



September 2018

GREEK TRIBUNE

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

Broad representation at the GOCSA Fire Appeal public meeting

The following representatives attended the public meeting organised by the Greek Orthodox Community of SA at the Olympic Hall in support of the Greek Fire victims:

Political and Institutional Representatives

Stephen Marshall - Premier of SA
Peter Malinauskas - Leader of the Opposition
Jing Lee - Minister Assisting the Premier
Frank Pangallo - MLC SA Best
Tom Koutsantonis MP
Irene Pnevmatikos MLC
Russel Wortley MLC
Dana Wortley MP
Andreas Gouras - Consul General of Greece
Norman Schuller - Chairman SAMEAC
Stephen Pallaras - Court of Appeal Solomon Islands
Trian Gonis - Representing Steve Georganas Member for Hindmarsh

Greek Associations Representatives:

Andreas Evdokiou - Cyprus Community
Demetrios Marinakis - Lemnos Association
Martha Ioannides - Messinian Association SA
Nikolaos Frosinakis - Lachanias Association
Stamatis Borakis - Cretan Association of SA
Helen Mermingis - Thebarton Pensioners Association
Asterios Keliouris - Greek Worker's Association "Platon" SA
Evan Tsiaparis - Pan Macedonian Association SA
George Kontopoulos - Hellenic Shooting Sports Association
Stelios Giannias - Pan Rhodian Society of SA
Helen Haltis - OEEGA
Michael Psaros - Chian Association of SA
Dina Houssos - Pan Laconian Society of SA
Andreas Evdokiou - SAE Oceania
Katina Flabouris - Greek Radio Program 5EBI
Demetri Avdoulas - Radio Doriforos
Harri Ppiros - Greek Tribune newspaper

Ethnic Community Representatives

Ramkumar - Tamil Association SA
Sivaji - Telugu Association SA
Kathy Papandrea - Marche Club (Italian)
Rosa Vorasi - Italian Community
Phillip Donato - SAIA
Waleed Alkhazrajy - Islamic Society of SA
Mario Romaldi - Radio Italiana 531
Anna Farrugia - Molfeta Club
Rejandra Pandey - World Hindu Council of Australia
Maria Maglien - Molise Association
Narayana Raj - Indian Australian Association of SA
Frank Naso - The Society of Saint Hilarion
Angelo Fantasia - Coordinating Italian Committee
Phillip Donato - South Australian Italian Association
Norman Schuller - Jewish Community of SA

Greek Fire Appeal 2018

Coordinating Committee members

Bill Gonis, Peter Ppiros, Dimitris Dimopoulos, Elli Speis, Carlene Starr, Peter Georganas, Dina Houssos, Peter Labropoulos, Paul Demetriou, Julian Stefani, Jim Papanikolas, Andreas Evdokiou, George Kontopoulos, Stephen Pallaras, Deepa Mathew, Martha Ioannides.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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GREEK FIRES

South Australia reaches out to victims

An unprecedented demonstration of solidarity and support towards the victims of the Greek bush fires was evident at the Olympic Hall last month during a forum to coordinate a relief fund appeal, initiated by the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia (GOCSA).

According to an announcement issued by GOCSA, over 30 leaders from various Greek and other ethnic associations from South Australia such as the Italian, the Cypriot, the Islamic and the Indian as well as members of Parliament came together to respond to the Greek bushfire catastrophe in Attica on 23 July.

Premier Steven Marshall, Opposition Leader Peter Malinauskas and SA Best MLC Frank Pangallo all joined the Community's President Mr Bill Gonis to coordinate the forum.

Mr Bill Gonis was moved by the number of people who turned up to help Greece and thanked everyone for showing their solidarity in the name of multiculturalism.

Touched by the devastation in the Mati region in Greece the

Premier of South Australia Steven Marshall who was part of the panel said that tragedy brought the community together.

"Tonight we gather to show our solidarity to those who have been tragically affected by the recent fires in Greece," said Mr Marshall.

The forum's objectives focused on the exchange of ideas and the establishment of a coordinating committee that would assist and guide the South Australian community and how to contribute.

Several ideas and suggestions were put to the table regarding a course of action in collecting funds as well as where and how to direct it to the areas or people affected.

The panel collected the ideas and suggestions and went on to form a fund-raising committee.

A co-ordinating committee was elected to oversee the whole process and ensure that the funds will reach their destination, that is the victims of the tragic event and ensure they are put into public projects for the benefit of the affected communities.



Former Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Stephen Pallaras and former Treasurer Tom Koutsantonis joined many more prominent South Australians at the Olympic Hall for the Greek Fires public meeting

The Premier said his Government will work with the newly formed committee and will take the next step once it's decided where and how the funds will be directed.

Greek Fire Appeal accounts have been opened at the Adelaide branches of Bank of Sydney as well as the Delphi Bank for members of the South

Australian public to donate money to those affected communities in Greece.

A series of events, including a radiothon, luncheons and dinners are being held by local associations and will culminate at a GOCSA musical concert on Friday 21 September, at 7.00pm at the Woodville Town Hall, with many local Greek artists.

Members of the Legislative Council including the Treasurer and Minister for Finance Rob Lucas, Irene Pnevmatikos MLC (ALP) and Connie Bonaros MLC (SA Best) spoke in the South Australian Parliament on the recent wild fires in Greece and pledged their support to the Greek Fire Appeal which came as a result of the public meeting held at the Olympic Hall last month.

In the photo, members of the coordinating committee at Parliament House with parliamentarians, Irene Pnevmatikos, Connie Bonaros, Frank Pangallo, the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas and the Greek consul Andreas Gouras



Croydon Panaghia church attracts huge crowds

It was with devoutness and splendor 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 Tuesday night and the Great Celebrative Doxology on Wednesday morning, conducted by Bishop Christostom and the Community's clergy.

A number of official guests also attended the service and lunch. Among them were, Minister David Pisoni representing Premier Marshall, the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas, Chief Justice Chris Kourakis, Mayor of Charles Sturt Angela Evans, Jayne Stinson MP, Irene Pnevmatikos MLC, the Hon. Michael Atkinson, President of the Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou, Charles Sturt Councillor 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

Community Life



Devoted parishioners light their candle at Croydon Virgin Mary

church's court yard was covered with marquees, tables and chairs, ready to welcome church goers for the annual feast. For that reason, a team of volunteers worked tirelessly at the BBQs and the kitchen from the early hours of the morning, preparing popular grilled delicacies and traditional sweets enjoyed by all after the service.

Due to the rainfall during the day, the procession of the holy icon took place around the churches interior and not around the block as it is the tradition.

Odyssey Festival calls for art works

In 2018 Adelaide's Hellenic Cultural Festival ODYSSEY celebrates its 13th year as the

Greek Orthodox Community of SA Inc. (GOCSA) once again presents a series of exciting arts and cultural events from 5 October - 3 November 2018.

With this year's theme being "Cultural Destinations", in 2018 Odyssey will celebrate Hellenism through Art, Theatre, Music and Festivities:

The Odyssey Festival once again intends to feature the talented works of local artists as part of the Art Exhibition, which is held throughout the duration of the festival at its hub, Olympic Hall in Franklin Street, Adelaide.

The festival is seeking expressions of interest from young and new artists of Hellenic heritage with a love for Hellenic culture to display their works based on the theme 'Cultural

Destinations'. The art work selected by a panel of art judges will be awarded the 'Odyssey Art Prize' of \$1000 first prize, \$600 second prize and \$400 third prize.

The organisers are seeking creativity in all forms, be it painting, drawing, print making, ceramics, sculpture or any creative art form, with the theme of 'Cultural Destinations' being interpreted any way the artist wishes, be it relating it to modern day or historical. The winning piece will become a permanent fixture in the Greek Orthodox Community gallery and non-winning pieces will be available for purchase.

The artwork must be ready to hang by Monday 24 September 2018, with the winner announced at the launch on Friday 5th October 2018 at Olympic Hall. More info 82314307.

Bible studies

The Greek Community informs the public that they will be offering Bible Study sessions in English for Australian born English speaking people from ages 18 and over who are interested in discovering more about the meaning of the Holy Scriptures, offered in the English language by native English speakers.

Sessions are scheduled to take place on Tuesday 4th and Tuesday 18th of September 2018 at the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (Koimisis Tis Theotokou) on 1A William Street, Croydon at 7.00pm. All welcome.



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

RIGHT: On Monday 30 July, the Greek Orthodox Community of SA hosted a public meeting to discuss the tragic fire in Attica, Greece on 23 and 24 July which claimed the lives of almost 100 people and caused unprecedented damage to property and the environment. The public meeting was attended by almost 150 people and included representatives of many other ethnic communities and representatives of the South Australian Government and opposition parties. A Greek Fire Appeal was established as a result and a Coordinating Committee was elected to oversee the fundraising activities and decide how to assist



LEFT: The South Australian Premier Stephen Marshall addresses the public meeting at the Olympic Hall on the Greek fire tragedy. The meeting was also attended by the Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas and Frank Pangallo from the SA Best party.



South Australian Premier Stephen Marshall, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, Minister Assisting the Premier Jing Lee MLC and Greek Consul Andreas Gouras at the Greek Fire Appeal public meeting



The Greek Fire Appeal 2018 public meeting at Olympic Hall, was also attended by Tom Koutsantonis MP, Dana Wortley MP, President of Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou and Russel Wortley MLC



Another view of the public in attendance at the Greek Fire Appeal 2018 meeting at Olympic Hall on 30 July.



LEFT: At the Assumption of Virgin Mary celebrations on 15 August at Croydon, were, from left, Charles Sturt Councilor Paul Alexandrides, Peter Ppiros, Trian Gonis, Jayne Stinson MP, Peter Gardiakos, Chief Justice Chris Kourakis, Leader of the Opposition Peter Malinauskas, Mayor Charles Sturt Angela Evans, President GOCSA Bill Gonis, Minister David Pisoni MP, President Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou and Irene Pnevmatikos MLC.

GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF SA WELFARE SERVICES

282 Waymouth Street, Adelaide SA 5000 - T: (08) 7088 0500

Stop Elder Abuse

The SA Elder Abuse Prevention Phone Line is part of a broader campaign to increase public awareness of Elder Abuse, help the community to recognise the signs, and let people know where to go for support and information.

Callers to 1800 372 310 can obtain information and advice about financial abuse such as misuse of finances; psychological abuse such as threatening, bullying or intimidating behaviour, and social abuse such as restricting an older person's activities or social contacts.

Funded by Office for the Ageing, SA Health the Phone Line is a valuable community resource. After speaking with the Phone Line operator callers have reported feeling more confident to take steps to help themselves, or to help an older person they know.

Call 1800 372 310 to help stop Elder Abuse. Telephone interpreting can be arranged.

Further information is also available at: www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/stopelderabuse

The 36th Panaghia Virginia

GREEK Spring festival

Sunday 16 September 2018

Just off Port Wakefield Road
VIRGINIA - PORT WAKEFIELD ROAD.

Great entertainment
Traditional folkloric music
Dance groups
Charcoal grills and delicious foods
Honey puffs and sweets

For more information please ring the Community on 8231 4307 or ask the ladies from the Women's Fellowships

The Festival's proceeds go towards the Community's Greek Schools.

LETTER

Child Protection Is Everyone's Business

Dear Editor,
I'm a 37-year-old husband, father and a child protection worker. I'm also a survivor of child sexual assault and a Bravehearts' Champion for Children. Child protection is everybody's business and we each have a vital role to play in preventing this crime that affects 58,000 Australian children every year.

While the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse has helped break the silence for child sexual assault victims in institutional environments and may provide some with redress. The majority of child sexual assaults are being perpetrated by someone inside the family unit or who is known to the family. It can happen in any family - in the best of families. It can happen to anyone from any background, in any community from the city to the bush, and across all socioeconomic levels. It doesn't discriminate.

Mine was a good, loving and nurturing Vietnamese family but I was just 8-years-old when I was sexually assaulted by a close family friend. I lived trapped in a world of secrecy, guilt and shame with thoughts of suicide and self-harm, in a childhood filled with loneliness and fear. For 29 years I lived in silence, afraid to tell my story until the day I found the courage to break my silence and tell my wife, my mother, my family and friends. Each gave me the love and support I needed to help me find my way out of the dark, lonely place I had lived for most of my life.

Today, a child is sexually assaulted in Australia every 90 minutes - That's 1 in 5 children who are sexually harmed in some way before their 18th Birthday and yet the majority of these crimes go unreported while the children suffer, as I did, in silence. As a society, we need children to disclose sexual assault however, reports show that 1 in 3 adults wouldn't believe a child if they disclosed while more than 1 in 4 say they lack the confidence to recognise the signs of child sexual assault.

Thanks to Bravehearts, every parent, carer or adult who works with children can each be empowered to protect our children from harm by downloading Bravehearts' FREE Personal Safety Parents' Guide to learn what they need to know to give kids simple strategies and resilience to protect themselves in a variety of situations across

the span of their lives. By getting involved in Bravehearts' annual White Balloon Day (Friday 7 September) during National Child Protection Week (2 - 8 September 2018), together we can remove the stigma, shame and secrecy surrounding child sexual assault and break the silence to give kids and survivors a voice while empowering them with the support they need to disclose any inappropriate behaviour to someone they can trust.

"To my fellow survivors, you are not alone and your past does not define you. Sometimes people with the worse past end up creating the best futures. We each have the power to choose to create our own story."

• 1 in 5 children are sexually harmed in some way before their 18th Birthday.

• According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) (2017) more than 1.4 million Australians were sexually abused before their 15th Birthday with more than half (58%) assaulted for the first time before they turned 10-years-old.

• In 2016, of the 23,052 cases of sexual assault recorded by police, the ABS estimated that the number of child victims aged 0-19 years was 12,956 accounting for 56% of all sexual assault crimes. When compared to other recorded crimes against children under 19, the statistics of child sexual assault are shocking. Indeed, there are 6,828% more sex crimes against children than abductions (187) and 21,493% more sexual assaults than blackmail extortions.

• And, of the 5.7 million children living in Australia in 2016, an estimated 8% of boys and 20% of girls had been sexually assaulted. Sadly, if we were to bring all these children together in one place, they would fill the MCG not once, but a staggering eight times - that is the tragic magnitude of this largely hidden crime against Australian children.

• In 2017, the ABS reported that more than 1.5 million women (11%) and almost 412,000 men (5%) had experienced sexual assault before they turned 15. Of women who were victims, more than 90% knew the perpetrator with 55% being relatives. Of male victims, more than 80% knew the perpetrator with 23% being relatives.

David Nguyen
Child Protection Worker & Bravehearts' Champion for Children

Kofi Annan dies aged 80

Former United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has died aged 80.

The Ghanaian diplomat served as the UN chief for almost a decade and in 2001 was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Annan passed away in the Swiss capital Bern on 18 August after a short illness.

Last September, Annan told the Athens Democracy Forum: "Democratic freedoms have been in

decline for 11 consecutive years," adding that election turnout is low, which shows that people's trust in political parties and institutions is diminishing.

"We must cherish and protect democracy, or it'll be lost for future generations," he added, noting the need to be vigilant.

Annan's name was given to the 2004 peace plan proposed for the divided island of Cyprus.