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GREEK TRIBUNE

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Further counts of assault for SA MP

South Australian MP Nick McBride has been charged with a further three counts of assault against his wife.

As reported by the ABC Court documents released to the ABC show the new alleged assaults happened in January and September of 2024 and January of this year at Conmurra, in the state's south-east.

Mr McBride had previously been charged with assaulting his wife three times on April 10, also at Conmurra.

Both sets of charges were heard in the Naracoorte Magistrates Court on Wednesday and were adjourned until December for a pre-trial conference.

Mr McBride has yet to enter a plea but has denied any wrongdoing.

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

Mr McBride was elected to parliament in the south-east seat of MacKillop as a Liberal Party member in 2018



before quitting to sit as an independent in 2023.

Mr McBride is also a grazier and his family's business, AJ & PA McBride, owns farming land across South Australia and Victoria.

He has committed to recontesting the seat of MacKillop at the upcoming 2026 South Australian election.

Following his first hearing in May, Mr McBride said the court proceedings had "no impact" on his role as the member for MacKillop.

"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," he said at the time.

Source: <https://www.abc.net.au/>

Former SA MP Troy Bell jailed for fraud and theft offending

Former South Australian MP Troy Bell will spend at least two-and-a-half years in jail for stealing more than \$430,000 in public money meant for not-for-profit education organisations.

The 52-year-old former member for Mount Gambier was sentenced to five years' jail in the District Court today after a jury last year found him guilty of 20 counts of theft and five counts of dishonest dealing with documents.

The court previously heard he had spent the money on home renovations and credit card debts.

The judge said Bell's offending was too serious for anything other than an immediate jail term and set a two-and-a-half-

year non-parole period.

Judge Rauf Soulio said Bell's "theft of public monies over a sustained period is serious and significant offending". The jury had heard he stole an amount totalling \$436,023.24, which was intended to support disengaged and vulnerable high school students to re-engage in study.

Bell held a position at the helm of the Independent Learning Centre (ILC) in Mount Gambier, which he had helped establish in 2006.

The South East seat remains vacant following Bell's resignation in September, after the House Speaker chose not to hold a by-election due to proximity with the March 2026 state election.

New T/Cypriot leader, committed to a united Cyprus

A moderate candidate won Turkish Cypriot elections last week, defeating a hardliner in a pivotal vote that could help revive stalled U.N. talks on reunifying Cyprus.

Centre-left politician Tufan Erhurman sailed to victory with 62.8% of the vote from just over 218,000 registered voters, defeating incumbent Ersin Tatar on a platform of reinvigorating talks with Greek Cypriots on the future of Cyprus.

Erhurman, a lawyer, has pledged to explore a federal solution — long supported by the United Nations — to end the island's nearly 50-year division.

Tatar and Turkey, the only country which recognises breakaway North Cyprus, had backed a two-state policy, which has been ruled out by the international community. Tatar, who came to power in 2020, received 35.8% of the vote.

Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan congratulated Erhurman. "We will continue to defend the sovereign rights and interests of the Turkish Cypriots" Erdogan said in a post on X.

Cypriot President and Greek Cypriot leader Nikos Christodoulides also congratulated Erhurman, saying he was committed to resuming peace talks.



Newly elected Turkish Cypriot leader Tufan Erhurman

Cyprus was split in 1974 in a Turkish invasion triggered by a brief Greek-backed coup, which followed sporadic fighting after the breakdown of a power-sharing administration in 1963.

Tufan Erhurman is man-

dated to represent the Turkish Cypriot community in negotiations with Greek Cypriots, who represent Cyprus in the European Union and have a say in Turkey's aspirations to join the bloc.

Second butcher shop arson attack within two weeks

Investigations are continuing into an arson attack at Saray Market and Butchery, Torrensville, on Saturday 18 October that injured several people, including the suspects.

According to a South Australian Police report At 11.35am on Saturday 18 October, the suspects entered the Henley Beach Road business via the rear car park off Jervois Street, Torrensville, where they had been parked for about four minutes.

Two suspects exited the vehicle, one wearing a motorcycle helmet and the other a balaclava. One suspect was seen to have a red plastic jerry can and the other carried a Molotov cocktail. A short time later there was an explosion.

Six employees were in the store at the time. Two 24-year-old employees sustained burns and were admitted to hospital for treatment.

The three suspects left in a black Lexus station wagon, New South Wales registration DJ94PQ, which collided with a number of parked cars

on East Street as it fled the scene.

About midday on Saturday 18 October, emergency services were called to Blenheim Street, Angle Park where a 40-year-old man reported burn injuries from an alleged barbecue explosion. He was in hospital with serious injuries and police were waiting to interview the man.

The black Lexus was found abandoned in Danby Street, Torrensville, near Ashley Street, about midnight Saturday night and has been seized for forensic examination. It was reported stolen from a Findon address earlier this month.

This was not a random attack. Investigation is ongoing to determine if the incident relates to the illicit tobacco market or there is an alternative motive.

It comes after a separate butcher shop, Corinthian Meats, had its door smashed in and a fire lit inside on the same street earlier this month (picture).

The damage to the Saray Market building is approxi-



mately \$150,000.

Detective Chief Inspector Brett Featherby said that police believe they have identified the three suspects and are gathering evidence to charge those responsible for arson and acts to endanger life.

Police have collected a large amount of CCTV from various scenes which is continuing to be analysed.

Investigators are seeking any dash cam or CCTV footage from the public from Saturday 18 October in the vicinity of Henley Beach

Road, East Street and Danby Street at Torrensville.

Police would also like to know about the movements of the black Lexus SUV, registration DJ94PQ, since it was stolen on 5 October.

Police would also like any information on a black WRX seen meeting or travelling in convoy with the black Lexus on Saturday 18 October.

If anyone knows anything about this attack, or who might be involved can contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at www.crimestopperssa.com.au

Odyssey Festival a great success

The 18th Greek Odyssey Festival was officially launched on Friday the 3rd of October 2025 at the heart of Adelaide's Greek Community, the historic Olympic Hall. The event included music by a local Greek band, dancing by the GOCSA Dance Academy and the announcement of the three winners of the 2025 Art Prize.

In a moving ceremony, the President of the GOCSA together with the President of the Tramountanas North Association, Mr Ray North, unveiled the busts of South Australia's first Greek migrant George Tramountanas North and of his wife Lydia North.

On Sunday 5 October, Dr George Vassilacopoulos, a Senior Lecturer at La Trobe University, Melbourne, presented a lecture on the history of the Greek Community in Australia since the arrival of the first Greek

Community Life



migrants in the 1820's. The lecture, was presented as part of the Odyssey Festival, in both Greek and English. It was given on Sunday 5 October at the Adelaide Olympic Hall and well attended by about 100 community members. Dr Vassilacopoulos spoke about how the Greek migrants managed to build a strong presence in Australian life through their struggles for migrants rights, Indigenous

rights, by forming the Greek Communities which gave them representation and a voice in Australian politics and how they helped to build multiculturalism as the modern Australian way of life.

As part of the Greek Odyssey Festival, Prof. Andrekos Varnavas of the Flinders University, presented a lecture at the Cyprus Club on Sunday 12 October, on the history of Cyprus migration to

Australia.

Presented by the Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia, the 30th Greek Film Festival was launched on the 16th October at the NOVA Cinema, Prospect, celebrating three decades since the national event began. Opening film "Kapetan Mihalidis", a powerful historical drama based on Nikos Kazantzakis novel and directed by Kostas Haralambous, was screened at two cinemas simultaneously, attracting large crowds.

The Adelaide Greek Film Festival featured a total of six Greek films, between the 16th and the 19th of October.

Another Odyssey Festival event was, the new book launch by Panagiotis Mavraidis titled 'Messenger from Afar' on 8 October at the Olympic Hall.

Lastly, a series of cooking classes took place at the Panayia Hall by local identities teaching community members how to prepare loukoumades, galaktoboureko and "Daktila".

GREEK COMMUNITY TRIBUNE

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Cultural, social and political events in South Australia

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LEFT: The 18th Greek Odyssey Festival was officially launched on Friday the 3rd of October 2025 at the heart of Adelaide's Greek Community, the historic Olympic Hall. In the picture, amongst other guests, were, the Federal Member for Hindmarsh Steve Georganas MP, Olivia Savvas Member for Newland, Adelaide Councillor Mary Couros, West Torrens Mayor Michael Coxon, Councillor George Demeetriou and the President of the Cyprus Community Chris Ioannou

Tensions erupt at rallies across Australian capitals

Tensions have boiled over as anti-immigration and counter-protesters took to the streets of Melbourne and other capital cities for the second time in as many months, with two Victoria Police officers hospitalised following the protests.

Last week, hundreds of police officers, a group composed of both those in riot gear and mounted police, separated a March for Australia group estimated to be in the thousands, and a group of anti-racism protesters in Melbourne's centre.

March for Australia protesters were clad in Australian flags, with some waving anti-immigration banners.

In contrast, counter-protesters carried a range of banners and signs with anti-fascist and anti-racist slogans, while others waved Palestinian, Somali and Aboriginal flags.

A 30-year-old woman was arrested in Melbourne, with police deploying crowd control measures, including OC

(or pepper) spray, flash-bangs and rubber bullets during a tense stand-off with counter-protesters.

Counter-protesters marched towards Parliament House, with the two protest groups meeting at the northern end of the CBD, separated by police.

Loud bangs were heard and smoke was seen emanating from the middle of the protest groups, as demonstrators chanted slogans and held banners.

Crowds were eventually dispersed by riot police, who moved protest groups away from each other.

Victoria Police condemned the violence in the streets on Sunday, which saw a female sergeant and a male senior constable hospitalised with non-life-threatening injuries.

Commander Wayne Cheeseman said police officers were pelted with rocks, glass bottles and rotten fruit while trying to protect protesters and the community.

"This is what was thrown



at police today, and I think Melbourne has had a gutful," he said, showing a large rock to reporters.

It is the second such clash in as many months in Melbourne, after an initial round of March for Australia rallies was held across the country in August.

But across the city, ABC reporters noted lower turnouts for the March for Australia rallies this time around.

Matt Trihey, who spoke

at the March for Australia event in Melbourne, told rally attendees not to be disappointed by the turnout.

Mr Trihey, from the National Workers Alliance, a self-described movement "dedicated to the preservation of Western culture and identity", who he said organised today's rally in Melbourne.

He has previously claimed people with "European blood" face an "existential threat" from immigration.

Australia to Recognise World Greek Language Day

Federal Member for Adelaide, Steve Georganas MP, welcomes the Albanese Government's announcement that it will formally recognise World Greek Language Day during the upcoming UNESCO General Conference.

This recognition of February 9th as World Greek Language Day highlights the importance of the Greek language and culture and strengthens Australia's longstanding relationship with Greece.

Mr Georganas is a proud advocate for the Greek language and heritage, and he plays a key role in fostering ties between the Australian Government and Greece.

Greek is the sixth most spoken language in Australia, with approximately 229,000 speaking the language at home. This reflects the deep cultural ties and the enduring contribution of Greek Australians to the nation's multicultural identity.

Australia's recognition reflects the significant contribution of Greek tradition and culture to the nation's multicultural journey.

The UNESCO General Conference will be held from 30 October to 13 November at the Silk Road Samarkand Conference Centre.

Speaking to the Greek Tribune, Federal Member for Adelaide Steve Georganas welcomed the move.

"As someone deeply proud of my Greek heritage, I am honoured to see the language and culture that shaped my upbringing being recognised on the world stage. This is a moment of pride for the Greek Australians everywhere."

"Recognising World Greek Language Day is more than symbolic. It is a celebration of the enduring legacy of Greek culture and its contribution to modern Australia", Mr Gerganas said.



Federal Member for Adelaide, Steve Georganas MP

Expanded search for Gus ends with no new clues

As last week's renewed outback search for four-year-old Gus concluded, a missing persons advocate has spoken out about the emotional impact of such cases on all families who have experienced the disappearance of a loved one.

The fresh effort to discover clues about the boy's disappearance was launched south of Yunta in outback South Australia on Tuesday in "an expanded area outside of the zone already searched", police said.

SA Police said the renewed search had concluded, with the four-day operation equating to 95 square kilometres searched on foot.

"The original search area extended well beyond this with the use of the mounted operations unit and Polair. This area has been estimated at 470 square kilometres," SA Police said in a statement.

"The fact Gus is a small child, the terrain is extremely rugged, harsh

and subject to changing weather conditions has made the searching difficult and more challenging for those involved."

The search had been "one of the largest operations of its type conducted by SA Police", the statement said.

Police said further searches of the property would be considered in future as investigations continued under Task Force Horizon, a dedicated task force announced on Tuesday.

SA Premier Peter Malinauskas said his "thoughts are with Gus and his family".

"We would love to have resolution to this matter, but not any more than the family would themselves," he said on Friday.

The child has been missing since Saturday, September 27. He was last seen playing around 5 p.m. on a ridge near the house of the property, which spans about 6,000 hectares and is located about 43 kilometres south of Yunta.

Native mussel restoration project supported by Victor Harbor community

One of the first areas to be hit by South Australia's devastating algal bloom is looking towards recovery with plans to rebuild the population of native mussels in the waters of Encounter Bay.

In early March signs that something was wrong with South Australia's waters began appearing around Victor Harbor on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

In the months to come other beaches, including metropolitan ones, would be hit.

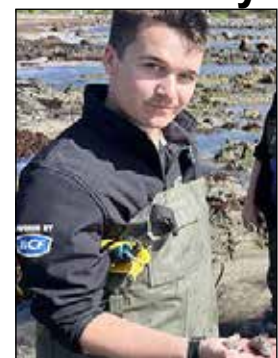
Now, as signs of healthy marine life return to Encounter Bay, a trial is planned to find out how to best boost native mussel numbers.

But it needs more long-term local knowledge from fishers, residents and holiday makers to fill in some information gaps.

Ozfish ecologist Brad Martin said there was a dearth of knowledge among researchers about the state's native mussels, so researchers were wanting to hear from people who know where beds are, or may have noticed them disappearing from certain areas around the bay.

"The information about where the mussel beds actually are, what their size is and their current condition, just isn't there," he said.

About eight native species are found in the Encounter Bay area, ranging from small intertidal mussels to larger subtidal species, but Mr Martin



said there was a lack of knowledge about them.

So this week he pulled on his waders to search for existing native mussel beds and where the different species grow.

He was joined by citizen scientist and Phytoplankton of South Australia volunteer Samantha Sea who had been taking and analysing water samples from the area for some time.

Ms Sea, who has a degree in physics, said she became involved with the mussel project to try and help fill in the knowledge gaps.

"We just don't know enough about our environment. We just don't know enough about what happens with the mussels, our native mussels," she said.

"So, worst case scenario, even if this [doesn't] work, we'll get so much more science and so much more information so we know what not to do next time."

Like oysters, Mr Martin said mussels intercepted nutrients in the water column and helped to filter algae in the water.