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# GREEK TRIBUNE

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## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### SA MP Nick McBride in court over assault charges



Independent MP Nick McBride has appeared in court for the first time since being charged with assaulting his wife.

Philip Nicholas McBride, 55, of Robe, appeared in the Naracoorte Magistrates Court on Wednesday where his lawyer adjourned the matter to next month.

The South Australian MP was charged with three counts of assault last month.

Court documents provided to the ABC state that Mr McBride allegedly assaulted his wife three times on April 10 at Conmurra, in South Australia's Limestone Coast region.

The charges against Mr McBride came after unrelated criminal allegations against several other former South Australian Liberal MPs, including Troy Bell, Fraser Ellis and ex-leader David Speirs.

Speaking outside court, Mr McBride said it was a matter before the court and it was not appropriate to make fur-

ther comment "while this process continues".

"I want to make it clear that the court process has no impact on my primary role and that is I'm the member for MacKillop," he said.

"My core focus is to represent and advocate for the people who live and work in this MacKillop electorate and as my job, I will continue to do that."

Mr McBride's lawyer Danni Stephens asked the court to adjourn the matter until next month "for disclosure".

Mr McBride was elected to the safe Liberal seat of MacKillop in the state's south-east in 2018, but in 2023 he quit the party and has since sat on the cross-bench.

At the time he blamed "dark forces" in the party and said it was controlled by "factionalism".

The 55-year-old is also a grazier, and his family has owned Conmurra Station — 30 kilometres east of Robe — since the 1930s.

## Albanese secures stunning victory

Anthony Albanese has secured a stunning federal election win while delivering a devastating result for the Coalition that cost Peter Dutton his own seat.

As counting continued on Saturday night, Labor had secured a significantly improved majority with Albanese becoming the first prime minister to win a second term since John Howard in 2004.

"Today, the Australian people have voted for Australian values, for fairness, aspiration and opportunity for all," Albanese told a raucous crowd of Labor supporters at Canterbury-Hurlstone Park RSL Club in Sydney's inner-west.

"Australians have chosen to face global challenges the Australian way, looking after each other while building for the future."

The final results on the Australian Electoral Commission website, have Labor on 94 seats while the

Coalition are on 43 seats, 1 Green and 12 independents.

The federal Liberals' last bastion in metropolitan Adelaide has toppled, with the electorate of Sturt now firmly in Labor's hands.

It's a seat that by many measures should be Liberal heartland, sitting in Adelaide's leafy eastern suburbs.

"I am obviously very bitterly disappointed that I am the custodian of losing the seat of Sturt," he said.

"This regrettably is not the only seat tonight that we are losing for the first time in a long time."

The comprehensive victory, which defied predictions of a hung parliament, hands Albanese a clear mandate to deliver a second-term agenda that includes slashing student debt, more free GP visits and building homes for first home buyers.



Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Senator Penny Wong celebrate the huge Labor victory in the recent federal election

The opposition leader was the biggest casualty of what some Liberal MPs were calling a "blood-bath", losing his marginal Brisbane seat of Dickson to Labor's Ali France.

The defeat ends Dutton's 24-year career in parliament.

"We did not do well enough during this campaign," Dutton told Coalition supporters in Brisbane.

"That much is obvious tonight and I accept full responsibility for that."

The Greens also had a bad night, with housing spokesperson Max Chandler-Mather and Brisbane MP Stephen Bates on track for defeat and the party behind in its target seat of Wills in inner-city Melbourne. The Greens secured only the seat of Ryan in Brisbane.

## Wine exports drop to 20-year low, excluding sales to China

Australian winemakers are deeply concerned about recent data indicating the nation is exporting some of its lowest wine volumes in more than two decades.

Excluding China, the amount of Australian wine exported to the rest of the world declined in the past 12 months, as cheaper, bulk wine falls out of favour and health-conscious consumers drink less.

While China took \$1.03 billion worth of Australia's premium wine last year, Wine Australia's latest report shows the lucrative market has cooled from its peak.

This has prompted Australian winemakers to again call for support to find new markets or transition out of the industry.

Wine Australia marketing insights manager Peter Bailey said the industry faced tough times, and it could get worse.

"What it shows is the global wine market is facing considerable headwinds, which are

impacting on the results outside of China, and they're unlikely to be resolved in the near term," he said.

"We're seeing a long-term trend of consumers drinking less alcohol due to health and wellbeing concerns and, more recently, around cost-of-living pressures, and these could get worse in certain markets given the economic and political turmoil taking place globally."

Australia's overall wine exports increased 41 per cent in value last year to reach \$2.64 billion, while overall volume increased by just six per cent.

The increase in value was attributed mainly to premium wine heading to China after the removal of hefty tariffs last year.

But the volume of wine exported to China was well below its pre-tariff peak, while exports to the rest of the world dropped by nine per cent.

Mr Bailey said China remained keen on Australia's premium wine but was not the



Australian winemakers are concerned about low exports

solution to the industry's wider crisis.

"The lower volume and higher value demonstrate that China is very much a premium market for Australian wine and will therefore not solve any oversupply issues," he said.

Call for government support Kingston Estate Wines, in South Australia's Riverland, is one of Australia's leading bulk wine exporters.

Managing director Bill

Moularadellis said the entire industry was adapting to a very different Chinese market since tariffs.

"We're all competing in a much smaller market, and there's been significant price deflation," he said.

Mr Moularadellis said the "seismic shift" in global drinking habits required new markets and products to revive the industry.

Source: abc.net.au

### Man bitten by shark at Port Noarlunga

A man is in a critical but stable condition after being bitten by a shark at Port Noarlunga, emergency services say.

SA Police said emergency services were called to the Port Noarlunga jetty about 9:45am after reports that a man swimming in the water had been bitten by a shark.

They said the man aged in his 60s was helped from the water and treated by paramedics before being taken to hospital.

The SA Ambulance Service said the man

has an injury to his thigh.

In the meantime, concerns have been growing about the welfare of local marine life due to incidents, described by experts as "unusual". Experts have questioned whether the recent toxic algae bloom seen in parts of the South Australian coastline had brought marine life into shallower waters.

Authorities removed at least three dead white sharks including one which had washed up on Henley Beach earlier this month.

### Call for end of violence against women

Hundreds gathered outside Parliament House to call for an end to domestic violence and demand more government investment in long-term, evidence-based prevention.

Domestic violence survivor and advocate Stacey Nelan said it was "incredible" to see the number of people at the rally. "That's what we need to see because we can't achieve gender equality without the good men challenging those who disrespect women, so that we can walk the path of gender equality together."

The rally comes as the South Australian government prepares to examine the final report of the Royal

## Community Life



Flowers for three mothers, on Mothers Day at the Franklin St. Greek Cathedral, by Fr John and GOCSA President Peter Ppiros

Commission into Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence.

The state government established the inquiry after the deaths of six South Australians from

alleged family and domestic violence in late 2023, with the commission receiving more than 360 submissions and more than 800 survey responses.

### Church Name Day celebrated

The Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Church in Goodwood has celebrated its name day with hundreds of Greek community members attending on May 21st.

The popular religious feast like every year, attracted many faithful, as well as administrative Council members and official guests from State and local Governments.

After the church service and the icon procession, the Church committee had for sale delicious souvlakia and loukoumathes for the faithful to enjoy or take away.

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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



**PHOTO:** Young people of Greek decent at the Launch Night of the Greek Youth of SA on Friday 16 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.

**TOP:** Representatives of the Greek Orthodox Communities of Sydney, Adelaide, Newcastle and St Albans met in Adelaide last weekend for the first time since the Covid era, in an attempt to reorganize and revitalize the Federation of Greek Orthodox Communities of Australia. The photo, at a reception given by the Greek Orthodox Community of SA at the Olympic Hall, in honour of the Federation, at the presence of more than 100 GOCSA volunteers. In the photo, the newly elected President of the Federation, Peter Ppiros, Secretary Sylvia Cassoudakis and Treasurer Jo Terizakis, the President of the Greek Community of Sydney Harry Danalis, the President of Saint Albans Areti Akamatis and other executive members of the four Communities.

## Lost Dutch ship Koning Willem de Tweede found off SA's coast after 170 years

Researchers are confident they have found the site of a nearly 170-year-old shipwreck off South Australia's south-east coast following a multi-year search.

In June 1857, the 140-foot Dutch merchant sail ship Koning Willem de Tweede became lost in Guichen Bay just days after discharging more than 400 Chinese miners at Robe.

Of the 25 crew members on board, 16 drowned and were later buried in the dunes of Long Beach, along the bay's eastern shoreline.

James Hunter from the Australian National Maritime Museum said researchers had now found parts of the ship's windlass, or winch, protruding from the bay's seabed, along with other components.

Dr Hunter said historical accounts of the ship and its wreck made the research team confident it had found the Koning Willem.

"We looked at things like the depth of the ship – the draught – and we've looked at the water depth it's sitting in, and that all seems to line up really well," he said.

"The magnetic anomaly we have is roughly the same length as the ship.

"All these things ... make us pretty confident we've got it, but it would be great if we found a bell with the name on it."

Dr Hunter said before the COVID-19 pandemic, the Dutch government approached the museum about exploring the countries' shared maritime history.

In conjunction with the not-for-profit Silentworld



*The Koning Willem de Tweede, which wrecked off Robe's coast in 1857*

Foundation, SA's Department for Environment and Water (DEW), and Flinders University, Dr Hunter said researchers set out to find the wreck.

He said the group thought they had located the wreck in 2022, but it took until this March to confirm their suspicions due to poor visibility caused by the bay's fine sand.

"It's entirely possible that the ship ran aground on the seabed and that the sand buried it.

"While I'm not saying the wreck is completely intact, I suspect there's a lot of it there still."

The search included reviewing historical records and accounts before using a marine magnetometer to detect concentrations of iron on or beneath the seabed.

"We picked up this interesting anomaly, and then we dived on that target in 2023 and didn't

see anything," he said.

"When we came back this year, we had metal detectors and we did a systematic search of that area.

"We saw a lot of sand again, but we were lucky enough that the windlass and a couple of other components of the wreck were exposed at the time."

### Wreck's role in local history

DEW's principal maritime heritage officer Mark Polzer said the shipwreck helped tell the story of Chinese migration through the South East during the Victorian gold rush.

"We saw a lot of Chinese immigrants coming into Robe, landing there and then walking all the way to the Goldfields to bypass a tax on immigrants coming into Victoria," he said.

"It's an important wreck for the local area, but it tells this broader story ... of immigration."

Mr Polzer said some of the material recovered from the wreck at the time had even been used in the Robe community.

"If we could expose more of the wreckage and record that and recover things, that would add another layer to the story of the heritage there in Robe."

Dr Hunter said researchers would investigate the site further.

"We may get down there and find more of the wreck uncovered, or alternatively, we could see a whole bunch of sand again because it's buried itself," he said.

Mr Polzer said the Koning Willem de Tweede was a protected historic wreck and advised that although people could dive on it, they should not interfere with it.

Source: abc.net.au

## Melissa Hoskins' husband given suspendend sentence

Almost 18 months have passed since 32-year-old Melissa Hoskins was fatally struck by a car, driven by her husband, in Adelaide's inner north.

As news broke of the Olympian's death, questions were raised, with many members of the public theorising about how such an incident could unfold.

It's a tragedy that not only shocked the state — but the world's pro-cycling community.

After a few court hearings and adjournments, a plea deal was reached, and Ms Hoskins's husband Rohan Dennis pleaded guilty to an aggravated act likely to cause harm.

He was initially facing the more serious charge of causing death by dangerous driving, but that charge was dropped in lieu of his plea.

On Wednesday, as District Court Judge Ian Press sentenced Dennis, he aptly detailed the events of December 30, 2023, saying that describing the incident, which unfolded on the streets of Medindie in Adelaide's inner north, as tragic "really does not do justice to the grief, the anguish and the turmoil" which followed.

"I accept you have a sense of responsibility for all that occurred. I accept you have anguished over what could have been different if you had acted in some other way," he said.

"It is however important at the outset of these remarks to acknowledge

that you are not charged with being criminally responsible for all of the events of that night, and in particular, you are not charged with causing the death of your wife."

He said because Dennis was not charged with causing her death, he could not be sentenced for it.

Judge Press suspended a 17-month prison term and imposed a two-year good-behaviour bond.

The judge said the pair had argued about home renovations, and that the pair had previously had an arrangement that Dennis would leave so the duo could calm down during an argument. Judge Press said.

Ms Hoskins "jumped onto and then lay on the bonnet" of his car.

Dennis slowed down and Ms Hoskins got off the bonnet and continued walking next to the car as he was driving slowly. However, Ms Hoskins had "held onto the car" as he briefly accelerated and she fell from the vehicle.

Judge Press said the incident was captured on CCTV, which has not been released to the public, showing Dennis to immediately stop the car and attend to his wife.

Ms Hoskins father, Peter Hoskins, said the family now hoped to foster a "well-mannered" relationship with Dennis and would keep the well-being of their daughter's two children front of mind.

## Farmers scramble for hay as drought bites and prices rise

Hay prices jumped dramatically in some parts of Australia this week as the drought was felt in South Australia, Victoria and southern New South Wales.

In its latest hay report, the Australian Fodder Industry Association (AFIA), said with "no rain on the horizon for those who need it, we are seeing a surge in pricing across all fodder."

Cereal hay jumped \$50 per tonne in south-west Victoria this week, selling between \$360 and \$480 per tonne.

Lucerne jumped \$30 per tonne, selling between \$410 to \$550 per tonne.

In central South Australia the price increases were even more extreme, with cereal hay lifting \$100 per tonne, selling for up to \$500 per tonne — which was up more than 50 per cent on this time last year.

"Reports state the region is going to run out of hay very soon," AFIA said.

Hay producers in Queensland and the Northern Territory are now getting calls from producers thousands of kilometres away seeking fodder.

Northern Victorian hay producer Luke Felmingham said he had been taking calls all week and it was clear people were getting desperate.

"It's really escalated quite quickly ... it's been completely ballistic this week," he told the Country Hour. "Our prices have gone up a little bit to reflect the dry times," he said.

"But people are ringing up out of the blue, saying, 'I'll take it all'... they don't know how much I've got, they just want it all."

Feed Central managing director Tim Ford said he had not witnessed a week like it.