WELCOME, “KALOS ERTHATE”

ON behalf of The Greek Orthodox Community of North Australia, I would like to welcome all of our interstate and Territorian visitors in celebrating all things “Being Greek” during the 28th annual Darwin Greek Glenti Festival.

I am especially honoured to host everyone during the Darwin Greek Glenti weekend, furthermore I’m proud to announce that the Darwin Greek Glenti Festival is the longest-running cultural event held in the Northern Territory.

The Greek Glenti Festival, held at Bicentennial Park on the Esplanade each year, is an iconic festival on the Northern Territory calendar.

The event attracts tourists from all over Australia to the Top End to experience traditional Greek Hospitality each year during the Queen’s Birthday weekend, with this year’s dates being June 11 and 12.

This year the Darwin Greek Glenti will be raising much-needed funds for Lifeline NT, which is a most deserving organisation. Firstly, I would like to thank the Northern Territory Government, The Multicultural Affairs Minister, Tourism NT and all of our many valued sponsors, who have contributed to the Darwin Greek Glenti Festival being possible each year.

On behalf of the executive committee, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the following individuals and groups,

- Darwin Greek Glenti coordinator Mrs Lillian Gomatos, who is one of the originating founders of the Darwin Greek Glenti,
- Executive Glenti committee members,
- All participating Greek organisations,
- Greek dance groups,
- Subcommittee Groups who donate many personal hours to ensure that the Darwin Greek Glenti is a success.

Furthermore, I would like to thank all of our guests being the general public who attend the festival during this special weekend. It’s everyone of you who make the Darwin Greek Glenti the iconic festival it is today.

Come and join us in our celebrations and enjoy our Greek cuisine, music, dance and culture. There will be entertainment for all, from tots to seniors, over the two-day celebration and enjoy everything Greek.

“Kali Diaskedasi”

Nicholas Poniris
PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY NORTH AUSTRALIA

LILLIANE GOMATOS
GLENTI CO-ORDINATOR

Glenti has grown from strength to strength from its humble beginnings in 1988 and I have been fortunate to see Glenti expand through the years. It is with pride that this amazing festival is community run and each year there is over 200 volunteers to help showcase our Greek culture, cuisine, language and dance. The volunteers of today are the children who worked side by side with their parents all those years ago, and today their children are working with them carrying on our Greek Traditions and merging them with our Australian culture.

The dedicated associated clubs working as one are: the Cypriot Community, the Kalymnian Brotherhood, the Greek Veterans, the Hellenic Soccer Club, the Olympic Soccer Club, The Greek School, the Macedonian Association working with the Guardians of the Greek Language Foundation of CDU, the dance groups, all working closely with The Greek Orthodox Community to share our Greek culture with the wider community.

For the past 16 years, The Greek community has nominated a charity each year and successfully raises funds to assist those in need. I am proud to have been associated with and the Greek Orthodox Community for the past 28 years and the overwhelming success of Glenti.

ADAM GILES
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Darwin Glenti Festival is a terrific opportunity to discover and experience the culture and contributions that the Greek community makes to the Northern Territory.

It is a much-anticipated highlight on the Territory’s annual community calendar. Festivals such as Glenti give the Territory a rich, multicultural society which is the envy of other jurisdictions.

The Northern Territory Government is proud to support this event, which provides an insight into Greek culture and its people. The Darwin Greek Glenti leads the way in business, social and cultural experiences.

Congratulations to the hard-working committee and to the hundreds of volunteers working behind the scenes who make the Darwin Greek Glenti Festival such a success every year.

JOHN ANICTOMATIS
CONSUL-GENERAL FOR GREECE (Hon.) in the NT

Congratulations from the Consulate of Greece in the NT to the thousands of volunteers, the coordinator and the steering committee of Glenti 2016 as celebrations are underway for the 28th Greek Glenti. This event celebrates the multicultural and rich heritage of the Greeks in the Northern Territory - and indeed around the world.

The Glenti just gets bigger and better with more attendees each year from the whole community, who come to share in a wonderful weekend of performance, food, friendship and hospitality that the Greeks provide in abundance from their hearts and souls.

Greeks in the NT make enormous contributions to our economy and society as a whole and Glenti weekend is a special time for sharing their music, dance, food and culture - there is always something for everyone and I wish the community a successful weekend at Glenti 2016.

PETER STYLES
MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

Darwin’s Glenti is an experience that sets a standard for Greek cultural festivals across the country. The food, dance, music, entertainment and information stalls reinforce the benefits of living in a multicultural community like the Territory.

As the Minister for Multicultural Affairs I sincerely thank the Greek community for the Darwin Glenti, which is an outstanding celebration, showcasing the Greek zest for life.

Local stall-holders raising funds for their chosen sporting and school groups also benefit from their participation in this renowned event, an example of the generosity and community spirit of the Darwin Glenti.

I look forward to joining you and the thousands of locals and visitors who will enjoy a weekend of cultural entertainment beneath the perfect dry season skies of Darwin. Yassou!