



# HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.

REPRESENTING ALL GREEK AUSTRALIANS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Hellenic Community  
Aged Care



HELLENIC COMMUNITY ADMINISTRATION  
SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELENE CHURCH  
COMMUNITY HALLS  
COMMUNITY'S TOWER HOUSE



## Monthly Newsletter

Stay connected with our community

### The January Edition

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## President's Message



**Dear Members,**

**While the President is overseas on business, I'm pleased to share an update on the progress and plans across our community's key organisation.**

It's encouraging to see steady momentum in our services, facilities and future planning.

### **Hellenic Community Aged Care**

Occupancy at Hellenic Community Aged Care remained strong throughout 2025, reflecting the trust families continue to place in our care. Two rooms have been offline since mid-year due to water ingress; repairs are currently underway through our insurers, and we expect both rooms to return to service in early 2026.

CEO Paul Savvas and his senior leadership team have met with representatives of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission to begin preparations for our 2026 reaccreditation. Our current accreditation runs until June 2026. Key documentation will be submitted in early February, with meetings and the onsite audit scheduled throughout the month. We are approaching this process with confidence and a strong commitment to maintaining the highest standards of care.

To support operations, Hellenic Aged Care is acquiring a new 1.5-tonne long wheelbase van for equipment transport, while retaining the existing vehicle for smaller loads.

Looking ahead, quotations have been received for significant site improvements including expanded car parking, upgrades to the administration building, a renovated reception and resident coffee lounge, and enhancements to the internal courtyard. These important works are expected to commence in 2026 and may take up to 18 months to complete.

### **Hellenic Community Centre**

At the Community Centre, practical steps are being taken to improve storage and functionality. Surplus equipment is being relocated to storage sheds on Hellenic Community land in Dianella. Many of these items are only needed once or twice a year, and this approach will free up valuable space while still allowing easy access when required.

We are also exploring grant funding opportunities for future improvements, including upper hall, audio-visual systems, toilet refurbishments, and restoration of the upstairs cool room and kitchen facilities.

We thank the Hellenic Women's Association for generously agreeing to store candle-making materials at their premises. Once these arrangements are finalised, the temporary candle storage areas near the lower hall kitchen will be removed, restoring access to the dumbwaiter servicing the upper hall – an important improvement for Centre operations.

### **St. Andrew's Grammar**

On February 2, St Andrew's Grammar welcomed students back to impressive new facilities, including the Bianca Afkos Science and Technology building. Additional car parking has also been completed to support the school community.

Enrolments are projected to reach capacity in 2026 – an increase of more than 90 students. This growth is a testament to the school's reputation, and the focus this year will be on successfully absorbing this increase while maintaining the high standards of education for which the school is known.

Across all our organisations, we are seeing careful stewardship, thoughtful planning and a clear commitment to serving our community for generations to come.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Effie Mazgaltzidis**

Vice President on behalf of the Board of Management

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## Enrolments Now Open at the Centre of Hellenic Studies Western Australia



**LEARN GREEK**

Enrolments Now Open

**Enrolments are now open at the Centre of Hellenic Studies WA for all proficiency levels at both our Adult and Saturday School (Kindy to High School students only) classes.**

Our classes are taught by our passionate, experienced teachers from Greece and follow the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, giving each learner the ability to set achievable learning goals and track your progress.

[Find Out More Information](#)

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## A Thank You from Ioannis Vidiniotis



**After extensive assessment and consultation, specialists have determined that Ioannis's ongoing care and rehabilitation will be best managed in his home country, where a comprehensive life and rehabilitation plan can be put in place.**

Planning is now underway to ensure a safe and supported transfer back to Greece, with Australian and Greek medical professionals working closely to coordinate his ongoing care.

The Vidiniotis family extends their deepest gratitude to the staff and members of the Hellenic Community of Western Australia for organising and leading the "Together for Ioannis" fundraising campaign, which has now raised more than \$300,000!

**"We extend a special and sincere thank you to the Hellenic Community of Western Australia, whose leadership, coordination, and compassion made the "Together for Ioannis: A Community Call for Support" campaign possible."**

The Hellenic Community of Western Australia's CEO Paul Savvas said it was a genuine pleasure to help support Ioannis on his road to recovery.

“Our team has worked hard behind the scenes to promote the fundraising effort for Ioannis which has now surpassed the target of 300-thousand dollars. This will support the family's current and ongoing medical bills, rehabilitation and repatriation.

“The Hellenic Community of Western Australia has built its foundations on faith, philanthropic and benevolent causes, and is a community that always comes together in times of crisis or in need to support one of its own.”

Ioannis and his mother are expected to fly back to Athens within the next two weeks once the appropriate medical plan in Greece has been put in place.

**Please note: thanks to the outstanding generosity of the donors from around the world, the GoFundMe donations for Ioannis Vidiniotis has now closed.**

[Read More](#)

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## Australia Day BBQ Celebration



**The Hellenic Community Aged Care residents and staff celebrated Australia Day on 26th January.**

Residents from all wings with their families gathered in the Gardens together and enjoyed the day's festivities planned by our staff, which included a sing-a-long to familiar Aussie tunes and a sausage sizzle in hand.

Thank you to our wonderful Occupational Therapy team and all our staff who helped make the day possible and to the lovely friends and family who joined in the celebrations!



## Facility Blessing at the Hellenic Community Aged Care



**The Hellenic Community Aged Care was blessed to have Father Terry visit the facility again to mark the beginning of 2026!**

Our wonderful residents and staff received the traditional blessing of holy water and prayers for the protection and wellbeing for our residents, staff and facility for the year to come. (Our photographer even received a blessing!)

Our residents were absolutely thrilled to receive individual blessings from Father Terry who brought a sense of tradition, faith and comfort, and many smiles to our residents' faces.



# School's Back!



**The 2026 school year officially began this week at St Andrew's Grammar, with students and staff returning to campus on Monday to kick off Term 1.**

It was wonderful to welcome back returning students and to greet those joining the St Andrew's community for the very first time, as classrooms once again filled with energy, excitement and familiar faces.

The first day set a positive tone for the year ahead, reflecting the strong sense of community shared by students, families and staff, and the values that continue to guide learning at St Andrew's Grammar.

Here are a few snapshots from the first day back, capturing the smiles and enthusiasm as we look forward to a year of learning, growth and connection.



# Matilda Bay Epiphany Celebrations



**Hundreds of community members gathered at Matilda Bay on Sunday, 11 January to mark the Feast of Epiphany, continuing a long-standing tradition that brings people together by the Swan River each year.**

The traditional swim for the Holy Cross remained a focal point of the day, with around 30 young people entering the water in a spirited display of courage and commitment.

Harry Stefanatos retrieved the Holy Cross and was presented with a gold cross and chain, generously donated by the Gogos family, who have continued this tradition for 47 years.

With an estimated 800 to 1,000 people in attendance, the event created a welcoming, family-friendly atmosphere, with food stalls, refreshments and plenty of opportunity for families and friends to connect.



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**Wanted: Greek Radio Announcers!**

# Join Us on Greek Radio!



**We're looking for passionate radio announcers to join our community's dedicated Greek radio station!**

If you love Greek culture, music and are a fluent Greek speaker, now's your chance to get involved.

Take the next step – email [info@hcwa.org](mailto:info@hcwa.org) to find out more!

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**Congratulations Anaia Kakulas on a fantastic 99.95  
ATAR Achievement!**



*Anaia Kakulas. Photographer: Jerri Lee*

**The Hellenic Community of Western Australia would like to congratulate Anaia Kakulas for achieving a remarkable 99.95 ATAR, receiving the prestigious UWA Fogarty Foundation Scholarship.**

An all-rounded student with a passion for community service and art, she also completed a Certificate III of Dance and a Diploma of French.

She begins her studies at the University of Western Australia (UWA) this year, accepting an offer for the Assured Pathway to Doctor of Medicine via the Bachelor of Biomedicine (Specialised) with a major in Integrated Medicinal Sciences and Clinical Practice.

[Read More](#)

## Get in touch

Have a question? Need more info? Feel free to reach out to your Greek community, right here in WA.



[Email info@hcwa.org](mailto:info@hcwa.org)

**Celebrating Hellenic Culture, Connecting Our Community**



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