



AUS: Homeless to get cooking lessons

A second cooking class for the homeless was conducted in Sydney yesterday (June 24) by Greekalicious, in conjunction with Mission Australia.

Maria Benardis, the Greekalicious cooking school founder, is running the class the Mission Australia Centre in Surry Hills.

She showed homeless people how to prepare popular Greek dishes including Mousaka, a Baklava dessert with honeyed yoghurt, and a salad.

Best of all for the homeless, the class was invited to a sit-down lunch to enjoy the dishes the class have made.



Greek journalist arrested in Tehran

Reuters reports today that a Greek journalist covering the Iranian election turmoil for the Washington Times was arrested in Tehran.

There were conflicting accounts of the circumstances. A friend of Iason Athanasiadis told the British news agency that the journalist was detained three days ago on charges of "illegal activities."

But Iranian authorities told Greece that Athanasiadis exceeded the duration of his visa, according to a Greek official who declined to be named. The official told Reuters that the arrest was made five days ago.

Word of the arrest came as about 250 people staged a rally in solidarity with the protesters in Iran in Athens' Syntagma Square, AP reports.

At least 26 journalists have been arrested in Iran since the disputed June 12 election, according to the Paris-based media watchdog.

Traders unanimous - development 'long overdue'

RELIEF Shoes owner **Frank Zervas** (pictured) has been crafting shoes by hand at his shop in Station St, Marrickville, for more than a decade. He said the council's plans were long overdue.

"This place looks terrible," he said, pointing to uneven road surfaces, large potholes and public areas covered in graffiti. "Illawarra Rd and Marrickville (train) station is the worst place in the world. We need more people here because business is dying. There's not enough people and they are going to the city and (Marrickville) Metro."

Mr Zervas said zoning controls that allowed more development near the station would enliven the area.

"More people, more money, it's commonsense," he said.

In Dulwich Hill, two new business owners near the train station say the area is ripe for renewal. Figen Karacete opened a new cafe and kebab shop about six weeks ago and welcomed the proposed changes: "It's got potential because it's close to the (train) station." Vince Irace recently bought the old Cafe Bobo site, re-naming it Caffe Latte.



"There is some potential because there's nothing here," he said. "There's a lot of people and apartments but there are no other shops in the area."

Centenary of a hero from Greece

STAVROS Lambropoulos was in such high spirits when he celebrated his 100th birthday that he broke into song.

His favourite traditional Greek folk songs are a reminder of his past.

Mr Lambropoulos, who lives in Illawong, was born in Messinia on May 10, 1909.

He migrated to Australia with his wife Sofia and their children Maria and Peter in 1953.

The family lived first in Surry Hills after he found work with the Water Board.

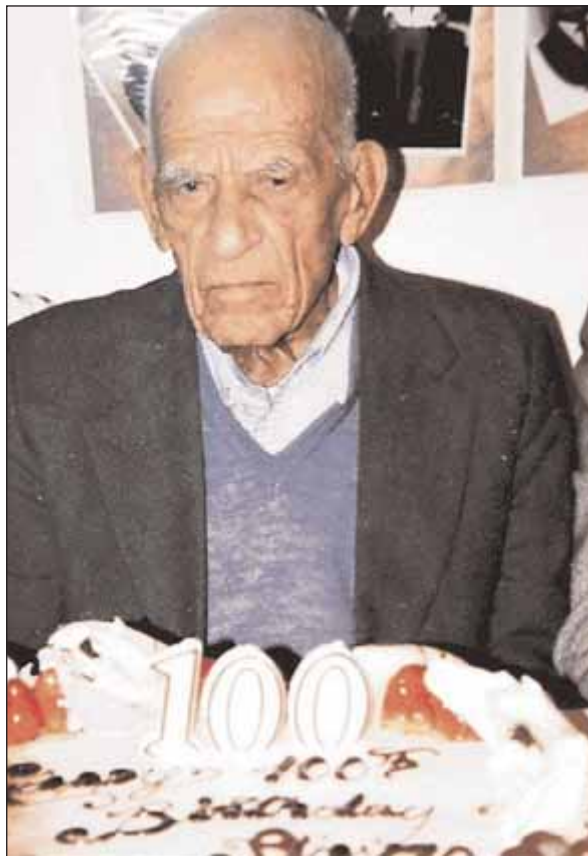
Then they moved to Banksia, where they owned a take-away and mixed business shop.

Their next move was to Punchbowl, where Mr Lambropoulos worked for the RTA until he retired.

In 1989, he moved to Illawong with his wife, who died in 1996.

His failing health has kept Mr Lambropoulos home of late, but he was for years a familiar figure at the shops, where he bought his groceries and the papers.

Mr Lambropoulos celebrated his 100th



Long journey: Stavros Lambropoulos celebrated his 100th birthday with 50 of his family and friends.

birthday surrounded by five grandchildren and members of his family, six great-grandchildren which now extends to dren.



Pack away the woollens this winter

Pack away those woollens - most of Australia is in for a mild winter. The Bureau of Meteorology has issued its national forecast for July to September, and winter days are tipped to be warmer than usual.

This is because the Indian and Pacific Oceans are heating up. But Victoria, Tasmania and the country's far north will miss out on the balmy weather and are in for average temperatures.

Winter nights are tipped to be a little warmer than usual across much of the country. Much of the country is likely to be dry rather than wet this winter.

Greece urges Australia not to shift its stance on name

The Australian Hellenic Diaspora will urge Australia, which recognizes Skopja by interim reference FYROM, not to change its position on the name. Members of the Australian Hellenic Diaspora had their first official meeting on Tuesday with the country's new foreign minister and inner cabinet members.

They requested that Australia's position on FYROM name issue remains unchanged." The members of the Australian Hellenic Council also protested against the recent "demonstration by the members of the FYROM community in Melbourne during which the Greeks were presented as fascists and the Greek cross on the Greek flag was replaced by a swastika.