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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Man's death in custody to be investigated

A man has died two weeks after becoming unresponsive during an arrest in Adelaide's eastern suburbs, his partner has told the ABC.

Gaurav Kundi, 42, "became unresponsive" as police attempted to arrest him on Payneham Road, at Royston Park, on Thursday, May 29.

Police previously said the Modbury North man came to the attention of an officer after they saw an "altercation" occurring between a man and a woman.

Ambulance officers took the father-of-two to the Royal Adelaide Hospital in a critical condition.

His partner told the ABC Mr Kundi died on Friday 13 June and SA Police confirmed his time of death was 1:45am on Friday.

Police Commissioner Grant Stevens confirmed none of the officers involved in the arrest have been stood down over the incident.

"There is nothing at this point in time that would warrant that determination," Commissioner Stevens

said.

"If information comes to light during any of the processes that indicates otherwise, then that will be something that will be reconsidered."

He said all of the body-worn camera vision from officers has now been reviewed as part of the commissioner's inquiry, one of three investigations currently underway.

"At no time did a police officer place a knee on the neck of Mr Kundi, and his head was not slammed into the side of a police car, or slammed into the ground."

In a statement, police said the Major Crime Investigation Branch was investigating the incident as a death in police custody and they will prepare a report for the State Coroner.

"The investigation and inquiries of this incident will have several layers of independent oversight, including the Director of Public Prosecution, Office of Public Integrity and the State Coroner," they said.

Second Festival Plaza tower to be erected in Adelaide

A 38-storey office building with shops, restaurants and a public plaza is set to tower over South Australia's Parliament House, after the concept was granted planning approval despite a number of concerns raised by the government's heritage agency.

The State Commission Assessment Panel (SCAP) granted planning consent to developers Walker Corporation on Wednesday to build a 160-metre-tall skyscraper in the Festival Plaza precinct, directly behind Parliament House.

The tower, scheduled for completion in 2027-28, is expected to accommodate up to 5,000 office workers and will stand alongside Walker Corporation's 29-storey "Festival One" office tower which opened in 2024.



The new 38-storey building will feature outdoor dining areas and retail tenancies on the ground-floor, an elevated plaza space on level one, commercial office space from levels six to 16 and 19 to 35, and a restaurant on level 36.

Planning Minister Nick Champion said the SCAP approval was "unambiguously good news for the state", adding that the Festival Plaza will be "vibrant and teeming with people" once the tower is finished.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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Budget: Record spending on projects

The Malinauskas Labor Government is investing record amounts in major infrastructure projects to help support South Australians now, and into the future.

The 2025-26 State Budget includes \$27.3 billion over four years for priority projects, with a number to be delivered in partnership with the Commonwealth Government. This includes the two biggest projects for the future:

\$15.4 billion Non-stop North-South Corridor joint funded by the Albanese and Malinauskas Labor Governments. Main construction work is already underway on the biggest infrastructure project in the state's history. Once complete, the non-stop South Road project will allow motorists to bypass 21 sets of traffic lights between the River Torrens and Darlington, saving up to 40 minutes of travel time in peak hour traffic.

\$3.2 billion New Women's and Children's Hospital will have more beds, theatres, and greater emergency capacity, as well as the ability to expand in the future. Once complete it will provide capacity for 414 overnight beds – 56 more than the existing hospital, as well as an onsite helipad.

Major new infrastructure projects included in this budget for the first time include:

\$656.3 million for High Productivity Vehicle Network – Stage 1 over 10 years to deliver upgrades between the South Eastern Freeway and the Sturt Highway. The State Government has committed funding for this project on an 80:20 basis with the Commonwealth Government.

The Malinauskas Labor Government is also investing in South Australia's health system with a further \$1.9 billion over five years. The funding includes new investment of approximately \$117 million over five years, to support our mental health services.

The budget also provides for several existing major projects due for completion over the forward estimates:

- \$601 million Princes Highway Corridor
- \$495.9 million Flinders Medical Centre Upgrade and Expansion
- \$400 million Marion Road Upgrade – from Anzac Highway to Cross Road
- \$365.6 million New Mount Barker Hospital
- \$350 million South Eastern Freeway Upgrade
- \$330 million Eyre Penin-



Premier Peter Malinauskas and Treasurer Stephen Mullighan announcing the 2025-26 State budget

sula Desalination Plant

- \$185.9 million New Technical Colleges
- \$133.8 million New Ambulance Headquarters

Treasurer Stephen Mullighan said "in partnership with the Commonwealth Government, we are building the roads, hospitals and critical infrastructure to support a larger population".

"These major transport infrastructure projects in the city and across our state will make our roads safer and the commute faster, helping improve the livability of our state and increase productivity."

"The State Government has made significant commitments to building a bigger and better

health system with new and improved hospitals and ambulance headquarters.

Infrastructure Minister Tom Koutsantonis pointed out that "SA is growing and the 2025-26 State Budget reflects that – with \$27.3 billion over four years for infrastructure works".

"We are investing in a range of significant projects in partnership with the Albanese Labor Government, with major construction work recently kicking off on a non-stop South Road and our joint \$250 million funding commitment to build an overpass where Curtis Road meets the Gawler rail line, removing the frustrating level crossing".

House prices have continued rising across Australia

House prices have continued rising across the country amid interest rate cuts and expectations are that as more buyers return to the market, property values will keep rising.

Property analysts think capital city combined dwelling prices could rise between 6 per cent to 10 per cent by late this year or early next year.

Data from Cotality (formerly CoreLogic) shows that house prices trended higher in May.

Its national Home Value Index recorded another 0.5 per cent in May, taking the national index 1.7 per cent higher over the first five months of the year.

The gains were broad-based, with every capital city posting a rise of at least 0.4 per cent through the month.

Cotality's head of research, Eliza Owen, says house prices are being fuelled by interest rate cuts – both those that

have already happened, but also potential cuts in the coming months.

"Another two rate cuts are expected over the course of the year by most of the major banks, and the influence on the market is likely to be higher values and higher sales activity."

Ms Owen said, off the back of Labor policies aimed at helping first time buyers, there could also be a further rise in buyer sentiment.

She noted that while the government's expanded 5 per cent deposit guarantee doesn't 'go live' until next year, some first home buyers may look to get into the market this year to beat the rush of buyers expected next year.

SQM's head of research Louis Christopher said he also expects more rate cuts and house prices to rise amid more buyer demand and tight supply



Houses could reach new record highs as rates are expected to drop of housing.

The property research firm is forecasting a rise in capital city combined dwelling prices of 6 per cent to 10 per cent next year.

Mr Christopher said the RBA would cut the cash target rate at its next board meeting, scheduled for July 8 by another 0.25 per cent, but it could cut by as much as 50 basis points "if there

are any further softening signs for the economy such as a weak GDP growth number and/or a weakening jobs market".

Cheaper money for housing, amid a market with high demand and low supply, will keep fuelling property prices.

He said this will put upward pressure on prices from as early as the September quarter.

Cypriots to commemorate coup and Turkish invasion

Australian Cypriots will commemorate the 41st anniversary of the tragic events of 1974 in Cyprus. On 15 July 1974, the military junta of Greece, in collaboration with the Cypriot terrorist EOKA B' organisation staged a military coup to overthrow the legitimate Cypriot Government of President Makarios. Hundreds of supporters of the legitimate government were murdered by the terrorists in the days that followed.

The Coup, gave Turkey the opportunity to invade with a 40,000 strong army, and occu-

Community Life



From last year's event in Melbourne, marking the 50th anniversary since the Turkish invasion in Cyprus

py 1/3 of Cyprus using their air force and 250 tanks on the

pretext that they were doing so in order to protect the Turkish

Cypriots.

The South Australian Justice for Cyprus Committee (SEKA), in association with the Cyprus Community of SA Inc, are organising a memorial service at Prophet Elias church, Norwood and a wreath lying ceremony on Sunday 20 July 2025, at 12.30pm to mark the tragic anniversary.

On 20 July, 10.30am the Greek Orthodox Community of SA will hold a memorial service at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel, Franklin Street, City, for those who died defending democracy in Cyprus on 15 July as well as those who fell during the Turkish invasion.



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



TOP RIGHT: Young people of Greek decent at the Launch Night of the Greek Youth of SA last month, at Antonio's The Warehouse, Windsor Gardens. The group was founded by the Adelaide Uni Greek Club, the Flinders Uni Hellenic Association and young people of Hellenic descent. In the photo, left to right, Athanasios (Athan) Rodas, Victoria Paneras, Demetre Bougessis and Anthony Hagidimitriou.

RIGHT AND TOP RIGHT: The Greek Orthodox Community of SA, celebrated the name day of the Saints Constantinos and Eleni church in Goodwood, on 21 May. In the photos, members of the Autocephalic Church clergy and local parishioners during the icon procession and the Unley City Councillors, Stephen Finos and Tony Roach who attended the event.

The Asbestos Diseases Society of SA marks 20th anniversary

The Asbestos Diseases Society of South Australia (ADSSA) commemorated its 20th anniversary with a heartfelt celebration hosted by Her Excellency the Governor and Mr Bunten, at Government House, recognising two decades of advocacy, support, and community service for those affected by asbestos-related and dust diseases.

Speaking to a gathering of supporters, health professionals, and government representatives, the President of ADSSA, Mr Peter Photakis reflected on the organisation's evolution and enduring mission.

"It is a great honour to join you tonight as we mark 20 years of service, advocacy, and support," the President said. "ADSSA was founded with a clear purpose, to support those suffering from asbestos-related and dust diseases, to raise awareness, and to advocate for safer environments."

Since its inception, ADSSA has aided hundreds of South Australians living with mesothe-

lioma, asbestosis, silicosis, and other occupational dust-related conditions. The President emphasised that the individuals affected are "more than patients", they are workers, parents, neighbours, often exposed simply by going to work or renovating their homes.

The anniversary event paid tribute to the volunteers, legal and medical partners, and community members who have contributed to the society's mission. Special thanks were extended to the ADSSA Board, both past and present, for their continued leadership and compassion and to the Patrons and Ambassadors of ADSSA.

The President also acknowledged key partners including the Asbestos Silica Safety and Eradication Agency (ASSEA), Asbestos and Dust Diseases Research Institute (ADDRI), SafeWork SA, and the Government of South Australia, whose support has been instrumental in raising awareness and improving safety standards state-wide.



Tina and Peter Photakis (left) and Governor Frances Adamson AC and Mr Bunten (right) at Government House

Despite the progress made over the past two decades, the President warned that the danger is far from over.

"Asbestos, despite its ban in 2003, still poses a risk in countless homes and workplaces," they said. "We now face a new and alarming threat, silicosis affecting younger workers exposed to engineered stone and silica dust. These diseases are entirely preventable, and we must act."

The speech concluded with a renewed call to action for

stronger regulations, increased public education, and safer working conditions to prevent future harm.

"Let this anniversary not only reflect our past, but inspire the work still to come," the President said. "Together, we can create a future where no one suffers from avoidable exposure."

The evening was marked by reflection, gratitude, and a unified commitment to continuing ADSSA's critical work in supporting those impacted by preventable occupational diseases.

Survivors of institutional child sexual abuse encouraged to apply for redress

People from all communities, including the Greek community, who experienced child sexual abuse while in an institution are encouraged to apply to the National Redress Scheme before applications close on 30 June 2027.

The National Redress Scheme acknowledges that many children were sexually abused in Australian institutions and endured great suffering as a result. The Scheme holds the institutions accountable for this abuse and helps survivors gain access to culturally safe counselling; a direct personal response from the responsible institution such as an apology; and a redress payment.

Institutions can be described as organisations such as a school, church, mosque, temple, synagogue, mission, orphanage, children's home, foster care, hospital, detention centre or a sporting club. There are about 450 institutions that have signed up to the Scheme covering more than 63,000 sites around Australia.

For many people from the (Insert Name) community who experienced institutional child sexual abuse, applying for redress may be the first time they disclose the abuse, and it can trigger associated trauma and feelings of shame.

For survivors who are eligible, making an application to the

Scheme and receiving an offer of redress can be a process that requires time and support from a trusted source. This can be a family member, friend or carer, or a Redress Support Service.

Redress Support Services offer free and confidential emotional and practical supports to help you complete your application for redress and throughout your engagement with the National Redress Scheme. Specialist services are available for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, former child migrants, First Nations peoples, people with disability, young people, women, men, and care leavers.

Survivors have until 30

June 2027 to make an application and are encouraged to commence the application process now. Applications can be completed and lodged online through myGov, or a paper application form can be downloaded from nationalredress.gov.au or posted out on request.

More information about the National Redress Scheme can be accessed via 1800 737 377 (available Monday to Friday, 8am–5pm) or on the National Redress Scheme website nationalredress.gov.au.

For assistance in the Greek language, survivors can call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 or an interpreter can be requested when

PRIORITIES FOR 2025 - 26 BUDGET

Cost of living, law and order

The 2025-26 State Budget provides crucial funding for police, courts and corrections as well as housing, health and education.

It includes measures to support the economy while providing cost of living relief for South Australian families.

The 2025-26 State Budget continues this Government's record of strategic investment balanced with fiscal discipline.

For the third straight year, the Malinauskas Labor Government will deliver a surplus. The 2024-25 State Budget is forecast to record an \$18 million surplus, and the 25-26 State Budget forecasts a \$179 million surplus, with surpluses continuing across the forward estimates.

The Budget also accounts for the significant commitments the State Government has made over the past six months to save the Whyalla steelworks and help farmers impacted by the drought conditions.

Law & Order

Key measures include \$172 million over six years to increase the number of sworn officers by 326 by 2030-31, to reach a record target of 5000 sworn officers.

A further \$29.6 million will fund an increase of 98 Police Security Officers by 2028-29, to allow more sworn police officers to return to frontline duties.

As well as more personnel, SA Police will be getting new equipment, such as pistols, and better facilities to ensure they

are adequately resourced to combat crime.

There's also funding commitments across all areas to better protect the community:

- \$110.6 million total road safety package
- \$89.6 million to increase prison capacity and improve security
- \$44.8 million for more resources and better infrastructure in the courts system

Cost of Living

South Australian families will be better off, with this budget providing a further \$118.3 million in cost of living relief.

Over the last four budgets, the government has invested almost \$1 billion in cost of living relief to support South Australians.

Cost of living relief in this budget include:

- \$96 million to continue the \$200 per student government school material and services charge reduction for the next four years. This measure provides annual support to the parents of 120,000 children in government schools.
- \$20.7 million over four years to reduce the metro-CARD student 28-day pass to just \$10 per month, a saving of \$18.60.

This means a student catching the bus or train to and from school each day will pay just 25 cents a trip and will save families up to \$242 per year, per child.

There's also considerable support for the business community, including \$20 million in 2025-26 for the Powering Business Grant program to help small and medium businesses.

Australian lambs fetch record prices as export demand surges

Australian farmers are getting record prices for their lambs as demand from overseas nations soars.

Records tumbled at saleyards across the nation this week, including at Wagga Wagga, where a pen of 131 cross-bred lambs sold for \$424 per head.

The lambs were sold by Sam Phillips from Yarrowonga Pastoral, who was in disbelief.

"It was unbelievable. We really didn't expect them to do that," he said.

At Griffith on Friday, heavy lambs reached up to \$431 per head, which at the time of publishing was the new national record.

According to Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), the national price indicators for heavy lambs, trade lambs and light lambs are all at record highs.

Veteran livestock agent Ron Rutledge said the money on offer to farmers, especially those dealing with drought, was "phenomenal".

"There's long-term

agents in the industry that haven't seen prices like this, it's just amazing," he said.

Normally when there is a drought and producers are forced to sell, prices can plummet.

But the current supply of lambs is not keeping up with demand from processors.

"The demand is there and the supply can't fulfil it," Forbes-based agent Jack Rix told ABC's Landline.

"The dry weather down south in Victoria, South Australia and southern NSW has forced a lot of people to sell and because the processing market has been strong, there's not a lot left."

"I don't think [prices] have changed much in the local supermarkets yet, but I'd think it'll have to at some stage," he said.

Australia exported a record amount of lamb in 2024 with nearly 360,000 tonnes, and according to MLA, export numbers this year are tracking slightly higher — up 2 per cent.