Greek Cypriot identity that has its own distinctive cultural and symbolic value but which is inaccessible to Greek speakers outside Cyprus, thus separating speakers of Cypriot Greek from the imagined transnational community of Hellenism.⁷⁰ It is telling that, in an interview undertaken as part of a separate research project on language ideologies in Greek complementary schools in London, a Greek Cypriot teacher mentioned that she allowed her pupils to use 'mainstream' Cypriot Greek features in their speech but that she would correct British Cypriot Greek words, openly questioning their status as legitimate forms of language that are in use among the pupils and the wider community. British Cypriot Greek is therefore positioned at the bottom of the hierarchy of Greek varieties, below Cypriot Greek, which is in turn positioned below Standard Greek at the top.

Αν μου πει «μου αρέσκει», δεν θα το διορθώσω. Θα διορθώσω λέξεις «πάσον», λέξεις οι οποίες μπορεί να μην είναι καν λέξεις.

Αντζελα

If [a pupil] says «μου αρέσκει» ['I like it'], I will not correct this. I will correct words [such as] πάσον ['bus'], words which may not even be words.

Angela

At the same time, many of our submitters' comments emphasised the emblematic significance of British Cypriot Greek as a cherished linguistic heirloom that was passed on to young generations by family ancestors. There were frequent references to parents and grandparents, their use of particular words and phrases, recollections and reimaginings of linguistically noteworthy incidents, retellings of legendary tales and widely known anecdotes about the everyday linguistic experiences of Greek Cypriot migrants across parts of the UK. Some submitters saw their participation in the project as a homage to their families, while others expressed their desire to transmit this heritage to their own children, not so much so that their children would use British Cypriot Greek more but in order to ensure intergenerational remembrance and engender in them the same feelings of nostalgia that they themselves felt while perusing the submissions on the project website and putting together their own. The realisation that British Cypriot Greek, or at least some of its forms that were captured by the project, is facing

70 Ioannidou *et al.* 2020; Karatsareas 2018; Karatsareas 2019; Karatsareas 2020; Karatsareas 2021; Karatsareas, Georgiou forthcoming.

the prospect of extinction was present in many contributions. As older speakers are replaced by new, British-born generations who are dominant in English and also under the pressure for the Greek they speak to be ‘correct’ and ‘proper’, their hybrid linguistic creations are almost destined to remain ephemeral and acquire performative and nostalgic functions before they eventually die out.

6. Concluding remarks

When we set up the Grenglish platform, we expected contributions of morphological adaptations of English loanwords and phonological adaptations of placenames of significance to the UK's Greek Cypriot community. The data collections showed that a relatively small group of widely used morphological adaptations such as *πάσον* /páson/, *φισιάτικον* /fifjátikon/ and *πόξιν* /póksin/, and to a lesser extent placenames including *Φίσιπουρι Ππα(κ)* /fifʒpuri p^h:a(k)/ and *Κουγκρίν* /ku^ugrín/, are indeed emblematic of ‘Grenglish’ and indexical of the language, history and heritage of the Greek Cypriot *παροικία*. Loanword integration in British Cypriot Greek was found to follow the same processes and driven by the same factors as other diasporic Modern Greek varieties, including Australian Greek, Canadian Greek and American Greek.

However, the contributions to the platform were much more varied than we expected, incorporating a wide range of phonological adaptations, Standard Greek and Cypriot Greek words, as well as puns and wordplay and even adaptations of Cypriot Greek words to English morphology. The last category is indicative of second, third and fourth generations’ agentive performance of British Greek Cypriotness. We have taken an inclusive view of what constitutes Grenglish, even if a few of the submitters objected to the inclusion of what they described as ‘actual Greek’ or ‘Cypriot’. Our inclusive approach to Grenglish was motivated by the fact that lists of words submitted almost invariably included a combination of UK-specific loanwords as well as words widely used in Cyprus. This suggests that a characteristic of British Cypriot Greek is the fuzziness of boundaries between UK-specific phonological and morphological adaptations, Cypriot Greek and even Standard Greek, and the limited ability of many speakers to clearly delineate between the different varieties and between widely-used lexical stock and familylects. Instead, especially as far as younger generations of British-born Greek Cypriots are concerned, linguistic varieties ranging from phonological and morphological adaptations of English (and Greek) loanwords, to humorous word coinage, to all registers of Cypriot Greek seem to have been enregistered⁷¹ as ‘Grenglish’.

Despite some purist attitudes within the community that suppress Grenglish and categorise it as a wrong or ‘nothing’ variety and despite its ephemerality, hybridity and heterogeneity, Grenglish has sustained a life and a course of its own. The submissions to the online platform of the project suggest that this new, diasporic variety incorporates a wealth of elements that

71 Agha 2005, p. 45.

embody the life trajectories, lived experiences and the multilingual creative practices of its speakers: older forms of Cypriot Greek, morphologically (un)integrated loanwords, phonological adaptations of English placenames, words denoting facets of the everyday life of migrants in a new and different geographical and social context. British Cypriot Greek therefore exemplifies “the productive construction of new hybrid identities and cultures through the active, simultaneous processes of maintenance and negotiation between the poles of an original home and a newly acquired host culture”.⁷²

Our project has shown that there is great interest in Grenglish, primarily because of its nostalgic associations with the speakers’ heritage, community and family histories. Views about Grenglish are currently overwhelmingly positive, despite its association with the socioeconomic deprivation of first-generation migrants and the circulation of prescriptive views about language purity that antagonise Grenglish. This is partly due to the fact that most contributors do not view themselves as ‘natural speakers’ of Grenglish; this categorisation (and the negative attributions of deprivation and lack of education) is reserved instead for previous generations.

The Grenglish community engagement project has provided a platform not only for documenting the variety of British Greek Cypriots but also for celebrating it, resulting in awareness, attitudinal, and wellbeing impact. The project helped to advance public understanding of the fact that community languages, too, have standard and non-standard forms, which are equally important and valuable, and continue to change and develop new forms in their new transnational contexts. Through the project, we encouraged and evidenced a new appreciation of community languages and especially of non-standardised forms of community languages within diasporic communities. Also, through this partnership with UK’s Greek Cypriot community we fostered more positive perceptions of and less prejudice towards people who speak (non-standardised forms of) community languages. Finally, the Grenglish project helped to underline how protecting and supporting community languages can help multilingual speakers to maintain links with their families, cultures and heritage and also to have a positive view of themselves and an identity that is respected, valued and celebrated.

72 Sinclair, Cunningham 2000, p. 15.

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