



The 28th Greek Festival of Sydney proudly presents

DANCE!

Dance has always played an important role in Greek life. It is an expression of human feelings and everyday life.

The Greeks danced at religious festivals, ceremonies; they danced to ensure fertility; to prepare for war and to celebrate victories; they danced at weddings; to overcome depression and to cure physical illness.

Almost every dance has a story to tell.

Take a journey through time with DANCE! Experience a dance extravaganza showcasing a wide vari-

ety of Greek dancing and costumes as well as exploring the evolution and influences Greek dancing has undergone in the Australian performing landscape from the 1960's till the present day.

Veteran dance instructor Paroula Thurban and her dancers will present an unforgettable event of modern and traditional Greek dance combined with costume to entertain the audience.

A unique performance not to be missed!

Date Sunday 30 May 2010
Time 2.00pm



Venue Greek Community Club of NSW, 206-210 Lakemba Street, Lakemba
Cost Free Entry
Contact (02) 9750 0440
Language Greek Dance with English narration
www.greekfestivalofsydney.com.au



New frogs and geckos and pigeons

FINDING a new animal species is a special moment for scientists and even better when one hops into their mountain camp and volunteers to be discovered.

An international team of researchers was camping in the Foja mountains of Indonesia when herpetologist Paul Oliver spied a frog sitting on a bag of rice in the campsite. On closer look it turned out to be a previously unknown type of long-nosed frog. The scientists dubbed it Pinocchio, after a Walt Disney cartoon character. When the frog is calling, its nose points upwards, but it deflates when it is less active.

"We were sitting around eating lunch," recalled Smithsonian Institution ornithologist Chris Milensky. Oliver "looked down and there's this little frog on a rice sack, and he managed to grab the thing."

"Herpetologists (experts in snakes, lizards etc.) have good reflexes," Milensky observed. "He also caught a gecko, he managed to just jump and grab the thing" off a tree.

And mister long nose is not all they found.

Overcoming torrential rain and floods, the researchers report finding the smallest kangaroo yet, a big woolly rat, a three-toned pigeon and a gargoyle-like, bent-toed gecko with yellow eyes.

The Foja Mountains are in the western side of the island of New Guinea, a part of Indonesia that has been little visited by scientists over the years.

So the environmental group Conservation International, with the support of the National Geographic Society and Smithsonian Institution, began investigating the area. The results of their 2008 expedition were announced May 17. Milensky said the expedition was incredibly difficult.

"It was extremely wet, heavy downpours every day," he said. "The camp just turned into a complete mud bog."

Kristofer M Helgen, curator of mammals at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, said one of the most amazing animals the researchers observed was the rare golden-mantled tree kangaroo.

Most people think of kangaroos as creatures that live on the flatlands of Australia, he said, but this one has adapted to forest life.

"It can jump into a tree and scurry right up it," Helgen said. "But on the ground it hops around like any kangaroo."

While that kangaroo had been observed rarely before, Helgen also discovered what may be the smallest known member of the kangaroo family, a tiny wallaby that also has adapted to forest life. New Guinea and Australia were once connected and so have similar life forms, but they have adapted differently in each place, he explained.

Randolphe Schmid, AP

An old boy praises great place to live

CELEBRITY mortgage broker Mark Bouris has endorsed Canterbury - Bankstown for its real estate value. He should know. The Wizard Home Loans founder-owner grew up in Punchbowl, spending the first 18 years of his life in Leigh Ave (now part of Roselands), where he was neighbours with stage performer Rhonda Burchmore.

The son of Greek immigrants Mr Bouris said the Canterbury - Bankstown area's assets were its facilities.

"First thing, it's got a lot of infrastructure", he said.

"There's shops and bus services and there's a lot of good schools.

"There's a lot of good infrastructure around it, so I think any area that has good infrastructure commands good prices and the prices aren't ridiculously unaffordable. So I guess it's no surprise it's doing well.

"You don't look like a name for real estate like Killara or Baulkham Hills or Potts Point.

"The areas that do well are areas close to schools and parks".

A former representative rugby league player who played for Canterbury Bulldogs in the S.G. Ball side (he was named best and fairest in 1971), Mr Bouris said he had no interest in the financial world until family prodding led to him to do a commerce degree.

"Mum dragged me to enrol when I finished my HSC", he said.

"All I wanted to do was be a brickie's labourer and play footy, and my mum took me to the uni and said:



"You're going there". I did the degree and I did quite well".

The father of four and former Benilde High School, Bankstown, student finds occasional time to return to his old suburb with his children for "sentimental reasons" when he finds time between heading Wizard and The Yellow Brick Road wealth management, which he started two years ago.

He moved to Bondi when he was 17 to be closer to the University of NSW before purchasing his first home at Sylvania when he was 25.

Article by Joanne Vella - from theexpress