

YOUTH HARMONY FESTIVAL 2010

NSW Attorney General, John Hatzistergos, urged young people from all backgrounds to attend the 2010 Youth Harmony Festival to help strengthen and promote cultural and religious ties across the community.

The festival, being held this Sunday at Darling Harbour's Tumbalong Park, is an opportunity for young people to build community ties by engaging in activities that promote a better understanding of cultural and religious diversity in an Australian context.

"Our Indigenous culture together with waves of migration have brought different languages, different practices, and different religions together to make Sydney one of the most interesting and vibrant places in the world," Mr Hatzistergos said.

"This festival is all about helping us understand what we have in common as Australians and to respect each other's religious and ethnic backgrounds so that we continue to forge a harmonious society."

Mr Hatzistergos said the day will be filled with cultural activities, food stalls, music, performances, workshops and sports.

It is expected that between 5,000 and 10,000 people will participate in the event across the day to celebrate traditions from Europe, Asia, Africa, South America, the Pacific, the Middle East and Indigenous Australia.

"Some of the performances will have a basis in religious practices and traditions enabling one to see the sincerity and reverence that is common to all worshippers."

"I encourage all young people to

attend the festival to make meaningful contacts and reflect on how important some cultural traditions are to your neighbours, just as your own are to you."

The festival will commence 11.00am and finish at 4pm. The event is being organised by the Multicultural Youth Network of the Community Relations Commission of NSW and is also supported by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship.

For more information about the event please visit www.crc.nsw.gov.au or contact the Community Relations Commission of NSW on 8255 6767.

**Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Citizenship
Minister for Regulatory Reform**



GREEK AUSTRALIAN CONSERVATIVE COALITION(GACC):

Lunch function organised by the GACC

On Sunday The 14th of March the GACC held a successful lunch function attended by 120 guests who came to hear the special guest Arthur Sinodinos former Chief of Staff to Australian Prime Minister John Howard & current National Australia Bank executive. Mr Sinodinos discussed Federal & State politics, the Australian economy, ethnika themata of Greece & Cyprus in addition to some personal experiences as John Howards chief of staff and concluded with some Q&A with the guests.

The guests also heard from GACC President Yianni Kallimanis who stressed the importance of the Greek Australian community getting more organised and active in the political spectrum on both a State & National level, finally David Clarke MLC who has been a strident supporter of the Greek Australian community in the NSW Parliament gave a moving speech on the importance of family values and small business to Australia while also discussing the Pontian genocide and continued occupation of northern Cyprus.

Over \$18,000 was raised on the day with gener-

ous donations made during the GACC Prize Auction especially from businessman George Thomas.

On Tuesday The 16th of March a delegation from the GACC executive committee will be spending a working day at NSW parliament house meeting with members of the Liberal and National party including the leadership of both parties.

In addition to briefing them on the establishment of the GACC its Goals, Vision and supporters, the GACC delegation will also discuss an array of issues concerning Economic and Social policy in NSW.

The GACC was established to support Liberal/National candidates that hold to the principles of The GACC through fundraising and grass roots political activism, the GACC also aims to promote closer diplomatic and economic ties between The Commonwealth of Australia, The Hellenic Republic, Republic of Cyprus and European Union and to advocate for various issues of importance to over 250,000 Australian residents of NSW with Hellenic heritage.

NSW Government's Workplace Safety Message goes 'Multicultural'

Minister for Finance Michael Daley today launched a wide-ranging WorkCover campaign – by sending a vital safety message in 13 languages to the state's large ethnic and Indigenous workforce.

Mr Daley said the NSW Government's 'Homecomings' Advertising Campaign had been translated into more than double the languages than previous campaigns. "However you say it, safety means the same thing in any language. This is the message we want to get through to every worker in NSW - whatever language they speak at home," he said.

"WorkCover's communications campaign will target workers from the African, Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Indian, Indonesian, Italian, Pakistani, Spanish, Sri Lankan, Turkish and Vietnamese communities in their own languages, and also the Indigenous community.

"Everyone has a right to return home safely at the end of the working day, but in 2007-08, a total of 30,000 workers didn't.

"Over that 12 months period, 53 workers were killed and 29,947 were seriously injured at work.

"We want to make NSW workplaces the safest in the world - and the figures show we're making progress - but we believe we can do even better with the help of the families of workers.

"Over the next four months the WorkCover Homecomings campaign will aim to enlist not just workers, but also their families, in a major effort to reduce workplace injury and death.

"Research shows that family members play a vital role in influencing their husband or wife, father or mother, son or daughter, sister or brother to heed the safety message.

"They make a valuable, but often unrecognised contribution when seeing their loved ones off to work, asking how the day went over the evening meal or discussing concerns they may have about their workplace.

"Family members are major 'influencers' in the lives of workers, so this latest WorkCover Homecomings campaign will seek to recruit them to reinforce the workplace safety message. "To make sure the workplace safety message hits both work and home WorkCover will also distribute thousands of copies of Come Home Safely kits to employers and at community centres. "The campaign runs from March 1st to June 27th 2010, targeting blue collar males aged 35-49 years working in construction, the trades and trucking - and, of course, their families," said Mr Daley.