Southbank ‘zoned out’ of primary school

By Sean Rogasch

Southbank children are in danger of being without a local primary school if a new neighbourhood boundary proposed by Port Melbourne Primary School is accepted.

Port Melbourne is one of two “unzoned” government schools that children in the Southbank region can currently attend.

At a Southbank Residents Group (SRG) meeting in August, Albert Park MP Martin Foley said a large number of primary school kids would be affected.

Mr Foley presented residents with a map showing the proposed zone. It included northern zone line along the Yarra River, which will come into effect next year. But more concerning for Southbank is its proposed zone line along City Rd and then up Kings Way to the Yarra River, which will be assessed and possibly brought in for the 2013 school year.

Port Melbourne Principal Peter Martin stressed the school wanted the department to look at restructuring other schools zones, so no children were without a local primary school.

“We’d like to see a rationalisation of the other school’s zones,” Mr Martin said.

If the new zone was implemented without any changes to others it would leave most of Southbank and much of South Melbourne without access to a local primary school.

It will also mean St Kilda Primary was the nearest government school to the vast majority of Southbank families who live outside of the proposed new boundary.

But St Kilda could hardly be considered local, as parents would have to pass six other primary schools to get there.

Mr Foley stressed his support for a new primary school, adding: “If we want a community, rather than just a collection of tall buildings, we need a primary school.”

Despite the growth within Southbank in the last two decades, three local primary schools have been closed and sold off, and a fourth was converted into a specialist school.

The Department of Education confirmed that a proposal for a neighbourhood boundary had been put forward by the Port Melbourne Primary School Council and it was analysing the options.

“The department is now beginning consultation with the school and other neighbouring schools regarding the proposal,” a department spokesperson said.
The Southbank Local News is a brand new local publication, serving the residents, businesses and visitors of postcode 3006.

We have been working feverishly to produce the very first edition of this exciting new local paper, and I believe the hard work has paid off.

Our mandate is simple – if it matters to Southbank, it matters to us. We will cover all events, news and changes that affect the region.

The first edition of the Southbank local news includes many pressing issues for locals and visitors alike, such as the serviced apartment issue, the lack of a primary school in the area and progress on the police pod planned for Queensbridge Square.

You can help us achieve our vision of being completely community-focused by sending in your news, views, letters and photos from our area.

We believe that all communities deserve to have a strong and independent local newspaper, and that is exactly what we will strive to provide.

The population of Southbank is growing rapidly, so now is the perfect time to launch a newspaper you can call your own and which contains issues exclusively about your own precinct.

Of course I have had a lot of support in setting up the newspaper, and I particularly want to thank Greg Hackett for taking charge of advertising, Nicola St John for the design and Shane Scanlan for the business side of the paper, and his general support and guidance.

On top of this, it is important for me to thank all of our foundation advertisers, without whom this publication would not be possible. A local paper such as this cannot survive without their support, so I encourage you to support them as well.

As the paper grows in size and awareness, we look forward to fulfilling our role as the voice of Southbank. Welcome to the Southbank Local News.

Committee to combat serviced apartments

The Southbank Residents Group (SRG) is attempting to nullify growing concerns within the community surrounding serviced apartments.

The group has created a sub-committee to investigate what the issues are and, more importantly, how to fix them.

The idea of a separate committee dedicated to the serviced apartment issue was put to SRG members in August and was strongly endorsed.

The focus of the new group will be to investigate exactly what the problems are and what the legalities are. It will then be clearer to work out what action can be taken against the practice of using residential apartments for short-term stays.

The SRG meeting was told that the committee would look at the “pseudo-hotel” issue objectively, putting aside emotion.

The group will also have members from neighbouring regions with similar serviced apartment concerns, such as Docklands and the CBD.

The committee had its first tentative meeting during September.

The discussion included a general overview of serviced apartments, what the existing problems were and if any members had already made any contact with local or state governments in regard to the issue.

While the final line up of members has not been determined, Roger Gardner was selected as the chairman.

Mr Gardner, of Docklands, has previously investigated many of the problems the new committee will be looking into, which will help give the group a head start.

He stressed that the new group was aware of the issue, and was keen on action being taken, not just investigations and reviews.

"Eventually we want legislation passed to limit serviced apartments," Mr Gardner said.

The next meeting of the committee will take place at 7pm on October 11 at the Boyd School site.

Choir founder joins Southbank Rotary

The Southbank Rotary Club welcomed Choir of Hard Knocks founder Jonathon Welch into its ranks at a special meeting in late August.

Mr Welch said he had long held a desire to join the global service organisation when he was inducted into the club in Docklands on August 23.

The induction was conducted at a special meeting of three local Rotary Clubs to welcome fund-raising adventurer Rob Pennicott to Melbourne.

Mr Pennicott and his crew are raising funds for polio eradication by circumnavigating Australia in two 17 foot dinghies.

Southbank Rotary president Clinton Wong welcomed Mr Welch to the club, saying his work with Melbourne’s underprivileged was an inspiration to everyone.

Mr Wong said the club was honoured by Mr Welch’s decision to join.

“With Jonathon on board it confirms to us that we are heading in the right direction,” Mr Wong said.

The choir, which has changed its name to the Choir of Hope and Inspiration, recently performed a short season of its production My Fare Label at Federation Square.

Mr Welch said: “I have wanted to be part of Rotary, and Rotary Southbank in particular, for some time as I think they do fantastic, innovative work. I’m looking forward to working with this terrific group of like minded ‘kindred spirits’, who share the same passion as I do for serving the community.”

Southbank Rotary meets every Tuesday at 6pm at Crown.
Permanent police pod is closer than ever

The planned police pod for Southbank is closer than ever, with the City of Melbourne convinced that the Queensbridge Square site is the ideal location.

The site has been bandied around as an option for the new pod and, after a recent formal assessment of the site, the council is now sure it is the most suitable position. Council People and Creative City chair Cr Jennifer Kanis said: “The City of Melbourne will now finalise plans for a permanent police pod.”

The catalyst for a decision finally being made was the use of a temporary facility at Queensbridge Square. “The recent trial of a mobile police facility resulted in positive feedback from the community and both police and council are comfortable with the location,” Cr Kanis said. In an unusual move, the City of Melbourne will be paying for the pod to be built, but will design the new structure in consultation with Victoria Police, to ensure it is practical for the five officers who will occupy it at any one time.

Last November the City of Melbourne agreed to foot the bill for the $350,000 project, in response to community concerns about rising violence and disruption in Southbank, especially on Friday and Saturday nights.

The president of the Southbank Residents Group, Joe Bagnara, said residents were in favour of the planned police pod, and hoped construction wasn’t far away. “We are interested in prevention and only a visual police presence will ensure we keep Southbank safe. We’re ecstatic that this community service has at last been introduced,” Mr Bagnara said.

Cadel conquers Tour de Southbank

Tour de France champion Cadel Evans was welcomed home to Melbourne by a huge legion of fans, with a celebratory ride up St Kilda Rd.

Southbank was the perfect backdrop for the ride into Federation Square where Lord Mayor Robert Doyle suggested it was the biggest crowd he’d ever seen at the venue. The planned 10-minute trip lasted almost 20, but none of the tens of thousands of fans seemed to mind.

The ride was lined by crowds five and six deep along both sides of the road – with an estimated 30,000 people cramming St Kilda Rd and Federation Square.

Evans, who changed travel plans to include a stopover in his hometown, relished the attention, shaking hands with as many people as he could along the route, and even hugging the one lucky familiar face.

Premier Ted Baillieu addressed the huge crowd, paying homage to Evans, saying: “We’ve been inspired by his courage, uplifted by his success and charmed by his humility.”

Comment on this story online: www.southbanklocalnews.com.au
With the exponential growth of Southbank as a residential precinct, the need for community and green space is becoming increasingly important.

It was for this reason the City of Melbourne purchased the former JH Boyd Girls School site, with the vision of creating the first community hub for the area.

You may have noticed the construction happening around the old JH Boyd School building in City Rd and thought it was more towers going in, but this project has a difference.

The site is currently in phase one of its makeover, which includes a community facility in the heritage school building.

City of Melbourne councillor Ken Ong says the council has big plans for the space.

“The aim was to create a new community hub within the Southbank precinct comprising library and associated community facilities, together with a new area of public open space and residential and commercial development,” Cr Ong said.

With work well underway, the site will help provide the space the whole community within Southbank has been longing for.

Cr Ong noted: “The refurbishment of the heritage Boyd School building is progressing well and will be complete in the first quarter of 2012, with a library fitted out by mid-year.”

Martin Foley addresses residents

Member for Albert Park Martin Foley was invited to the recent Southbank Residents Group meeting to explain what he thought the future had in store for the region.

Mr Foley’s presentation was very open and his major concerns were to ensure Southbank becomes a community and doesn’t just remain a collection of tall buildings.

He suggested Southbank lacked heart and, although the ideas put forward by the City of Melbourne have been good, the one key element the area is missing was a school.

He also addressed concerns over height restrictions in the area, as well as serviced apartment problems currently being experienced by residents.

Vienna comes to Southbank

The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) is currently celebrating its 150th birthday and, part of the special year, it is hosting the blockbuster exhibition Vienna: Art & Design.

Vienna captures a rebellious art movement which started in the Austrian town during the early part of the 20th century.

It is this year’s “Winter Masterpiece”, a nationwide art initiative which was introduced as a way of enticing the masses to visit local art galleries.

The spectacular Vienna is not only a wonderful display of paintings from the era, it also includes many sculptures and physical works.

The display includes many high-profile artists such as Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele and Oskar Kokoschka.

Vienna: Art & Design is open until October 14.

Gustav KLIMT, Portrait Rieder (1860–1927), 1906 oil on canvas 125.8 x 134.0 cm Österreichische Galerie Belvedere, Vienna

Learn about Liquor

New liquor licensing, regulations and education policies will be explained at a free event in the CBD on September 28.

Major points of discussion on the night will include how new guidelines are designed to help noise issues, affect queuing and outdoor areas within establishments.

Guest speakers from Responsible Alcohol Victoria will give a presentation, as well as holding a question and answer session for guests.

The event has been organised by Residents3000 and president Yolande Leonardi said she hoped residents could have their concerns met regarding any liquor-related issues.

The information evening will be held at Purple Room, Multicultural Hub at 506 Elizabeth St from 6pm.
Waterfront guide launched

For the first time both banks of the Yarra River and Docklands are being marketed together, with the release of Melbourne’s waterfront new bible, the Discover Melbourne’s Waterfront guide.

The guide was launched by Yarra River Business Association’s (YRBA) president John Ahern, executive officer Tim Bracher and the Minister for Tourism and Major Events Louise Asher at WTC Wharf last month.

The YRBA executive committee, along with advertisers in the guide and Minister Asher attended the launch at Rivers Edge receptions, before moving over to the Wharf Hotel for a private lunch.

The new tourist guide is a big step towards marketing Melbourne’s waterfront as a single entity.

The centrepiece of the guide is a 3D-perspective landmark map, starting from Punt Rd, running down the Yarra all the way over to Docklands.

The map points out and explains many of the attractions along the waterfront.

The guide highlights many Southbank attractions including Eureka Tower, Southgate, Polly Woodside and the Arts Centre.

This is the first time the YRBA has produced a visitor’s guide in conjunction with the Docklands Chamber of Commerce and Destination Docklands.

Mr Ahern was extremely positive about the new guide, saying promotion of Melbourne’s waterfront was well overdue.

“Because we’re not Sydney Harbour or a San Francisco Bay, Melbourne has tended to be a little publicity-shy about its waterfront attributes, but the range and quality of attractions and services on and along our river gives us nothing to be coy about,” Mr Ahern said.

“All the pieces of the marketing jigsaw are finally starting to fall into place, and it spells a very bright future for the lower Yarra,” he said.

Minister Asher was equally excited about the new marketing strategy the YRBA has undertaken, saying initiatives such as this made it exciting to be back in the tourism portfolio.

“The guide is great for parts of Melbourne people don’t immediately associate with each other,” the Minister said.

The guides had been available for less than a week when launched, but already many of the advertisers said it had generated interest for their businesses.

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SOUTHBANK LOCAL NEWS
Clippity clop, here come the cops

By Yasemin Pelevan

After finishing an intense training program Trigger will be receiving his police badge. But he is not your everyday police officer. Trigger is a police horse.

Hidden in the centre of Southbank is the Victoria Police Mounted Branch. Mounted police patrol our streets and support operational policing and public order management.

Sen-Constable Matthew Astill from the Mounted Branch describes it as Southbank’s hidden jewel.

The “majestic” building is a stable for on-duty police horses. The building will celebrate its 100th birthday next year.

Horses were a primary transport for police officers up until the transition to motorised transport in the early 20th century. But Sen-Constable Astill says horses are still important.

“We are still as relevant now as we were 100 years ago,” Sen-Constable Astill said.

Mounted police officers are present across Victoria, especially in busy areas like Southbank and the CBD.

“Southbank is a highly-valued reference point for Melburnians and tourists,” Sen-Constable Astill said. “Our patrols start out at Southbank and we have patrols through Southbank.”

Mounted officers and police horses are an effective tool in the police force.

“We have an extreme advantage being up high,” he said. “Which is fantastic for curbing anti-social violent behaviour, particularly on weekends.”

“Another advantage is accessibility. Horses go places that cars don’t. And we can travel a lot more kilometres on a horse’s back than we can on foot,” he said.

Horses are an exceptional animal. So exceptional, in fact, that they are trained to battle crime in the frontline alongside Victoria’s toughest police officers.

Sen-Constable Astill says police horses in particular have special traits that separate them from other horses.

“Police horses are unique horses, they have a good nature. It is important that the police horses have the right temperament, ability and height and are bold enough to be able to perform all of our duties,” he said.

Horses are naturally hesitant and fearful animals. At any sign of threat they are known to flee the scene. Loud noises and lots of people often trigger their fear. But police horses are trained to work in urban areas. The horses and riders undergo intense training, to prepare them to deal with violent and often dangerous scenarios.

The horses at the Mounted Branch range from ex-race horses to specially-bred police horses.

“The horses are raised on farms and then work in urban environments with trams, constructions, over-head bridges, demonstrations with people in their faces and flares. All these things really distract horses,” Sen-Constable Astill said.

Apart from their abilities, the personality of a horse is also very important.

“They need to be inquisitive, friendly and trainable, not necessarily a quiet horse,” Leading Sen-Constable Saunders said.

“Police horses need to want to do things that are perhaps not natural to them. They need to be curious about the world,” she said.

It takes up to two years for a police horse to pick up all the core police duties.

“We don’t ever push the horse too fast too soon,” Leading Sen-Constable Saunders said. Every horse is screened and trialled but only a few make it through the training process.

After successfully completing the training, the horses are awarded police badges. The badges are worn on their breast plates, making them official members of the police force.

Southgate refurbishment almost complete

It is one of Melbourne’s most iconic shopping venues, but it is about to get even bigger and better.

The Southgate refurbishment is almost complete, with traders and patrons alike eyeing the end of the tunnel.

The $26 million upgrade has run to schedule and is due for completion in November.

The revamp will welcome many new entities into one of Melbourne’s most iconic shopping and restaurant venues including Lindt Chocolatiers, Kikki K and Grill’d.

The additional shopping options aren’t the only changes. The appearance of the centre’s frontage will be transformed as well as the removal of stairs, making way for escalators, making it easier for everyone to move between levels.

The amenities and facilities will also be upgraded and the internal ceilings, floors and walls will all be refurbished with new finishes and fittings.

Work started on the upgrade in September last year and has steadily progressed.

Head of Dexus Retail Glyn Williams said it was keen to re-position Southgate to become one of Melbourne’s key dining, retail and entertainment destinations.

“We are delighted to welcome these exciting restaurant concepts for our customers which will further enhance Southgate’s reputation as the preferred dining destination for Melburnians,” Mr Williams said.

He also said the company itself was excited about the completion date approaching, stating: “We have had fantastic interest and feedback from restaurateurs and retailers about this next stage of Southgate’s evolution and we look forward to re-launching Southgate to the public in November.”

Comment on this story online: www.southbanklocalnews.com.au
Hats off to our restaurants

Southbank is fast becoming one of the city’s leading dining precincts, according to latest Age Good Food Guide.

The guide lists Rockpool Bar & Grill as the pick of Southbank’s restaurants, after naming it as a prestigious two-hat restaurant – the same rating it received in the 2010 guide. Maze also maintained its rating from last year, with one hat.

Even more impressive for Southbank are three new restaurants in the exclusive guide – Spice Temple, Bistro Guillaume and The Atlantic all joined Maze with one hat.

This cluster of such high-quality eateries gives Southbank a wide range of fine dining right here on our doorstep.

To add to the great result, Neil Perry’s new restaurant Spice Temple also won the award for best wine list of the year.

The award elevates Perry to one of Melbourne’s most renowned restaurateurs, as he is also in charge of Rockpool Bar & Grill.

Despite this, Perry remains humble, saying of his two-hat rating: “It’s a very important award for us and we are honoured that Rockpool Bar & Grill is regarded as one of the Melbourne’s best restaurants.”

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**La Camera turns 10**

*Southgate Italian restaurant La Camera turned 10 last month and, as part of one of its community nights, it invited everyone to come along and celebrate.*

The night’s Italian yum cha theme was complemented by several performances from a selection of the best entertainers to have graced previous community nights at La Camera.

The undoubted highlight of the entertainment was La Camera’s owner Paul Scidone’s daughter Sofia. Dressed head to toe as a princess and undaunted by the attention of a packed house, she sang Adele’s latest song, *Someone like you*. Guests were also treated to opera, a classical string duet, a saxophonist and acoustic performances. The audience was very receptive to all acts and was particularly engaged by a duet between tenor Lino Del Giudice and soprano Samantha L’Ren, when they sang the classic *Time to say goodbye*. The birthday extravaganza coincided with La Camera’s monthly-themed community night and Italian yum cha gave guests a wide array of tastes from the La Camera menu, including pizza, pasta, tiramisu and much more.

Mr Scidone was extremely happy with the response for the night, saying: “We were overwhelmed with the response and the feedback we received for the night. The only unfortunate aspect was the amount of bookings we had to knock back!” He says the community support has been a big factor in his business staying strong during the refurbishment of Southgate, but obviously looks forward to the centre upgrade being complete.

“We are very excited to see the refurbishment of the Southgate complex and although it’s been a long process, we must admit it is starting to look fantastic,” Mr Scidone said.

La Camera’s next themed-community night is a recipe night, on September 26. For more details go to www.lacamerasouthgate.com.

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**Kasabian in Docklands**

With their last album selling almost a million copies and their website bordering on 800,000 “Likes” you wouldn’t think a band like Kasabian would be playing such an intimate venue. But that’s exactly what’s happening, the boys from Leicestershire will be rocking Shed 14 at Peninsula come October 5th and tickets will be like hen’s teeth. Velociraptor, the band’s fourth effort has a release date of September 19th and the second single off the album, “Days Are Forgotten” is already creating a vibe. Not only will this be a one-off intimate event, it’s their only show in Australia amongst their hectic European tour schedule. Kasabian want to hang with us in Docklands and we will welcome them with hands in the air and air guitar solos.

**Australian Hip-Hop Championships**

Now in its 4th year, the AHC has hunted and gathered far and wide to come up with best talent across the great southern land. Twenty-nine crews will compete by breaking, krumping, popping, locking, clowning, jerking, and my personal favourite, spinning on their heads to take out the grand prizes in each of the three categories. The Junior division must be between 7 years and 12 years, the Varsity division are performers between 13 and 21 years of age and the Open Age division is open from 7 years of age and up. Be hip, and hop over to AHC’s website where baseball caps of videos of finalists can be viewed.

**Rachel Berger Holds the Pickle**

When I say Rachel Berger, you might think comedian, you may think fast-food or just food, pickles in fact. Berger, an established Melbourne comical treat, has brought her 2008 show “Hold the Pickle” back for 2011. Usually found rattling off quick punch lines as a stand up, Berger reaches into her theatrical talents and plays multiple characters re-enacting her past family stories. Couldn’t we all!
Giuseppe Arnaldo & Sons

**A very Melbourne Italian experience**

This may sound odd, what with the area being home to a mass of restaurants, Eureka Tower and a little joint called the Casino – but I often find Southbank quite easy to overlook.

A place for tourists maybe, or stag nights after midnight. But Melbourne locals? Too obvious. We tend to like smaller spaces – little gems tucked away that no-one’s heard of but everyone’s talking about ...

But a recent visit left me refreshingly surprised. Making my way past a string of top-notch restaurants (Rockpool, The Atlantic, Bistro Guillaume, Spice Temple, Maze …) I found myself at Giuseppe Arnaldo & Sons – perhaps because it seemed like a little trattoria, not the 150-seat dining establishment it actually is. It makes the best of its location (on the river, but under a major road overpass), using the darkness to create a bit of that Melbourne atmosphere some of the more sparkling restaurants lack.

Inside, walls adorned with diner observations scrawled on red and green cards, a bread station and the odd slab of meat dangling from a hook combine to generate a warm, rustic glow. Staff dressed in bouchers’ jackets look a little like mad scientists, but the novelty is nice.

The menu is stacked with good, honest Italian fare, with a touch of the exciting. I was tempted by the pigs trotter filled with potato and leek mash, but decided to start with the house-made cotechino, celery, marjoram and spinach ($26), but didn’t seem quite right to be so adventurous on a Tuesday.

It was a little difficult to know how to begin. Perhaps the menu’s only fault is, while it contains a good list of salumi, formaggi, antipasti and crudo (before moving onto pastas and main meals), it doesn’t contain a tasting plate. You could make one up yourself, but with each salumi costing between $12 and $16, the cheeses at around $20 each and the antipasti dishes between $18 and $27 – that’s too hard (and expensive!).

We decided to try something from the house-made salumi list and a couple of antipasti.

The waiter recommended a special which had the ossocotto (a cut of salumi from the neck) served with pickled zucchini flowers. The vinegary flowers contrasted fabulously in both texture and flavour against the firm, fatty (in a good way) meat.

The stand-out dish however, was the steamed spanner crab on a bed of Venetian-style polenta, fresh sorrel, chilli, garlic and lemon ($27). Picked from its shell, the moist, flaky crab resting within the soft, buttery polenta practically melted in the mouth. The garlic and chilli gave it a kick, each mouthful packing enough of a punch that I eventually forgot I was paying almost 30 bucks for a wee little saucer of food. Worth every cent.

The arancini ($18) was not just your average rice and cheese ball. Silverbeet and spinach provided a lovely bit of colour while also keeping the four cheeses within from becoming too rich.

Probably a good time to mention the wine. Some great Italian drops available, but my favourite thing was the relatively standard but extremely solid food wines available by the half carafe – at very reasonable prices. Gotta love the half carafe.

Desserts were incredible, a 12-year-old whisky in the gelato affogato ($17) just speaking up over the expresso. The torta di Americano, or blueberry and apple pie ($19), sounded almost too fancy – what with its “rose flavoured sauce” but thankfully, the brown sugar, cinnamon and vanilla custard dominated.

The cool service didn’t quite match the warmth of the meticulously-constructed environment – but I loved it. I want to go back – to Giuseppe’s AND Southbank. The area has clearly matured.

**Location:** Address is Crown Casino, 8 Whiteman Street, but entry is from Southgate Promenade, towards Spencer St.

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**SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS GROUP WITH JOE BAGNARA**

**Open space is needed in Southbank**

After 13 years of existence the Southbank Residents Group is still lobbying for open space in our suburb.

The latest strategy plan remarkably omits a satisfactory solution to the acute lack of public space and the provision of community services.

The SRG was formed in April 1998 by concerned early residents to try and instil some order into this rapidly-growing area of Melbourne.

The developers had taken over and it seemed the legislators had lost control. Little consideration was being given to the long-term needs of the projected thousands of apartment dwellers expected to inhabit this region of Melbourne. Organised planning was virtually non-existent and provision for community facilities and open space was ignored by local and state governments.

It was a developer’s utopia with fortunes to be made by developers in constructing high-rise residential buildings.

Southbank is a complicated area and can be divided primarily into four broad uses: arts, tourism, business and residential.

Something had to be done to integrate these divisions in an orderly and cohesive way, taking into consideration the substantial projected population growth.

Hail the new Southbank Structure Plan 2010, the most recent of about four such plans generated in the last 15 years of our existence. The most significant statement was the expected residential population to grow from the present 11,500 to 32,000 by 2025 and a staggering 74,000 residents by 2040+. Obviously the only way to accommodate these numbers is in high-density, high-rise developments. Remarkably, this 30-year vision of Southbank omits a satisfactory solution to the acute lack of public space and the provision of community services.

The City of Melbourne has deemed that Southbank should have a minimum of 0.26 hectare of open space per 1000 residents. It currently has less than 0.1 hectare per 1000 residents and, to add insult to injury, the council is in the process of selling two thirds of the recently-acquired Boyd Girls School site of 0.77 hectare for private development.

**What is going on in their thinking?** It defies logic that population density and public space are not somehow interrelated. But this is lost in its “tangle of neurons”.

Of course, nothing ever runs smoothly, particularly in government at all levels. Most of our elected representatives would seem to operate in a fog with their long-term vision linked to their electoral term. We are, therefore, constantly monitoring our wonderful location for the seemingly no end of overt changes to the long-term plans, usually to our detriment.

We urgently need men and women of vision who can listen to reason, apply logic and look beyond their elected term of service.

Where are the enlightened LaTrobeans with his contribution to reserve large areas of public parks or the Hoddles who designed the square grid on which Melbourne is built? People like these are painfully absent and Southbank reflects a lack of foresight. It continues to be dictated by developers and their friends at the Ministry of Planning and the autocratic VCAT.

Hopefully all is not lost and the refurbishment of the Boyd Girls School will go to plan and fill a “black hole” in the provision of some services. We hope that our elected representatives at all level of government will emulate those great men and women who have preceded them in developing a long-term vision of Melbourne as a city by the people, for the people.

**Joe Bagnara**

President of the Southbank Residents Group
Dine or shop at NewQuay and you could win the ultimate stay-at-home prize, the incredible Epson HD Digital Home Cinema Projector (EH-TW3600).

Simply spend $30 or more at any participating NewQuay restaurant, café or retailer during any one visit and you’re in the running to win.

We have given away an Epson HD Digital Home Cinema Projector in July and another in August and have one more to give away!!

*For full competition details, and a listing of all participating retailers including our mouth-watering range of international menus, visit newquay.com.au

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HURRY! THIS PROMOTION ENDS 30 SEPTEMBER 2011!
Fashion on the Streets of Southbank

Emma Blyton
LOCATION? South Wharf
WEARS? I’m wearing a light blue denim vest from Savers, black leggings, a black, long-sleeve top, hat from Cotton On for $2 and black lace-up boots.
DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT? I tend to like things that are different so if I see something that’s a bit weird at the shops I’ll buy it.
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK? I have some friends visiting from interstate so I thought I’d bring them down to Southbank for a bit of a shopping spree.
WHERE ARE YOU FROM? I’m currently living in Essendon.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? I love boots, so a good pair of boots is definitely a must-have. I also love leather jackets and flannels.
WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? Individuality. Wearing something that’s different from everyone else.

Maria Karallis
LOCATION? South Wharf
WEARS? Today I’m wearing a black dress with a white pattern that I bought from Glue, black tights and black lace-up shoes from General Pants Co.
DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT? It would have to be either my black skinny jeans or my leather jacket. Actually, it would probably be this dress.
WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? Confidence makes all the difference in pulling off an outfit.

Cara White
LOCATION? South Wharf
WEARS? A peachy-patterned dress from Mossman with black tights and black lace-up boots.
DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT? It’s kind of changed recently. It used to be quite simple but now it’s more simple but with a little bit of a twist.
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK? I work at Mossman at South Wharf.
WHERE ARE YOU FROM? Collingwood.
WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? It would be a good pair of boots.
WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT? Confidence in what you’re wearing.

Fashion of Southbank on the streets

Going bananas for orange, peach and lime
By Nicola St John

It was a sunny start to Melbourne Spring Fashion Week, and I don’t just mean the weather.

Vivid yellows, blues, green and orange signalled the start of a colour-soaked season. Bright is the new black, and even devout black-clad Melburnians are sure to rust the drab tones of winter for a bolder palette. However, in a sea of coral, turquoise and aqua, how do you stop yourself looking like a tropical fish, a licorice allsort or bad cocktail? Taking cues from last week’s runway shows, the “hot” colours of the season are bright pinks and red, vivid blues, greens and peach and lime. Designers such as Gorman, Obus, Christine and Megan Park showed us how to be more fashion forward and less fruit-salad with well-matched colour blocking, tonal contrasting and adding bright accessories to lift an outfit into the trend of Spring/Summer 2011.

Obus’ collection featured a heavy Mexican influence, channeling the bold and brash colours and textures of Frida Kahlo. Its collection not only mixed block colours of yellow, blue and purple, but also contrasting stripes, florals and geometric patterns. If you’re not prepared to go all the way and mix your neon yellow stripes with fluoro green, the silhouettes and subtle colours of Yeojin Bae may be more your style. Taking this season’s colour to a new elegant level, the tailoring of its collection mixed a variety of hemlines to create simple shapes for spring. If you’d rather be eating your fruit salad than looking like one, perhaps try adding a bright pump, a neon belt and some vivid lipstick to bring some spring into your step. You’ll feel decidedly delicious.
Claudia thinks Southbank is a beautiful place to work. She enjoys the close proximity of entertainment, restaurants and shopping. She said it was great to be able to enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants in the area. According to Claudia, the evening is the best time to enjoy Southbank. “It’s really beautiful at night with all the lights,” she said.

Lauren has only been working in Southbank for two weeks – and already loves the area. Lauren thinks the location of Southbank is great because it is close to the city but is not right in the middle of it. The riverside view is also great, she said. Because Lauren works long hours, she often has breakfast in Southbank and sometimes picks up dinner on the way home. Although she has no favourite restaurants yet Lauren thinks that trying a lot of different places is an enjoyable way to find one.

CLAUDIA KINNERSLY-KING, 22
Retail assistant, Peter Alexander

LAUREN REID, 27
Manager, Kikki K

AMY SONG, 27
Shop assistant, In A Rush

MARK ROGERS, 24
Bartender, P.J O’Briens

HEATHER LORNEY, 22
Waitress, World Restaurant and Bar

JOEL CLAFFEY, 25
Chef, Othello’s Bar and Cafe

HEATHER LORNEY, 22
Waitress, World Restaurant and Bar

CLAUDIA KINNERSLY-KING, 22
Retail assistant, Peter Alexander

Ruby receives a $25 gift voucher from Pet Stock South Melbourne

Ruby Phillips has it all worked out.

The Australian Silky Terrier cross-Long Haired Jack Russell gets to go on walks in the morning and afternoon, and sleeps in between. It’s the perfect lifestyle for an inner city dog, and Ruby loves every minute of it. Ruby and owner Amelia Phillips moved into the Keep apartments with Amelia’s partner Grant Johnston two years ago, and it’s fair to say Ruby has adjusted to the lifestyle very well. “She gets a walk every morning and night, and in between sleeps and enjoys the view from her sofa-couch, watching the world go by,” Grant said.

Ruby is a very obedient dog, even winning an obedience award as a puppy. Despite this there is one thing that can lead her astray. “Ruby’s one vice is food, she can smell a bread crumb from 15 metres away and if you don’t let her eat it on the morning walk, she will make a beeline to it on the nightly walk to see if it is still there,” Grant said.

Ruby is also very popular amongst other dogs in Southbank, and loves meeting up with other members of the “Southbank Pack”, Titus, Buckley, Chloe and Charlie.

Amy has been working in Southbank for three months. In that time she has found it to be a really nice area with lots of lovely people around and plenty of things to do. Amy enjoys visiting the different restaurants in the area.

Joel works as a chef in Southbank five or six days a week. He likes working in the area because it gives him the opportunity to learn new skills. Joel thinks that one of the best parts about Southbank is the Eureka Tower. “The view from the top is pretty cool,” he said.

Mark likes working in Southbank because of the location. He lives nearby and because of this he said it was like having “everything on my doorstep”. Mark said the area was a great place to enjoy a few drinks with mates, especially as the weather starts to get warmer.

Heather thinks that Southbank has a great vibe. She enjoys working in the area because her customers are nice and people in Southbank are friendly. Another positive for Heather is that there are plenty of nice restaurants and bars to visit after work.
Businesses in Southbank

SOUTHBANK-BASED BUSINESSES WISHING TO BE PROFILED IN THIS SECTION SHOULD EMAIL: ADVERTISING@SOUTHBANKLOCALNEWS.COM.AU

SOUTHBANK REAL ESTATE READY TO EVOLVE

“I chose Evolve as the name for this business because the word sums us up and also applies to Southbank,” says Gary Cakir.

“We are growing and developing as a real estate business, and so is Southbank as a place to live, work and visit.”

Gary is the principal at Evolve Real Estate, on Queensbridge St. He has grown the business from a one-man operation into a large private company. In July 2010, he decided to expand Evolve with a roll out of franchises to add to a small number of company-owned metropolitan locations.

The head office remains firmly in Southbank.

“There is so much potential for this whole Southbank precinct to keep growing and developing," Mr Cakir said.

“Our aim is to be a modern, innovative, one-stop property agency that covers all aspects of property transactions, with real estate, conveyancing and financial services.”

He said the business’s website was sophisticated but user-friendly, and “is regarded by international and domestic users as the most usable and informative website in the property market.”

“Evolve Real Estate has embraced technology and recognised the importance of strategically understanding the online market,” Mr Cakir says.

But Evolve also espouses old fashion values, Mr Cakir said, pointing to a message on the business’s website: “There are no short cuts to a job-well done. The success of Evolve’s branch and staff is attributed to expert knowledge, determination and attention to detail”.

Mr Cakir is developing Evolve beyond the core real estate role of residential sales and leasing.

“We offer commercial sales, property management, executive leasing, financial services, conveyancing, legal services and even career training through Evolve Total Real Estate Training,” he said.

“Service is what makes Evolve stand out from all the rest - that’s our difference.”

Mr Cakir is certified with the Real Estate Institute of Victoria and an auctioneer with plenty of flair, with more than 100 auctions under his belt.

For more call Evolve on 9690 8800 or visit www.evolverealestate.com.au

ALL LOOKS GOOD FROM UP HERE!

The outlook is all good for Southbank, according to one of the precinct’s “biggest” attractions, Eureka Skydeck 88.

“The whole Southbank area just keeps growing bigger and bigger, with more going for it all the time," says the Skydeck’s operations manager, Rob Rabba.

Rob has a unique vantage point - his workplace is 88 floors up and at 285m, lays claim to being the highest observation deck in the southern hemisphere.

It also has the hair-raising “Edge Experience” - a glass cube which slides out of the building and holds up to 12 people. It’s as close as you would want to come to “walking on air”.

“Southbank is buzzing with activity,” Mr Rabba said. “It’s great to walk down the Yarra River bank, especially on a Saturday and Sunday with all the buskers and terrific cafes and restaurants.”

“Car parking couldn’t be easier. Below us in the Eureka Tower, Wilson car parking is only $8 all day on weekends and we validate the ticket here, so it’s reduced to just $5.”

“Anzac Day is unbelievable, when the air force’s F/A-18 jets fly by. The hot air balloons are colourful and seem really close.”

Mr Rabba said the right view was incredible, “especially when the MCG and AAMI Stadium are all lit up”.

“The Australian Open tennis is great too. And Channel Nine films the Carols by Candlelight from up here,” he said.

“It makes you realise how lucky we are to live in Melbourne. And Southbank is special.”

“When the Skydeck opened on May 15, 2007, we brought new life into Southbank. This tourist attraction is helping to put Southbank on the world map.”

“The appeal of Southbank, and the role Eureka Skydeck 88 has in the local community, is a key feature of our marketing strategy.”

Eureka Skydeck 88 employs 55 staff who look after half a million visitors each year. Entrance is on Riverside Quay, next to City Rd, Southbank. Call 9693 8888 or visit www.eurekaskydeck.com.au

It’s so tall you can’t miss it.

Comment on this story online: www.southbanklocalnews.com.au
MUSICAL PICTURE BOOKS
26th September, 11:30am-12:10pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
'The Night Garden' by Elise Hurst (author/illustrator) and 'The Rainbirds' by David Metzenbier (author) and Sally Rippin (illustrator) are brought to life at the Melbourne Recital Centre these school holidays. www.melbournerecital.com.au

STILL AWAKE STILL!
28th September - 12th October
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
Still Awake Still is a vibrant new performance for families that celebrates music and creativity. Part-concert, part-theatre and gloriously anarchic cabaret for kids. For more information: www.theartcentre.com.au

MOSZ' THE MAGIC FLUTE
11th-16th October
State Theatre, 100 St Kilda Road
Infusing this opera with the distinctive sound of South African instrumentation, the world-famous Isango Ensemble have breathed new life into Mozart's timeless opera, The Magic Flute. www.melbourneresital.com.au

HEPDA GABLER
19th-23rd October
Playhouse, 100 St Kilda Road
Schauabuhne Berlin, under Thomas Ostermeier, revisits Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, transplanting its detached malevience into a postmodern, digitised nightmare. For more information: www.melbourneresital.com.au

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA - TCHAIKOVSKY IN ITALY
25th October, 11am-1pm
Ivaski Auditorium, ABC Southbank Centre Program: Piazzolla, Libertango transcribed for clarinet, cells and piano, Brahms, Clarinet Trio in A minor, Tchaikovsky, Souvenir de Florence, Op.70
Information: www.mso.com.au

I WANNA BE A MERMAID – COCO’S LUNCH
7th October, 10am-12:30pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
I Wanna Be A Mermaid is an interactive musical experience featuring new seaside songs and classic Coco hits. Come and explore the magical world of underwater a capella. www.melbourneresital.com.au

SUN RINGS
15th-16th October
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
The Kronos Quartet, one of the most esteemed string quartets in the world, presents the Australian debut of its highly acclaimed Sun Rings. www.melbourneresital.com.au

ATOM AWARDS
21st October, 7pm-12am
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
The 2011 ATOM AWARDS are Australia and New Zealand’s most prestigious awards for achievements in film, television, animation and educational content. For more information: www.atomawards.org

BOLLYWOOD WORKSHOP - SCHOOL HOLIDAY EVENT
28th September - 2nd October
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
Discover the music and dance of Bollywood. Learn how to move your body and twist your hands to the exotic sounds of India in this simple and energetic Bollywood routine. theartscentre.com.au

TAIKO DRUMMING WORKSHOP
28th September - 2nd October
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
Learn about Japan’s history and vibrant culture through its unique music and rhythms. The primal beats of the taiko drums and the haunting melodies of the Japanese flute with Toshi Sakamoto. www.theartcentre.com.au

BUILD A BOOK WORKSHOP
28th September - 2nd October
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
In our bookmaking workshops, kids will do just that - fold the pages, write a story and create the illustrations for their very own books. For more information and bookings www.theartcentre.com.au

ARThUR LAURENtS “WEST SIDE STORY” PREsented BY VCA
8th September - 18th September
VCA School of Performing Arts, 234 St Kilda Rd
Graduating Music Theatre Students in their final major performance, with an orchestra of over 20 musicians. Contact: vca-musictheatre@unimelb.edu.au

AUSTRALIAN VOICES CONCERT
26th October 2011, 6pm
The Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
In affirming our country’s significant musical lineage, Melbourne Recital Centre and the Australian National Academy of Music presents the Australian debut of its highly acclaimed Sun Rings. www.melbourneresital.com.au

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YOUNG ACTORS STUDIO
Sundays, 11.00am – 5.00pm
Australian Ballet School, 2 Kavanagh St
This course develops acting skills for stage and screen, giving access to specialist tuition in a variety of acting styles. It offers opportunities to work with other talented young people in an ensemble. Contact www.nida.edu.au

VCA ART: GRAD FORUM
18th October
Margaret Lawrence Gallery - Victorian College of Arts, 234 St Kilda Rd
VCA invites you to a private viewing of Andreas Enen: The Solo Projects at the Magnat Lawrence Gallery to launch our new art graduate programs for 2012. Contact: sabird@unimelb.edu.au

PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6pm-8pm
MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS
For more information: www.melbournefestival.com.au

MARY SPENCER:
"HAPPIER THAN EVER"
2nd October, 2011, 6pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Mary Spencer: “Happier Than Ever” is a unique combination of musical and theatrical elements. www.melbournefestival.com.au

TAIKO DRUMMING WORKSHOP
28th September - 2nd October
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
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BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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FOR SALE
299/100 Kavanagh Street, Southbank
TOP FLOOR PARADISE, PRICED TO SELL!!!
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car spaces
Offering enchanting views with a Southern aspect, encapsulating Albert Park Lake, Port Phillip Bay, and both to the West & South of Melbourne, is this wonderful penthouse style apartment.

FOR SALE
1005/90 Lorimer Street, Docklands
MODERN, SECURE AND CONVENIENT!
2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 car space
Located on the 10th floor of Mirvac’s Tower 5 building is this delightful 2-bedroom apartment with expansive bay views. You will be amazed at what this apartment has to offer.

WANTED TO BUY
Our qualified buyers require the following properties:
APARTMENTS
3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car spaces - Docklands/Southbank precinct
2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 car spaces - Docklands/Southbank precinct
2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 car space - Docklands/Southbank precinct
1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, 1 car space - Docklands/Southbank precinct
INNER CITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT SITE
Development site suitable for multi level apartments - with or without planning permits

RENTALS
ATTENTION LANDLORDS
SAME DAY, OBLIGATION-FREE RENTAL APPRAISALS PROVIDED!
‘Your investment is our priority’

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