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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Australians among those killed in Sri Lanka bombings

An Australian mother and her 10-year-old daughter are among 290 people killed in terrorist attacks on churches and luxury hotels in Sri Lanka.

Manik Suriaaratchi and her daughter Alexandra lost their lives when a bomb exploded inside a church in Negombo, according to SBS.

At a vigil in Melbourne, Fahim Mawjood told SBS that the family had travelled back to Sri Lanka a few years ago to care for a relative.

He said he had spoken to Ms Suriaaratchi's husband, who was uninjured in the blast as he was parking the family car when the bomb went off.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison has confirmed two Australians were killed and that both victims were members of the same family and were living in the country at the time.

"We deeply regret these deaths and we extend our deepest and most sincere sympathies to the family," he said.

"As the days pass and the injured are treat-

ed and some of them succumb to their wounds, we are seeing this massacre go from what was bad, very bad, to much, much worse."

Last week, Sri Lankan authorities confirmed the death toll from the attacks had risen to 290, with around 500 injured.

Police said 13 suspects had been arrested. All of the bombers were Sri Lankan citizens, but authorities suspect foreign links, Health Minister Rajitha Senaratne said.

The Tamil Tigers, once a powerful rebel army known for its use of suicide bombers, was crushed by the government in 2009, and had little history of targeting Christians.

While anti-Muslim feeling has swept the island in recent years, fed by Buddhist nationalists, the island has no history of violent Muslim militants.

The country's small Christian community has seen only scattered incidents of harassment in recent years.

Sri Lanka is a multi-cultural, multi faith nation.

Man and daughter drown at Port Lincoln

A man and his young daughter drowned after being hit by a freak wave on a rocky outcrop on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula on Catholic Easter Sunday.

The 35-year-old man from the Adelaide suburb of Holden Hill and his five-year-old daughter were taking photographs at the Whaler's Way Sanctuary at Cape Carnot, south of Port Lincoln, when they were swept into the ocean.

Signs at the site warn visitors of the dangers of the area.

SA Police Superintendent Paul Bahr said he understood bystanders had assisted by stopping others from jumping into the water, and said he would discourage anybody from jumping into dangerous waters, no matter the circumstances.

"There are very strong currents, very strong swells, very strong waves, your chances of survival in the water here would be very slim.

"Your best response is

to stay on shore, observe and try and get something to the person that will assist them to float."

He said the area was well-known for its dangerous waters and the incident had left him with a "hollow feeling".

Glenn Theakstone, the co-owner of Whaler's Way Sanctuary, said "no photo is worth your life".

"Unfortunately, I think that's what's happened here," he said.

"They've gone to take a selfie with the white spray behind them and it's washed them off the rocks."

He said there was also "a lot of close calls" in the area.

Brent Haldane's son Jordan stopped another man from jumping in the sea to save the pair.

"What a horrible emotional day we witnessed today," Brent Haldane posted to Facebook.

"Two lives lost in front of our eyes — helpless as they vanished instantly, something I wish no-one has to ever deal with.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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FEDERAL ELECTION ON 18 MAY

Leaders kick off election campaign

Prime Minister Scott Morrison is asking voters to consider who they trust, while Bill Shorten launched Labor's official campaign from a suburban backyard, declaring he's for a "fair go".

The two leaders made their first pitches of the official campaign after Mr Morrison ended weeks of speculation and called the election for 18 May.

Mr Morrison urged the public to consider the economy when weighing up their vote, arguing there was "so much at stake" at the election.

"Why do you trust to deliver that strong economy which your essential services rely on?" Mr Morrison said at Parliament House on Thursday morning.

"Who do you trust to deliver the strong economy and the budget management that these services can be funded, that the business that you work for will be there in three years, in five years, in 10 years?"

His words echo those of former prime minister John Howard, who posed the question "who do you trust?" to voters in

2004.

While Mr Morrison wants to focus on the economy, he faces an uphill battle to convince voters that he can lead a stable government. Mr Morrison, who replaced Malcolm Turnbull in August after months of internal Liberal Party division, reassured the public he would serve a full term as prime minister.

"You vote for me, you'll get me. You vote for Bill Shorten and you'll get Bill Shorten," he said.

Labor Leader Bill Shorten said his party was united behind him. "The last six years hasn't been Australia's finest six years. There has been instability, growing inequality, wages stagnation, everything going up but your wages," Mr Shorten said.

Speaking from a family home in Mitcham in Melbourne's east, the Labor Leader said:

"My feet are firmly planted in the backyard of a Mitcham house because I understand that politics should be about the people," Mr Shorten told reporters.

"It's about cost of living, education, health, good jobs and



renewable energy."

Mr Shorten is promising a "fair go".

"What we need to do is make sure this country is working in the interests of everyone, not just the top end of town."

Opinion polls have narrowed since the budget was handed down in early April, but Labor remains ahead.

The government currently holds 74 seats in the lower house and Labor has 69, but a redrawing of the electoral boundaries means the Coalition starts with a notional 73 seats and

Labor 72.

That means both major parties need to gain seats to win a majority in the expanded 151-seat House of Representatives and form government.

Nationals Leader Michael McCormack, whose position at the head of the party is on the line this election, said he didn't put much faith in polls.

The Greens have branded this poll as "the climate change election" with leader Richard Di Natale saying his party offered a progressive alternative to the major parties.

GREEK EASTER CELEBRATION

The Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel in the city of Adelaide and the streets surrounding the church, were flooded with unprecedented crowds on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

In the photo, taken on Saturday midnight, Fr John disseminates the holy light to the faithful, heralding the resurrection of Jesus Christ and praying for World peace, prosperity and good health.



Goodwood Greek Festival

The annual Goodwood Greek Festival will be held on Sunday 5 May, from 11am till 8pm, outside the Goodwood Community Centre, Rosa Street, Goodwood.

This year, the festival will host many Greek dance groups and live music by local Band. The festival will once again bring the best of Greek culture and turn the whole neighborhood into an outdoors Greek party for everyone to enjoy. Delicious Greek food, including Yiros, souvlaki, home made sweets, loukoumades, drinks and much more will be available. Entry is free of charge and all welcome! The event is sponsored by the Greek Orthodox Community of SA.

Taxiarchis women honour ANZAC Day

The Greek Women's Society of SA "O Taxiarchis" Inc was part of the RSL Hilton West Torrens commemoration Anzac service this year which had a strong Greek presence. Greece's Presidential Guard (Evzones) which arrived in Adelaide from Athens to pay their respects to the ANZACS

Community Life



Wreathes layed by the Greek Orthodox Community SA and Greek Women's Society "Taxiarchis" at the Cross of Sacrifice monument West Torrens Memorial Gardens

was also in attendance along with representatives of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Inc, the Greek Ex-Servicemen's Association of SA Inc, the Greek Archdiocese and the Pan Rhodian Society.

The Evzones presence at the Anzac ceremony was to commemorate the role of the Australian soldiers who fought in Crete and Greece and honour the relationship

and 76 New Zealanders are buried in the two military cemeteries on opposite ends of the island, at East Mudros and at Portianou.

The 11 Evzones of the Presidential Guard marched along Sir Donald Bradman Drive accompanied by the Scottish Band playing behind them, until they reached the Cross of Sacrifice monument in the Memorial Gardens, where they stood guard while official procedures for the 104th commemoration of ANZAC Day Dawn Service took place.

Thousands of people gathered at Memorial Gardens and observed with reverence the official ceremony during which the memorial wreaths were placed over the steps of the monument, by officials who attended the service.

The Greek Women's Society of SA, as the oldest Greek Women's Society of South Australia (est.1937) was proud to be able to pay its respects by laying a wreath representing the Greek women's role and connection with the ANZACS both in Greece and Australia. The Society was represented by the Vice President, Mrs. Helen Bogias.

At the close of the ceremony the attendees were invited to the Hilton RSL hall.

(contributed by Helen Vassos)



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

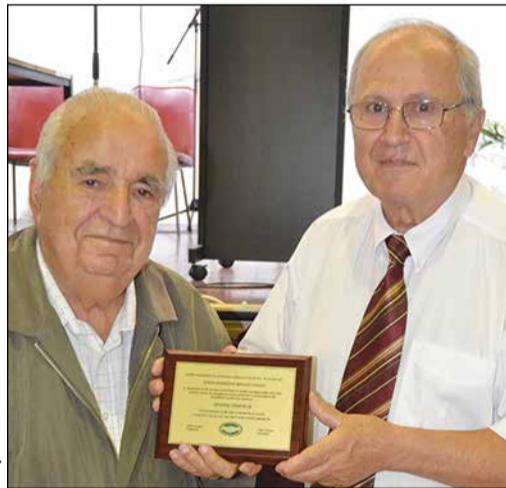


At the reception given by GOCSA at Olympic Hall in honour of the National Day of Greece, were from left, Dr Susan Close, Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Vicki Georganas, Angela Pangallo, Dora Koutrokois, Minister Assisting the Premier, Jing Lee MLC, Vaso Economos, and GOCSA Councilor Helen Mermingis, President Bill Gonis and Councilor Dimitria Psarros.



LEFT: Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas attended the procession of the Epitaph on Good Friday at the Greek Orthodox Community SA church of Koimisis at Croydon. Also in the photo, GOCSA Treasurer Peter Gardiakos.

RIGHT: President of the Greek Worker's Association PLATON, John Lesses presents a commemorative plaque to the veteran union leader George Zangalis from Melbourne, during the launch of his book "Ode to Mother", at the Olympic Hall on 17 April.



Cyprus' Serial Killer Confesses to Seven Murders

A 35-year-old Greek-Cypriot army officer has reportedly, so far, confessed to murdering seven women and girls in what local media have called the island's "first serial killings."

Two bodies were found in a mine shaft earlier this month and a third one was found on Thursday.

Cypriot media have identified

the suspect as Nicos Metaxas. They are reporting that among his victims are three Filipino women, including and the daughter of one. There is also another woman either from India or Nepal, who died last summer, as well as a woman from Romania and her daughter.

Investigators found the third woman's body on Thursday after

the suspect led them to the spot where he is alleged to have left it, in a field near the capital of Nicosia.

The 35-year old officer admitted that he had had sexual intercourse with the woman, and afterward, he had strangled her to death.

The suspect is reported to have met the victim, who disappeared in December 2017, on a dating website.

The police now believes that the officer, who was a well-known photographer as well,

might have killed many more unfortunate women, who have been missing for years.

The only body which has been positively identified at this point is that of Mary Rose Tiburcio, 39, a Filipino national.

Cases of missing Filipino nationals are now reopening on Cyprus. The authorities fear that the National Guard officer was nothing more than a serial killer who could have committed multiple murders for several years, without anyone remotely suspecting the extent of the crime.

Human Ancestors Evolved in Europe

A brand-new analysis of fossils recovered in the 1990's in the village of Nikiti, northern Greece, supports the controversial idea that the apes which gave rise to humans evolved in south-eastern Europe and not in Africa.

The 8 or 9-million-year-old fossils had first been linked to the extinct ape called Ouranopithecus. However, a team led by David Begun from the University of Toronto's Department of Anthropology has recently analyzed the remains and has determined that they likely belonged to a male animal from a potentially new species.

While Begun does not believe the Nikiti ape was a hominin, he speculates that it could represent the group from which hominins directly evolved.

The research team led by Begun had determined in 2017 that a 7.2-million-year-old ape called Graecopithecus, which also lived in what is now Greece, could possibly be a hominin. In this case, the 8 to 9-million-year-

old Nikiti ape would have directly preceded the first hominin, Graecopithecus, before hominins migrated to Africa 7 million years ago.

According to a report in the journal New Scientist, Begun foresees that this new concept will be rejected by many experts who believe in African hominin origins, but he hopes that the new scenario will at least be considered.

Begun presented the research last month at a conference of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists.

Charles Darwin proposed in 1871 that all hominins, including both modern and extinct humans, descended from a group in Africa, and this is the most widely accepted theory today.

On the other hand, Darwin also speculated that hominins could also have originated in Europe, where fossils of large apes had already been discovered, and the new analysis supports this theory.

Flight Centre workers launch Federal Court action for systemic underpayments

A Federal Court claim has been filed today (Friday 26 April) alleging widespread breaches of the Fair Work Act against Flight Centre Travel Group Ltd.

The claim, which is brought on behalf of five current and former Flight Centre employees by Maurice Blackburn Lawyers and Together Queensland, is seeking redress for unpaid work-related entitlements under the General Retail Industry Award 2010.

The applicants are seeking compensation for failure to pay minimum wages for each ordinary hours worked; failure to pay penalty and overtime rates; failure to pay annual leave at the correct rate; failure to pay annual leave loading at the correct rate; and failure to provide the correct rest and meal breaks.

Maurice Blackburn Employment Law Principal Giri Sivaraman, who is acting for the five applicants, said that Flight Centre engaged in the systemic underpayment of workers over a significant period of time.

"Flight Centre operated a system where a commission was paid on top of a base salary as an incentive to drive sales however, given the hours actually worked by these employees, they

needed to earn enough commission for their pay to rise above the statutory minimum wage.

"As this systemic underpayment of employees was part of the structure of Flight Centre's business we believe that potentially thousands of current and former workers could have been impacted."

Alex Scott, State Secretary of Together Queensland, whose union members are bringing the action against Flight Centre, said it is totally unacceptable that the Flight Centre workers were subjected to these working conditions in the pursuit of profit

"The entrenched sales culture at Flight Centre during the period in question was not unlike practices identified in the Banking Royal Commission.

"Our members, who were illegally subjected to an extremely stressful working environment over a long period of time, are understandably angry about the way that they have been treated by Flight Centre."

The Federal Court action will also seek that Flight Centre undertakes an audit of its compliance with the Fair Work Act to include all employees and former employees employed during the relevant period.

Early voting started on Monday

People unable to attend a polling place on election day can cast their vote at an early voting centre from Monday, 29 April.

The Australian Electoral Commission said with a record enrolment rate of 96.8% it is important that all Australians enrolled now think about how and when they will cast their vote.

"We have the most complete electoral roll since federation and we're providing a broad range of voting services but it is up to enrolled Australians to turnout to make sure they have their say," Mr Rogers said.

"We moved swiftly on

Wednesday evening to design, verify and then print ballot papers in time for voters to access early voting centres from Monday.

"We're in the process of printing a total of around 52 million ballot papers and this also kick-starts the distribution of postal votes for people who have applied."

More than 500 early voting centres will be available throughout the early voting period with the majority opening on Monday.

Go to www.aec.gov.au to find the location and opening times for early voting centres or call us on 13 23 26

The Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. presents

Dimitris BASIS

LIVE show

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ENTRY: \$100 SEATED & WITH MEZE, \$65 GENERAL ENTRY (standing- no food included)

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Greek Orthodox Community SA

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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