



# The Eternal Olive: A Symbol of Culture, Peace and Wisdom

SAT 17 & SUN 18 MAY 2025 | LVL 1, THE GREEK CLUB | FREE ENTRY

Head to Level 1 of the Greek Club for a special exhibition inspired by one of the most timeless and treasured symbols of Greek heritage – the Olive Tree.

The program is designed to appeal to all ages and includes a number of original artefacts and replicas from the R.D. Milns Antiquities Museum at the University of Queensland, alongside a series of engaging presentations and workshops by academics, historians, religious leaders, and olive growers. The program explores the olive tree's role in Greek history, culture, and everyday life.

Children can get involved in the Kids Art Zone where they will create their own mosaic olive branches inspired by ancient Greek art, craft olive wreaths like those worn by champions in antiquity, and design hand-art olive trees symbolising the uniqueness and strength of each individual.

A highlight of the program is the all-ages 'Olive Tree of Hope', a living community art installation inviting festival-goers to 'extend the olive branch' by writing a personal message of hope on a symbolic olive leaf and adding it to a growing sculpture of peace and unity.

The Saturday concludes with 'The Essence of Greece', a moving musical presentation of the works of Mikis Theodorakis, performed by the combined choirs of the Greek Orthodox Community of St George Brisbane. This musical present

## SATURDAY MAY 17

## SUNDAY MAY 18

TIME	EVENT	TIME	EVENT
12.00pm	Exhibition and Kids Art Zone open	11.00am	Exhibition and Kids Art Zone open
1.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: Competing for Olive Oil at the Games of Ancient Athens</b> Presented by Associate Professor David M. Pritchard, Associate Professor of Greek History, School of History and Philosophical Inquiry, University of Queensland	1.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: Exploring the Ancient Mediterranean Diet</b> Presented by Professor Alistair Blanshard, Paul Eliades Chair of Classics and Ancient History, Director of R.D. Milns Antiquities Museum and School and Historical and Philosophical Inquiry, University of Queensland
2.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: Olive Oil: A Greek Love Affair</b> Presented by Dr Anna Efstathiadou, Cultural Historian and Teacher of Greek at the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Queensland	2.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: Olives Under the Queensland Sun A Grower's Story</b> <b>Includes live olive tree pruning demonstration</b> Presented by Sally Cominos Dakin, 3rd generation Greek-Australian olive grower and marketer of Queensland olives and olive oil
3.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: The Importance of Olive Oil from Laconia, Greece: An Explanation of What is Extra Virgin Olive Oil, How it is Produced, the History of Olive Oil in Laconia, Methods of Growing, Harvesting and Storing and its Health Benefits</b> Presented by Lou Wilson, Registered Pharmacist and Owner of Olea of Monemvasia. At the conclusion of this presentation, there will be an olive oil tasting	3.15pm	<b>PRESENTATION: Olive Oil in Orthodox Spirituality</b> Presented by Father Nicholas Brown, Greek Orthodox Parish of the Dormition of Our Lady, Mount Gravatt
5.00pm	<b>The Essence of Greece</b> A presentation of the music of Mikis Theodorakis with the combined choirs of the Greek Orthodox Community of St George Brisbane: Ellinikes Fones, Ellinikes Fones Junior, GOC Care Fones and Greek School of St George. Choir Director: Christina Xydi-Lignos	4.00pm	Exhibition and Kids Art Zone Concludes
5.45pm	Exhibition and Kids Art Zone Concludes		



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