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NATIONAL NEWS

Outback farmers receive good rainfalls

Outback farmers are daring to dream of rebuilding their livestock numbers after years of drought.

Rain in September broke records across South Australia's outback, and while not everyone got the rain they wanted some pastoralists are seeing the benefits with areas turning green again.

Due to the drought, farmers and pastoralists had to sell animals they could no longer feed or pay to agist on greener pastures.

That left some pastoralists with no way to sell animals and make money for their businesses.

However, Holowiliena Station near Hawker in South Australia's outback recently brought their sheep back from agistment after recent rains meant there was enough food on the ground to



support them. Holowiliena Station pastoralist Frances Frahn described the moment their family got their flock back.

"There have been a few tears shed this week at Holowiliena — tears of happiness as our sheep have come home," she said.

"After four years of severe drought, we've had good rain over the past few months.

"The country is looking better — this is the start of a long rebuild and recovery."

COVID 19 UNDER CONTROL Liberal MP criticises Government for overreacting

A new case of coronavirus has been identified as part of South Australia's Parafield cluster, bringing the total number of associated cases to 27. The woman is a member of a large family group, many of whom contracted the disease at a recent gathering.

There are now 38 active cases in South Australia. More than 4,000 people are quarantining and one person remains in hospital.

Dr Spurrier said people should continue to check SA Health's website daily to see if they also needed to self-isolate.

"Check the weather first, but then check our website to see if there are any sites of interest or areas of concern and please follow the instructions," she said.

Almost 8,700 tests

were undertaken in South Australia yesterday, which Premier Steven Marshall said was extraordinary considering Sunday was normally the quietest day for testing.

"We have avoided this second wave, avoiding 100 cases per day by mid-December," he said.

In the meantime, a country Liberal MP has lashed out at the South Australian Government over its handling of the latest coronavirus outbreak, saying the hard lockdown was an overreaction which "hung businesses out to dry".

Backbencher Nick McBride, whose electoral district MacKillop includes parts of SA's south-east, said health authorities should not have "taken the word of one person" to impose a lockdown on the entire state.

FRANCESCA GERMANIS Communication Designer

* Business cards * invitations * logos

Mobile: 0459 141 658

email: francescagermanis@gmail.com

ADELAIDE

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

ABN: 52366840467

Correspondence to: The Editor,
BOX 330, FULHAM GARDENS,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5024

Phone: 0408 865004

Website: www.greektribune.com.au

E-mail: info@greektribune.com.au

STATE TO SPEND MORE ON ROADS

Debt to grow after budget

After 16 years on the opposition benches, Rob Lucas returned as Treasurer in 2018, with a plan to bring SA's budget back into black.

But two years on, after catastrophic bushfires and in the midst of a world-disrupting pandemic, everything's changed.

Mr Lucas has delivered a budget he says is "drowning in red ink".

According to the ABC, it's not forecast to return to surplus until the end of the 2023-24 financial year, and the Treasurer admits that's not a done deal.

He said if a COVID-19 vaccine isn't available by the end of next year the government will be in "a world of pain".

But while the deficit indicates the government is spending more money than it's collecting in revenue in any given year, another figure is also reaching record levels — the state's overall debt.

Debt was due to grow to \$21.3 billion by 2022-23, but this latest budget forecasts it to reach \$33.17 billion by 2023-

24.

The Treasurer said the good news is low interest rates are making debt cheap.

One of the most exciting revelations in the budget is the government's plan to improve the final piece of the North-South Corridor, the section of South Road from the Torrens River to Darlington.

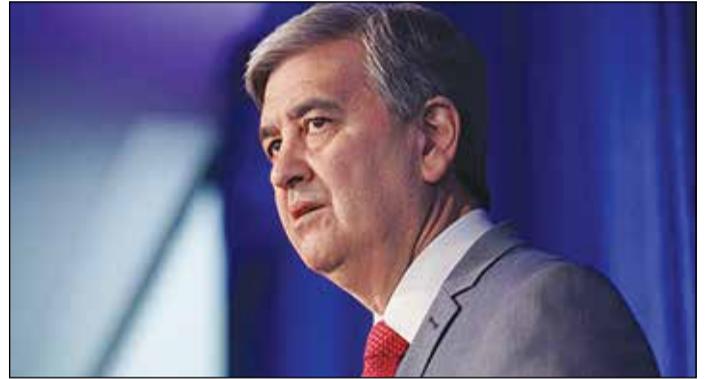
It'll build two tunnels, one starting one kilometre from Darlington and ending just before the Glenelg tram line, and another stretching from just south of Sir Donald Bradman Drive, and ending before West Thebarton Road.

They'll be connected by a series of lowered and surface motorways.

The Government estimates that project will cost \$8.9 billion, but it won't act as an immediate stimulus.

Major construction won't begin until late 2023, and the project is scheduled for completion in 2030.

Another major development that's a long way off is the new Women's and Children's



South Australia's Treasurer Rob Lucas (ABC photo)

Hospital to be co-located with the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The Government allocated \$685 million towards the project over four years, and believes it will be completed by 2025-26, but hasn't finished the business case and doesn't know the final cost.

The Treasurer wants a 'two-year, in-and-out' stimulus

With big projects too far away, Mr Lucas says he wants to "spend significantly in the next two years, in and out,

on projects which are either completed or significantly completed". Projects include, the South Eastern Freeway, and Main South Road. Also, improvements to sport and recreation infrastructure including Memorial Drive, Hindmarsh Stadium and schools infrastructure improvements and grants for maintenance works.

There's also grants and other support measures for small businesses, tradies and tourism operators.

Greek Community celebrates defeat of fascism in 1940

Under the current COVID-19 restrictions, the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia commemorated the 80th Anniversary of the 28 October 1940 Greek National Day on Sunday 1st of November.

It was the first major event the Community held since the pandemic broke out but the spirit of the day remained unchanged and Hellenes in South Australia as well as all around the world paid their respects to the fallen heroes of the 1940 Epos.

The Cathedral of Archangels Michael & Gabriel in the city became yet again the central point of the celebrations.

Due to the current COVID restrictions only 120 people were able to attend the Great Doxology followed by a memorial service inside the church.

A group of afternoon-schools students, some in traditional costumes, demonstrated that at school they are taught not only the Greek language but the history of the homeland of their parents and grand parents.

A giant Greek flag at the church's entry stood out, sending its own message of national unity and pride.

Members of local parliament also honoured Greek National Day by attending the commemoration at the Cathedral on Sunday.

The memorial service was followed by the laying of wreaths from official guests and representatives from local Greek Associations.

A number of students paid their own tribute to the heroes of the 1940 Epos by reciting

famous poems inspired by the bloody events of 1940-1941.

The event concluded with the Last Post and the National Anthems.

Amongst the official guests who attended the commemoration were Mr Bill Gonis, President of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA, Mr David Pisoni MP, Minister for Innovation and Skills, on behalf of the Premier of South Australia the Hon Stephen Marshall, The Hon Rachel Sanderson MP, Minister for Child Protection and State Member for Adelaide, The Hon Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, The Hon Frank Pangallo MLC and SA Best, Mr Steve Georganas, Federal Member for Adelaide, Ms Jayne Stinson MP, Member for Badcoe and Shadow Minister



for Multicultural Affairs, on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition Mr Peter Malinauskas, Mr Norman Schueler, Chair of SAMEAC, The Right Honourable The Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Sandy Verschoor and Professor Andreas Evdokiou, President of Cyprus Community of South Australia.

Greek Cathedral celebrates Name Day

It is the pride and the symbol of the Greek Orthodox Community and on Sunday the 8th of November, the jewel of Franklin Street, the Cathedral of Archangels Michael & Gabriel, celebrated its name day.

Having been the central point of the Greeks of Adelaide for the last 90 years, the Cathedral once again draw dozens of Hellenes who, under strict COVID-19 rules, participated in its name day celebrations.

Saturday night members of the Administrative Council and the broader community attended the Great Vesper and later enjoyed the traditional take-away honey puffs served by the ladies of the Women's Fellowships at the church's courtyard.

The two-day event continued on Sunday as again a number of people came to the Cathedral to attend the Great Divine Liturgy and be part of this significant religious event.

Community Life



Boys and girls of the Greek Orthodox Community Afternoon Schools, attend recent celebration at the Cathedral

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, only 120 were allowed inside the church, however, many more came through the door, lit a candle and went back outside.

The divine liturgy concluded with the traditional procession of the holy icon around the church.

The morning service was fol-

lowed by take-away grilled delicacies prepared by members of the Administrative Council and the church's volunteers' team.

The ladies from the Women's Fellowships however prepared the popular honey puffs 'loukoumades', again only as take-away.

Greek Community postpones AGM

Due to the new COVID-19 safety measures announced by the South Australian Government, the Greek Orthodox Community has postponed several activities including the Annual General Meeting which was due to take place on 22 November.

Due to the AGM's postponement, GOCSA has asked members to forward in writing any questions they might have regarding last year's meeting notes they have received through the post. They can do so either by post to the General Secretary, 262 Franklin Street, Adelaide SA 5000 or by email on gocsa@gocsa.org.au. Those questions will be tabled at the AGM when it is rescheduled.

The Annual General Meeting will go ahead once COVID-19 safety measures ease off. GOCSA will keep the members updated regarding the new AGM date through another round of mail out.



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



A wreath laying ceremony took place at the cenotaph at the front of the Archangels Cathedral to mark the historic day of 28th October 1940. A large number of representatives of Australian authorities, official guests and many leaders of Greek community associations, including Ministers Rachel Sanderson and David Pisoni, Lord Mayor Sandy Verchoor, Labor MPs Jayne Stinson and Irene Pnevmatikos, SA Best MLC Frank Pangallo, Chair of SAMEAC Norm Suller, President of GOCSA Bill Gonis and President of Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou laid wreaths at the cenotaph in memory of the heroes who fought against fascism in the second world war. It was the only event in SA to commemorate the Epos of the 28th of October.



LEFT: From left, Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, Jayne Stinson MP and Steve Georganas MP paying tribute to the heroes of the 28th October 1940.



RIGHT: Bill Gonis, Andreas Evdokiou, Minister Rachel Sanderson, Lord Mayor Sandy Verchoor and Peter Ppiros at the 28th October ceremony.

Renmark driver accused of attempted murder

A Renmark man accused of deliberately hitting a pedestrian with his car last week will remain behind bars ahead of his trial for alleged attempted murder next year.

Police allege Ali Rajabi struck the man, who was walking on the side of the Sturt Highway at Monash, and then got out of his

Ford sedan and assaulted him. The 34-year-old victim was seriously injured in the incident and flown to Adelaide for treatment.

His injuries were not considered life-threatening. Police believe both men are known to each other.

Rajabi's lawyer did not make an application for bail.



Important information from BreastScreen SA

It is really important that women keep up their regular screening to check their breast health, even during COVID-19.

BreastScreen SA invites all women aged 50 to 74 years to book in for a screening mammogram (breast X-ray) every two years. Women from aged 40 are also eligible to make their own appointments to screen.

Each year in South Australia, close to 100,000 women will have their screening mammogram at one of our 7 metropolitan clinics, or at one of our 3 mobile screening units visiting rural and remote parts of our state.

During the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic BreastScreen SA is committed to providing screening in a safe environment for our clients and our staff. Social distancing measures have been implemented at all of our clinics, along with strict hygiene and infection control practices.

Specific measures include:

- Social distancing – We have increased appointment times, seating arrangements and are maintaining 1.5 metre distance where possible.
- Increased cleaning – We are regularly cleaning our clinics, including door handles, benches and seating.
- Hand hygiene on arrival is required.
- Client only area – we are restricting the number of people inside this clinic to only clients and staff.
- Zero tolerance of illness – staff and clients who are ill are asked not to attend appointments.

Detecting breast cancer at an early stage saves lives! ... and we are keen to ensure women attend and keep their appointments up to date during this time.

Phone: 13 20 50 for more information and to make appointments

Call for protection against modern day slavery

Potential increased worker exploitation due to the coronavirus pandemic has been categorised as modern slavery, prompting further calls for better protection for vulnerable workers.

According to the ABC, in South Australia's Riverland region some workers have allegedly earned as little as \$8 to \$10 an hour picking fruit in recent months, according to Flinders University associate professor of law Marinella Marmo.

Dr Marmo released a report into slavery and slavery-like practices in South Australia in late 2019, and found one in three workers were not legitimately employed on some Riverland properties.

The report also detailed cases of international workers expected to "perform sexual favours" to receive more work hours, having passports confiscated, and workers feeling they were not free to leave.

Dr Marmo said she was worried more cases of worker exploitation were occurring now, as the balance of power between employer and employee had widened during the pandemic.

"We were made aware international students were picking for \$8 to \$10 an hour, forced to live in very basic and crowded accommodation, and paying \$100 per person per week for accommodation," Dr Marmo said.

"They lost their job at the beginning of the year in hospitality and commercial cleaning in Adelaide and so they moved into the regional area to fill a market with no competition coming in from either overseas or interstate."

Dr Marmo said the students were also trapped into paying for their city-based accommodation while living in the Riverland for work.

"These two international students [were still paying for] their accommodation in Adelaide because they didn't know when the universities were going to resume the face-to-face teaching," she said.

"The situation is the pandemic has accelerated the cycle of vulnerability and has

Slavery — when a person exercises the rights of ownership over another person, including making a victim an object of purchase or to use their labour in an unrestricted manner (Source: Parliament of Australia/ Australian Government)

expanded to include these people who were less vulnerable before."

Amnesty International Australia campaigner Joel McKay agreed.

"At the core of modern slavery is a situation where an employer can have power over and be able to exploit easily someone without power," he said.

"We've seen throughout COVID-19 people [affected], like international students, who haven't been able to find work, who have had no income, and basically who are stuck in Australia and not able to go home and they're not studying.

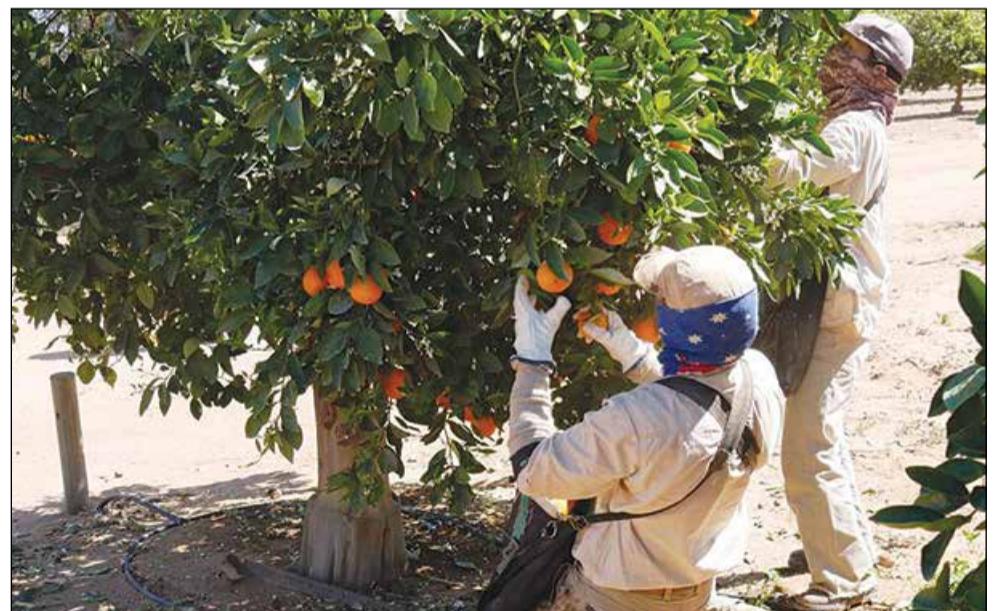
"They've become extremely vulnerable to being affected by work exploitation and modern slavery."

The Australian Institute of Criminology released a paper in 2019 that stated that the number of human trafficking and slavery victims in Australia in 2015-16 and 2016-17 was between 1,300 and 1,900.

Mr McKay said more cases of modern slavery and workplace exploitation had been noticed and investigated in Australia in recent times, particularly in "fruit picking, farming and rural-based industries more generally".

This was something proven in 2017 during a Federal Government-supported Parliamentary Inquiry that heard evidence of modern slavery in the horticulture region of Sunraysia in western Victoria.

South Australia's Shadow Minister for Status of Women Katrine Hildyard backed Dr Marmo's research and presented a motion to the State's



Upper House in September.

Ms Hildyard called for an inquiry into the issue of modern slavery and slavery-like practices in South Australia.

The motion was shot down by the State Government, which caused Ms Hildyard to adjourn the debate.

"As parliamentarians I think it's incumbent of us to amplify the voices of those who are most likely to be in situations where they are silenced," she said.

"This is something that we could and should work on together so that we can eradicate any exploitation and any abuse that happens to any vulnerable member of our community in any part of our state.

"It is such an important issue that can and should be addressed in a bipartisan way. So, it's been really disappointing — the response to

date." The state's Attorney-General, Vickie Chapman, said existing labour laws were sufficient and supported the most vulnerable workers in South Australia.

"In the Riverland, a lot of our horticulture and fruit industries require an enormous number of people who are coming from overseas countries," she said.

"They may not be aware of labour hire arrangements, have limited English and have circumstances of not being familiar with what their rights are in relation to employment.

"They may not be a member of the local union and don't have access to the necessary information.

"The potential for them to be exploited, I'd suggest, is much higher than others who are in the general workplace."