

Weekly english section published by Kosmos Newspaper • phone: (02) 9550 1088 • fax: (02) 9550 1699

Fireworks Seized

Federal Member for Blaxland, Jason Clare MP and State Member for Bankstown Tony Stewart MP, welcomed the seizure of a record number of fireworks in our local area and the arrest of an alleged fireworks dealer.

“We had a win in August this year with the decision of the ACT Government to ban the sale of fireworks to the public, but what this seizure shows is that there is still a huge stockpile of illegal fireworks out there,” Mr Clare said.

“We’ve turned off the tap by

getting the sale of fireworks banned in the ACT, now we have to get the ones still out there off the street,” Mr Clare said.

“Although we have managed to stop the sale of fireworks there is still a stockpile of fireworks that may be used illegally in the short term. Bankstown Police advises me that they will be absolutely vigilant in terms of their local enforcement of illegal fireworks in the upcoming festive period,” Mr Stewart said.

Mr Clare and Mr Stewart congratulated local police and

encouraged local residents to call Bankstown Police on 9707 5299 to report the illegal use of fireworks in their area.

Anyone caught buying and using fireworks without a NSW WorkCover permit risked an on-the-spot fine of up to \$1000 from Police officers and WorkCover inspectors.

In addition, the courts can impose substantial penalties including up to \$27,500 or up to 12 months jail, for handling fireworks without a licence.

JASON CLARE MP TONY STEWART MP
Member for Blaxland Member for Bankstown



Greek children also among the abused in state orphanages

Greek children in Australia that ended up in orphanages and state institutions during the 50ies, 60ies and 70ies, were sexually exploited from some employees of those institutions according to expat lawyer Angela Sdrinis, who has defended over 700 such individuals over the course of fifteen years.

“Those children.. came out with unhealed wounds. The abuse those children underwent destroyed them forever. Today, decades on, they are standing up for their rights. In many cases, my team and I are the first people they tell everything.”

Earlier on this year Prime Minister Kevin Rudd, apologized to hundreds of thousands of people who had been wrongly taken care of, or abused, within the state institutions, whilst he referred to the loss of these children's years as a “tragedy”.

At least 500,000 “forgotten Australians” had been abused or abandoned in orphanages and institutions for poor children between 1930 and 1970.

SENIORS OF GREEK ORIGIN CELEBRATE

More than 50 seniors of Greek origin from Eastern Sydney segregated at the rooftop/garden of the Waverley Council building in Bondi Junction for an information session and the Christmas party that followed.

The Greek Social Support Group named “Hope” has been meeting at the premises of the Council for over 4 years and it is being auspiced by the Eastern Sydney Multicultural Project, a program operated by the Ethnic Child Care, Family and Community Services Cooperative Limited. The first part of the gathering referred to planning for next year regarding bus outings, information sessions on unmet needs of the aged and better usage of the facilities. The information session was presented by the Multicultural Officer of ESMAP Mr. Bill Gonopoulos and the Seniors Coordinator of the Waverley Council Ms Antoinette Pereira. Following the info session, the group members had the time to interact, to discuss various issues of concern and made a pledge to continue their meetings and outings next year. Refreshments were provided by ESMAP and at the conclusion of the function every group member received a small Christmas gift. In sum, it was a great day for our seniors and an apt opportunity to escape isolation, which is one of the basic aims of the project.

Small school shines spotlight on Greek culture

GREECE is the word for students at the Zenon Education Centre in Caulfield South. The small language school opened in February and hopes to attract more students next year. Centre principal Andrea Garivaldis said the not-for-profit organisation taught 30 pupils. “We teach children about the Greek language and culture so it can continue in future generations,” she said.

“We help them learn to appreciate and maintain their Greek identity.” The school caters for children in prep to year 12 and has four teachers on staff.

Article from the caulfield-glen-eira-leader



Zenon Education Centre students Penny and Lucia in traditional Greek dress.
PIC: JASON SAMMON

HELLSOC 35 YEAR ANNIVERSARY BALL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NSW
HELLENIC SOCIETY

is organising its

35th Anniversary Ball

to be held at

The Grand Roxy

Level 1, 128 The Grand Parade
Brighton Le Sands

on **Friday 18th December 2009**

from 7 pm

RSVP: 0405 222 799
James Theodoropoulos

Melbourne's mayors of Greek origin

Steve Staikos and Mary Lalios, both of Greek origin, have occupied the Mayor positions of Kingston and Whittlesea, respectively. Ms Lalios, who was already Mayor, was re-elected to the seat, whereas for 26-year old Steve Staikos, it is the first time he is taking on the post. Elections are also taking place in the suburbs of Moreland and Monash, of which expats Lambros Tapinos and Paul Klissaris have been the mayors.

Source: ana-mpa

