

Kalo Pashcha!

Once again Greek Easter is upon us and we celebrate one of the most looked forward dates on the calendar for Australia's local Greek community.

It is at this special time when the family gathers together that the Australian Cancer Research Foundation (ACRF) asks the community to take a brief moment to think of those that we may have lost or who are suffering from the devastating effects of cancer.

As the incidence of cancer increases for

ple with Greek heritage).

This Centre funded by a \$2.5 million ACRF grant houses an Australian first - a cutting edge facility which will enable researchers to examine new aspects of cancer biology in order to understand how our genes influence resistance in some people to cancer treatment drugs.

Mr Tom Dery, Chairman of the Foundation when he presented the cheque for \$2.5 million said "Eventually this work will lead to more effective, personalised treatments for cancer patients. Significantly, this facility will be available to cancer researchers across Australia, meaning your donations are having an even greater impact than you may think".

ACRF Chief Executive David Brettell had a specific message for Australia's Greek community

"We thank you so much for your continuing support of the Australian Cancer Research Foundation. We are making good progress in the fight to overcome cancer but, as you know, we can't do it alone," he said.

"You can help by making a donation online at www.acrf.com.au, or by phone on 1300 884 988. Every dollar of every donation received by the ACRF goes to cancer research. That is our promise to you, our valued Greek supporters so please enjoy and give thanks this Easter.

"On behalf of cancer patients present and future, we thank you for your wonderful generosity and say Kalo Pashcha!"



all Australians, we need more than ever to continue our investment in breakthrough cancer research. Why? Because our results are making a difference to people's lives not just in Australia but around the world.

Just two weeks ago we were privileged to open the ACRF Centre for Cancer Genomics at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre in Melbourne (a town many people jokingly call one of the biggest Greek cities in the world given its high percent of peo-

Centrelink payments not delayed over Easter or ANZAC Day

Centrelink has made special arrangements to ensure customers receive their payments on time over the Easter period and ANZAC Day.

Centrelink Area Manager Alison Frame said all Centrelink offices will be closed on Friday 2 April, Monday 5 April and Monday 26 April.

"Customers who need to lodge forms or report earnings to receive a Centrelink payment should carefully check the reporting dates that appear on their form or reporting statement because it may be earlier than usual," Ms Frame said.

"If lodging or reporting early, you must include an estimate of your earnings for the full period. If the amount has been estimated incorrectly, you can correct the details within

14 days, or on your next form.

"Forms can also be returned after the reporting period to ensure earnings or other changes are correct. Remember that forms must be returned before any payments can be made.

"Some payments will be made early if they fall on a public holiday to ensure that no payments are delayed.

"Centrelink does not want to disrupt customers' regular budgeting patterns, so early payments will be made as few working days before normal payment day as possible," Ms Frame said.

"It's important that customers understand this is not an extra payment - it's their normal payment, which will not be paid again until their next usual payday, so they need to carefully budget if receiving an early payment.

"Customers still need to let Centrelink know if their circumstances change during this period. If they do not tell Centrelink about changes to their circumstances and are overpaid, they will have to repay the money."

For more information about payment arrangements over Easter and ANZAC Day, visit www.centrelink.gov.au or call your regular '13' payment number.



Celebrate Greek National Day

Marrickville Council Library will celebrate Greek National Day on Thursday 25 March from 11.00am - 2.00pm.

March 25 marks the beginning of the War of Independence of Greece from the Ottoman Empire in 1821. The Greeks fought against the Turkish, who had occupied their country for the previous 400 years, until part of modern Greece was liberated and declared an independent nation. The War of Independence lasted nine years from 1821 - 1829. The Day is celebrated around the world to commemorate Greece's historic struggle for national independence in the 1800s. The Greek population represents one of the largest ethnic groups in Marrickville. It's important to recognise the rich contribution the Greek culture makes to the Marrickville community.

The celebration will include traditional music by local resident Evaggelos Papageorgiou, and songs and poems by the Greek Pensioners Group. Paintings by Greek artist Theo Deligiorgis will be on display, portraying many themes in various styles.

Greek artefacts such as pottery, statues, symbols and memorabilia from the 2004 Greek Olympics will be presented by members of the Greek Pensioners Group; Mersina Ntziaferis, Maria Laris and Sophie Tsouglis. A talk on 'The Greek War of Independence in 1821' will be presented in Greek, by Council's Multicultural Services Officer Dimitri Symeonidis.

No bookings are required and all are welcome.

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