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GREEK TRIBUNE

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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Farewell to Bob Hawke

Mr Hawke who was Labor's longest-serving PM (nearly nine years) was one of the most popular political leaders ever in Australia. This applied to the Greek community which had demonstrated in great numbers, its support to Mr Hawke.



Mr Hawke as the president of the ACTU, along with the then Prime Minister Gough Whitlam, had received in autumn of 1974 the then resistance leader against the Greek military junta, Andreas Papandreou. The two met again in the mid eighties in Athens, both of them Prime Ministers by then.

He entered parliament in 1980, winning the seat of Wills, which had many Greek-origin constituents and quite a few of them took part in his election campaign. He served as Prime minister from 1983 till 1991.

Mr Hawke died peacefully at his Sydney home on 16 May, his wife Blanche d'Alpuget said in a statement.

"We lost Bob Hawke, a great Australian - many would say the greatest Australian of the post-war era," she said.

"Bob Hawke and Paul Keating and their governments modernised the Australian economy,

paving the way for an unprecedented period of recession-free economic growth and job creation."

Bob Hawke visited the Greek Community of Adelaide on a number of occasions during his Prime Ministership.

According to former General Secretary Vagelis Bogias, Hawke was received by the community at GOCSA's Child centre on South Road where he planted a eucalyptus tree and on other occasions he visited the Ridleyton Greek Home for Aged as well as the Olympic Hall in Franklin where he was greeted by hundreds of young Greek Australians taking part in a Greek Dance in 1991.

A memorial service for Australia's 23rd prime minister will be held at the Sydney Opera House on in Sydney on 14 June.

Fruit grower fined for underpaying workers

The Fair Work Ombudsman has secured \$144,000 in penalties against a fruit farmer for deliberately underpaying two Malaysian fruit pickers and using false records to try to cover it up.

Zucco Farming P/L, which operates a stone fruit farm at Woorinen near Swan Hill, has been penalised \$120,000 and the company's sole director and part-owner Chris Zucco has been penalised a further \$24,000, by the Federal Circuit Court.

The affected employees were Malaysian nationals on bridging visas when they were paid unlawfully low, flat rates for work performed at the farm in 2015 and 2016. A man aged in his early 20s and his father-in-law were underpaid a total of \$13,529.

Fair Work Ombudsman Sandra Parker said the deliberate and systematic underpayment of two vulnerable workers is

precisely the sort of conduct we are targeting and trying to stamp out in the horticulture industry," Ms Parker said.

"If blatant breaches of workplace laws occurred today, the maximum penalties that can be applied in Court can be up to 10 times higher under the Protecting Vulnerable Workers laws. "Improving workplace compliance in the horticulture industry continues to be a priority for the Fair Work Ombudsman, and we urge any workers with concerns to contact us," Ms Parker said.

Fair Work Ombudsman inspectors investigated Zucco Farming after receiving requests for assistance from the two workers.

The workers were paid flat hourly rates of between \$15.41 and \$16.77 by Zucco Farming for all hours worked to pick fruit and perform pruning, packing and cleaning duties.

Morrison's "miraculous" win

The Morrison Government is expected to finish up with a majority government of 78 seats in the 151 member House of Representatives according to the latest prediction by the ABC's election computer. Labor wins 67 seats in the lower house and there are six "others". This is an unbelievable result, consecutive opinion polls and political commentators failed to predict as they all predicted a reasonably comfortable labor victory.

It has to be pointed out however, that there wasn't a significant change of the Australian vote since the 2016 election. In fact very few seats changed hands. The Coalition won Bass (a Tasmanian seat which has chosen a new MP at nine of the past 10 elections) and Braddon, a seat it only lost in 2016. It also won Herbert and Longman in Queensland, and Macquarie in NSW. Labor won Corangamite and Dunkley in Victoria, and Gilmore in NSW. That was all that happened! What happened then and how did it happen?

Businessman and former senator Clive Palmer has claimed credit for the Coalition's election win, saying his scare campaign targeting Bill Shorten was responsible for the swing against Labor.

"Scott Morrison has been returned as Prime Minister and he's only done so because of the 3.5 per cent vote of United Australia Party," Mr Palmer said.

"That 3.5 per cent gives you a 7 per cent margin in play and that's been the difference.

"Our 'Shifty Shorten' ads across Australia ... I think have been very successful in shifting the Labor vote", Clive Palmer said.

Deputy Labor leader Tanya Plibersek said her party's cause suffered at the hands of the United Australia Party's (UAP) advertising blitz, with the main objective being to "trash Labor".

"We faced a very cashed-up scare campaign from the UAP," she said.

Factoring into Labor's defeat were the Liberal Party's



Corporate magnate Clive Palmer, who claims to be the real winner

preference deals with UAP and Pauline Hanson's One Nation.

Mr Morrison came under scrutiny for the deal, but it worked out in the Coalition's favour.

Votes for UAP and One Nation flowed on to the LNP, bolstering the party's dominant position in Queensland.

Mr Palmer said this was the plan all along.

He said the goal for the

United Australia Party was to ensure the Labor government did not get into power, introducing more than \$1 trillion of new taxes - on big corporations.

"This has been achieved", Mr Palmer said.

In the Senate, on a total of 76 Senators, the Greens look like they are on track to have all nine senators returned, giving the party the balance of power in that chamber.

Big increases of fees, fines and charges

The South Australian Government has announced increases to a raft of fees, fines and charges ahead of next month's state budget.

Some of the biggest increases are to fines for speeding more than 30 kilometres per hour over the limit, which will increase by 60 per cent.

The speeding fine for travelling at 30-45kph over the limit will increase from \$920 to \$1,472, while drivers going more than 45kph over will face a fine of \$1,658 - up from \$1,036.

Treasurer Rob Lucas said the Government would also significantly increase the fine for people who were caught speeding in a company car.

Currently, businesses can pay a \$300 fine, and the individual does not receive demerit points.

"We're going to increase the corporate fee from \$300 to \$1,800, so there'll be a very significant financial disincentive for bosses and companies to protect the brainless idiots within their business or company who are speeding", Mr Lucas said.

Mr Lucas said the increase in various fees and charges make up about \$79 million of a \$500 million reduction in expected GST revenue.

Hospital parking fees will also increase, while late-night venues will pay thousands more in liquor licensing fees.

Public transport fares will go up by 1.7 per cent and short-distance tickets will be eliminated.

The Treasurer said people were "rorring" two-section tickets by staying on longer than allowed.

Compulsory third-party car insurance premiums will decrease by up to \$114 under the competitive privatised model coming in on July 1.

Opposition says fee increases are a broken promise

Shadow treasurer Stephen Mullighan said the Liberal Party had broken its 2018 election promise to lower costs.

"This is an attack on households, an attack on businesses and an attack on South Australians who are just trying to manage their cost of living at a time of low inflation and low growth in their wages."

South Australian Council of Social Service chief executive Ross Womersley said people on low incomes would be the hardest hit.

"Most people on high incomes

will accommodate fees and fine increases much more easily than those people who are living on low incomes across our community," he said.

Before the state election in March last year, the Liberal Party criticised the then Labor government for substantial speeding fine revenue increases during their years in Government.

"South Australians need assurance that speed cameras aren't being used as a cash cow for the government and are solely dedicated to locations where their use will reduce the number of accidents on our roads," the Liberals' pre-election policy said.

The State Government also quadrupled fines for cannabis possession last year, but backed down on a measure to introduce jail terms for possession.

Goodwood Greek Festival

When Greeks share their culture with the community, they make sure no one leaves with at least happy taste buds and a cultural experience like no other.

The Goodwood Greek Festival on 5 May was no exception as Hellenic sounds and culinary aromas filled the quiet Adelaide suburb of Goodwood, bringing the community together.

An open-air Greek funfair, the 7th consecutive Goodwood Greek Festival, held outside Goodwood Community Centre drew hundreds of local residents and many more from the surrounding areas.

True to its character, the Festival wasn't short of anything in terms of favourite dishes, traditional sweets, non-stop music and dance performances.

Amongst the official guests who joined the Greek Community at the Festival was His Excellency The Honourable Hieu Van Le, Governor of South Australia, the Hon David Pisoni MP, Minister for Industry & Skills, on behalf of the Premier of South Australia Hon Steven Marshall, The Hon Emily Bourke, Member for the Legislative Council, Mr

Community Life



Governor of SA Hieu Van Le with volunteers at the Goodwood festival

Steve Georganas, Member for Hindmarsh, Ms Jayne Stinson, Member for Badcoe, Mr Michael Hewitson, Mayor of the City of Unley, Ms Adriana Christopoulos member of SAMEAC, on behalf of Mr Norman Schueler, Chair of SAMEAC, and Peter Tsokas, Chief Executive Office of Unley Council.

Around 1.00pm, MC Mrs Betty Douflias opened the formal part, welcoming official guests and all who were attending.

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC, Governor

of South Australia who attended the Festival for the first time said he was impressed by the genuine and warm friendship and hospitality by the organisers.

He also praised the Greek Community for contributing to the evolving multicultural character of the State through events such as that.

"South Australia's Greek community has been fundamental to the development of our harmonious, vibrant multicultural society here in South Australia.

This festival is just one of the

great examples of how the community gives back to the broader South Australian community, and in particular the people of the local area," he said.

On behalf of the South Australian Government, Minister for Industry and Skills Hon David Pisoni thanked the Greek Community and the organisers of the Festival for bringing such a vibrant event in his electorate.

"It's always a pleasure to attend this Festival and immerse myself in the beauty of the Greek culture," he said.

The official part continued with short speeches by His Eminence Bishop of S.Australia Chrisostomos and the Chair of the Sts Constantine & Hellen Church Fellowship Mrs Georgina Vlahos.

The Community's Dance Academy offered yet again a spectacular show with its talented students performing routines from many parts of Greece.

But the Festival really took off with live band "Notes" playing popular Greek tunes until early evening creating a true Greek atmosphere as the culinary aromas combined with Greek dance music literally offered the best Greek experience, only 15.000kms from the homeland.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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The Goodwood Greek Festival was held successfully last month in the carpark behind the church of Saints Constantinos and Eleni. In the photo, amongst the official guests was the Governor of SA Hieu Van Le, David Pisoni MP, Minister for Industry & Skills, on behalf of the Premier of South Australia Hon Steven Marshall, Emily Bourke, Member for the Legislative Council, Mr Steve Georganas, Member for Adelaide, Jayne Stinson, Member for Badcoe, Michael Hewitson, Mayor of the City of Unley, Ms Adriana Christopoulos member of SAMEAC, on behalf of Mr Norman Schueler, Chair of SAMEAC.



ABOVE: The Governor of SA Hieu Van Le, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, Minister David Pisoni, Metropolitan of Adelaide Chrysostomos Rev. Fathers Panayiotis and Ioannis at the Goodwood Festival



ABOVE: The Greek Community's Dance Academy performed traditional Greek dancing at the Goodwood Festival held on 5 May in the carpark behind the church of Saints Constantinos and Eleni.

Greek Fighter Jets Policing North Macedonian Airspace

The first flight of a Greek F-16 fighter jet over North Macedonia took place on Tuesday, initiating the Greek policing of the country's airspace.

The purpose of the mission was to locate any blank sectors of the radar and to test the compatibility of the different reconnaissance systems.

Tuesday's mission was a test flight and will be followed by more over the coming months.

North Macedonia does not have either air force radar — or indeed military radar of any kind — and as a member of NATO, it was given the right to decide which NATO neighbor will police its airspace. Zoran Zaev's government

decided to grant this honorary right to Athens.

The agreement was signed by Greek Defense Minister Evangelos Apostolakis and his counterpart Radmila Šekerinska several days after the signing of the Prespa Agreement.

According to media reports, Turkey is deeply disappointed in Skopje's decision to grant this important right to Greece, and Ankara has reportedly expressed its anger to North Macedonian officials.

Turkey, a NATO member itself, had wished that its own air force would be awarded the policing duties over North Macedonian air space.

Austerity cuts are legal says Greek court

The Council of State, Greece's highest court, ruled on Friday that the austerity cuts imposed on the country's civil servants during the years of the financial crisis were legal.

The decision is limited to the elimination of Christmas, Easter and Summer bonuses, or as they are known in Greece, the "Thirteenth and fourteenth salaries."

Up until 2012, Greek civil servants received a full month's salary as a Christmas bonus in December, half their salary again on Easter and half a salary again in the summer, amounts that were equal to two additional monthly salaries annually.

The bonuses were cut in 2012, which triggered a series of long-lasting judicial efforts by trade unions and individuals, with the lower courts ruling that the cuts were unconstitutional.

Their rulings were based on the grounds of equality, as private sector employees in Greece never saw their "Thirteenth and fourteenth salary" eliminated at all.

However, the plenary of the Council of State decided that these cuts are indeed legal and not unconstitutional, putting an end to hopes of hundreds of thousands of employees who believed that they could recoup their bonuses.

Australian Production with Overseas Interest

Derek Erskine's feature Heart of Fury is based on the final years of Lord Byron's life and the Greek War of Independence.

While the rest of the film will be completed this year, one of the producers Naomi Lisner director of DFUA Productions, has been receiving phone calls and emails from both the UK and USA anxious to see rough cuts of the film.

Instead of focusing on the hype they are still sourcing some of the final locations including the Greek committee scene

which includes Greek actor Antonios Baxevandis and George Donikian.

For Lisner and Erskine its organised chaos as they both work around the clock juggling heavy work schedules.

Yet to be filmed are scenes with the above mentioned actors as well as Don Bridges, John Mc Cullough, Loraine Fabb, Vanessa Moltzen, Albert Goikhman, as well as Lisner in the role of Margarita Cogni and Erskine as in the coveted role Lord Byron.

WAKE UP CALL! The global scientific community calls on Greek PM to cancel all gas and oil exploration

One hundred scientists and scientific bodies and organizations from Greece and all over the world, jointly signed a call to the Greek Prime Minister, Alexis Tsipras, asking him to cancel the hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation program in the Hellenic Trench. Their core argument is that the aforementioned program will have devastating effects in the country's marine environment and marine life, even from the first phase of seismic surveys. The resolution text is an initiative of WWF Greece supported by Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute.

Based on WWF Greece's data, the "blocks" that have been already or going to be conceded to the oil industry for hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation overlap with two regions in Greece identified as globally Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMA): the "Ionian Archipelago" region (overlapping with 34% of its total area, i.e. with 3,253 square kilometres), and the "Hellenic Trench" region (overlapping with 44% of its total area, i.e. with 24,970 square kilometres).

The Hellenic Trench is an area of huge ecological importance, since it is home to several rare and particularly vulnerable species covered by a protection scheme, such as fin whales, sperm whales, Cuvier's beaked whales, the disappearing Mediterranean common dolphins, other dol-

phin species, sea turtles and Mediterranean monk seals. As a matter of fact, it has been identified as the only "Area of Special Importance" for sperm whales in the entire Mediterranean Sea by ACCOBAMS (Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area). The largest part of the eastern Mediterranean population of sperm whales is permanently found in the Hellenic Trench, which is their only known breeding and calving area. As reported in the resolution "despite its global importance, cetaceans in the Hellenic Trench are already facing a series of direct and severe threats, such as anthropogenic noise, (studies in the area have demonstrated significant lethal impact of naval exercises to Cuvier beaked whales), ship strikes (threatening the survival of the sperm whale population), fisheries interactions, plastic pollution and climate change, that are already poorly addressed by national authorities and international agreements. Oil and gas exploration and exploitation projects as an additional great threat to marine mammals in the Hellenic Trench, would become the last straw to their survival."

"The Hellenic Trench is a key area for the future of several rare marine species, but also for the future of our country. Nevertheless, the Greek



Government allows anyone who so wishes, to proceed with underwater seismic surveys in the absence of an effective control. Any exploration or drilling activity on the open sea and in depths of thousand meters will be the "coup de grâce" for the unique species living in the area, but also for the coastal communities and subsequently the national economy. The resolution published today marks the commencement of a new great consensus among bodies of the Greek and international community who are in favour of protecting our natural heritage and against hydrocarbon exploitation in our country,"

said Dimitris Ibrahim, Manager of the WWF Greece Campaign against hydrocarbon exploitation.

100 scientists and scientific bodies from around the world support WWF Greece's initiative and call on the Prime Minister of Greece, Mr. Alexis Tsipras to permanently withdraw from the hydrocarbon exploitation program in our country and move the country towards a 100% renewable energy path. At the same time, they call all individuals to get informed about this issue and join forces with them, claiming living seas, without drillings, on the website <https://support.wwf.gr/action-en/>

Greek Orthodox Community SA

OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES HELPLINE
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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