

# 29th Greek Festival of Sydney



One of the largest and longest running annual cultural festivals in Australia launches on the foreshores of Darling Harbour on the weekend of the 26th and 27th of March. The 29th annual Greek Festival of Sydney will kick off its two month long cultural event program with a two day celebration at Darling Harbour. Bring your family, bring your appetites and bring your dancing shoes for two days of music, fine food, Greek festivities and plenty of activities for the children. Entry is free of charge for all.

This is the perfect way to celebrate the vibrant multiculturalism of Sydney and to explore the beauty of Greek culture.

From 3pm Saturday the Festival will feature international performers, the best local contemporary youth music acts and Greek dancing groups, children's activities, musical performances, mouth watering Greek delicacies and special guests.

From 10am Sunday, the Greek Orthodox Community of New South Wales will celebrate Greek Independence Day with a traditional parade through Darling Harbour from Pyrmont Bridge to Tumbalong Park, followed by a full day of traditional and contemporary Greek entertainment. The highlights for the day apart from the food, coffee, family atmosphere and friendly crowds are the live music by our long line-up of local and international quality acts.

**WHAT:** Greek Festival of Sydney

**WHEN:** Saturday March 26, 3pm-11pm  
Sunday March 27, 10am-10pm

**WHERE:** Darling Harbour, Tumbalong Park Sydney

Welcome to Australia's leading multicultural festival, where everyone is invited to celebrate and ex-



plore the beauty of Greek culture through the arts, history, entertainment and food.

The Darling Harbour celebration will kick off the two month long Greek Festival of Sydney with over 20 events scheduled on this year's program, showcas-

ing the depth and diversity of the Greek Culture in Australia.

For more information into the program and to book tickets to selected events, please visit [www.greekfestivalofsydney.com.au](http://www.greekfestivalofsydney.com.au)

## ANZAC Day care packages for our troops overseas

Minister for Defence Materiel and Member for Blaxland, Jason Clare MP, has encouraged the local community to support our troops serving overseas by sending them care packages this ANZAC Day.

"ANZAC Day is a day to remember the sacrifices our troops have made for our nation. It is also a day for us to show support to our troops currently serving overseas," Mr Clare said. "We are all proud of the work the men and women of the Australian Defence Force do in places like East Timor, Solomon Islands and the Middle East." "A great way to show your support is by sending our troops a message or a care package this ANZAC Day." Messages to the troops can be sent to [messagesothetroops@defence.gov.au](mailto:messagesothetroops@defence.gov.au)

Members of the public are able to send care packages through Australia Post. Items weighing up to 2kg and posted in a 'BM' size Australia Post carton can be posted without cost to the sender.

Parcels exceeding this limit will incur full postal charges which must be paid by the sender. "I recommend sending items that will remind our troops of home. Things like magazines, books and DVDs," Mr Clare said. The Australian Defence Force have set up special postal addresses for the care packages. They are active from now until 15 April 2011. For postal security reasons, parcels must be posted in person with presentation of photograph identification and can be lodged at any Australia Post outlet, using the following addresses:

### Middle East:

An Australian Soldier/Sailor/Airman/Airwoman  
Anzac Day Mail  
Middle East Operations  
AFPO 60  
Australian Defence Force NSW 2890

### East Timor

An Australian Soldier/Sailor/Airman/Airwoman  
Anzac Day Mail  
East Timor Operations  
AFPO 61

Australian Defence Force NSW 2890

### Solomon Islands

An Australian Soldier/Sailor/Airman/Airwoman  
Anzac Day Mail  
Solomon Islands Operations  
AFPO 62

Australian Defence Force NSW 2890

Another way of showing our troops support this ANZAC Day is to donate to the RSL Australian Forces Overseas Fund (AFOF). Twice a year the AFOF provides packages to Australian Defence Force, Australian Federal Police and AusAID personnel serving overseas. Further information regarding the AFOF is available on the RSL web site (<http://www.rsl.org.au/>).



## Rent Assistance reviews now available online

Customers who receive Rent Assistance from Centrelink can now skip a trip to their local office and go online if they are selected for a review of their rent details.

Human Services Portfolio General Manager, Hank Jongen, said the new service has the potential to assist hundreds of thousands of customers every year.

"There are currently more than 1.1 million customers who receive Rent Assistance, and up to 8000 a week may be subject to regular rent reviews," said Mr Jongen.

"Centrelink periodically sends Rent Review letters to a selection of customers to check whether the amount of rent they pay, or accommodation details have

changed. This ensures that the Rent Assistance they receive from Centrelink matches their circumstances. "Traditionally, customers needed to call us or go into an office when they received this review letter, particularly if their rent had recently increased.

"Now, when customers receive their rent review letter they can simply go online, and answer yes or no to the question of whether their rent has recently changed.

"If they advise a change in details, they may also print out their own rent certificate as part of the transaction. They will then be able to have the landlord or agent complete their section of the form. Customers can then return

the complete form to the office or post it back to Centrelink.

"Many people will find it more convenient to do these reviews online. It also potentially means they can complete this whole rent review process without having to visit an office, if there are no changes to their accommodation details. "More importantly, it frees up front-line office staff to deal with more complex customer queries." Mr Jongen said this new online service has only been available since the start of March.

"It's hoped that longer term, going online will be the preferred choice of more than half of all customers who receive rent reviews," he said.