



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 March Edition 2026

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President's Message

Dear Members,

April 2026 is a significant month for our community, both spiritually, with the celebration of Pascha, and administratively, with our Annual General Meeting.

Preparations for Holy Friday and Holy Saturday are well advanced. Arrangements are currently in place for traffic management, security, the public address system, crowd control barriers, and all required planning documentation requested by the City of Perth has been submitted for the Holy Friday and Holy Saturday services.

The Easter Crucifixion Procession and Resurrection services will follow the same overall program as in recent years to the high financial cost of \$22,700.00 annually. Some minor adjustments have been necessary due to rising costs without compromising our

traditions, such as a shorter Crucifixion Procession and the relocation of the Resurrection service from Russell Square back to the Church.

The revised Crucifixion Procession route, now from Parker Street to Palmerston Street, has significantly reduced compensation costs payable to the City of Perth for temporarily vacant car bays required to mitigate security concerns. Similarly, relocating the Resurrection service to the Church has allowed us to avoid the park hire fees previously incurred at Russell Square.

It is important to note that the costs associated with Holy Week services continue to increase each year, and there is no certainty that donations received during Holy Week will consistently cover these expenses. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank all the members and parishioners who responded to Father Terry's call for donations towards the City of Perth and road closure costs which have increased substantially over the last five years.

On 26 April 2026 the Hellenic Community will hold its Annual General Meeting in the lower hall of the Community Centre. The agenda includes a revised constitution bringing forward all previously-approved member changes proposed every year since 2020 but not fully registered with the relevant Department.

The Board believes the constitution as presented is to be passed to allow the Community to operate with a constitution free of inconsistencies. If members believe other changes are warranted, the Board can accommodate this, by calling a Special General Meeting for the purpose of discussing additional changes.

I am looking forward to attending the Sunday of Thomas – Easter Celebrations with the traditional souvla taking place on 19 April 2026 at St. Andrew's Grammar. This much-anticipated annual event remains a wonderful opportunity for our first post-Easter gathering and continues to be very well attended with great food and dancing. This event is organised by the Centre for Hellenic Studies WA Principal, Savvas Papasavas.

Our Community Aged Care

The Hellenic Community Benevolent Association Board has received tenders for proposed works to the car park, administration building, central courtyard, and reception area. A decision will be made at the earliest appropriate time. In assessing the tenders, consideration will be given to current international events that may impact fuel supplies and potentially lead to cost increases.



Meeting with Deputy Premier Rita Saffioti MLA

Members will be aware of our proposed redevelopment of Parker Street. On the 24th of March a meeting was held, attended by the Deputy Premier of Western Australia, Treasurer, and Minister for Transport and Sport and Recreation, the Honourable Rita Saffioti MLA, Frank Paolino MLA member for Mount Lawley, Roby Williamson the Minister's Chief Adviser, Stan Palasis and myself.

We discussed the proposed Parker Street redevelopment and potential funding assistance. I am happy to report we were well received by the Deputy Premier, and can

confirm that a letter of support to the Community for the project will be forthcoming. We thank Mr Paolino for his support and assistance.

Invitations to Ministers of the Greek Government

The community will be extending invitations to three Greek Government Ministers, two of whom I met while overseas in Greece.



During my visit the **Greek Minister of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports, Minister Sofia Zacharaki** expressed a willingness to visit us and tour St. Andrews Grammar with the aim of the Minister's department assisting in identifying teachers in Greece who will travel to Perth to become teachers at St Andrews to assist in teaching the Greek Language.

This will help in further enhancing the teaching of the Greek language and culture within our school.

The second Minister I discussed a possible visit with was **Greek Minister of National Defence Nikos Dendias** who has agreed to tour Australia and Western Australia to meet the greater Greek Australian Community. An elegant speaker, fluent in English and one of the Senior Ministers in the Mitsotakis Ministry.



The third Minister we will invite is the **Greek Minister of Culture, Minister Lina Mendoni**.

Minister Mendoni is invited to visit our community and discuss our new-to-be constructed Performing Arts complex at Dianella and the proposed Parker Street redevelopment which includes a Byzantine Museum. A further report with more details on the Parker Street redevelopment will be presented at the AGM on 26th April.



Greek Independence Day 1821 Celebration Dinner

The Hellenic Community continues to join with other Greek Australian associations to celebrate important events, strengthening unity as one community in marking this special occasion. The event attracted a full house at the Hellenic Club, where guests enjoyed Lenten meals. Particularly encouraging was the strong representation of young families, couples, and university students, who made up around 60 per cent of attendees.



Letter of Thanks from Archbishop Makarios of Australia



† ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS OF AUSTRALIA

Protocol No.: 463

Mr Paul Afkos OAM
President
and Board of Directors
Hellenic Community of Western Australia Inc.
2A Hellenic Drive
DIANELLA WA 6059

Dearly beloved,

With heartfelt emotion I received your esteemed wishes on the occasion of my name day. I wish to thank you wholeheartedly for your thoughtful remembrance, and I reciprocate with profound love, praying that our Lord Jesus Christ, through the intercessions of our Holy Father, Saint Makarios the Great, may grant you length of days and strength in your noble ministry in service to the Church and our Nation.

In Sydney, on the 4th day of February 2026,

With fervent paternal prayers



† Archbishop MAKARIOS of Australia
Primate and Exarch of All Oceania

From Paul Afkos OAM and the Board

To all Greek Western Australians on behalf of the central Board of Management we wish you all an enjoyable festive Easter, celebrating the unity and happiness of our Greek Orthodox traditions. We pray for all to have a safe holiday period and a safe return to school for all our students.

Paul Afkos OAM

President on behalf of the Board of Management



**HELLENIC COMMUNITY
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA INC.**

Notice to Members: AGM to take place Sunday, 26 April

All registered members of the Hellenic Community of Western Australia please be advised. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is being held at 2pm on Sunday 26th April in the Lower Hall, Hellenic Community Centre, 20 Parker Street, Northbridge WA 6003.

[AGM Agenda](#)



Sunday of Thomas Easter Celebrations Souvla Lunch NEXT WEEKEND!

Join us for a much-loved community tradition as we come together to continue our Easter Celebrations on the Sunday of Thomas Κυριακή του Θωμά with great food, music, and family fun!

Our annual souvla lunch will take place on Sunday, 19 April, starting from 12 noon, at St. Andrew's Grammar, located at 2 Hellenic Drive, Dianella. Hosted by the Centre for Hellenic Studies WA, together with our parent organisation, the Hellenic Community of

Western Australia, the afternoon promises a warm, family-friendly atmosphere filled with great food and entertainment.

Guests can look forward to the irresistible aroma of sizzling souvla, with both lamb and chicken available, alongside Greek music and a range of exciting raffle prizes.

Tickets are available at the door and NOW ONLINE!

- Adults: \$35
- Teens (13–16 years): \$20
- Children 12 years and under: Free

For further information, please contact the Hellenic Community Office (08) 9303 3890. We look forward to welcoming you and your family for a fun-filled afternoon as we celebrate Κυριακή του Θωμά together as a community.

[Buy Tickets](#)

Holy Pascha (Easter) Services

All invited to join us at Saints
Constantine and Helene Church for
our Holy Pascha celebrations.

Holy Friday 10 April (tonight)

7:00pm Lamentations (Epitaphios)
Presided by His Grace Bishop
Elpidios of Perth

Holy Saturday 11 April

7:30am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the
Great. Officiated by His Grace
Bishop Elpidios of Perth

Holy Pascha (Easter)

10:45pm Pannychis (Vigil)
Midnight Resurrection Service
12:45am Matins & Divine Liturgy of
St. John Chrysostom.



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA
HOLY DIOCESE OF PERTH
HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA
CHURCH OF SAINTS CONSTANTINE AND HELENE



Easter Holidays Crack On with Festive Cheer

St. Andrew's Grammar primary students mark the dawning of the Easter holidays and the drawing to a close of Term 2 with their annual Hat Parade!



While over at Hellenic Community Aged Care our residents and staff work together, planning and crafting baskets weeks in advance so that everyone gets an Easter Egg basket for Catholic/Protestant Easter.



Both St. Andrew's Grammar and Hellenic Community Aged Care successfully raised funds with bountiful Easter Egg raffles – spot some of the winners below!



Greek Independence Day Dinner Dance a Smash Hit



Our culture was on full display at the 2026 Greek Independence Day Dinner Dance, an evening that brought together the Greek community in Western Australia.

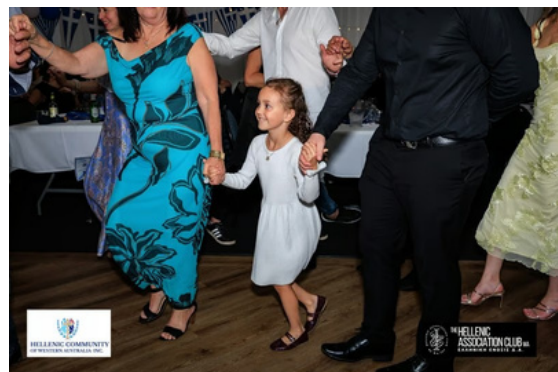
Hosted on Saturday, 28 March 2026, this event was a joint initiative between the Hellenic Association Club of WA Inc. and the Hellenic Community of WA. Held at the Hellenic Club on Stirling Street, the night welcomed 200 attendees who enjoyed a delicious seafood dinner.

The evening's entertainment with Interstate performer Sammy Senes on keyboard and vocals, with Korina Margaris and John Sayas captivated the audience as well as dance performances from the Pontian Brotherhood of WA and GLCI Evangelismos.

A particularly encouraging aspect of the night was the strong presence of younger members of the community, The success of the event was made possible by the dedication of numerous volunteers, whose efforts in organising, setting up, and supporting the evening were invaluable. Special thanks also to Robi Gerovasilis for capturing the night through her exceptional photography.

Looking ahead, excitement is already building for the event on 2 May 2026, the Hellenic Club of WA will host a Bouzoukia Night featuring live performances by Yiannis Tassios and Gogo Lidaki, bringing a taste of Greece directly to Perth. **Zito I Ellas – Xronia Polla!**





Independence Day Wreath Laying and Doxology Service



Greek Independence Day on March 25th remains a powerful moment of reflection and pride for Hellenes around the world. As a day that unites national remembrance with deep spiritual significance, falling on the Feast of the Annunciation, it continues to symbolise faith, resilience and renewal for our community.

Sunday 22 March HCWA Board members, community members and students from St. Andrew's Grammar came together to mark the occasion through two important commemorative events. The day began with the 10:30am Doxology service at our Church of Saints Constantine and Helene, followed by the official wreath laying ceremony at the State War Memorial in Kings Park at 12:30pm. Both ceremonies offered a moving opportunity to honour the courage, sacrifice and enduring legacy of those who fought for Greek independence.

St. Andrew's Grammar students played a special role throughout the day, participating with pride through song and speeches. Their presence was a meaningful reflection of the strong connection between our younger generations, Greek heritage and living tradition.

The HCWA thanks all who attended and contributed, ensuring that the spirit and significance of March 25th continue to be upheld within our Western Australian community.



St. Andrew's Students showcase Greek Culture at Independence Day Events

Our talented St. Andrew's students were invited by the Consulate of Greece in Perth to perform at the Greek National Day Reception held at the ANZAC Club.

The evening of the 25th of March showcased the rich spirit of our Greek culture, with a wonderful bouzouki ensemble performed by our gifted St. Andrew's musicians, under the coaching and guidance of Mr Nicholas Kyriakakis. Our girls also delivered a vibrant Greek dance performance. All in attendance were incredibly impressed by the students' talent, confidence, and pride in their heritage.



The next day our St. Andrew's students once again shined at a special Greek Independence Day school assembly. During the assembly our students demonstrated their rich understanding of the history and heritage of the victory on the 25th of March 1821. Their spoken poetry, singing and dancing beautifully accompanied by a bouzouki ensemble and our Hellenic Orchestra, brought to life the stories of the heroes of our past. While the blessing of Father Terry and speeches by Ms Eleni Georgopoulou, Consul of Greece in Perth and Eleni Evangel, SAG Advisory Board Chair left us inspired for our future.

A huge thank you to our VIP guests, and our dedicated Greek teachers – Vivi, Stellani, Nicholas and most of all to Virginia – for bringing this meaningful celebration to life. Ζήτω η Ελευθερία! Ζήτω η Ελλάδα



A Shared Legacy: Young and Old Come Together to Honour Greek Independence Day

At Hellenic Community Aged Care the Greek Independence Day celebrations continued! During a special afternoon tea, young ones joined aged care residents to share the occasion. Over art projects, story books and treats the 'Kindness Ambassadors', a group of students from St. Andrew's Grammar visited beautifully with our residents. Their presence vividly reinforcing the purpose and legacy of the fight for freedom won in 1821, and the courage and kindness passed on through generations. Thank you to Rahel, our aged care Lifestyle Coordinator and the wonderful teachers Toya and Renae for organising the event.

[Watch the video](#)



Expression of Interest Open for our inaugural Backgammon (Tavli) tournament!



Whether you're the strategic mastermind who plans five moves ahead or the confident quiet assassin who swears they've "never lost a game," this is your moment.

Date: Sunday, 3 May 2026

Start: 11:30 AM

Venue: Hellenic Community Centre (20 Parker Street, Northbridge WA 6003)

Entry Fee: \$25 per person

Whether you're the strategic mastermind who plans five moves ahead or the confident quiet assassin who swears they've "never lost a game," this is your moment.

Expect sharp strategy, friendly rivalry, plenty of laughs.

Interested? Fill in our form to submit your expression of interest and someone from the Hellenic Admin will confirm your attendance closer to the date!

[Submit Your EOI Here](#)

Trivia to Triumph: Quiz Night Powers the GOANSE Team to Sydney

The St. Andrew's Grammar Quiz Night, held on Friday 20 March, was an evening of fun, head-scratching and plenty of friendly competition!

With 10 enthusiastic tables competing across a range of challenging trivia rounds, the event **raised an impressive \$5,400** to support St. Andrew's Grammar 2026 GOANSE Team as they prepare for their upcoming trip to Sydney.

Our thanks to everyone who attended, donated, and contributed to making the evening such a fantastic event.

Small Hands, Huge Hearts: Year 6 Students Raise Over \$3,500 for PCH

St. Andrew's Grammar Year 6 students displayed compassion and initiative beyond their years by running fundraising stalls for Perth Children's Hospital. To up the ante, teachers Rob Persson and Jarred Rees literally put their heads on the line – Rob Persson pledged to have his head shaved if the fundraising target of \$3,000 was reached, while Jarred Rees had his head spray-dyed some interesting shades! **Well done to the Year 6's for raising over \$3,600 for the children's hospital, and to Rob and Jarred for being such great sports!**



Learn Greek at the Centre of Hellenic Studies Western Australia



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](#)



March with the Greek Australian RSL on ANZAC Day Honour the enduring bond between Greece and Australia by joining the Greek Australian RSL contingent this ANZAC Day.

Returned service members, their families, as well as staff and students of St. Andrew's Grammar are warmly invited to take part in the march, proudly carrying the Greek and school flags.

Date: Saturday, 25 April 2026

Time: 9:15AM start

Location: St. George's Terrace (exact meeting point to be confirmed closer to the date)

Light refreshments will be provided for all march participants following the event (location to be confirmed).

For more information or to register your interest, please contact Bill Evangel, President of the Greek Australian RSL, on 08 9235 2111.

Calendar Full of Fun at Hellenic Community Aged Care

March proved to be a month rich in festivities and activities for our residents at Hellenic Community Aged Care from Greek Independence Day to Harmony Day, St Patrick's Day and a special visit from some farmyard friends.

Even a heavy downpour couldn't stop the Harmony Day celebrations on Friday, 30 March at Hellenic Community Aged Care where over 13 nationalities are proudly represented.



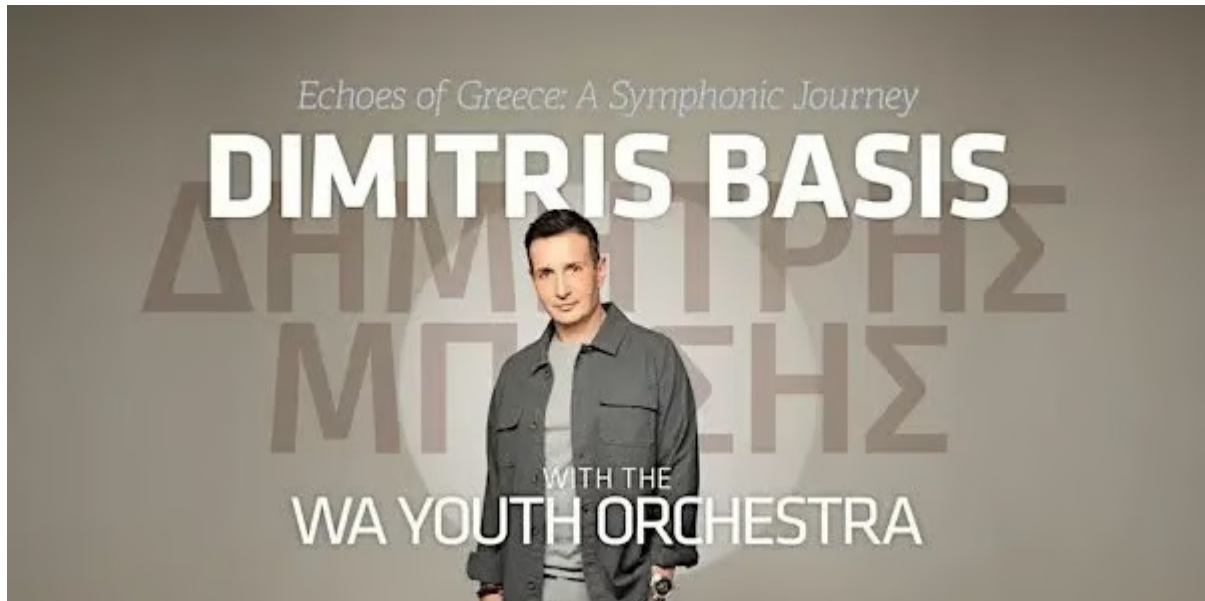
There was plenty of *craic* during our St Patrick's day celebrations with themed GREEN party treats and an entertaining ' history of St Pat's.



While our farmyard guests did kid-around, and were spotted nibbling their way through our rose bushes, our residents had a quacking good time feeding and cuddling their furry friends, (bunnies, guinea pigs, baby chicks and ducks, baby goats, a sheep, pony and a friendly dog), and can't wait til their next visit!



An Evening with Dimitris Basis and the WA Youth Orchestra



Acclaimed Greek vocalist Dimitris Basis joins the WA Youth Orchestra for an unforgettable evening of beloved Greek traditional song

Renowned for his unmistakable voice and profound emotional depth, Dimitris Basis brings the heart of Greek music to the stage in a special concert celebrating Greece's rich musical heritage. Effortlessly moving between traditional repertoire and contemporary classics, Basis has earned a devoted following across generations.

Joined by the WA Youth Orchestra, the music is reimagined on a grand symphonic scale. This powerful collaboration blends youthful energy with timeless melodies, bringing new colour, depth, and emotion to songs that have long resonated with audiences.

[Buy Tickets](#)

[Download Flyer](#)

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