

# ALP NATIONAL CONFERENCE SUPPORTS JUSTICE FOR CYPRUS

Amanda Fazio MLC yesterday said that she was proud to have moved a resolution calling for justice for Cyprus at last weekend's ALP National Conference.

"Just one week after Cypriots across Australia demonstrated peacefully for Justice for Cyprus, the ALP National Conference reaffirmed the Labor Party's support for a just settlement of the Cyprus problem" Amanda Fazio said.

**"When moving the resolution, I drew inspiration from Bob Hawke's comments earlier in the day on the Labor Party's role in bringing to an end the vicious, unfair and unethical apartheid regime in South Africa.**

Ms Fazio said that the comments of Foreign Minister Stephen Smith on 11 March this year

had also reaffirmed the Labor Party's position on Cyprus. Mr Smith stated, "The relationship between Australia and Cyprus, of course, is underpinned by Australia's longstanding contribution to seeking to find an enduring and durable settlement to the Cyprus problem. It's also why we are very strong supporters of the current peace and settlement processes and talks."

Ms Fazio said that both the Australian and New South Wales Governments support the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and recognise the Republic as the only legitimate authority on the island. Ms Fazio said that those fighting for Justice for Cyprus must be vigilant and that the views of apologists for the actions of the Turkish Government must be rejected.

"Until Cyprus is reunified and the fate of the 1619 Greek Cypriots missing since the Turkish invasion is known, the fight for justice must continue.

ALP National Conference Resolution on Cyprus Labor will work to facilitate a just settlement of the Cyprus problem, based on UN resolutions respecting sovereignty, independence and the territorial integrity of Cyprus, and resulting in the demilitarisation and reunification of the island for the benefit of its entire people.

Labor welcomes the resumption of full fledged negotiations between Dimitris Christofias and Mehmetali Talat under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary General with the intention of reaching these aims.

## BUYER BEWARE OF ONLINE CAR SALES

Fair Trading Minister Virginia Judge is warning car buyers to exercise caution when buying vehicles online.

Ms Judge said consumers should be aware that the legal safeguards for people who deal through licensed motor traders don't cover private sales.

"For private sales, the old axiom - buyer beware - still applies," she said.

"Buying a car privately involves relying on your own judgement and knowledge. You can arrange for a vehicle inspection at your own cost but there are no statutory warranties.

"First and foremost - make sure the car actually exists!"

Ms Judge urged consumers to make sure the vehicle was not encumbered, stolen or de-registered.

"This is the buyer's responsibility," she said.

"Do a Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS) check because, statistically, there is a one in five chance vehicles offered for private sale in NSW will be carrying a debt for which the new owner could become liable.

"A REVS Search Certificate gives full legal protection against repossession by a financier due to the previous owner's debt."

Always ask the seller for and note down:

- the current certificate of registration;
- a pink slip which is no more than 42 days old;

• proof that the person selling the car is the owner eg. a sales receipt or driver's license to help identify the seller;

- the registration number;
- the engine number; and
- the VIN (vehicle identification number) or chassis number.

"Most importantly, ensure the information shown in the paperwork matches what is on the actual car," Ms Judge said.

"The RTA offers a Vehicle History Check so you can find out if a car has been written off in NSW or interstate.

"They also provide a free registration check that will give you basic information about a vehicle's registration and CTP insurance status."

Minister for Fair Trading Virginia Judge MP



## Aussie's lightning photo becomes the face of Bing

Sydney graphic designer Jeremy Somers has beaten 10,000 entrants from around the world to win a Microsoft Bing photo competition in the US.

His dramatic image of a lightning strike cracking through the Sydney skyline was taken during a summer storm and was announced as the

winner of Bing's "summer themed" competition.

As part of the prize, the photo will be displayed on the today across Australia, US, Germany and France.

In order to enter the competition, amateur photographers submitted their photos to a Facebook profile. Social networkers then voted on which picture they liked the best.

Somers said he was surprised his

photo was chosen as the winner. "I got a message saying it had been picked in the top eight photos and I thought: 'Wow that's great,' " he said.

Somers was told about the competition through a friend who insisted he should consider placing an entry. To capture the image, Somers says he spent four hours in the rain at his grandmother's apartment in Potts Point and took about 700 photographs.

"I wasn't just waiting for the one shot. There was such a big storm going on and I really enjoyed watching it," he said. "I've been doing this for quite a few years."

Somers said he had entered a few photo competitions in the past, but had never won anything like this.

"I studied photography and ran a bit of a freelance business, but nothing that was really professional," he said. "Now I just do it as a hobby."

Somers says he had a lot of requests from people for a copy of the winning picture, which can be obtained from his website.

Article from Sydney Morning Herald

## Ex-Greek junta minister dies at 90

ATHENS, Greece — Nikolaos Makarezos, one of the leaders of the military dictatorship that ruled Greece from 1967-1974, has died at age 90, according to media reports. Makarezos, the junta's chief economic policymaker who served as deputy prime minister and minister for coordination under dictator George Papadopoulos, died Monday, the respected To Vima daily and a major Web site reported Wednesday, without citing sources. He was buried in Athens on Tuesday, they reported.

Greek government and military officials could not immediately be reached for comment. Makarezos was arrested after the fall of the right-wing dictatorship in 1974 and sentenced to death for treason — a sentence later commuted to life imprisonment. He was released in 1990 because of poor health.

Together with Papadopoulos and Stylianos Pattakos, Makarezos was a ringleader of the military coup that seized power in a bloodless coup on April 21, 1967.