



# GREEK TRIBUNE

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## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### Greek - Australian MPs concerned over comments on Macedonian naming issue

Two South Australian politicians, State Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis and federal member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas, have written to the Prime Minister of Australia Malcolm Turnbull expressing their concerns over comments made by a NSW MP in regards to the Macedonian naming issue.

"It was with great concern and disappointment that I was made aware of statements last night by a member of your Government, Mr Craig Kelly MP, Member for Hughes in regards to the Macedonian naming issue", Mr Koutsantonis wrote.

"The disappointment is heightened by the fact, that as we approach ANZAC Day, the Greek Community in Australia is preparing to honour Australian Defence Force personnel who served alongside the Hellenic Army during the battle of Crete, with a visit from the Hellenic Presidential Guard to both South Australia and New South Wales.

"There is absolutely no doubt that the term 'Macedonia' refers to the Kingdom and culture of the ancient Macedonians, which belongs to the Hellenic nation and are unquestionably part of Hellenic historical and cultural heritage.

"The Australian government has been consistent in its use of the name 'Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia' since 1994 and must continue to

observe this practice pending a mutually agreed resolution to the naming dispute between the Hellenic Republic and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"I suggest to you respectfully Prime Minister, that your Government reaffirm Australia's position on the naming issue of the FYROM to end the hurt caused by a member of your Government to Greek Australians and the Hellenic Republic, an ally and a friend.

"The Greek community of Australia is deeply offended by these remarks, I hope you are able to quickly end this hurtful debate and reassure Greek Australians that you and your Government does not share the views of Mr Kelly", Mr Koutsantonis concludes.

The Federal Member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas has also written and protested to Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Foreign Minister Julie Bishop, on the issue.

Speaking on SBS radio, the Australian Minister for Industry, Arthur Synodinos said the Government's policy has not changed.

"The government has not changed its position on this issue. We have said from the outset that Greece and FYROM must agree on the issues that concern them. We, as Australia recognize this country as the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" Mr. Synodinos said.

## NEW VISA PROGRAM TO BE INTRODUCED

### Turnbull scraps 457 visa

Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has announced the government will abolish 457 visas for skilled foreign workers and replace them with a new visa program.

The 457 visa will be replaced initially by a new temporary two-year visa specifically designed to recruit the "best and the brightest" in the national interest.

"We will no longer allow 457 visas to be passports to jobs that could and should go to Australians," Mr Turnbull said in a video posted to Facebook, stressing the reforms were focused on "Australian jobs and Australian values".

Temporary work visas, otherwise known as 457 visas, allowed skilled workers to come to Australia and be sponsored by an approved business for up to four years if the business could not find an Australian citizen or permanent resident to do the job.

The program will be replaced by two new visas; a two-year skilled work visa which will require previous work experience and a four-year visa which will require a

high level of English proficiency and a criminal history check.

The list of qualifications that will apply to these visas will also be shortened.

Anyone now in Australia on a 457 visa will not be affected by the new arrangements.

In a joint press conference with immigration minister Peter Dutton shortly after the video was released, Mr Turnbull said it remained critical to give businesses access to skilled staff.

"The 457 visa will be replaced by a new temporary visa specifically designed to recruit the best and the brightest in the national interest," he said.

Mr Dutton said the two-year visa would have no permanent residency outcome - a factor he said had been "part of the attraction" of the current 457 visa.

He said the reforms were "an attempt to clean up Labor's mess... a policy that got out of control".

One Nation leader Pauline Hanson attempted to take some credit for the policy change, claiming: "The government will deny their tough



talk on immigration and plan to ban 457 visas is because of One Nation but we all know the truth!"

Mr Turnbull said Australia is an "immigration nation" and the "most successful multi-cultural nation in the world".

"But the fact remains, Australian workers must have priority for Australian jobs," he continued.

Unions NSW secretary Mark Morey dismissed the new arrangements, saying it's unlikely there will be any real change.

"What we really need is a root and branch review, so that migrant exploitation and wage theft is properly tackled and Australian standards are both maintained and improved."

## ANASTASIADES

### I Hope Akinci has right perception about federation

President of the Republic of Cyprus Nicos Anastasiades has expressed hope that Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci also has the right understanding about a federation, and called on Akinci to give an example of a federation where everything the Turkish side is demanding is acceptable.

The President also said that he has made compromises, not against the Greek Cypriot community's interests, but to meet the concerns of the Turkish Cypriots.

According to a Presidency press release, addressing the opening of Kedros of Ayia Marina organization in the village of Kotsiatis, President Anastasiades said that there were problems in talks to reach a solution of the Cyprus problem and expresses regret that Akinci was calling on him to understand what a federation meant.

Speaking earlier at a children's festival in occupied Cyprus, Turkish Cypriot leader Mustafa Akinci said that President Anastasiades should prepare himself and the Greek Cypriot community for a federal settlement or a side by side state solution to the Cyprus Problem.

## Winemakers enjoy total success in international competition

By SARA GILLIGAN

A LOCAL winery has enjoyed 100 per cent success in an international wine and spirit competition, taking home gold medals for its four red wine entries.

Family-owned Mallee Estate Wines, in Renmark, entered the China Wine and Spirit Awards (CWSA) for the first time this year, and saw its 2015 Tempranillo crowned with a 'double gold', meaning it received a unanimous gold award from the judge's panel.

The 2015 Mallee Estate Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz were also awarded gold medals.

Director and winemaker from Mallee Estate Wines Jim Markeas said he and his family were "pleasantly surprised" with their success.

"It is a great honour to win these awards in China which is our largest export market," he said.

"These awards not only

give confidence to our Chinese consumers that our wines are of great style and quality, but also allows them to discover the Riverland region of South Australia as a great wine region of the world."

Mr Markeas said his parents left Greece to live in Australia, and have lived in Renmark for almost 50 years.

"Our family has been making wine here since 1998 and we opened the cellar door in 2005," he said.

"We started exporting to China in 2009 and entered the US market in 2015.

"We recognise that the export market is where our future lies."

CWSA judges are selected for being the top buyers of wines and spirits in the industry.

The wines and spirits entered from 55 countries were 'blind tasted' in February.

"The judges know what flavours and styles they like because they buy and sell in the market," Mr Markeas said.



Brothers Jim and Arthur Markeas, celebrating their new success  
Photo, courtesy Murray Pioneer

"Our wines are fruit-driven, with soft tannins, pleasant oak and a soft finish.

"We are excited that our pinot noir did so well as it is our first release of the variety.

"We have been working

hard in our vineyard to get it right, as it is more renowned for growing in cooler climates."

The award-winning wines can be tasted for free at the Mallee Estate Wines cellar door.



## GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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## Easter Celebrations took place around Adelaide

As the Lent period came to a conclusion, thousands of Community members across Adelaide attended the week-long Easter celebrations, also known as the Holy Week, following the Passion of Christ.

All the Community's churches reached beyond full capacity in the days leading to Easter Saturday as members made their way to pray for peace, prosperity and good health.

Following the tradition, women of all ages gathered at each of our churches on Thursday to help decorate the Tomb of Christ 'Epitaphio' as well as prepare the church for Good Friday.

Black and purple ribbons ran across the churches' interior reflecting the mourning atmosphere for the Passion of Christ, while the morning services on Thursday and Saturday drew thousands of

## Community Life



An estimated crowd of 3000 people attended the Epitaph service at the Greek Cathedral of Franklin Street on Good Friday.

parishioners who came to receive the Holy Communion.

Peaking on Good Friday, the Tomb of Christ dominated in every church reminding churchgoers his sacrifice.

Byzantine hymns were chanted around the Tomb and at around 9.00pm the church procession of the 'Epitaphio'

made its way out and around the block, with thousands of people following its course.

The list of official guests who attended the 'Epitafio' procession on Good Friday at the Community's churches included Ms Jo Chapley, Candidate for the seat of Adelaide representing Hon

Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia, Ms Rachel Sanderson, Member for Adelaide and Shadow Minister for Child Protection representing the Leader of the Opposition Mr Steven Marshall, Mr Michael Atkinson, Member for Croydon and Speaker of the House of Assembly representing the Minister for Multicultural Affairs Hon Zoe Bettison, Ms Angela Evans, Mayor of Charles Sturt Council, Mr David Pisoni, Shadow Minister for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Ms Jayne Stinson on behalf of Mr Steve Georganas and Mr Lachlan Clyne, Mayor of Unley and Candidate for the seat of Badcoe

The celebrations peaked on Easter Saturday with the traditional midnight mass as thousands of the Community's members flocked to church to attend the Resurrection Ceremony and to receive the Eternal Light. At midnight, priests sang out "Christ has Risen", marking the end of the Passion and making the joyful announcement of Christ's resurrection.

## Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

Email your community's news or a photo: info@greektribune.com.au

Nine members of the Presidential Guard of the Hellenic Republic, or Evzones as they are known, were in Adelaide last week to be part of community events and ceremonies, commemorating ANZAC Day and the Battle of Crete. The Evzones were greeted at a reception hosted by the State Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis at the Adelaide Town Hall and attended by hundreds of invited guests from the Greek community. In the photo, the President of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Bill Gonis, welcoming the Evzones at the Ridleyton Home for the Aged on Friday 21 April.



## Australians around the world commemorate ANZAC Day

Australians have honoured the sacrifice of our service men and women at hundreds of Anzac Day ceremonies throughout the country and around the world.

Speaking at the Dawn Service at Villers-Bretonneux in France, Minister for Veterans' Affairs Dan Tehan said Anzac Day was a chance for all Australians to reflect on the service and sacrifice of every man and woman who has served in defence of our nation.

"More troops died in battle in 1917 and more were taken

prisoner than in any other year. There has never been a year when Australia lost more to war than 1917", Mr Tehan said.

On Tuesday, a dawn service was also held in Cyprus, to recognise the five fallen members of the Australian and New Zealand Forces who lost their lives while serving in the region.

During Australia's 53 years of service to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), three Australian police officers lost their lives.

Sergeant Llewellyn Thomas,

a South Australian Police officer since 1961, was selected to be part of the 6th Australian contingent to Cyprus in 1969. In July 1969, he died as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident.

Inspector Mark Hackett commenced with the NSW Police Force in 1963, and was selected to be part of the 8th Australian contingent to Cyprus in 1971. Inspector Hackett was killed in a car accident on the island in 1971.

Sergeant Ian Ward joined the 11th Australian contingent

to Cyprus in 1974, having served in the NSW Police Force since 1966. Sergeant Ward had only been in Cyprus for five days when his vehicle hit a land mine while on a humanitarian mission for the UNFICYP.

All three officers were posthumously awarded the Police Overseas Service Medal with Cyprus clasp, the United Nations Service Medal and the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal.

In the past 18 months, the UN has made great efforts to recover Sergeant Ward's vehicle, including a 44-day manual land mine clearance.

More than 1,600 Australian police officers have served with the UNFICYP, with the final AFP officers to be withdrawn in June this year.

## Hellenic initiative raises funds for people in need

The Hellenic Initiative Australia's inaugural Brisbane Gala Dinner on Saturday 1 April 2017 raised more than \$170,000 to support programs assisting people in need in Greece.

More than 350 people attended the event, held under the stunning glass dome of the magnificent Brisbane City Hall, including prominent members of Brisbane's Greek and business community and representatives from across Australia.

The event focused on the impact The Hellenic Initiative programs were having in Greece and highlighted local initiatives such as the THI Australian Internship Program and a new Volunteering Program with THI Australia's partner charity, Boroume (We Can).

Keynote speaker Andrew N Liveris, Co-Founder and Chairman of The Hellenic Initiative gave an impassioned address about the role of the diaspora in assisting Greece through programs that aim to create a positive, long-lasting, impact on Greek society.

A highlight of the evening was the heartfelt presentation from special guest speaker Alexander Theodoridis, the co-founder of Boroume, whose innovative food saving programs are tackling the issues of food wastage and insecurity in Greece.

"I am really excited by our newest joint project

which involves giving Greek Australians visiting Greece this summer the opportunity to volunteer with Boroume and, by spending a few hours at a farmers' market or a field, become part of our daily food saving and offering process", Mr Theodoridis said.

Boroume, ("We Can") organises the distribution of surplus food to charities throughout Greece – offering more than 20,000 portions of food through their network on average every day. Since 2012, Boroume has saved more than 12.5 million portions of food, valued at €18.7 million, donating it to more than 1000 organisations throughout Greece.

THI Australia president Nick Pappas commended local THI Australia Board members and event committee convenors Jim Raptis OBE and Emmanuel Drivas, who brought together a wonderful cross section of Brisbane's vibrant Greek community for the event.

"THI is the first worldwide diaspora effort for Greece, giving us an opportunity to contribute to programs that will assist Greece's recovery and, over time, form a dynamic diaspora group that will be there for Greece in the long term," Mr Pappas said.

The Brisbane event follows successful fundraising events in Perth in 2016 and Melbourne in 2015. The next major THI Australia event is planned for Sydney in October 2017.



ANZAC Day was commemorated at the Renmark Cross of Sacrifice by hundreds of local residents

## Naomi Lisner and Derek Erskine are now planning the sequel Tracy 2

With Tracy the feature film completed April 5th Naomi Lisner and Derek Erskine are now planning the sequel Tracy 2 for 2018. The film a dark psychological thriller has been listed as one of the top movies to see in 2017. The film was written by Cassandra Leopold, Naomi Lisner and Derek Erskine. Leopold as (Tracy) Erskine (Daz) and Lisner (Jade Patterson). Greek icon George Donikian plays a newsreader and recently completed his role.

Tracy has a incredible shoot out scene that was recently completed with veteran armorer John Fox on set to choreograph the scene. John is without doubt not only Australia's most established armorer but also in the top 10 world wide. John has worked with Steven Spielberg, Nicholas Cage, Clive Owen, Jackie Weaver and Robert De Niro just to name a few.

The set looked straight out of Hollywood blockbuster with a huge trailer for the actors to relax in their down time. Yoram Malka owner of Limors restaurant provided the cast with delicious catering, even hand delivering to set. Malka will make a cameo appearance in Lisner directorial debut



Left to right Cassandra Leopold, Derek Erskine and Naomi Lisner - Photo by Raphael Chan

for her short film Hannah Rosenthal. The film calls for a restaurant for a scene between Lisner and Erskine. It will be filmed at Limor's and Malka will be playing a waiter.

After that Lisner and Erskine fly out to Singapore to represent the Tracy at the Australian/Singapore film festival. Lisner and Erskine are spoiled for choice with film projects to work on as they are both prolific writers. The Incredible Chronicles of Mr Pasqual is high on the list. The film is about an tortured love affair between Evelyn a nightclub singer (Lisner) and an artist Pasqual (Erskine). In real life Erskine

is a exceptional artist with his artwork in hundreds of private collections in Australia and overseas. The talented cast also includes George Donikian, Albert Goikhman, John Mc Cullough, Carolyn Rey and Tritia DeViSha is set in the back drop of Cuba. The cinematographer will be Jerry Creaney who also filmed Tracy. Lisner recently appeared on an episode of She Shot TV directed by Greek film maker Stella Dimadis. Donikian and Lisner still have plans to film Apparently So and with so many projects in the pipeline are yet to work out scheduling.

The Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia, presents from Greece

Sunday 14 May 2017 @ 7.30pm

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