



June 2022

GREEK TRIBUNE

www.greektribune.com.au - Mobile: 04 0886 5004 - Email: info@greektribune.com.au

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Wine grapes stay to rot on the vines

Winegrape growers are calling for government assistance with an over-supply of grapes that is sinking prices and leaving fruit unsold.

The crisis in the global freight sector, along with China's decision to impose massive anti-dumping tariffs just as Australian growers produced a large crop in 2021 are behind the glut.

The latest Wine Australia figures show exports were down 26 per cent year-on-year.

This has been coupled with rising input costs, which have at least doubled in the past year due to increased disease-pressure and the cost of chemical, fertiliser, fuel and labour.

Industry body Australian Grape and Wine said it expected difficult commercial conditions for the next three to five years.

"It's a tough message to deliver, but we can't afford to stick our heads in the sand," Australian Grape and Wine chief executive Tony Battaglione said.

The situation is especially dire in South Australia's Riverland, where 80 per cent of the wine produced is export-

ed. Riverland wine executive officer Lyndall Rowe said while interest from south-east Asian markets had been promising, it could not absorb the supply in the short term.

Ms Rowe said the drop in demand had led many wineries to seek outside storage and build additional tanks.

While the region finished harvesting grapes in early May, Riverland's CCW Co-operative chief executive Jim Godden said storage at most wineries was full by March.

Mr Godden said he did not know how many members were out of contract but had received numerous calls from people trying to find a home for their grapes.

The Riverland is home to more than 900 growers but some are choosing to get out of the game.

Real estate agent Sam Hayes from Toop Toop Rural said a number of vineyards in the region have been listed for sale recently.

There are growing concerns that wineries could cap grape deliveries for next year, which could see the price of red grape varieties drop even further.

Two Victorians charged with murder following CBD stabbing

A Victorian man charged with murder following the stabbing death of a 25-year-old Victorian man in Adelaide's CBD last month has faced court.

Thochrial Agoth, 21, appeared in the Adelaide Magistrate's court on Monday following his arrest last month.

He is the second male to be charged with murder, accused of killing a 25-year-old Victorian man from a rival gang.

The victim was found with multiple stab wounds to his chest before he died in North Terrace.

In April, a 17-year-old boy from Melbourne was charged with murder, aggravated affray and travelling under a false name.

Police have arrested a total of 17 people in relation to the incident, which authorities believe was the result of ongoing fighting between two youth gangs from Adelaide's northern suburbs.

Agoth will remain in custody until his next court appearance in December.

In a separate incident, a 23-year-old Paradise woman has been charged with attempted murder after an alleged stabbing in Adelaide's north-eastern suburbs.

Emergency services were called to a block of units on Lower North East Road just after 9pm last night.

Police found a Murray Bridge man with stab wounds to his torso.

He is in the Royal Adelaide Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Police arrested three people, including a 23-year-old woman, who was charged with attempted murder and aggravated assault.

The other two, a 50-year-old woman and 24-year-old man — both from Paradise — were also charged with aggravated assault.

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

ABN: 52366840467

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

AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL ELECTION

Labor claims victory

Labor has won government for the first time in almost nine years, with Anthony Albanese becoming Australia's 31st prime minister — the 12th person from the Labor Party to hold that title.

Mr Albanese told jubilant supporters that Australians had "voted for change". However until Monday night, it was still unclear whether he would secure a clear majority.

The Labor leader vowed to bring people together, invest in social services and "end the climate wars".

Mr Morrison thanked the "miracle of the Australian people" after conceding.

In perhaps the election's greatest twist, support also surged for Greens and independent candidates running on climate platforms.

They could wield great-

er influence if Labor fails to secure 76 lower house seats to govern in its own right. On Monday night, Labor held 74 seats to the Coalition's 57. There are at least 15 independents including 4 Greens.

South Australia will have two Greens senators for the first time since 2016, while Nick Xenophon and Rex Patrick have almost certainly failed to get elected.

One Nation has received the highest vote of any party after Labor, the Liberals and the Greens, but its lead candidate is not hopeful of becoming South Australia's sixth representative in the upper house.

In SA, so far, the Liberal Party has won two quotas, the Labor the same and the Greens have one.

In the Senate, there has been a significant shift to the



New Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese

centre left. The Greens look set to win a senator in every state, which would give them a total of 12. The Greens are set to hold the balance of power

as the ALP will have at least 25 and the Liberal/Nationals 31. A number of seats will go to other smaller groups and independents. (Source: ABC)

Final farewell for the President of GOCSA Bill Gonis

Hundreds of members of the Greek Orthodox Community of S.A. and of the broader community, as well as Members of Parliament and representatives of local Greek Associations paid their respects to the late Bill Gonis OAM, President of the Greek Orthodox Community, as he was farewelled on Thursday 12th of May at the Cathedral of Archangels Michael & Gabriel.

The funeral service was attended by the State Premier Mr. Peter Malinauskas, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure Mr. Tom Koutsantonis MP, Ms. Andrea Michaels MP, Minister of Micro-Enterprises, Consumers and Fine Arts, Morphett Liberal MP Steven Patterson, Ms. Jing Li, Member of the Legislative Council, Mr. Russell Wortley MLC, Mr. Steve Georganas MP, Mr. Michael Coxon, Mayor of West Torrens, Mayor Angela Evans of

the Charles Sturt Council, Mr. Frank Pangallo and Mrs. Connie Bonaros from SA Best and the Vice President of the Cypriot Community SA Minas Louka.

Both inside and outside the church, the atmosphere was emotionally charged, and dozens of wreaths covered Bill's coffin.

Particularly moving were the words of Peter, the late Bill Gonis' son who described his father as "his hero" whom he will miss forever.

Eulogies and messages were delivered by Bill's daughter Betty and other members of the family of the deceased, representatives of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA but also by representatives of associations that had worked closely with Bill before and during his term with GOCSA.

Messages of condolences were sent to the Greek Orthodox



Community of South Australia by the sister Communities of Sydney, Newcastle NSW and St. Albans Victoria as well as by the Minister for Multicultural Affairs in South Australia Zoe Bettison, the Greek Consul General Mr George Psiachas, Mr Ioannis Chryssoulakis, General Secretary for Greeks Abroad of the Office of Greek Foreign Affairs, the Hon Jane Stinson MP

and former MLC Julian Stephani. The Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia once again expresses its sincere and warm condolences to Mrs Christine Gonis and the rest of the family.

Bill, was laid to rest on the same day at the Centennial Park Cemetery. He will always be remembered and will live forever in our hearts.

The Presidential Guard that was in Melbourne in April to take part in the commemorative ceremony for ANZAC DAY, became the subject of arguments by locals on social media as well as articles published in mainstream newspapers in Athens and Australia.

In one such article, published "Protect the reputation of the Presidential Guard", in the Ethnos newspaper (ethnos.gr) under the title on 27 April by Melbourne community activist and journalist Kostas karamarkos, and re-published by the Victorian newspaper Neos Kosmos paper, calls on the Greek Government to protect the reputation of the Presidential Guard. The article reads:

"In recent days in Melbourne, we have witnessed a wandering troupe called the Evzones, or Greek Presidential Guard.

The procession of 13 soldiers and 3 officers, came to the largest city of Hellenism in Australia to participate in the parade of ANZAC Day, the main commemorative event in modern Australia, with reference to the landing on the Gallipoli Peninsula, the 25th April 1915, during World War I. ANZAC Day is for Australia an anniversary the size of a March 25 or October 28 in Greece.

"Protect the reputation of the Presidential Guard"



The Presidential Guard carried the Epitaph at a Melbourne church, according to the iEllada.gr

The Evzones did well and came for this purpose, at the expense of the government of the state of Victoria. They were supposed to be in Melbourne for the 200th anniversary of the beginning of the Greek Revolution of 1821, but due to the Covid 19 outbreak the visit took place this year. To that end, they did well visiting to Australia. But...

Who had the upper hand in organising the program and hosting their visit in Australia? The diplomatic authorities of Greece? Expatriate organizations? Who?

Who made them a touring bunch of past eras and decor for videos and photos of expatriates, who have no idea about the special historical, institutional and political weight of the Greek presidential guard, but also many of those who welcome them so generously have no substantial participation and offer in the community.

Indicatively, I mention that so far, the Greek Presidential Guard, in addition to the parade on ANZAC Day, participated in the guarding and procession of the epitaph on Good Friday

in a church officiated by the Archbishop of Australia, visited countless parishes, organizations, charities, and schools in Melbourne, held guard at the private Greek Museum in Melbourne for an event related to the opening of an exhibition, in collaboration with the National Archaeological Museum of Greece, etc., etc.

This is not cultural diplomacy. This is not a stimulus of Greekness. It is not a sign of sensitivity towards the Greek community of Melbourne. What is happening is an unjustified exaggeration, without a strategic goal that offends and devalues the members of the Greek Presidential Guard, as well as the institution they represent, but also the Greek nation itself.

Protect the Evzones. Protect the institution. Protect the reputation of Greece. Do not let what is happening in Melbourne these days happen again in the future, to any other Greek community abroad. Evaluate the trip to Australia. "Pull ears" if needed. Do not submit the reputation of Greece to the goals of incompetent adventurers wherever they come from..."

* Costas Karamarkos is a journalist and member of the Greek community of Melbourne



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 Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia, presented a concert in honour of Mikis Theodorakis, titled "Mikis Theodorakis 1925 - 2021, the Ballad of the dead brother and his greatest hits". The event took place on Friday 20 May at the Adelaide Town Hall, featuring international artist Dimitris Basis. The symphony orchestra was directed by George Elis and the Greek band by George Doukas. Special guest singer was Mary Yiakoulis. For two and a half hours, hundreds of Adelaidians enjoyed one of the most impressive concerts in the history of our State



Vice President of GOCSA Con Papaconstantinou, General Secretary Peter Ppiros, re-elected federal member for Adelaide Steve Georganas and Minister for Arts Andrea Michaels at the Town Hall tribute concert for Mikis Theodorakis



Vice President of GOCSA Con Papaconstantinou, the Minister for the Arts Andrea Michaels, Ms Adriana Christopoulos Chair of SAMEAC and Councillor Franz Knoll at the Mikis Theodorakis Concert

Australian Government Department of Health

Information about COVID-19 rapid antigen tests

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, even if mild, you should get tested as soon as possible. Knowing whether you have COVID-19 can help you avoid spreading the virus to your friends, family and your community.

You can use a rapid antigen test to find out if you have COVID-19. The test can be used quickly and privately in your home.

You can buy rapid antigen tests in a range of places including pharmacies and supermarkets.

Free rapid antigen tests are available from pharmacies

if you have one of these concession cards:

- Pensioner Concession card
- Commonwealth Senior Health Care card
- Health Care card
- Low Income Health Care card, or
- Department of Veterans' Affairs Gold, White or Orange cards.

Everyone with one of these concession cards can get up to 10 free rapid antigen tests from participating pharmacies over 3 months, with a maximum of 5 free rapid antigen tests per month.

A range of translated

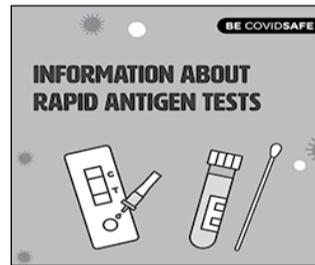
information about rapid antigen tests can be found on the Department of Health website, including:

- where to find rapid antigen tests
- how to use them
- how to read the results, and
- what to do if you test positive on a rapid antigen test.

The resources are available in up to 63 languages. They are written in easy to understand language and include images.

You can share them with your family and community.

To find out more about rapid antigen tests, or if you have



COVID-19 and are worried about your symptoms, call the National Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 020 080, and press 8 if you need an interpreter. You can also visit www.health.gov.au

Pre-Election pledges and Greek Australians

By Kostas Karamarkos

MELBOURNE

Prior to the recent Federal election, Liberal politicians announced a \$1.8 million pledge to the Greek Orthodox Community of Melbourne and Victoria (#GOCMV), in order to help the organisation upgrade the facilities of various community halls located in five suburbs of Melbourne.

A few hours later, Labor politicians pledged that an Albanese government, if elected, will commit \$10 million in order to create a Greek Cultural Precinct at the #GreekOrthodoxArchdioceseofAustralia monastery of Axion Esti, in Northcote, Melbourne.

In view of these announcements, allow me to share with you a few initial thoughts of mine.

1. It is not bad to use the pre-election campaign

in order to advance your interests. This is how the world and politics work, therefore... Good on you GOCMV and good on you Archdiocese.

2. The Labor pledge as we can see, is 5+ times larger than the Liberal pledge. How can we account for this? Given that political outcomes nowadays are determined mostly by power politics, I can only think of two reasons for this difference. Firstly, Labor considers the Church to be a more important organisation than the GOCMV, given that it has an Australian wide network of churches and parishes. Secondly, the Archdiocese is much more effective in its lobbying with Labor than the GOCMV. I suspect both of these two reasons were factored in, before the announcement.

3. Labor is almost certain to respond in the affirmative to a pre-election request for funding by the board of

the GOCMV, but... How responsive would it be, in terms of funding? It will only match the Liberal offer, or it will match the offer to the Archdiocese?

4. It is about time that the secular Greek community organisations in Australia, especially the ones in Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide, reconnect and try to create a network of secular solidarity, support and advocacy. It has not happened up until now, apart from a few occasional letters addressed to the Greek government and co-signed by the three presidents, however... It has to happen now, otherwise the community organisations will be marginalised from the Australian political mainstream, even more. They will become the side kicks of the church, if they continue to act on their own... 5. It is to be expected that the cultural outcomes of the

Axion Esti Cultural Centre, to be funded in the vicinity of \$10 million if Labor is elected in government, will be a Greek Orthodox Christian Cultural Centre, not a Greek centre that will include and advance non Christian manifestations of the diverse Greek identity and culture.

6. This ALP grant of \$10 million to the Archdiocese, can enable the Church to become a powerful provider of cultural and educational services that would exclude large chunks of the all important, worldwide recognised and thousands of years old non Christian segment of Greek identity and culture.

7. Finally... Once off funding, cannot be a substitute for the non-existent multicultural policies of both governing parties in Australia.

* Kostas Karamarkos is a journalist and Melbourne community activist

LETTER TO THE PM Support sought for Justice to Cyprus

Dear Prime Minister
I write to you as the president of the Pan-Australian Justice for Cyprus coordinating committee.

Thousands of Cypriots call Australia home and work hard to contribute to the prosperity of this beautiful country we live in.

Please accept our members' gratitude for the position Australia holds on the Cyprus issue.

As a Cypriot Australian, I strongly urge you to maintain your Government's stance on Cyprus. For over sixty years, Australia, together with the UN and the rest of the World, has only recognised the territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus. The Australian Government recognises the Republic of Cyprus as "the only legitimate authority on the island of Cyprus". This position is indeed in accordance with SC Resolutions 541 and 550.

We condemn the destruction of the cultural heritage of Cyprus by Turkey that has been taking place in the northern part of Cyprus since the Turkish military invasion in 1974. Turkey and the illegal Turkish Cypriot regime bear the sole responsibility for the present condition of hundreds of archaeological and religious monuments in the occupied areas that have been desecrated, looted or demolished. A significant number of churches have been converted to mosques or stables and several archaeological places that were famous and recognized throughout the world have been destroyed or illegally excavated while a great number of antiquities have been smuggled and remain unaccounted to this day.

The Pan-Australian Justice for Cyprus Com-

mittee and the Federation of the Cypriot Communities of Australia and NZ condemn Turkey's partial reopening of Varosha in occupied Cyprus on 20 July 2021, in violation of United Nations resolutions 550 and 789, international law and international treaties. We condemn President Erdogan's announcement of a so-called "two-state solution". This policy contravenes the treaty obligation of Turkey to guarantee the existence of the Republic of Cyprus.

We request the support for the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Republic of Cyprus and Greece in line with the United Nations Law of the Sea Treaty of which Australia is a signatory. Ankara not only threatens the Republic of Cyprus, but the security of the entire region.

It is important for our organisation which consists of all the major Cypriot and Greek organisations in Australia to be reassured that the next Prime Minister of Australia will hold the same stance on the Cyprus Issue which is indeed considered by all as an important national issue.

We take this opportunity to ask the Australian Government and the people of Australia, to continue their support for the territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus, to reject Turkish aggression in the region, and to support the pursuit of a settlement to the Cyprus issue for a reunified state, free from Turkish troops with a single sovereignty and international personality, as defined by relevant Security Council resolutions.

Yours sincerely,
Georgia Alexandrou
President, PASEKA
(Pan-Australian Justice for Cyprus) Australia & New Zealand

New Cyprus-Greece ferry could start service in June

The first Cyprus-Greece passenger ferry line will kick off as early as June from Limassol port 22 years after it was abandoned, Cyprus daily Phileleftheros reported on Tuesday.

The preferred bidder to operate the once very popular ferry line will remain unknown until the following week when Cypriot authorities plan to give out details, it added.

"The tender review process among the three finalist bidders has been completed," the deputy ministry announced on Monday.

The maritime link will serve the port of Limassol

and that of Piraeus for the transportation of passengers and their vehicles.

Three European entities had submitted expressions of interest in the improved tender in January. Last year's previous tender had failed to attract any interest.

The ferry connection between Greece and Cyprus was stopped 22 years ago, as the increasing use of airplanes by the public made the line obsolete. However, its planned reintroduction was seen as a way of deepening the already extremely cordial relations between the two countries.

Greek Orthodox Community of SA

OLDER PEOPLE SERVICES HELPLINE
WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE - 7088 0500