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# GREEK TRIBUNE

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## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### Greek Community SA purchases new property

The Greek Orthodox Community of SA (GOCSA) is expanding its services into greater metropolitan Adelaide and the wider community.

Following negotiations with the administrators, GOCSA has agreed to buy the Camden Community Centre situated in Camden Park. The site is conservatively valued at \$2m with GOCSA to pay an agreed amount of approximately \$1.2m.

The Camden Com-

munity Centre has been offering a variety of services to the community, including an opportunity shop and a 'men's shed'.

GOCSA aspires to maintain the existing and introduce new services to the general public.

GOCSA has the backing of the West Torrens Council and is looking forward to expand its operations with the collaboration of local, State and Federal Governments.

### Conditions worsen for small business and tradies

Small businesses in general — and tradies in particular — have suffered a serious deterioration in their trading conditions and profitability, according to a survey from NAB.

The drop-off for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) was far sharper in the second quarter than for the bigger end of town, which was reported in the NAB broader business survey.

SME business conditions deteriorated further in the second quarter and are now negative and well below trend.

The survey also found the deterioration occurred across all firm sizes and across most states and industries.

Not surprisingly, the conditions are weakest in the property and retail sectors.

NAB chief economist Alan Oster described the results as "sobering".

"The things that worries us are, one, it [business conditions] has come down a lot, and two, it is particularly the small end of town that has come down a lot — and that makes us nervous," Mr Oster said.

While there was a pick-up in SME confidence in the aftermath of the federal election and due to expectations of lower borrowing costs, Mr Oster said the most recent monthly survey showed confidence was unwinding again.

Conditions have weakened across all states over the past year but remain most favourable in Victoria, with all other states now in negative territory.

### ADELAIDE GREEK FAMILY TRAGEDY 21 old, charged over shooting of his brother

A 21-year-old man who allegedly shot his younger brother at their family home in Lockleys in Adelaide's west last week has been remanded in custody.

A young 16 year old boy of Greek background was shot twice in the chest and the abdomen and rushed to the Adelaide hospital last Monday.

His brother was charged with attempted murder a few hours after the shooting and faced the Port Adelaide Magistrates Court the following day charged with attempted murder, firearms offences and trafficking in a controlled

drug.

He is accused of shooting his 16-year-old younger brother twice by firing through the window of their Malurus Avenue home in Lockleys.

The injured 16 year old was taken to the Royal Adelaide Hospital, where he was in a serious but stable condition until the end of the week.

Emergency crews were called to the house about 9:30am on Monday where they found the boy with a gunshot wound to his stomach.

The events took place while the parents of the two boys were in Greece on a holiday.

## GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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# Turkey continues threats and violations against Cyprus

The Turkish army will never hesitate to take the similar action "if needed to protect the Turkish Cypriots," said Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan last week, on the 45th anniversary of Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

In a message to the Turkish people on the day that Ankara calls the invasion of Cyprus "a peace operation of Turkey in Cyprus", the Turkish president threatened that his army would repeat the same if the rights of his country and Turkish-Cypriots are not respected.

"Those who think that the wealth of the island and the region only belongs to them will face the determination of Turkey and the Turkish Cypriots," Erdogan said, referring to Cyprus' exploration for hydrocarbons in its exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Turkey has recently increased its navy buildup in the eastern Mediterranean Sea off Cyprus and Turkish drilling vessels are currently operating in the company of Turkish warships.

Turkey's Naval Forces Command is providing full protection to the drilling vessels, both on the surface and underwater, with the help of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), the country's National Defense Ministry said in a tweet on July 23.

"Our Naval Forces Command is continuously and incessantly accompanying our drilling vessels in the eastern Mediterranean," the ministry tweeted.

The vessels are being protected by air with the Bayraktar TB-2 UAV, a maritime patrol aircraft and naval helicopters.



Yavuz, one of the Turkish pirate ships searching for hydrocarbons in Cyprus waters.

Some corvettes, frigates and assault boats are providing protection on the surface, the ministry added.

In addition, submarines are also escorting the drilling vessels

by guarding them underwater, the ministry's tweet noted.

Ankara has sent two drilling vessels — the Fatih, and most recently the Yavuz — to the eastern Mediterranean.

## Australian Cypriots commemorate 1974 tragedy



Presidential Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus Photis Photiou addresses a public meeting at the Cyprus Community club

Cypriot communities in Australia have held events to condemn the military coup by the Greek junta and EOKA B' and the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in the summer of 1974.

Members of the Cypriot diaspora, representatives of the Greek communities in Australia,

organizations and friends of Cyprus attended the events.

On Sunday 14 July, the Justice for Cyprus Committee (SEKA) in conjunction with the Cyprus Community of South Australia held a wreath laying ceremony at the Community's Memorial in Welland, attended

by representatives of the South Australian Government and Opposition as well as many community leaders.

Speakers at the event were, David Pisoni MP representing the Premier Stephen Marshall, Tom Koutsantonis representing the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas, the Greek Consul General George Psiachas, the Cyprus Community President Andreas Evdokiou and SEKA Chairman Peter Ppiros.

Also in attendance, were, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, Bishop Nikandros of Doryleion, Archdiocesan Intercommunal President Con Dalas, Pan Macedonian representative John Mitroussides, the Treasurer of the Federation of Greek Orthodox Communities of Australia Demetris Dimopoulos and many representatives of local Greek community associations.

On Wednesday 17 July,

as part of the commemorative events, the a public meeting was held at the Cyprus Community clubrooms with guest speaker, on current developments in Cyprus, the Presidential Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus Mr Photis Photiou representing the President Nikos Anastasiades. Also in attendance was the High Commissioner of Cyprus in Canberra Martha Mavrommatis.

Mr Photiou and Mrs Martha Mavrommatis, visited the SA Parliament and met with Jing Lee MLC Assistant Minister to the Premier as well as the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas. The two guests were accompanied by Andrew Evdokiou and Peter Ppiros.

Mr Photiou briefed the two Australian politicians, on current developments in Cyprus and the Eastern Mediterranean and discussed issues of bilateral interests.

### Odyssey Festival Art prize 2019

In 2019 Adelaide's Hellenic Cultural Festival ODYSSEY celebrates its 14th year as the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Inc. (GOCSA) once again presents a series of exciting arts and cultural events from 4 October – early November.

With this year's theme being "Education Through Greek Arts", in 2019, Odyssey will celebrate Hellenism through Art, Theatre, Music and Festivities:

Odyssey once again intends to feature the talented works of local artists as part of the Art Exhibition, which is held throughout the duration of the festival at its hub in Franklin Street, Adelaide.

The organising Cultural Committee is seeking expressions of interest from young and new artists with a love for Hellenic culture to display their works based on the theme "Education Through Greek Arts". The art work selected by an eminent art judging panel will be awarded the 'Odyssey Art

## Community Life



The new committee of the Pan-Rhodian Society "Kolossos". From left, Michael Patsakios, Bill Kollitsis, Manuel Frangoulis (President), Peter Limberis, George Triantafylakis. Front: Maria Gazecimeon, Vicky Frangoulis (Secretary) and Eva Yannelis. Absent: Phillip Galantomos, Phillip Rologas and Flora Frangoulis.

Prize' of \$1000 first prize, \$600 second and \$400 third prize.

The committee is seeking creativity in all forms, be it painting, drawing, print making, ceramics, sculpture or any creative art form, with the theme of "Education Through Greek

Arts" being interpreted any way the artist wishes, be it relating it to modern day or historical. The winning piece will become a permanent fixture in the Greek Orthodox Community gallery and non-winning pieces will be available for purchase.

The committee requests that the artwork be ready to hang by Monday 27 September 2019, with the winner announced at the launch on Friday 4th October at Olympic Hall. For guidelines and further information call GOCSA on 8231 4307.

### Celebration of Assumption of Mary

The Assumption of the Virgin Mary Feast Day Celebration, held on 15 August each year, is one of the most important events in the Orthodox calendar and in Greece the Feast Day is a declared public holiday.

Bishop Chrysostomos of the Autocephaly Church of Australia will officiate at this year's religious event to be held on Thursday 15 August at the Greek Community church of the Virgin Mary at Croydon, while a similar celebration by the Greek Archdiocese will take place at the church of Virgin Mary in Berri.

GOCSA President Bill Gonis said the public is invited to come and enjoy a Greek Panegyri, (festival) at Croydon to follow the church service.



## Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

Contact: Harri on 0484 387 818 - or email your community's news or a photo: info@greektribune.com.au



On Sunday 14 July, the Justice for Cyprus Committee (SEKA) and the Cyprus Community of SA held a wreath laying ceremony at the memorial at the Cyprus Community's premises at Welland, attended by representatives of the South Australian Government and Opposition, community leaders, members of the clergy and a large crowd. The event opened with speeches from the President of the Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou, Minister David Pisoni, Labor MP Tom Koutsantonis and Greek Consul George Psiachas.



The Leader of the Opposition Mr Peter Malinauskas met in the South Australian Parliament with The Presidential Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus Mr Photis Photiou and the High Commissioner of Cyprus in Australia Mrs Martha Mavrommatis. In the photo also, the President of the Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou and the Chairman of the Justice for Cyprus Committee Peter Ppiros



The Presidential Commissioner of the Republic of Cyprus Mr Photis Photiou and the High Commissioner of Cyprus in Australia Mrs Martha Mavrommatis, visited the SA Parliament and met with Jing Lee MLC Assistant Minister to the Premier. The two guests were accompanied by Andrew Evdokiou and Peter Ppiros

## GREEK ELECTIONS Mitsotakis new PM

Greece's conservative New Democracy party won the Greek national election on 7 July defeating the ruling Syriza party of outgoing Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras.

The following are official results released by the Interior Ministry with nearly 100 percent of the votes counted and the projected seats in the 300-seat parliament.

New Democracy 39.85%, 158 seats.  
SYRIZA - 1.53%, 86 seats.

Movement for Change (KINAL), 8.10% 22 seats.

Communist Party of Greece KKE - 5.30%, 15 seats.

Greek Solution - 3.70%, 10 seats.

Mera25 - 3.44%, 9 seats

Other parties - 8.08%, 0 seats.

The neo-nazi party

Golden Dawn, after a seven year presence in the Greek parliament failed to win any seats.

New Democracy party leader Kyriakos Mitsotakis was sworn in as Greece's new prime minister Monday, a day after his sweeping win over SYRIZA's Alexis Tsipras.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis, has said he wants to see more women take on roles in politics - the current cabinet of 22 has just two women.

He said that there were not many women "who were interested in stepping into politics these days".

"I asked a lot of women to join the cabinet, they were much more hesitant than men to do so.

"The women that we have are extremely capable, I'm sure they're going to do a fantastic job", Mr Mitsotakis said.

## Greek Orthodox Community SA

OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES HELPLINE

WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

7088 0500

At GOCSA, we operate a free Helpline to provide information and to assist referrals relating to aged care services and support that are important to older people living in the Community. Our knowledgeable Greek and English speaking staff can assist you to,

- Navigate My Aged Care website to access community services
- Understand your rights as an older person in the Community
- Understand how the new Adult Safe Guarding Unit may help protect your rights and safety
- Provide your feedback to the CALD communities for service improvement
- Understand the variety of home and community services available to you at GOCSA

# Is freedom of religion an anathema or a blessing?

The Greek Tribune, recently, had a meeting with Labor MP Tom Koutsantonis with whom we had a discussion about his recent public statements for "unity" of the Greek Orthodox Community of Adelaide with the Greek Archdiocese.

Firstly, Peter Ppiros of the Greek Tribune told Mr Koutsantonis (pictured right) that he acknowledged sincerity in his intentions, but asked him to explain how, in his opinion, such a union would eventuate that would end the "anathema of the division", according to an expression used by the MP.

"Now that Archbishop Stylianos has passed away, I believe that an opportunity opens up. It is as simple as a handshake," he said.

"I believe that the Community can maintain its independence and its assets, and a deal between the two parties must secure these things," he said.

"These issues can be sorted out by the constitution and to ensure that the priest will not be able to intervene in the community affairs," he said, adding that "as far as I know, the Archdiocese does not want to take the assets of the Community."

Mr Koutsantonis also expressed the view that by granting the ecclesiastical sector to the "one holy and apostolic church" with the tradition of 2000 years, the Community will be able to engage in providing other services to the public," he said.

"As Greeks we will be a greater political force and we will have more influence on whatever we want to achieve," he said.

This is my thought, he said. "If it can work, it's all good."

However, the Parliamentarian admitted that he has not served as a member of a community or parish committee and therefore has no personal experience of problems arising in the daily life of these organizations, particularly in relation to the clergy.

Peter Ppiros brought to the attention of

Mr Koutsantonis, a series of documents that highlight how the Archdiocese has been operating since it was officially formed in 1959 to this day.

The first document is a constitution of a South Australian Community belonging to the Archdiocese, which states:

\* The organization will take part in the Clergy- Laity congress and will implement its decisions. It must also take into account the administrative decisions and resolutions adopted by the synods and conferences of the Archdiocese.

\* The priest is appointed by the Archdiocese, the appointment is permanent and the priest is paid by the Board of Directors. Any difference arising between the priest and the BoD is referred to the Archdiocese, whose judgment and decision is final.

\* Once the annual financial report (income and expenditure) is ready, a copy must go to the Archdiocese as soon as possible. The Community will pay to the Archdiocese the annual contribution decided by the Clergy-Laity.

\* The declaration of the new Board. It shall be sworn in by the priest provided the election results have been received and confirmed by the Archdiocese.

\* If there is any dispute over the interpretation of the constitution, the matter is referred to the Archdiocese, whose interpretation and decision are final.

The second document we put before Mr



Koutsantonis is the "Pastoral Report" of the late Archbishop Stylianos at the Synod of the Clergy-Laity congress in Sydney, 1993, in which he emphasized that: "... the position which I held from the beginning is that, our parishes -Communities are exposed at the hands of every chance and adventurous person, who is involved in the administration, when the titles of the church and other institutions are not safeguarded by the property trust of the Holy Archdiocese..."

The third document is a publication of the Neos Kosmos and the Greek Tribune (June 2016) according to which the faithful parishioners of Mildura handed over all their assets (church, community hall and house) to the property trust of the Archdiocese, so they would give them a priest. The salary of the priest is set by the Archdiocese but the parishioners are obliged to raise the money for his salary themselves.

We handed over the above documents to Mr Koutsantonis with the request to keep and study them in depth. But at first glance he said, to his credit, that these things are unacceptable.

"I would not accept such documents either and the Community should not accept such conditions. Try and do a similar deal reached by the Community of Sydney", he said.

"I am willing to move a private members bill to the House that prohibits the transfer of community property to the Archdiocese," he said.

However, when asked what will happen to the existing regime in the parish communities that are subject to constitutions such as the ones we presented to him, he said "this is a matter for their members".

But the Greek Tribune believes that's where the State intervention is needed. Because wrong things need to be corrected.

At the same time, we think that the "anathema" is not going to be solved simply by the death of one person (eg the past archbishop). Because the church has a history of 2000 years and its philosophy remains the same and does not differ - whether it concerns the port, the city or the river.

This philosophy will not change with regard to the Sydney Community either...

But the main thing we all need to understand is that, freedom of religion is neither "division" nor "anathema." It is the blessing of multiculturalism, diversity and pluralism.

The above article was published by the Greek Tribune in the Greek language in May 2019. Since that publication, another constitution of a community which operates under the auspices of the Archdiocese, was brought to the attention of the Greek Tribune. Here is just one extract:

Under the heading "Dissolution of the Association", the constitution states: "When it is determined by the Committee that the Association is incapable of supporting itself, a General Meeting of the members shall be called and if the majority of members present decide to dissolve the Association or if the total number of active members present at the meeting does not exceed nine, the Archdiocese may dissolve the Association and in such case the whole property of the Association shall be disposed by gift to the Archdiocese..."

The above community is situated somewhere in the western metropolitan area and many of their members believe they are fully independent.