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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Australia could face an energy crisis

Australia is on the "precipice" of a UK-style energy crisis that could send many of its power retailers broke and fuel a surge of households unable to pay their bills, a leading expert has warned.

The soaring cost of wholesale energy has triggered widespread alarm among observers and there are fears a significant chunk of Australia's retail electricity market will be wiped out in the crunch.

Among those expressing their concern was new Federal Treasurer Jim Chalmers, who used a recent speech to say Australia was facing a "perfect storm" of challenges in energy.

Mr Chalmers pointed to revelations yesterday that gas prices in Victoria has jumped more than 50 times higher than normal levels, prompting an intervention from the body that runs the energy market.

He said Australia was paying a price — at least partly — for almost a decade of energy policy uncertainty under the previous Coalition government.

"On energy in particular, this is an incredibly challenging set of circumstances, particularly for Australian indus-

try, when you consider this spike in gas prices, which goes hand-in-hand with a spike in the price of liquid fuels and a spike in the price of electricity as well," Mr Chalmers said.

"This is, unfortunately, a perfect storm of conditions and challenges in our energy market."

New Zealand-based power provider ReAmped last night became the latest casualty of the squeeze, telling its customers to go elsewhere because it was no longer able to supply an affordable service.

The firm has about 80,000 customers across Australia's east coast but chief executive Luke Blincoe said it had taken the extraordinary decision to step back from the market.

Bruce Mountain from the Victoria Energy Policy Centre said ReAmped's predicament was a familiar story among smaller and start-up energy providers across the national electricity market.

"If it wasn't for the small retailers, the big retailers would face much less competition and they'd charge even more and customers would get an even worse service."

Permanent alcohol restrictions in Port Augusta

The state government has extended liquor restrictions in Port Augusta until August as the Liquor and Gaming Commission considers making the measures permanent.

The restrictions, which were set to be lifted last week, were originally brought in to help reduce anti-social behaviour by restricting the sale of spirits, cask wine and fortified wine to single sales.

Port Augusta had been struggling to control antisocial behaviour.

Liquor and Gambling Commissioner Dini Soulio said he would review data compiled by the commission since the measures had been brought in before deciding whether to permanently extend the restrictions.

"We are looking at hospital data, police data, ambulance data and as much information as we can gather, as well as admissions to health services," he said.

"We would also like to see feedback from community and Police", he said.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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RESERVE BANK GOVERNOR WARNS

Prepare for interest rate hike

The Reserve Bank governor has warned Australians they need to be prepared for substantial interest rate rises over the rest of this year, conceding he is not sure how high they might go.

In an interview on ABC's 7.30, his first public remarks since hiking rates by half a per cent, Philip Lowe (pictured right) said he expected inflation could hit 7 per cent by Christmas and predicted it would not fall until the first quarter of next year.

At a time when Australians are already grappling with rising fuel, power and grocery prices, he declared the RBA would do "what's neces-

sary" to get inflation back to between 2 to 3 per cent.

"It's unclear at the moment how far interest rates will need to go up to get that," Dr Lowe said.

"I'm confident that inflation will come down over time but we'll have to have higher interest rates to get that outcome."

Dr Lowe added that it was "reasonable" to think interest rates would reach about 2.5 per cent at some point, stressing they had been at emergency levels in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and needed to gradually return to normal.

Under such a scenario, a

family with a \$500,000 mortgage would likely have to pay more than \$500 a month more than they were a few weeks ago.

The RBA governor conceded some families were already struggling to make ends meet and would find the increase in repayments tough.

A drop in house prices will hit soon, however, Dr Lowe said "we're not worried that declines in housing prices will affect the banking system."

With an interest rate hike looming in the lead up to Christmas 2022, economy experts are advising the



Australian public to be careful how they spend and especially how they borrow.

Premier announces part of the SA budget at Olympic Hall

South Australia's new Labor government is predicting a recovering national economy and booming property market will help it deliver key election promises in health and education, without driving up debt, taxes or cutting hard into the public sector.

Elected in March with a mandate to "fix the state's ramping crisis," the government's first budget is unsurprisingly all about health, with \$2.4 billion in new health spending over the next five years.

Treasurer Stephen Mulligan declared his first budget delivered on "every single one of the election commitments we made".

"We are returning the budget to surplus, improving our debt metrics, and making sure we stay true to the commitment of no new taxes or increases," he said.

"We are providing an absolutely extraordinary investment in health ... and we are maintaining a very large infrastructure program."



Premier Peter Malinauskas, accompanied by the Treasurer Stephen Mulligan and Adelaide MP Lucy Hood, at the Olympic Hall, with President Con Papaconstantinou, Secretary Peter Ppiros and Bingo operator Anthony Roubanis.

The Premier Peter Malinauskas, accompanied by the Treasurer Stephen Mulligan and Adelaide MP Lucy Hood, attended a bingo session at the Greek Community's Olympic Hall, where he announced a one-off doubling of cost-of-living concessions for almost 185,000 South Australians next financial year.

The government has also promised \$177.5 million over four years to address housing affordability, with a pledge to build 400 new public houses.

It will continue the former government's pledge to work with lending service HomeStart to provide a 3 per cent low-deposit home loan scheme for first home buyers.

The government has

promised immediate relief for the state's health system, with 99 extra paramedics and ambulance workers promised this year.

By the end of its first term, the government aims to deliver 350 new paramedics and ambulance officers, 100 doctors and 300 nurses, as well as 326 extra hospital beds.

GOCSA opens 2022 ODYSSEY Festival Art Prize

In 2022 Adelaide's Hellenic Cultural Festival ODYSSEY celebrates its 15th year as the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Inc. (GOCSA) once again presents a series of exciting arts and cultural events starting on September 30th, 2022.

An announcement from the Greek Orthodox Community of SA, says this year's theme is "Celebrating 200 and 90 Years of Independence", - which reflects on the 200 Years from the Greek Independence and the 90 Years Anniversary of the Greek Orthodox Community of S.A.

Under that theme, the 2022 Odyssey Festival, will celebrate Hellenism through



GOCSA President Con Papaconstantinou, Steve Georganas and other guests at the Mikis Theodorakis concert on 20 May at the Town Hall

Art, Education, Theatre, Music and Festivities.

"As part of our Odyssey celebrations, we once again intend 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 in Franklin Street, Adelaide.

"We are seeking expressions of interest from young

and new artists with a love for Hellenic culture to display their works based on the theme 'Celebrating 200 and 90 Years of Independence'. The art work selected by an eminent art judge, will be awarded "The Odyssey Art Prize" of \$1000 First Prize, \$600 Second Prize and \$400 Third Prize.

"We are seeking creativity

in all forms, be it painting, drawing, print making, ceramics, sculpture digital or any creative art form, with the theme of "Celebrating 200 and 90 Years of Independence", 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 GOCSA announcement says.

The Festival organisers request that your artwork be ready to hang by Friday 23 September 2022, with the winner to be announced at the launch on Friday 30th of September 2022 at Olympic Hall. All welcome. Contact 8231 4301 - or for a copy of the guidelines visit 262 Franklin street, Adelaide.



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



The Cyprus Community of SA held its annual Festival on the weekend 18 and 19 June at its premises in Adelaide. Above, the audience on Sunday evening enjoying the performances of local Dance Groups, including the Cyprus Community dance group and the Greek Orthodox Community of SA Dance Academy. Amongst the guests, were, the Minister for Transport Tom Koutsantonis, Minister for the Arts Andrea Michaels, Jing Lee MP, Connie Bonaros MLC, the Chair of SAMEAC Andriana Christopoulos, the President of GOCSA Con Papaconstantinou and Bishop Silouan of the Greek Archdiocese.

BELOW: Left, President of Cyprus Community Andreas Evdokiou and Labour MP Jane Stinson
RIGHT: Strong presence of the young generation at the Cyprus Community Festival - Photos: Harri Ppiros



Ellinopoula.com Wins "Educational Organization of the Year" Award

Former Greek Minister of Education, Mrs. Anna Diamantopoulou, hailed the 7th Annual Education Leaders Awards Gala Athens, Greece on Friday, June 3rd, attended by representatives from every academic and educational sector in Greece.

Mrs Diamantopoulou stated: "Tonight, is an evening, a festival, a celebration for education in our country. No country in the world can be highly developed and achieve a high level of democracy without a high level of education.

The awards are not simply an approach to excellence; they are much more; they highlight the country's resources and the establishment of standards.

Teachers of all levels, from primary schools, high schools, lyceums, experimental schools, universities, different universities in the country, overseas Greeks, the private sector, and even an architect within the committee who deals with school aesthetics and infrastructure!

Each proposal is assessed and graded by four different evaluators to reach the final grade and result in an indisputable selection of the best submissions."

The highest honor of the evening went to Ellinopoula with the Platinum Award for Excellence for "Educational Organization

of the Year." The jury recognized Ellinopoula for advancing the platform with new innovative features and for expanding its Live Online Classes, thereby boosting the experience of Diaspora kids learning Greek. This resulted in an impressive 5 awards, specifically:

- * Platinum Award of Excellence Educational Organization of the Year
- * Gold Award Digital Education
- * Gold Award Distance and/or Hybrid Education
- * Silver Award Innovation in Teaching
- * Silver Award Educational Platform/App

The Director of Ellinopoula, Mrs. Anna Sakkis, stated:

"We all believe that the Greek language and Hellenism are very important for young children of the diaspora to learn, especially today. Hellenism gives them solid values and it forms their character and their identity and gives them strong roots to face the many conflicts of life.

Our fantastic team of talented young people in Greece shares the same love and give their hearts to everything they do and develop for Ellinopoula.

I would like to thank Mrs. Diamantopoulou and the Education Leaders Awards committee for recognizing Ellinopoula as the Educational Organization of the Year, and for awarding us in



Anna Diamantopoulou and Ellinopoula Team

several other categories for the 3rd year in a row. It is a great honor for us. Our mission continues, to advance Greek language and Hellenism throughout the diaspora."

About Ellinopoula.com

Ellinopoula is a multiple-award winning online learning platform for Greek Diaspora kids to learn the Greek language and embrace Hellenism. Ellinopoula caters to teachers, parents, and students with innovative technologies such as speech recognition and online progress tracking. Kids learn through educational videos, fun games, interactive exercises, as well Live Online Classes in which children learn with groups of their peers under the guidance of qualified, native Greek language instructors. The platform's core function

- the "Learning Path" - consists of a series of structured courses that adapt to each student's level (personalized learning). Ellinopoula.com has inspired the love for Greek and Hellenism in thousands of parents and children around the world.

About the Education Leadership Awards

Every year, the Education Leaders Awards committee judges convene to present the coveted Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze prize to organizations who lead the educational service sector through best and innovative practices, as well as private and public educational organizations in primary, secondary and tertiary education, including special schools, and tuition centers.

Websites:
www.ellinopoula.com
www.educationleadersawards.gr

Adelaide Cypriots to commemorate the tragic events of 1974

A joint announcement by the Justice for Cyprus Committee and the Cyprus Community of South Australia invites the South Australian public to attend a series of events to be held in July, to commemorate the tragic events of July 1974 in Cyprus. The announcement reads as follows:



JUSTICE FOR CYPRUS

The Justice for Cyprus Coordination Committee SA (SEKA) and the Cyprus Community of SA Inc, will be holding commemorative events, on SUNDAY 17th of July 2022 to mark the 48th Anniversary of the Turkish Invasion of Cyprus. These events are an expression of our solidarity and support to the people of Cyprus and a mark of honour and respect to those who lost their lives in the struggle for democracy and freedom during the events of 1974.

Members of the public are invited to attend any (or all) of the following activities.

1. Sunday 17th of July at 10.00am: MEMORIAL SERVICE at The Nativity of Christ Church, 5/7 Church Street, Port Adelaide, SA, 5015.
2. Followed at 12.15pm (for 12.30pm): WREATH LAYING CEREMONY at the MEMORIAL AT THE CYPRUS COM-

MUNITY OF SA, 6-8 Barr Powell Street, Welland, 5007

Wednesday 20th of July at 7.00pm at the Cyprus Community of SA club rooms, 6-8

Barr Powell Street, Welland. TALK on the Current Position of the Cyprus Issue by an official representative of the Republic of Cyprus, to be accompanied by the High Commissioner of the republic of Cyprus in Canberra, Ms Martha Mavrommatis. The name and the details of the official will follow closer to the date.

Refreshments will be provided. You will also have the opportunity to meet and speak with the members of the community and discuss the current developments in Cyprus, in an informal and friendly atmosphere.

The announcement is signed by the President of the Cyprus Community Prof. Andreas Evdokiou and President of SEKA Peter Ppiros

Calls on Greeks to stop killing and eating octopus

Acclaimed filmmaker Alexander Payne has sparked a heated debate in Greece after he claimed recently that killing and eating octopus is immoral.

The Greek-American director who became a Greek citizen in February said he does not understand, how can the Greeks kill and eat octopuses?

"They taste fantastic, but they are some of nature's most charismatic creatures, with intelligence and grace", he said. So, I do not care where you go for food, as long as the menu does not have an octopus."

Several animal

rights activists and social commentators took on social media to support Payne highlighting the fact that octopuses who have blue blood, three hearts and a doughnut-shaped brain possess remarkable intelligence.

It's a well-known fact that octopuses have eight arms, but few people know that each arm contains its own "mini brain."

Many Greeks however regard the octopus as one of the most famous summer mezedes served in Greek fish tavernas.

Grilled octopus is the perfect plate to accompany ouzo

Greek Orthodox Community of SA

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