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# GREEK TRIBUNE

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## AUSTRALIAN NEWS

### SA government approves 20 storeys at Glenside



The SA government has approved a developer's controversial bid to build apartments of up to 20 storeys in Adelaide's inner-eastern suburbs.

The decision, announced by Planning Minister Nick Champion on Friday, will see parts of the former Glenside Hospital site upzoned from eight to 20 storeys — an unprecedented scale for development outside the Adelaide CBD.

The land, situated near the corner of Fullarton and Greenhill roads on the edge of the south-eastern parklands, was acquired in 2016 by developers Cedar Woods for \$25.8 million.

Cedar Woods has gradually redeveloped the site with townhouses and an eight-storey apartment block.

But the company argued 20 storeys was necessary to allow the Glenside development to reach "its full potential" and applied in December 2023 to amend the planning code.

A design proposal for the former Glenside hospital site.

Parts of the former Glenside Hospital site will be upzoned from eight to 20 storeys. (Cedar Woods via PlanSA)

Mr Champion, who is the final decision-maker on planning code amendments, said the rezoning would allow up to 200 more homes to be built.

He added that there was "quite a bit of [housing] density" on the site already.

"To my mind, having a bit more density of high amenity and high value on this site will actually bring a lot of positive to it," he said.

"I think in time people will see that this was the right decision even if in the run up to it they had concerns about it."

The company welcomed the government's decision today and said it could add up to 200 homes to the existing plans for 1,000 homes on the site.

## SA's toxic algal bloom is unlikely to end soon

The South Australian government says some of the algal bloom that has been plaguing the state's coastline and Coorong has now been pushed to metropolitan beaches.

Beachgoers and scientists have been discovering a wake of dead marine life washing up on Adelaide beaches, including Glenelg, Grange and Semaphore.

Marine biologist Mike Bossley has spent thousands of hours roaming the beach in his lifetime, but since Tuesday has sighted species he's never seen on the shore.

"Different kinds of rays and sharks, lots of pipefish, things called ling, which is a very unusual thing. I've never seen them washed up on the beach before, and lots of species of fish that I don't even know the names of," he said.

Dr Bossley says some of the species he has found washed up are creatures



Millions of sea species, including fish as large as sharks and dolphins, can be found washed up on the South Australian beaches accepted by scientists to be caused by climate change

he has never seen on Adelaide beaches before. (ABC News)

A marine heatwave brought on the harmful algal bloom, causing discoloured water and foam in the Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Yorke Peninsula and the Coorong.

Surfers and swimmers started reporting falling ill after being in the water in March, and countless dead creatures have since washed up all over the state's coastline.

Environment Minister Susan Close confirmed the impact on metropolitan beaches was in part due to

recent weather events.

"Partly because some of the bloom has been pushed towards us, but also because we've had a big storm, that some of the dead marine life that's come out of the gulf has now washed up onto our coastline," she said.

Source: abc.net.au

## Wild weather causes widespread damage in South Australia

Wild weather across South Australia has damaged coastal infrastructure but farmers will need far more rain in coming months if the state's current grain crop is to secure a "miraculous recovery", a leading grower says.

A cold front pushed across South Australia on Wednesday, causing a storm surge and bringing strong winds and rain over agricultural areas.

The front was part of a more protracted burst of wild weather that has kept emergency services busy earlier in July.

The weather has damaged powerlines and brought down trees, including at Williamstown, where a 70-year-old man had to be cut free from a ute on Tuesday.

During a period of three days, rainfall totals have exceeded 30 millimetres on Eyre and Yorke peninsulas and in the Mid North, 40mm on Kangaroo Island and 80mm in the Adelaide Hills.

But the Riverland and

Murraylands received far less — with the Bureau of Meteorology recording totals of only a few millimetres in the former, and just over 10mm in the latter according to the ABC.

Along the Fleurieu Peninsula, the stone causeway leading to the heritage-listed Second Valley jetty received significant damage during the storm.

"The jetty stood up well but the causeway is badly damaged and being fenced off so people can't access it."

That was one of several South Australian jetties to have been destroyed by storms this winter, according to the local Mayor Mr Houston who said repairing the Second Valley causeway would be a "quite a big job".

"The Department of Transport were out there last week looking at it and are on it already but now there's been further damage," he said.

"Because it's heritage-listed, of course, with the stonework



Wild weather caused damage to the Second Valley causeway

— that's another complication. Only certain people can work on it."

Jetties and roads have been closed along parts of Eyre Peninsula, and the Far West Aboriginal Sporting Complex was surrounded by saltwater as huge tides rolled in.

"At Port Lincoln wharf we got up to about 2.4 metres at high tide," the Bureau of Meteorology's Christie Johnson said.

"The normal highest sort of tide we would get without

the storm surge is about two metres, so we got 40 centimetres above that."

While the rain may have been music to the ears of some of the state's farmers, Grain Producers SA chair John Gladigau said the patchy falls were "widespread but not huge in quantity".

Mr Gladigau said subsoils were mostly dry, and that the strong winds that had accompanied the rain had been "devastating to emerging crops".

### 30-Million-Year-Old Hidden River Found Under Antarctica

Scientists have uncovered evidence of an ancient river in Antarctica, revealing a vast and remarkably preserved landscape buried under the East Antarctic Ice Sheet for nearly 30 million years.

The discovery, detailed in a study published July 11 in Nature Geoscience, centers on a series of flat, expansive surfaces carved by ancient rivers between 80 million and 34 million years ago.

These landforms, located beneath the ice, offer rare insight into Antarctica's geologi-

cal past and may play a critical role in how the ice sheet behaves today and how it may change in the future.

The reasearch team found a large, flat plateau interspersed with deep troughs, stretching across a 2,175-mile (3,500-kilometer) section of the continent's coastline.

Researchers believe the flat terrain was shaped by flowing rivers millions of years before the East Antarctic Ice Sheet formed, when Antarctica had a warmer climate and was not yet locked in ice.

### Cypriots Remember "Black July"

Cypriot communities in Australia have held events to condemn the military coup by the Greek junta and EOKA B' and the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in the summer of 1974.

Members of the Cypriot diaspora, Australian Federal, State and local Government representatives, Community leaders and friends of Cyprus attended the events.

On Sunday 20 July, the Justice for Cyprus Committees and Cyprus Community organ-

## Community Life



Cyprus community members in Adelaide, laid wreaths and protested the illegal occupation of Cyprus by the turkish troops

isations across the nation, held wreath laying ceremonies

and protest rallies to mark the 1974 tragic events. Following

a memorial service at the St Elias Norwood church, about 150 Adelaide Cypriots, gathered at the Cyprus Club memorial for a wreath laying ceremony. Speakrs demanded an end to the Turkish military occupation, and a just solution based on UNO resolutions for a federal, united Cyprus.

On Tuesday 22 July, a public meeting was held at the Cyprus Community clubrooms with Mr Andreas Gregoriou, envoy of the Cyprus Government, as guest speaker on current developments in Cyprus. Also in attendance was the High Commissioner of Cyprus in Canberra Antonis Siamoutis.

### GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

ABN: 55 829 388 691

Correspondence to: The Editor,  
BOX 330, FULHAM GARDENS,  
SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5024

Phone: 0408 865004

Website: www.greektribune.com.au

E-mail: info@greektribune.com.au





## 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:** Members of the Cyprus community, including presidents of SEKA and Cyprus Community Iacovos Digenis and Chris Ioannou and guests, including Minister Andriana Michael's, Liberal MP Josh Teague and mayors of Charles Sturt Angela Evans and West Torrens Michael Coxon commemorating the 51st anniversary of the Turkish military invasion in Cyprus.

**RIGHT:** Committee and volunteers of the Ikarian Association, held their annual event on 20 July, to celebrate the anniversary of the Ikarian independence.

## Aria Bolkus preselected for the seat of Colton

Aria Bolkus has been pre-selected by the Labor Party for the seat of Colton, which spans Adelaide's western suburbs, including Henley Beach, Fulham Gardens, West Beach, Lockleys, and Adelaide Airport.

Aria is a lawyer by practice, having worked in both commercial litigation, and energy and mining merger and acquisition space. In addition, she also provided strategic advice to the defence and advanced manufacturing sector. Aria then moved into a role as federal adviser for the Federal Member for Hindmarsh, Mark Butler.

Aria is the daughter of

Greek immigrants from Lesbos and Kastellorizo, Nick Bolkus and Mary Patetsos. Her father was a former South Australian senator and immigration Minister for the Hawke and Keating Labor governments. Aria refers to her father as a "trailblazer in promoting multiculturalism. He brought humanity and empathy into every political decision he made—especially as immigration minister." Aria's mother Mary has also been heavily involved in the multicultural sector, namely as previous Chair of the Federal Ethnic Communities Council of Australia.

Aria draws on her Greek heritage and strongly values

her community and family. Her yiayia and papou always spoke to her about the village they grew up in and instilled in her the value of being connected to your local community. They also loved the ocean, both coming from islands in Greece, so many of Aria's most fond memories growing up are by the beach with them.

Aria has lived in Colton her whole life. She went to primary school at Henley Beach Primary, she got her first job at joes' kiosk, and she still walks up and down the beach every day. She also understands the contribution of migrants to the vibrant local community. She said "I love



Aria Bolkus, Labor for Colton

this community. It is such a privilege to be in this position to have the opportunity represent a place that means so much to me."

## Feral donkey herd spotted in Victoria's Big Desert State Forest

A pack of donkeys has been tracked to a state park in Victoria's north-west, sparking concerns about the pests establishing a feral population in the state.

The animals were seen in Big Desert State Forest by a dingo research group last week.

The group tracked at least six donkeys more than 13 kilometres into the park.

Deakin University ecologist Euan Ritchie said there were large populations of feral donkeys in other parts of Australia, but not in Victoria.

"So the possibility there are feral donkeys roaming in north-west Victoria is certainly of concern," he said.

### Resilient animals

Donkeys were first brought to Australia as a hardy pack animal in 1866.

Once recognised for their prized resilience and adaptability, it is estimated there are now up to five million feral

donkeys across the country.

They are considered a pest as they cause ongoing ecological problems in western and central Australian areas in particular.

"Feral donkeys have the ability to breed up in quite high numbers and eat a lot of the vegetation," Mr Ritchie said.

"A lot of our systems and ecosystems are under a lot of pressure so we don't need to see large herbivores in our national parks."

When contacted by the ABC, a spokesperson of the Victorian Department of Environment, said there was "no established feral donkey population within Big Desert State Forest".

But the spokesperson did say the department was aware that a small number of donkeys had escaped from a neighbouring property into the park.

The department said it had contacted the landowner.



The discovery of Feral donkeys in a Victorian forest causes concern

"[The department informed] them the donkeys are roaming beyond their property and to request they take measures to address the issue," the spokesperson said.

Dr Ritchie said the Big Desert region is already under pressure from drought and he was concerned about water access for other animals if

donkeys were there.

"Other wildlife that relies on that water may potentially have to compete with donkeys for access to water," he said.

"So along with the sort of the impacts of grazing and potentially spreading weeds, donkeys could have a whole range of impacts on the ecosystem."

## Reserve Bank keeps interest rates on hold at 3.85pc

The Reserve Bank has not delivered an interest rate cut in July as had been widely forecast, but has indicated it expects to cut rates further from here.

The RBA kept the cash rate on hold at 3.85 per cent, in a decision the central bank's governor described as more about "timing than direction" of rates.

The decision defied financial market expectations, which had priced in a 96 per cent chance of a 0.25 percentage point cut, and economist forecasts.

Forecasts had shifted almost unanimously in favour of a cut, after the latest inflation data showed consumer prices rising less than expected in May, while economic growth slowed in the first quarter of the year.

However, in its statement, the RBA's monetary policy board said it had judged it could wait for "a little more information to confirm that inflation remains on track to reach 2.5 per cent on a sustainable basis".

Following the decision, RBA governor Michele Bullock said the board members were looking towards

the next quarterly consumer price index, due out on July 30, to inform its decision at its August meeting.

Ms Bullock said she expected that data to "validate" the central bank's easing path.

The central bank had previously cut interest rates at its February and May board meetings.

Before that, the RBA's cash rate had sat at 4.35 per cent since November 2023, after a series of 13 rate hikes, beginning in May 2022.

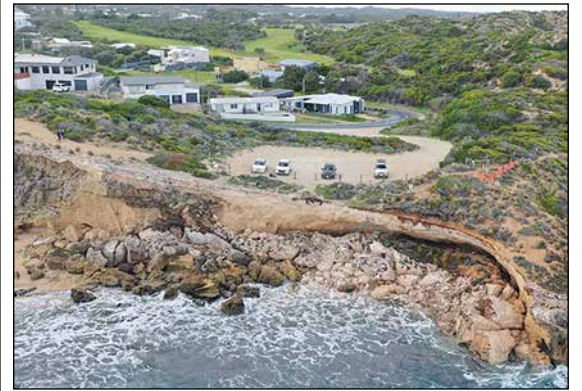
It was not a unanimous decision by the board members, with six voting in favour of keeping rates on hold, and three against.

While the votes were not attributed to particular members, it was the first time the exact split has been published.

Uncertainty loomed large in the post-meeting statement.

"While the final scope of US tariffs and policy responses in other countries remains unknown, financial market prices have rebounded with an expectation that the most extreme outcomes are likely to be avoided," it read.

## Cliff collapses at Robe as SA coastal erosion worsens



A coastal South Australian council says it has its hands full with the impacts of erosion, after at least 10 metres of cliff near Robe's working lighthouse collapsed at the weekend.

Large amounts of rock and vegetation along a cliff to the west of the town in the state's south-east collapsed late on Saturday.

The District Council of Robe has since closed a nearby car park and barricaded the area, which is also near a scenic coastal walk.

The collapse comes less than a month after Robe's jetty was destroyed during severe storms, and with the town's iconic obelisk also at risk of falling into the sea.

Council chief executive Nat Traeger said the collapse also exposed significant undercutting of the cliff

above.

Ms Traeger said the incident highlighted the rapidly increasing risk erosion presented to the town's infrastructure.

"Our coastal adaptation strategy did indicate the area around the lighthouse was vulnerable, but we probably weren't expecting that to go so quickly," she said.

"We've been dealing with the coastal erosion around Fox and Hooper [beaches], and that's been taking up our attention."

Robe Obelisk Working Party member Doug Fotheringham looked at survey data of the Robe coastline from 1896 and compared that to data from 2009, finding some sections had eroded as much as 26m during that time.

He said cliff collapses along that part of the coast were expected, particularly after storms.