



NEWSLETTER

(March 2017)

1. St. Nicholas Church

The St. Nicholas Day Celebration was held on Sunday 11 December. The day was a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the event.

The GOCC Committee would like to especially extend its sincere thanks to those businesses and individuals who supported us on the day. In particular, we would like to thank:

- Bidfood for providing the refrigerated truck and their donation of prawns
- Bill & Jim Manikis and Pantellis Costas for their donation of the fish and assistance with cooking
- Terry & Peter Karkazis for their donation of all the drinks
- The St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos for the loukomathes
- The Stavrakis family for their donation of the salad ingredients
- All the volunteers who assisted with cooking and serving

Together with the church takings, approximately \$7,000 was raised on the day.

St. Nicholas Church Restoration

The **GOCC Church Restoration Sub-Committee** together with the **Board of the Hellenic Club** is currently in the process of finalising the "St. Nicholas Church Restoration Plan" which is likely to extend over a 3-4 year period. It is hoped that the first element of the restoration, **repairs to the Church roof and dome, funded by the Hellenic Club**, will commence in the very near future. The second element of the restoration, repairs to the external walls and windows of the Church will follow as funds become available.

Following the Greek Associations' meeting on 19 February, a **Church Restoration Fundraising Committee** has been established to organise the first fundraising event. It is hoped that once the event is organised, as many members as possible will support this event.

2. Greek Afternoon School

The staff for the 2017/18 school years has recently been appointed. They are:

Principal Mr Stavros Melachroinos
Teachers Ms Stella Alexiou, Mr George Anousas, Ms Ekavi Georgousopoulou,
Ms Eleni Gonis, Ms Eleni Karapanagou

On behalf of the Greek Community of Canberra, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to our retiring teachers, Mrs Helen Keranas and Mrs Liana Xirakis, who have been on our Greek School staff for over 30 years. The Greek Community of Canberra has highly valued their long, dedicated and enthusiastic contribution and service to our Greek School.



This year, classes commenced on **Tuesday 7 February and Friday 10 February** and will take place on Tuesday and Friday afternoons thereafter.

As detailed at the 2016 GOCC Annual General Meeting, **Enrolment Fees** for 2017 will be \$100 per semester for the first child, \$80 per semester for the second child and \$60 per semester for the third child.

We wish all the teachers and students an enjoyable and productive year.

3. 25th March Celebrations

As in past years, following the Church service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Greek Australian Memorial, **a Luncheon will be held at the Hellenic Club commencing at 1.00pm.** We hope that as many members as possible can attend to help us celebrate the Greek National Day.

4. St. Basil's

St. Basil's is currently awaiting approval of their Development Application for the construction of the "new" St. Nicholas Home for the Aged. We have been advised that construction will commence immediately after the Development Application is approved.

5. 2017 Greek Glendi (Sunday 19 February 2017)

The 2017 **Greek Glendi** was again very successful. Thank you very much to the many **volunteers** who assisted over the three days. Thank you also to members of the Glendi Sub-Committee who worked so hard for over seven months to organise everything.

On behalf of the Greek Community I would also like to extend our sincere thanks to our 2017 sponsors:

Principal Sponsor: The Hellenic Club

Gold Sponsors: St. Basil's - The Coffee Club

Silver Sponsors: Molonglo Group - Nikias Diamond - ActewAGL - Empire Cleaning Services
Bidfood - Club Lime - Tsoulis Group - Lexus

Bronze Sponsors: Cyprus Community of Canberra - KDN Group - Savilles ACT Pty Ltd

6. 2017 Epiphany Celebrations

The Epiphany Day celebrations at Casuarina Sands was a huge success. Thank you to the almost 300 people who attended. Thank you also to the St. Nicholas Ladies Philoptochos for their donations and support, Mr Manuel Xyrakis for donating the meat for the souvlaki and all the volunteers who helped with the cooking, serving and general organisation for the day.

Steve Kalenderidis
President