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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Notorious child murderer Bevan von Einem dies

One of the most notorious killers in South Australia's history has died in prison without providing any further information about the "heinous" and "appalling" crimes known as "The Family" murders, the state's premier says.

Convicted child murderer Bevan Spencer von Einem spent more than half his life in prison for the sexually motivated abduction and murder of 15-year-old Richard Kelvin — the son of former Adelaide Nine News presenter Rob Kelvin — in 1983.

Late last month it was revealed that von Einem had only a short time to live, and on Saturday morning SA Premier Peter Malinauskas released a statement in which he said



the Department for Correctional Services had confirmed the death of the 79-year-old.

"His death marks the end of a life defined by calculated brutality," Mr Malinauskas said in a statement.

Police believe Von Einem did not act alone when Richard Kelvin was abducted and murdered, with a \$1 million reward still on offer for information which leads to a conviction.

Two men charged with murdering a man at McLaren Vale

Two men have been charged with murder after a 62-year-old was shot dead near McLaren Vale on Wednesday evening.

Emergency services were called to the McLaren Flat street early in the evening following reports of a shooting.

According to the ABC, the men appeared in court on Thursday and did not apply for bail.

Two men have been charged with murder after a 62-year-old man was shot and killed near South Australia's wine region of McLaren Vale on Wednesday evening.

Police said they were called to a street at McLaren Flat just before 6pm after reports a man was shot "during an altercation with another man on the street".

They arrived to find the first man had died at the scene, and later arrested two men there.

Police confirmed on Thursday morning

that a 69-year-old man and a 40-year-old man from McLaren Flat had been charged with murder and possessing an unregistered firearm, as well as several other offences.

They said the pair were known to the deceased, adding the incident was not random, and there was no risk to the public.

Police said a firearm suspected of being used in the alleged assault had been recovered from the scene.

The two men appeared in the Christies Beach Magistrates Court on Thursday but did not apply for bail.

Prosecutors sought an adjournment until October 2026 to analyse blood spatter, firearms and DNA evidence.

Magistrate Todd Grant granted the adjournment and made a suppression order preventing publication of the identities of anyone involved.

SA Liberals elect Ashton Hurn for new Leader

Ashton Hurn has become the leader of the SA Liberal Party, just over three months out from the March state election.

Ms Hurn emerged as frontrunner for the role following Vincent Tarzia's sudden departure and confirmed she had been unanimously chosen by her colleagues at a party room meeting on 8 December.

In a shock announcement, earlier in the month, Liberal leader Vincent Tarzia has told media he is stepping down after weeks of speculation, saying he only reached the decision last Friday.

SA Liberal Leader Vincent Tarzia is stepping down to focus on his young family and his local community, taking

effect at 5pm today.

Tarzia said in a statement that the decision was made after careful reflection between leading the party, serving the people of Hartley, and being present for his wife Charissa, along with his young children aged four years and five months.

"I look forward to continuing to represent the electorate of Hartley and I wish my party colleagues and supporters all the best," he said, adding no colleague had pushed him to step down.

Tarzia would again stand for the seat of Hartley at next year's state election, saying "it was a sad day" and he only reached his decision this morning and that "I'm not bitter at all, I'm calm".



South Australian Liberal newly elected Leader Ashton Hurn

The move comes after weeks of speculation that party members were pushing for Health spokesperson Ashton Hurn to take the reins in the lead up to next year's state election.

It has been a tumultuous

time for the Liberal Leader after he took the party's top job when former leader David Speirs resigned from parliament in August last year. At the time Tarzia said this was his opportunity to "refresh" and "refocus".

Yatala prisoner hospitalised after being 'brutally bashed'

A prisoner was so badly bashed at an Adelaide jail this morning that he was left "barely recognisable" and had to be rushed to hospital for treatment, a union says.

The Public Service Association (PSA) said the inmate was attacked at Yatala Labour Prison when another prisoner entered his cell, and two other prisoners followed and "joined in".

Police have confirmed they, along with paramedics, were called to the site following "reports of an altercation between prisoners".

SA Police said the incident was under investigation but no charges had so far been laid.

"A 20-year-old male prisoner sustained non-life-threatening facial injuries during the incident and was taken to hospital for treatment," police said in a statement.

The PSA said the prisoner had been "brutally bashed" inside his cell, and was "unable to stand" without the help of staff.

PSA corrections liaison officer, Craig Bates, described the incident as a "serious assault" and said the prisoner had received treatment at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

"A prisoner was approached by another prisoner in his cell and subsequently a few other prisoners then entered the cell as well," he said.

"He struggled to stand. Staff had to assist him down a lift where he remained in the division until an ambulance could get there."

The union, which is pushing for higher wages amid pay negotiations with the state government, said the incident followed separate instances of violence at Yatala in recent months.

Mr Bates said there had been an "increase in assaults and violent attacks from prisoners on prisoners and also prisoners on staff" in recent years.

"There aren't as many staff positions within the prison system as what there



used to be and that's really affecting safety and security," he said.

"The prison system across the state has become very unsafe due to a lack of staff, which has resulted directly from poor wages."

A spokesperson for the state government said it was committed to providing a "real wage increase", and that prison assaults were "taken extremely seriously" and "thoroughly" investigated.

"The state government provided an extra \$6.8 million in the last state budget to improve security in our prisons, including for new high-tech security scanners, new body scanners and cameras with built-in Artificial Intelligence," the spokesperson said.

"We have made clear our commitment to providing a real wage increase above the current rate of inflation, and that is reflected in the government's most recent offer to the PSA."

HENLEY BEACH Go Greek Festival!

The Greek Orthodox Community of SA presents the 'Go-Greek Festival' on Sunday 11 January at Henley Beach incorporating the 2026 Annual Blessing of the Waters.

If you enjoy traditional Greek food, music, dance and festivals, then come along to wonderful Henley Beach for a Greek celebration for all to enjoy. Free entry all day – great family fun!

The Blessing of the Waters ceremony is an interesting event that everyone enjoys and one which is unique and sacred. The most exciting is where the holy cross is thrown into the waters. As the cross is thrown in by a priest, men plunge into the waters to catch it and try to outrace each other. Whoever manages to be the first and bring

Community Life



The Pan-Laonian Association of SA "Leonidas" had their Christmas party at their clubrooms on Wednesday 17 December

it out is believed to be blessed with good luck.

Every year on January 6, (or the first Sunday thereafter) the Orthodox Church cel-

brates one of its most sacred days, the Feast of Epiphany. Epiphany celebrates the Baptism of Jesus Christ in the River Jordan. It is also known

as the Feast of Theofania because it is when the Most Holy Trinity is revealed to the world through the Baptism of the Lord. On the Day of Epiphany, the Church blesses the sea, the seashores, the islands and those whose livelihood is dependent upon the sea. Everyone is welcome.

The favourite Greek culinary aromas will once again dominate the popular Square, with delicious souvlaki, yiros, Greek sweets being available for everyone to enjoy.

Popular Greek band Zorba and associates will entertain the public and Greek dancing will be performed until late in the afternoon.

Local multicultural dance groups will be performing on the day.

A similar celebration will be officiated by the Greek Archdiocese on the same day at the Glenelg jetty.

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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



LEFT: The Cyprus Community of South Australia held its Christmas lunch on Wednesday 17 December at the Cyprus Community clubrooms. The event was attended by many local Cypriot community members as well as friends of the Cyprus community from local Greek community associations. In the photo, the President Christos Ioannou and members of the Cyprus Community Choir, sung the Christmas carols offering great entertainment to the guests.

Algal bloom positive signs ahead of Henley Greek Festival

South Australian government officials say they have seen the "best signs" in a "long time" in the latest round of algal bloom monitoring.

Marine scientist Mike Steer confirmed on Thursday that the latest results were "fantastic timing" ahead of peak summer temperatures.

"If you go back to mid-October when we were experiencing cell counts in the millions and high levels of chlorophyll A.

"The persistence of Karenia species and a whole heap of dead fish washing up — we're very much in a different space now along the metropolitan coast."

Mr Steer said the latest results showed all 21 metropolitan testing sites recorded no or low levels of Karenia species.

"There's a couple of residual spots offshore that have elevated counts, but they seem to be relatively moder-

ate," Mr Steer said.

Zero levels were recorded at nine metropolitan sites, including Port River St Kilda Boat Ramp, West Lakes Exit, Henley Beach Jetty, Glenelg Jetty and O'Sullivan Beach Boat Ramp.

The remaining metropolitan sites recorded levels ranging from 100 to 6,000 cells per litre.

Zero or low levels of Karenia were also detected across Eyre Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula and the Fleurieu Peninsula.

Mr Steer said elevated levels were however detected at one regional site — Emu Bay Jetty on Kangaroo Island — which will continue to be monitored by authorities.

Professor Steer said there had been a decrease in the number of fish kills reported.

"We're starting to see a decrease particularly in the last week or so, you will recall we had a whole heap



Marine Scientist Mike Steer - ABC photo

of Leatherjackets dominate a couple of weeks ago," Mr Steer said.

"We're not seeing that consistently happening — so, there's another good sign."

The marine scientist added that authorities were starting to see Karenia species being overtaken by other species.

"The ones that we would expect that are there in natu-

ral numbers are the diatoms that are starting to have a more prominent role in our ecosystem — which indicates that it's rebalancing," Mr Steer said.

When asked whether swimmers should be concerned swimming at beaches in the warmer weather Mr Steer said, "perfectly clear, they should not be worried".

Unqualified massage therapist accused for sexually abusing 60 women

A breakthrough in an unqualified massage therapist who sexually abused more than 60 women left his victims with "trauma" and "severe psychological harm", a court has heard.

Sumit Satish Rastogi, 39, appeared in South Australia's District Court on Friday where he heard victim impact statements from two more victims of his sexual abuse between October 2021 and July 2022 at a massage business in Glenelg, in Adelaide's west.

Rastogi, who moved to Adelaide from Delhi in 2011, previously pleaded guilty to 55 counts of indecent filming and 42 counts of aggravated indecent assault.

One victim told the court she had been on her honeymoon at the time of the offending.

"You turned what should have been one of the happiest weekends [of] my life into a haunting memory that I can't erase," she said.

"A moment that should have been filled with celebration and love has been contaminated by the trauma that you have inflicted."

The victim told the court of her ongoing suffering through tears.

"I no longer feel safe receiving care from male professionals — doctors, physiotherapists or even midwives — regardless of their qualification or intentions. That is how deep your betrayal runs," she said.

"You didn't just assault

my body and my mental health, but you fractured my sense of safety, my ability to trust, and even the openness in my marriage.

"To this day, years later, my husband does not know the full extent of what happened because I can't bring myself to tell him. I imagine the look on his face, the horror and the sorrow, and it makes me sick."

Another victim outlined how the lengthy legal proceedings and delays throughout had "steadily eroded" her strength.

"The relentless delays have compounded the harm and prolonged the trauma that this offender created," she said.

Barrister Adam Richards, for Rastogi, said his client had requested he "reiterate his apology".

"He said just now that he can't forgive himself and he expects no-one else to forgive him," Mr Richards said.

"He knows he's getting a jail sentence and he hopes that brings some peace to the complainants in this manner."

The court previously heard that a psychologist's report stated Rastogi possibly suffered from voyeuristic disorder, which is when a person experiences sexual arousal from watching unsuspecting people without clothes on.

The matter was adjourned to December 22 so the defence could gather extra materials pertaining to the possible voyeuristic disorder.

A new chapter opens after the Greek Community's AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the GOCSA was held on Sunday, 30 November, at the Olympic Hall, at the presence of almost 200 members.

The AGM was opened by the General Secretary, Ms Argyro Cassoudakis, and after a one-minute silence in memory of the organisation's departed members, the national anthems of Greece and Australia were heard.

Immediately afterwards, in accordance with the constitution, Mr John Lesses was elected by the members present as Chair of the General Meeting, unopposed.

After considerable discussion, the minutes of the extraordinary constitutional and the annual general meetings that were conducted by the previous Administrative Council in October and December 2024 were approved.

The President of the Greek Community, Mr Peter Ppiros, in his report spoke about the activities of the past year and stressed that the organisation recorded a financial surplus of \$2 million and 116 thousand dollars — a robust financial result, mainly due to the Greek Community Aged Care facility in Ridleyton.

A more detailed financial report of the Community was presented by the Treasurer, Mr Emanuel

Frossinakis.

The President also spoke about the wide range of services provided by the Community. Among them are the community-care services, the Greek Community schools, and the organisation's cultural activities. He specifically referred to the ODYSSEY Festival, which included the Greek Film Festival. A series of other cultural events and lectures were hosted, featuring prominent Greek-Australian academics such as Dr George Vasilakopoulos of La Trobe University and Dr Andrekos Varnavas of Flinders University.

The General Meeting did not lack confrontations, with some members requesting information on the reasons that led to the resignation of three members of the Board of Directors, as well as some staff members.

The President replied that the approximately six employees who resigned represent a small percentage of the 250 employees that the Community employs across its various sectors.

"None of the employees were dismissed. They simply resigned for their own reasons, which we cannot disclose due to confidentiality and legal constraints. As for the two

senior executive officers of the Community, they did not resign. They have taken extended leave. "An internal investigation is still underway within the Greek Community," the President said.

The President expressed his disappointment for the resignations of the three Board members. He thanked them for their contribution during their term of service, while also announcing that the three positions have been filled by the next eligible candidates.

"We do not deny that there were, and still are, problems. We took over the administration of the Community at a very challenging time, at the beginning of 2025, but we are now on a very positive path of recovery.

"In this process, Mr Nick Kyriazopoulos is also contributing, whom we reinstated as a management consultant to fill the gap and help us move forward. Nick is already doing an excellent job. He has balanced our finances, all the documents for the General Meeting were prepared on time, and we have almost filled all the positions that became vacant due to the resignations. Regarding the work environment at the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia, we can say that it is now on a steady path of recovery and



The Greek Orthodox Community of SA observing a minute's silence for departed members at the start of the AGM

stabilisation."

Mr Ppiros also referred to the effort to revitalise the Federation of Greek Orthodox Communities of Australia, starting with the meeting held last May in Adelaide with the participation of the Communities of Sydney, Adelaide, Newcastle and St Albans.

"The four participating Communities will continue to operate as the only secular representative of the Greek communities of Australia. They will continue to collaborate on cultural matters, on the teaching of the Greek language, on issues concerning Greeks living in Australia, and on national issues where Greece and Cyprus

need support and solidarity. "In this endeavour, our aim will always be to build strong cooperative relations with the Greek Community of Melbourne as well."

The President thanked the members of the Administrative Council and Supervisory Council, the subcommittees, the Ladies Auxiliary, "Taxiarhis", the Dance Academy, the Youth group, the volunteers who work in all areas of the Community for their generous support and tireless contribution, and all the members for their dedication and continual support of the Community, by participating in and contributing to events throughout the year.