



September 2017

GREEK TRIBUNE

www.greektribune.com.au - Renmark - Mobile: 04 0886 5004 - Email: info@greektribune.com.au

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Port Augusta Solar Thermal to create jobs and cut power prices

SolarReserve has been awarded the contract to supply all of the Government's power needs, with the project set to boost market competition and put downward pressure on power prices.

A key part of the State Government's Energy Plan, the 150MW solar thermal power plant at Port Augusta, called Aurora, will be the biggest of its kind in the world and create 650 local jobs during construction and 50 ongoing positions. Construction of the \$650 million facility will begin in 2018 and be completed in 2020.

The offer from SolarReserve was the lowest-cost option of the shortlisted bids from the Government paying no more than \$78/MWh.

Aurora will produce synchronous renewable energy that can be dispatched into the grid when needed - even when the sun isn't shining. This will have the added benefits of improving grid security and stability, and allowing for greater levels of renewables to be integrated into the system.

SA Premier Jay Weatherill said the Government is supporting the project because it will deliver more competition into our energy market and put downward pressure on power prices for households and businesses.

"The Port Augusta story is a stark example of the transition of the South Australian economy, with the closure of a dirty coal fired power station, and now the commissioning of this world

leading renewable energy project".

"The project will also deliver about 700 jobs, with requirements for local workers, in the Port Augusta region and will support additional jobs in the long term", Mr Weatherill said.

Energy Minister Tom Koutsantonis said by using our purchasing power to underwrite the entry of a new player into the market, we can increase competition and put downward pressure on power prices for South Australians.

"The Aurora Solar Energy Project will also create new, advanced employment opportunities in regional South Australia. We are using our energy plan to drive investment and jobs in this growing sector" and added that "along with our grid-scale battery, this solar thermal facility firmly entrenches South Australia as a world leader in the storage of renewable energy.

"This facility, in addition to our State-owned power plant and the world's largest lithium ion battery, will help to make our energy grid more secure", Mr Koutsantonis concluded.

SolarReserve CEO Kevin Smith said his company looks forward to continuing to work with the South Australian government and stakeholders, including the Port Augusta community where the project is located, to support Federal and State renewable energy targets, stimulate long-term economic development, and create new jobs and businesses", Mr Smith said.

River communities angry about water theft

Broken Hill's Mayor has joined other angry community leaders in calling for an inquiry into the operation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. The call from Darriea Turley comes after alarming revelations on the ABC's Four Corners program about billions of litres of water earmarked for the environment, which have instead been used to irrigate cotton farms

in northern New South Wales.

Communities living along the Murray Darling river system are feeling betrayed and are calling on Federal Government politicians to take action to protect their constituents from the greed of a selected few. While some water thieves upstream are profiting, farmers and growers downstream are suffering and losing their livelihoods.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

ABN: 52366840467

Correspondence to: The Editor,
BOX 3070, RENMARK,
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5341

Phone: 0408 865004

Website: www.greektribune.com.au

E-mail: greektribune@riverland.net.au

ADELAIDE

Hospital to open 5 September

South Australian history has been made as the new Royal Adelaide Hospital (RAH) welcomed its first patients with the commencement of some renal outpatient and radiation oncology services.

While the hospital will not open to the general public until Tuesday 5 September, a small number of outpatient and radiation therapy clinics started 14 August.

Beginning these services early allows staff to settle into their new working environment with smaller levels of activity and patients who are low risk.

The new RAH's first outpatient, 51 year old Paul Panos received a donor kidney from his mother six years ago.

He is the first Renal Outpatient Clinic appointment, with 150 patients booked in for appointments before the official launch of the hospital.

These patients are typically kidney transplant recipients who are required to see their

specialist every three months for a follow up appointment.

Some Radiation Oncology patients have also started to have treatment at the new RAH.

"Today is another major step forward for healthcare in South Australia as we see the first outpatients walk through the doors of the new RAH", Health Minister Jack Snelling said.

"The official opening date is Tuesday 5 September at 7am, and it's important that people continue to go to the old Royal Adelaide Hospital like normal, until this time.

"It is however exciting that as of today South Australians, like Paul are able to start having their appointments and treatment in this magnificent facility which will service the South Australian community for decades to come", he said.

Renal and Cancer Director, Professor Graeme Russ, said that "as we gear up to the hospital opening on September 5, it's important we



Doctor Philip Clayton receives a visit from the New RA Hospital's first patient Paul Panos.

take this opportunity with our renal outpatients and radiation oncology patients to really settle in to the new working environment.

"For these first few weeks we've specifically chosen patients who are low risk and don't need complicated procedures.

"By starting our services with people like Paul who just need a regular check up with their doctor, we can take our time to make sure everything is working well before we open the doors to the general public".

Overseas Cypriots Flock to Nicosia for conference

The 19th World Conference of the World Federation of Overseas Cypriots (POMAK), the International Coordinating Committee - Justice for Cyprus (PSEKA) and the World Conference of Young Overseas Cypriots (NEPOMAK) has taken place in Nicosia, between August 21-24.

According to an announcement, distributed by the Government of Cyprus Press Office, President Nicos Anastasiades opened the conference in the evening of August 21 and gave a report on the recent Cyprus talks and other developments.

Presidential Commissioner for Humanitarian Issues and Overseas Affairs Fotis Fotiou, House President Demetris Syllouris, Archbishop Chrysostomos II of Cyprus and Greece's Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, in charge of issues of Greeks abroad, Terence Quick also addressed the conference.

The international event was also attended by representatives of the Cypriot Communities of Australia and the Justice for Cyprus Committee.

Celebration for the Assumption of Virgin Mary attracts large crowd

It was with devoutness and splendour that thousands of Greeks celebrated the annual feast day of the Assumption of Virgin Mary at the Community's church which bears the name of this religious milestone.

The two-day event drew a multitude of parishioners from all over South Australia who attended the Great Evening Vesper on Monday night and the Great Celebrative Doxology on Tuesday morning, conducted by Bishop Chrisostom and the Community's clergy.

A number of official guests also attended the service and lunch.

Among them were, the Mr Peter Malinauskas, Minister for Police representing the Government of South Australia, Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs John Gardner representing the leader of the Opposition Stephen Marshall, Michael Atkinson MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly and Member for Croydon, Rachel Sanderson Member for Adelaide, John Dawkins MLC, Charles Sturt Councilor Paul Alexandrides, and GOCSA President Bill Gonis.

The church's interior reached full capacity as parishioners made their way in to light a candle, pray and receive the blessings from the holy icon of Virgin Mary.

At the same time, the church's courtyard was covered with marquees, tables and chairs, ready to welcome churchgoers for the annual feast.

For that reason, a team of volunteers



At the Assumption of Virgin Mary celebrations at Croydon on 15 August, were, from left, GOCSA executive committee member Peter Gardiakos, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, Minister for Police Peter Malinauskas and Cypriot Community of SA President Andrew Evdokiou

worked tirelessly at the BBQs and the kitchen from the early hours of the morning, preparing popular grilled delicacies and traditional sweets.

Due to the heavy rainfall during the day, the procession of the holy icon took

place around the church's interior and not around the block as it is the tradition.

The two-day event celebrations for the Assumption continued with the annual feast where great food and sweets were on offer for parishioners.

More funding for Greek studies at Flinders Uni

In June this year LOGOS organised two major international conferences: Ageing in a Foreign Land and Greek Research. Ageing in a Foreign Land focused on ageing from a cultural and linguistic perspective and dealt with matters regarding ageing ethnic communities in Australia.

The conference offered the opportunity to discuss urgent national issues regarding ageing and gave a voice to those who are still remaining silent in Australia. The Greek Research conference focused on themes relating to the diachronic importance of Greek language and culture and its ongoing impact on our lives.

The 11th publication

Community Life



The congregation at the Croydon Assumption of Mary church

titled Living in a Cultural Wilderness, was launched during the conference. The publication includes high quality academic papers

which are peer reviewed. Both conferences were very successful. Over the last few years one of our major goals was to create opportunities for

a succession plan for LOGOS.

"We have exciting news, Professor Michael Tsianikas, of the Flinders University said.

"During the conference dinner, organised by the Foundation for Hellenic Studies at the Adelaide Pavilion, the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis, Treasurer for South Australia, announced a government grant of \$2 million towards a succession plan for LOGOS.

"We are ecstatic about this highly promising new development. We would like to thank the Government of South Australia for this inspirational decision and its vision for the future of Australian education and culture. We also thank the Foundation for Hellenic Studies for its ongoing support and inspiring leadership to promote Greek language and culture", he said.

Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

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



LEFT: At the Assumption of Virgin Mary celebrations on 15 August at Croydon, were, from left, Speaker Michael Atkinson, Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs John Gardner, Peter Ppiros, Rachel Sanderson MP, John Dawkins MLC, Minister for Police Peter Malinauskas, Charles Sturt Councilor Paul Alexandrides, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, ALP candidate for Badcoe Jane Stinson and ALP candidate for the Legislative Council Irene Pneumatikos

RIGHT: The Greek Church of the Assumption of Mary on Sturt Highway, Berri, celebrated its 50th anniversary on August 15. In the photo are the Berri Greek Orthodox Community committee members, from left, George Simos, Dafni Polymiades (secretary), Demetrios Sfyris (President), Jim Kypreos and Andrew Liakos.



Speaking to the media during his visit in the Riverland last week, South Australian Water Minister Ian Hunter said that the State Weatherill Government will continue to put pressure on the Federal Government to begin an independent inquiry into claims of water theft in NSW. The allegations were made recently on ABC's Four Corners.



The Governor of SA Hieu Van Le to visit the Riverland Field Days

His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AC Governor of South Australia and Mrs Lan Le will visit the 2017 Riverland Field Days in September.

"We are honoured to welcome the Governor and Mrs Le to the 2017 fields days, Chairman, James Butler said. "it will be of special significance as we celebrate the 60th Riverland Field Days", he said.

The Governor and Mrs Le will attend on the Friday 15 September when His Excellency will give a welcome speech and meet guests at a special lunch.

The Riverland Field Days has also announced that this year's celebrity chef is Genevieve Harris. Chef Genevieve Harris started her working life as a school teacher, all the while cooking furiously for friends and family, honing her skills in the kitchen. She then embarked on a career in hospitality that began at the Grey Masts restaurant in Robe on the Limestone Coast in South Australia.

She has spent the best part of 30 years involved in hospitality, with the positions of Executive

Chef at the luxurious Amankila resort in Bali, The Bathers Pavilion Restaurant at Balmoral beach in Sydney, Executive Chef with Pernod Ricard, Jacob's Creek winery in the Barossa and owning her own restaurant, Nediz, back here in Adelaide featuring as highlights in her career so far.

"We are very please to have Genevieve Harris as our celebrity chef for the field days this year", Field Days CEO Tim Grieger said. "She will bring an exciting array of knowledge and skill to our cooking demonstrations" he said. "Anyone with a desire to cook beautiful food will want learn from this great opportunity with Genevieve Harris", Tim Grieger said.

The Riverland Field Days is a very popular two day event held at the Field Day Site, Sturt Highway Barmera. It has something for the whole family, including agricultural machinery, equipment and servicing, information sessions, child and family friendly activities, entertainment, trade exhibits, demonstrations and tastings. This year it will be held on Friday 15 and Saturday 16 September.



Labor MLC Russell Wortley (right) visited the Riverland last week to speak to councils and schools about the State Government's \$40 million Fund My Neighbourhood initiative. He is pictured with local Labor Party member Simratpal Singh-Malhi.

Leader of Opposition visits Riverland

State Liberal Leader Steven Marshall met with local community and industry leaders with a focus on jobs and the economy during a visit to the Riverland in mid August.

The visit was hosted by Member for Chaffey Tim Whetstone.

"South Australia's regions provide a significant contribution to our state's economy and the Riverland plays a key role as a quality food and beverage exporter in the clean, green landscape along the River Murray," Mr Marshall said.

"The Weatherill Labor Government's Budget failed to assist businesses and address the economic and social issues facing our regional communities", Mr Marshall said.

"The Riverland continues to face significant challenges around unemployment,

skyrocketing electricity prices and costs of utilities, social challenges, youth retention and population growth.

The Leader of the Opposition said the State Liberals have a number of policies in place to address the significant issues facing the Riverland including, increasing export capacity through establishing international trade offices, improving regional health services and clearing hospital maintenance backlogs, waiving stamp duty on multi-peril crop insurance and reinstating the ESL remission.

Member for Chaffey Tim Whetstone said the visit demonstrates Mr Marshall's commitment to the Riverland and regional South Australia.

"Every day, business owners in the Riverland face challenges just to keep their doors open, particularly with



State Opposition Leader Stephen Marshall, Member for Chaffey Tim Whetstone and Kym Manning, at Lake Bonney of Barmera

high electricity, gas and water costs, and this state needs a better solution to back small to medium businesses," Mr

Whetstone said. Mr Marshall addressed a public meeting held at the Berri Town Hall on August 15.

State Liberal plan to reinvigorate study of languages

This week State Liberal Leader, Steven Marshall, MP, and the South Australian Liberal team released a new package of policy measures aimed at reinvigorating the study of languages in schools.

The most recent census data indicates that a language other than English is present in more than 17% of South Australian households. Our multicultural communities, particularly through our ethnic schools, are valuable assets for students and families from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. We believe that collaboration and innovation with these communities can create new opportunities that benefit our education system.

We want to ensure that students across South Australia have the intercultural capabilities they need to succeed in the increasingly globalised world in which they will live. Unfortunately, the study of languages has not been nurtured under the Labor Government, and we have seen the number of students taking a second language at year 12 level decline from nearly 12% in 2002 to fewer than 5% last year.

The State Liberals' language strategy is designed to reverse this

trend, and deliver valuable opportunities for students who wish to pursue a second language. Please find attached a copy of the policy. We hope you find it of interest and we are always ready to hear your valuable feedback.

This strategy compliments our previous policy announcements dealing with school truancy, entrepreneurial education, parental engagement strategies, Year 7 into High School and our Literacy Guarantee.

In the coming months we will continue to detail more of the policies that will help us deliver the best schools, and the best education system in Australia.

The State Liberal team has announced a number of policies, and if you wish to learn more, please visit the website: www.stevenmarshall.com.au/policies

Thank you for all of the work that you do to make our community stronger and more vibrant. Please do not hesitate to get in touch at any time if we can ever be of assistance.

Mr John Gardner, MP Shadow Minister for Education
Shadow Minister for Multicultural Affairs
Hon Jing Lee, MLC Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs

Greek tavern owner fires in the air to scare taxation officers

Athens - A tavern owner in Volos, Central Greece, fired shotgun shots in the air on Thursday, in order to scare away three tax auditors who fined him 500 euros for a series of tax violations.

The three officials entered the tavern premises on Thursday afternoon to audit the owner. They found that there were several tax law violations and fined the owner 500 euros, but did not proceed with shutting down the business for 48 hours, as a new bill dictates.

However, as the three tax auditors were leaving the premises, the tavern owner followed them with a shotgun and threatened them by shooting in the air, protesting the fine imposition.

Police were notified

immediately and arrested the tavern owner for illegal firearm possession.

Deputy Finance Minister Katerina Papanatsiou commented after the incident: "With regard to the new incident of violence and the threats against employees of the Agency for the Research and Safeguarding of Public Revenue in the course of their duties, which happened yesterday in the Volos region, tax audits will continue with the same intensity and pace in all regions Of Greece, aiming at combating tax evasion."

"Tax authorities and their employees will continue their work, even though some insist on tactics and perceptions of the past, continuing to regard tax evasion as the norm," Papanatsiou continued.

Restored 17th-century mosque in Athens opens to visitors

The 17th century Fethiye Mosque, located at the ancient Roman Agora in central Athens has been restored. Without cracks in the walls and on the roof, it opens with its first exhibition presenting the history of the monument and the restoration work that has taken place in recent years.

The mosque was built on the ruins of a Christian basilica from the middle Byzantine period (8th/9th centuries).

The Christian church was converted into a mosque in 1456/58,

soon after the Ottoman conquest of the Duchy of Athens, to coincide with the visit to the city by Sultan Mehmed the Conqueror in 1458.

In the last century it was used as a storage place for various finds from the excavations in the Agora and the Acropolis of Athens. In 2010, the Greek Ministry of Culture ordered the emptying of the building from the various antiquities stored there, and signalled the beginning of the process to restore it and open it to the public.