

MEDIA RELEASE

Centrelink seminars explain new Social Security Agreement with Greece

People who have worked in Greece may now qualify for an Australian Age Pension and/or a Greek old age pension under a new Social Security Agreement.

Centrelink is holding free community information seminars to explain how the new Agreement may benefit both new and existing customers.

Centrelink Financial Information Services Officer Evonne Kalafatas said the Agreement starts next month so it is important that people understand what their new entitlements might be.

“The seminars will be conducted in Greek, and we’ll explain the new agreement in simple, easy to understand terms,” Evonne said.

“Some people may be eligible to combine periods of Australian residence with Greek periods of insurance, and qualify for payment from either or both countries.”

The Agreement allows for an Australian Age Pension claim to be lodged in Greece and a Greek old age pension claim to be lodged in Australia at any Centrelink office.

“During October, Centrelink will send Greek claim forms to customers whose records show they may



have an entitlement, but we welcome people to the seminars to also help answer any questions they might have,” Evonne said.

For more information about claiming a Greek or Australian pension, people can contact Centrelink on 13 1202 to speak to us in Greek, or 13 1673 for English. A fact sheet titled Social Security Agreement between Australia and Greece is also available in both languages from Centrelink’s website at www.centrelink.gov.au.

CENTRELINK INFORMATION SEMINARS
Sutherland District Trade Unions Club, 57 Manchester Rd, Gymea NSW
Wednesday, 10 September 2008, at 10.30am to

1.30pm
Botany RSL, 1421 Botany Rd, Botany NSW
Friday, 12 September 2008, at 10.30am to 1.30pm and 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Canterbury – Hurlstone Park RSL, 20 – 26 Canterbury Rd, Hurlstone Park NSW
Thursday, 11 September 2008, at 10.30am to 1.30pm and 6.30pm – 9.30 pm

Canterbury Leagues Club, 26 Bridge St, Belmore NSW

Tuesday, 16 September 2008, at 10.30am to 1.30pm and 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Greek Orthodox Community of NSW, 206 – 210 Lakemba St, Lakemba NSW

Wednesday, 17 September 2008, at 7pm to 10pm
St George Leagues Club, 124 Princes Highway Kogarah NSW

Thursday, 18 September 2008, at 10.30am to 1.30pm and 6.30pm to 9.30pm

North Sydney Leagues Club, 12 – 20 Abbott St, Cammeray NSW

Monday, 22 September 2008, at 10.30am to 1.30pm

CHILDREN COOK, SING, DANCE & PLAY FOR PEACE

Of all Sydney’s many qualities there is none more deservedly celebrated than our cultural diversity.

This is particularly important as we’ve just taken part in the world’s most recognised event of international collaboration; the Olympics. So, whether Macedonian, Chinese, Irish or Sudanese; whether Christian, Buddhist, Muslim or Hindu – finally, kids can celebrate a day to be just themselves; the vibrant and diverse children of Australia.

The annual Children’s Festival celebrates its 10th anniversary on Saturday 20 September 2008 at Paul Keating Park, Bankstown. After months of planning and preparation, the best-ever kid’s festivity is anticipated, with a line up of new activities, exciting games and performances, and special guest appearances.

The Children’s Festival has grown steadily over its decade long history, from a local event to the phenomenal success it is today. The Festival extends its invite to the whole Australian community as a unique celebration of both the diversity and unity of our multicultural society. This year, a crowd of 18,000 is expected to join the celebration.

On its 10th Birthday, the Chil-

dren’s Festival will offer all the familiarity of its regular features to ensure all guests, including children, parents, families and friends from all over Sydney’s suburbs are kept entertained from the 10.30am start till the fireworks finale at 7pm.

New on the list of activities, Red Lantern’s chef extraordinaire, Luke Nguyen will pull out his rice paper rolls, vermicelli and a secret hoisin sauce recipe, adding a cultural twist to Kid’s Fresh & Healthy Cooking activity. Children and parents are invited to take part in this newest addition which showcases delightful dishes from different cultures. To add excitement, kids may even be lucky enough to appear as Chef’s Little Helpers on Channel 9’s Fresh Cooking Show as TV Chef Michael Moore will be making a special appearance – as will Humphrey B. Bear!

Guests will be kept on the edge of their seats whilst some of the most amazing sporting youngsters battle it out for the winner’s title at the inaugural Junior Table Tennis Competition Final to be held on the day.

Another unique and memorable feature is the Children’s Parade at 2pm; where kids from all cultural groups, dress in their traditional costumes to march around the Town Hall, in a parade showcasing the diversity



and beauty of our nation.

Kids and their parents can also master their lantern-making craft during the day and showcase their work in the Lantern Parade which illuminates the park upon sunset.

The Children’s Festival Organisation is a non-profit organisation which seeks to promote social and cultural acceptance in order to develop a more socially cohesive and tolerant Australian community.

The Festival depends on the support of all its sponsors and volunteers. Our major sponsors are; Bankstown City Council, Bankstown Sports Club, Canterbury-Bankstown Express, Nine Network Australia, Department of Community Services, Community Relations Commission and National Australia Bank.

Library gives students a head start on HSC

Students facing HSC exams can get a head start in preparing for them during the October school holidays by attending HSC Homework Help sessions at Marrickville Library.

Assistance will be available from experienced tutors in Mathematics ranging from General Mathematics through to Extension Mathematics on Wednesday 1 October from 1.30pm-4.30pm, and on Wednesday 8 October from 1.30pm-4.30pm.

Students unable to attend these sessions can still access help through the free online tutoring service, yourtutor. The service is available Monday to Friday from 4pm to 8pm, covering all subjects including science. To access this service visit Marrickville Council’s website at www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au and click on the Library menu tab.

The Library also holds a range of resources to help students during their HSC preparations, including past exam papers.

For Homework Help bookings and for information about the services for students call Marrickville Library Service on 9335 2173. Marrickville Library is located on the corner of Marrickville Road and Petersham Road, Marrickville.

www.marrickville.nsw.gov.au