



May 2018

GREEK TRIBUNE

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AUSTRALIAN NEWS

South Australia secures 100% water allocations

The State Liberal Government has confirmed that South Australia's River Murray water access entitlement holders will receive a 100 per cent water allocation in the 2018-19 water year.

South Australia is expected to receive its full Entitlement Flow of 1,850 gigalitres which will provide greater certainty for irrigators and our environment.

"This is a huge win for South Australia's environment, our irrigators and importantly local jobs," said Minister for Environment and Water David Speirs.

"Opening water allocations of 100 per cent provides South Australian irrigators with a degree of certainty and confidence going into the next growing season.

"The State Liberal Government has a

strong plan to improve the business environment in South Australia and increase our exports which will bring more dollars into our economy and support more local jobs.

"The River Murray is the lifeblood of so many of our regional communities and supports South Australia's \$1.25 billion horticulture industry, much of which comes out of the Riverland", Mr Speirs said.

Private carryover will not be made available in 2018-19 as water users will have access to 100 per cent water allocations.

South Australian River Murray water allocations are based on water resource conditions and an analysis of future water availability provided by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

NDIS Community Information Session for CALD communities

Upcoming National Disability Insurance Agency information sessions for CALD communities

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) runs regular information sessions to support people with the disability, their families, carers and the wider community to understand what the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is and how it works.

The NDIA commits to ensuring all information sessions are fully accessible for attendees. We are contacting you today to highlight three upcoming information sessions that have pre-arranged accessibility features that may specifically appeal to people from a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) background.

On 1 May 2018 the Community Engagement Team, along with representatives from our Partners in the Community, will be facilitat-

ing one Community Information Session and two Participant Pathway Sessions at the Education Development Centre at Hindmarsh. All three information sessions will be attended by Auslan interpreters and hearing loop facilities will be available.

Additionally, NDIA representatives will have on-hand the NDIS publications currently available in eleven languages other than English: Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (traditional), Filipino (Tagalog), French, Hindi, Greek, Italian, Macedonian, Samoan and Vietnamese.

The Adelaide session will be at Education Development Centre Room G.11A, 4 Milner St, Hindmarsh.

Time and Date: Tuesday, 1 May 2018 from 2:00PM to 4:00PM.

RSVP: <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/66377> or phone 0475 971 403.

HE WANTS THE 8 TURKISH SOLDIERS SO HE CAN EXECUTE THEM!

Erdogan's "offer" rejected

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on Saturday called for peace and cooperation provided that Greece agrees to exchange the eight Turkish servicemen who sought asylum in Greece, with the two Greek soldiers who were abducted by Turkey recently on the Greek border.

According to Anadolu Agency, Erdogan spoke on Turkey's NTV television saying, "They asked us to give the two Greek soldiers back. And we told them there are eight soldiers who tried to make a coup. First, you have to give them to us. If you give them to us then we can put the others on the table. Because they crossed the border."

At the same time, the

Turkish president made a "gesture of friendship" towards Greece, acknowledging the issue of the persecution of Greeks living in Turkey saying mistakes had been made by both sides.

The eight Turkish servicemen were granted asylum by Greece's Supreme Court on the grounds that they will not have a fair trial in Turkey and they are likely to be tortured as they are branded as "traitors" in Turkey. Most likely they will be executed.

On March 1, two Greek soldiers were abducted illegally on the Greek/Turkish border by the Turkish army. They are in jail in Edirne without having charges pressed against them. Since the abduction of the two Greek

soldiers, Turkey repeatedly demands their extradition.

"Regarding to reports of an exchange, or the equation of the issue of the two Greek soldiers with other issues, we emphasize once again that it is unacceptable and therefore rejected," the Maximos Mansion official statement said.

"From the Turkish president's statements yesterday we keep the positive elements: his shift towards peace in the Aegean and the support for dialogue between the two countries on important sectors, among which is security," it said.

The statement also said that in par with president Erdogan's statement, Turkey's provocations in the Aegean should stop.

Legal action for alleged underpayment of 457 visa workers

A regional Queensland company is facing Court for allegedly underpaying two Filipino 457 visa holders a total of almost \$10,000 when it made them redundant.

The Fair Work Ombudsman has commenced legal action in the Federal Circuit Court against Rockhampton-based business Alertvale Pty Ltd, which operates a number of businesses providing services in the mining and heavy industry sector.

It is alleged that Alertvale failed to pay the four weeks' redundancy entitlements of two employees when it terminated their employment without notice.

Alertvale faces penalties of up to \$54,000 per contravention for multiple alleged contraventions of workplace laws. A hearing is listed in the Federal Circuit Court in Brisbane on 4 June 2018.

Robert Brokenshire and Kelly Vincent lose Upper House seats

The new South Australian Liberal Government will be hoping for cooperation in the new mix of the Legislative Council to get its key reforms through parliament, but some key MLCs have already indicated they have their own views on certain issues.

The Upper House results were officially declared on Monday, with both the Liberal and Labor parties winning four seats each, Tammy Franks returning for the Greens, and SA Best picking up two seats.

Added to the MLCs whose terms continue, it makes a crossbench of two Greens, two SA Best and Advance SA's John Darley.

Speaking at the Electoral Commission's declaration event on Monday, Health Minister Stephen Wade was quick to remind them of who won the election.

"We are the largest team in the Council in terms of vote, and in terms of mandate we have been elected to form Government in the House of Assembly which is the house of Government," he said.

Ms Franks responded with her own speech, indicating a Liberal majority in the Lower House would not influence how her party voted in the Upper House.

"I look forward, not necessarily to this Government having an easy ride — I believe that this election was indeed a referendum on renewables and I'm going to remind the new Government that the outgoing government actually increased their vote," she said.

SA Best newly-elected Connie Bonaros



SA Best newly elected Legislative Council members, Frank Pangallo and Connie Bonaros say Nick Xenophon will continue to have a decision-making role in South Australian politics

indicated the party would continue to oppose key Government policies such as deregulation of shop trading hours and Mr Xenophon would continue to have a decision-making role.

The victorious candidates also acknowledged those who had lost their seats, particularly Dignity's Kelly Vincent and Australian Conservatives' Robert Brokenshire.

Ms Vincent in particular drew praise from both sides of politics, with Mr Wade commenting on her impact.

Ms Franks spoke of her sadness of seeing Ms Vincent and her team go.

It is now more than five weeks since South Australians went to the polls, but

it has taken that long for the Electoral Commission to tackle the results of the new Legislative Council voting laws.

While 58 per cent of voters marked a single number above the line, 42 per cent either had multiple preferences or were informal votes. That is a tenfold increase in preferential voting on the previous state election.

The Legislative Council now includes the Liberal Party's David Ridgway, Stephen Wade, Terry Stephens and Jing Lee, the Labor Party's Emily Bourke, Justin Hanson, Irene Pneumatikos and Clare Scriven, Tammy Franks from the Greens and Connie Bonaros and Frank Pangallo from SA Best.

Greek community celebrates Easter

Following the 40-day Easter Lent of the Orthodox Calendar, thousands of Hellenes across Adelaide celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus Christ in what constitutes the most important religious celebration in all of Christendom.

The Greek Orthodox Community's churches commenced the Easter services on Palm Sunday as Holy Week marked the beginning of the Passion of Christ.

According to an announcement sent to the Greek Tribune by the General Secretary of GOCSA Dimitri Dimopoulos, all the Community's churches reached beyond full capacity in the days leading to Easter Saturday as its members made their way to pray for peace, prosperity and good health.

"Following the tradition, women of all ages gathered at each of our churches on Thursday to help decorate the Tomb of Christ 'Epitaphio' as well as prepare the church for Good Friday.

"Black and purple ribbons

Community Life



The streets surrounding the Cathedral of Archangels Michael and Gabriel in the city, were flooded with unprecedented crowds on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

ran across the churches' interior reflecting the mourning atmosphere for the Passion of Christ, while the morning services on Thursday and Saturday drew thousands of parishioners who came to receive the Holy Communion.

"Continuing on Good Friday, the Tomb of Christ dominated in every church with thousands attending the Royal Hours

service and the litany of the Tomb of Christ reminding churchgoers the sacrifice He made for humanity".

Byzantine hymns were chanted around the Tomb and at around 9.00pm the church procession of the 'Epitaphio' made its way out and around the block, with thousands of people following its course.

The list of official guests

who attended the 'Epitaphio' procession on Good Friday at the Community's churches included the Hon Rachel Sanderson, Minister for Child Protection, the Hon David Pisoni, Minister for Industry and Skill, Frank Pangallo MLC, the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Hon Martin Haese, Ms Angela Evans, Mayor of the City of Charles Sturt, Mr Michael Hewitson, Deputy Mayor of the City of Unley and Mr Paul Alexandrides, Councillor at the City of Charles Sturt.

The celebrations peaked on Easter Saturday with the traditional midnight mass as thousands of the Community's members flocked to church to attend the Resurrection Ceremony and to receive the Eternal Light. At midnight, priests sang out "Christ has Risen", marking the end of the Passion and making the joyful announcement of Christ's resurrection.

It's worth mentioning that the Cathedral of Archangels & Gabriel hosted as per every other year the special Service of Love, conducted later in the evening.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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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: Twelve members of the Presidential Guard of the Hellenic Republic, or Evzones as they are known, were in Adelaide last week to be part of community events and ceremonies, commemorating ANZAC Day and the Battle of Crete. The Evzones were greeted at a reception hosted by the Greek Orthodox Community of SA on Thursday 19 April. In the photo, the members of the Presidential Guard with the Mayor of the Charles Sturt Council Angela Eans, Labor member for Reynell Katrin Hildyard, GOCSA President Bill Gonis, the Standard Bearer of the Greek Navy Konstantinos Athanasopoulos and Charles Sturt Councillor Paul Alexandrides. Also present at the reception was Senator Alex Gallacher and the holy clergy headed by Bishop Chrysostomos. The visit was sponsored by the South Australian Government.



LEFT: Official guests who attended the 'Epitafio' procession on Good Friday at the Greek Community's Cathedral in Franklin street, included the Hon Rachel Sanderson, Minister for Child Protection, the Lord Mayor of Adelaide Hon Martin Haese, SA Best MLC Frank Pangallo. Also in the photo, left, is Peter Ppiros Vice President of Greek Orthodox Community of SA



LEFT: Renmark Irrigation Trust presiding chair Peter Duggin (left) celebrating RIT's Global Alliance of Water gold certification, which he says will provide opportunities for Riverland irrigators and other stakeholders. He is with Murray-Darling Basin Authority chair Neil Andrew and Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder Jody Swirepik. Photo: Christian Longobardi



RIGHT: David Speirs, new State Water Minister, visited the Riverland last week.

Renmark Irrigation Trust water certification is a world first

The Riverland now boasts the world's first irrigation area to receive global certification against the Alliance for Water Stewardship (AWS) International Water Stewardship Standard.

The Renmark Irrigation Trust (RIT) has received 'Gold Certification' - and is the second organisation in the world to be recognised at this level.

The AWS Standard and Certification system recognises world best practice in water efficiency, water quality,

management of water-related areas and water governance.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Tim Whetstone said this significant achievement was fitting recognition for the Riverland and the generations of irrigators who have for decades led Australia in irrigation water efficiencies.

"It's also extremely fitting that it's RIT that is the first to gain this recognition - they were the first irrigation trust in

Australia, the first to be completely piped, and the first irrigation trust to deliver environmental water, they have long demonstrated the innovation and courage required to be world's best," said Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development Tim Whetstone.

"I wish to commend everyone - and it's been a truly collaborative effort - by those who have worked towards this achievement - in particular I want to acknowledge the South Australian Murray Irrigators (SAMI) who took the first step two years ago and applied to PIRSA's Co-Innovation Cluster Program to get the funding to begin this process.

"Other important participants in the process were the Goyder Institute, South Australian MurrayDarling Basin Natural Resources Management Board, Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources, National Australia Bank, Waterfind Australia, as well as PIRSA, AWS AsiaPacific, and of course the Renmark Irrigation Trust."

SAMI president Caren Martin said the organisation had approached the project as an opportunity to build collaboration and gain recognition for the work undertaken in the Riverland for generations.

"I sincerely hope that this draws attention to the many years and dedicated efforts of irrigators in this area to achieve and sustain best practices in their management of water," Ms Martin said.

RIT presiding member Peter Duggin said the findings of the audit team and subsequent 'gold certification' is welcomed recognition for the work and commitment made by RIT members.

"We hope the leadership shown by our members can inspire others in the Basin to test their performance against an international standard as the AWS Standard", he said.

GREEK COURT RULING Migrants will no longer be detained on Aegean islands

Refugees and migrants who cross by boat from Turkey to Greece's Aegean islands must be allowed to travel on to the mainland, a Greek court has ruled, raising concerns about a fresh wave of asylum seekers to Europe.

The ruling comes two years after border closures and a controversial deal with Turkey shut down the Balkan migration route.

It could act as an incentive for refugees, including Syrians fleeing war in their homeland to head for Greece with the aim of reaching northern Europe.

The decision was met with fury, however, by the 15,000 asylum seekers who have been stuck in camps on the islands for up to two years. The ruling does not apply retrospectively and so they will not be allowed to leave until their applications have been

considered - a tortuously long process. Under the new ruling new arrivals may be able to effectively jump the queue and go straight to the mainland.

Protests and riots have broken out in the camps in the past and container cabins and other structures have been set on fire amid rising tensions with authorities.

Migrants and refugees who make it to the Greek mainland could try to reach Western European countries such as Germany, which took in nearly a million asylum seekers, although the journey will be much harder than in 2015.

Border controls have been strengthened and fences built along frontiers by countries like Macedonia, Serbia and Hungary. There is also concern about whether migration centres on the Greek mainland will be able to handle a fresh influx of people.

Riverland holds successful Harmony Day

JEREMY ROCHOW

Singh Society.

ALMOST 1000 people attended last month's Riverland Harmony Day event at the Barmera lake front.

The event, which saw a variety of cultures across the region come together to perform traditional music and dances and eat together, was heralded a success by organiser Danyon De Buell.

Ms De Buell, who is the Riverland Youth Theatre (RYT) company manager and a member of the Riverland Multicultural Forum, said the feedback from visitors was positive.

"Everyone kept saying that they felt it was such a nice vibe," she said.

"(The event) had a really nice atmosphere and went remarkably well, so I was really pleased."

Adelaide-based music group AfroOz headlined the event, while food was provided by the Riverland

"The food provided by the Sikh community was fabulous," Ms De Buell said.

"People were going back for seconds, thirds and fourths.

"Everyone that was involved with the program was absolutely amazing."

The Barmera CFS had the fire hose going for children to keep cool as the temperature in the Riverland peaked at 37.5C.

"Turbans of Trust were also tying all orange turbans this year," Ms De Buell said.

"So, with many visitors taking up the opportunity to wear a turban for the day, there was a sea of orange."

Ms De Buell said the Multicultural Forum thought it might be the last year it would hold the event.

"But, people on the day were saying, 'it's just getting better, please keep on doing it,'" she said.

The Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. presents

Dimitris BASIS

LIVE show

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