Council reviews planning process

While the Freshwater Place residents who protested against the approved Queensbridge Tower at 1-15 Queensbridge Street have lost their battle, they have gone some way to changing the rules for future concerned residents.

Late last year the City of Melbourne acknowledged the timeline and process of the council’s involvement in the planning application for structures over the 25,000 square metre threshold needed to be reviewed.

All planning permits over 25,000 square metres are still sent directly to the Minister for Planning, but the council admits the Queensbridge Tower approval has forced it to reconsider its action for these proposals.

Councillor Stephen Mayne told Southbank Local News the council is reviewing its entire planning process.

“We are having a broader look at our planning process. No-one is happy with the Freshwater Place situation. Because the council doesn’t have the power, we need to increase transparency of our roles in the process,” Cr Mayne said.

He went on to say that the council would look at different options, such as publishing its thoughts online.

Queensbridge Tower has been the most controversial planning approval the city has seen. I’m very sympathetic to the residents of Freshwater Place and their plight,” Cr Mayne said.

“If we had our time again, council would have been more vocal.”

Freshwater Place Owners Corporation chairman Peter Renner said the residents had had some small wins with the council, including ensuring that proposed developments were assessed by all councillors before council’s recommendation was made to the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD).

He also said he had met with a number of councillors who had expressed sympathy and support for the residents during these processes.

“We are somewhat heartened that the council is reviewing its process,” Mr Renner said.

Mr Renner was cautious not to overstate the progress, as he believes the residents are still without the basic right of input into planning matters, given that the DPCD has the final say.

“We are still dismayed by the State Government’s continued lack of residential rights for buildings over 25,000 square metres (the threshold for planning permits to be sent directly to the DPCD), which is most developments that are proposed in Southbank.”

A spokesperson from the DPCD said it had opportunities for residents to air their concerns and encouraged them to do so.

“No, this isn’t a Ted Whitten re-enactment group, it’s actually free Tai Chi lessons, held by Yulong Washu Tai Chi, right in the heart of Southbank. Find out more on page 4.
Big crowds behave well and celebrate new year

Southbank may not have had its own live-site to view the New Years Eve spectacular, but it was certainly involved, with many of our buildings being utilised in the fireworks display.

As usual Melbourne’s tallest building, Eureka, was central to the display, which lit up the night. Other buildings along the river, including Freshwater Place and Crown Towers, also enjoyed the spotlight as fireworks were set off all over Melbourne.

An estimated 500,000 people found their way into the city to enjoy the celebration.

Despite the masses the crowd was reasonably well behaved. Victoria Police’s Deputy Commissioner, Tim Cartwright, said most people looked after themselves on what is a notoriously busy night for authorities.

“The majority of people did the right thing and showed respect to those around them.”

There were a lot of families out and about, and it was good to see them having fun,” Mr Cartwright said.

The Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, said the celebrations again showcased a great side of Melbourne.

“A significant amount of organisation and planning goes into the biggest celebration of the year. We always plan for the worst, but yet again New Year’s Eve showed the best of Melbourne,” Cr Doyle said.

“The majority of people did the right thing, celebrating in a happy and responsible way. It was a great start to the new year and I’d like to wish everyone a safe, healthy and prosperous 2013,” he added.

riverside dining melbourne style.

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Paparazzi dogs on show

It seems the photographic journalists at “Southbank Local News” might have to watch their backs as there is a new breed of snappers in town.

Paparazzi Dogs is an artistic display that was specially commissioned for Federation Square and is the work of Sydney-based artists Marc and Gillie Schattner.

The dogs were installed in January and are part of Federation Square’s Creative Program, which is running over summer.

The installation will be available to the public until April.

Southbank Local News was unable to locate the dogs’ Instagram account, so we are unsure where the photos produced by the dogs are being published.

Waterfront committee formed

Following the success of the inaugural Melbourne Waterfront Forum last October, a new Waterfront Connections Committee was formed last month and is being chaired by Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) president John Ahern.

The committee is made up of business representatives including Mr Ahern, Stephen Clement (Docklands Chamber of Commerce), Philip Hill (WTC Wharf) and Mario Natoi (Crown).

It also includes council representatives Robert Doyle (Lord Mayor), Doug Jarvis and Mario Natoi (Crown).

The group held its first meeting in December to establish its purpose.

It was concluded that the group would specifically focus on water transportation, a move that lent itself to Cr Doyle’s pre-election promise to trial a water shuttle service. (Our story on page 6 covers the new WTC Wharf Water Taxi, which is a private service and only runs on Fridays and weekends. The committee is looking at integrated, full-time transport options.)

The group felt that, while many people had talked about water transport, it had always been a disjointed discussion, which is why a successful water transport service has never flourished. The plan is to use the committee to unite all interested parties.

Mr Ahern said the first meeting was a success and he looked forward to building on the ideas that were produced during it.

“The Waterfront Connections Committee aims to continue the sense of co-operation and mutual interest that the October Waterfront Forum generated. Initially we will be concentrating on water transportation between waterfront precincts and even beyond, but in the future it could grow into wider topics, such as joint marketing initiatives,” Mr Ahern said.

“We are really looking forward to Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and Clem Newton-Brown’s input in 2013,” Mr Ahern added.
Man arrested after burnout, crashes and assault

A 19-year-old man was arrested by police after a string of incidents in Southbank during January.

The mayhem started after the Narre Warren man allegedly did a burnout in front of police. The Melbourne Highway Patrol then attempted to intercept the man. He refused to stop for police on Southbank Boulevard.

He then drove to the intersection of Power St, where he crashed into a Holden ute.

Not content with that damage, he then allegedly crossed the median strip, travelling the wrong direction onto the Westgate Freeway off ramp and collided with a Mercedes.

He then got out of the car and assaulted the driver of the Mercedes, who was forced to hospital with minor injuries.

He attempted to flee the scene, but was arrested by police a short time after.

Boyd meeting rooms come at a cost

The Boyd library community meeting rooms now come at a cost to those wanting to use them. The City of Melbourne started charging for use of the principal’s office and assembly hall at the start of this year.

Thankfully community groups won’t be asked to dig too deep. The hourly rate for the Assembly Hall is $10.

For commercial use the space comes at a hefty price, $90 per hour or $630 for a day.

Councillor Richard Forster said the cost brought Boyd in line with other buildings of its type around the city.

“Boyd has adopted a co-located service model that provides for a library, maternal and child health and family counselling services, including playgroups and new parent groups, artist studios, community meeting rooms and a cafe,” Mr Foster said.

“The charging of user fees is common across all our community facilities and we have kept community groups informed that fees will be in place from January 1, 2013,” he added.

He also made the point that the city was careful to establish community activity in the area and as such wanted to differentiate between community and commercial groups within Boyd.

“The fee structure ensures government, education, small business and community groups are not charged at the full commercial rate, as the City of Melbourne recognises the importance of having affordable facilities available to our local community.”

Comment on this story online: www.southbanklocalnews.com.au

The perfect way to start the day

Struggling to get out of bed this morning? The solution may be closer than you’d expect.

As part of the community activities at the Boyd community hub, The City of Melbourne is providing free Tai Chi classes for all.

The classes, run by Yulong Tai Chi, are held every Friday at 8am out the front of the community centre.

Participants enjoy an hour of Tai Chi, including an extensive warm up and several moves designed to create stability, strength and balance. The classes are led enthusiastically by Yulong’s Lily Sun.

Yulong Tai Chi’s Tara Brayshaw said the classes were quickly establishing themselves as a must-do for locals, from the fitness fanatic to the beginner who was just wanting help getting out of bed in the morning.

“We’re lucky to have such a great location. It’s a group of fantastic people who are really helping to build a community atmosphere here,” Ms Brayshaw said.

She also said the classes were designed so that both beginners and experienced Tai Chi participants could get something out of them.

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Moomba line-up set to rock

With the Moomba parade permanently moving to St Kilda Rd the excitement is building for Southbank locals, after the music line-up was announced for the famous festival last month.

Country queen Kasey Chambers, folk singer Bob Evans and rock legend Mark Seymour head the list of home-grown acts set to entertain the crowd during the March Labour day long-weekend.

The acts will feature at a number of sites including Birrarung Marr, Alexandra Gardens and along the banks of the Yarra River.

Moomba program director Ros Abercrombie said the musical entertainment was a vital cog for the Moomba celebrations.

“Last year we showed fans that you don’t need to spend hundreds of dollars to enjoy a full weekend of quality live music. This year we’ve put together a program of high calibre Australian acts across an even more diverse range of genres,” Ms Abercrombie said.

She also said it didn’t matter what time of day you were around the multiple stages, as you would be able to hear great music.

Moomba line-up set to rock

Australia Day festivities

There will be plenty of opportunities to celebrate Australia day in Southbank this year.

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) is holding the official Australia Day luncheon on the Thursday preceding it, January 24.

The business lunch is $135 a ticket or $1200 for a table of ten and will be attended by the Governor and Premier of Victoria.

There are also plenty of less formal ways to celebrate, such as Federation Square’s free concert, as part of its Fed Square Live Summer Series.

To conclude the day fireworks will be set off around Melbourne, with great viewing anywhere along the Yarra River.

Blanket celebrations

300 Blankets held its Christmas and new year party at Queensbridge Square in December, as the charity celebrated a year of hard work.

The charity, which helps supply blankets to many of Melbourne’s homeless, also held fund-raising events here in Southbank throughout the year.

Director Warren Tu said the barbecue was the perfect way to thank the group’s tireless volunteers.

“The location was fantastic as our cases are focussed in the Melbourne CBD,” Mr Tu said.
The riverfront saw thousands flock for the Year of the Snake celebration last year. 

After years of longing for a water taxi service for the Yarra River, WTC Wharf has answered the call, launching the WTC Water Taxi service late last year. 

The loop has four stops: WTC Wharf, South Wharf, Southgate and Federation Square. 

A fifth stop, at ANZ Wharf in Docklands is available on Fridays between 4pm and 7pm. 

The service has enlisted the use of Melbourne Water Taxis and Classic Steamboat Cruises to provide and drive the boats. 

The service is available between 4pm and 7pm on Fridays and 12 noon and 6pm on weekends. 

WTC Wharf’s Philip Hill said the initiative was a long time coming and would help the activation of the waterfront, especially now that there was much to see and do along the river. 

“Yarra loop is a reliable and affordable option for commuters who need to travel from one end of the city to the other and is sure to be popular with workers heading to waterfront locations on Friday evenings,” Mr Hill said.

The party continues

You may have thought all the new year celebrations were done and dusted for another 12 months but Southbank gets a second chance to party on, with huge events planned for Chinese New Year, over the weekend February 8 to 10.

The riverfront saw thousands flock for the giant party last year and again the crowds will descend on Crown Promenade as the Riverwalk Hawker’s Bazaar reopens for an 11th year.

2013 is the year of the snake in the Chinese calendar, a year that is associated with beauty and wisdom, esoteric knowledge and spiritual discovery.

Perhaps the highlight of the bazaar is the open karaoke sessions, which offers patrons the opportunity to take the stage and belt out their favourite song in front of the expected 100,000 guests per day.

Southbank Local News staff are hoping Gangnam Style is on the playlist so we get a chance to sing!

The party will conclude as all good shindigs should, with a massive fireworks display on and around the river on Saturday and Sunday night.

“For Melbourne’s visitors, it is a very economical way to travel up or down the Yarra River and around the city loop,” he added.

The Yarra River Business Association has endorsed the water loop, with president John Ahern saying the service would become a cornerstone of the city.

“The WTC Yarra Loop service is a welcome addition to Melbourne’s transport network, and is a landmark step towards greater activation and integration of Yarra River landmarks and destinations,” Mr Ahern said.

“It is a great asset for local tourism and elevates Melbourne to the other great river cities of the world,” he added.

The WTC Yarra Loop is a private entity, with WTC Wharf believing the model is a sustainable one.

Southbank set for White Night

Melbourne is upping the ante as the major events capital with the launch of the first ever White Night Melbourne, an all-night celebration that will open the city up to visitors between 7pm and 7am on February 23 and 24.

The streets will be lit up and Southbank institutions such as the Arts Centre, Southgate and Malthouse Theatre will be central to the fun.

Premier and Minister for the Arts Ted Baillieu was on board an oh-so-Melbourne tram to make the announcement with festival organiser Andrew Walsh.

“It’s not every day that a new major event is unveiled on a tram, but White Night Melbourne is an event like no other,” Mr Baillieu said.

St Kilda Rd, Melbourne Recital Centre, Hamer Hall, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne Theatre Company and Eureka Skydeck 88 are also featuring throughout the evening.

Exhibitions, street performances, fashion installations, film screenings, multimedia projections, concerts, dance, interactive events – the most creative ideas of local and international artists and designers from all disciplines will be on display.

The White Night Melbourne experience aims to challenge people’s perceptions and get people to notice what they see and know in a totally new light,” Mr Walsh said.

“Visitors can expect the unexpected. Flinders Street Station will be transformed into a live music amphitheatre, stages set upon rolling tram cars on St Kilda Rd will feature circus and music performers, an inflatable cinema screen will be running at Birrarung Marr, an underground car park will host an art exhibition, and ‘pop-up’ food stalls will tantalise the hungry crowd,” Mr Baillieu said.

“Our city will become a canvas and a playground with many streets turned into pedestrian thoroughfares, projections lighting up the city, and plenty for all ages to explore and participate in,” he added.

“Exhibitions, street performances, fashion installations, film screenings, multimedia projections, concerts, dance, interactive events – the most creative ideas of local and international artists and designers from all disciplines will be on display.”
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Open season

The Australia Open tennis tournament is just down the road and as a consequence plenty of the competitors have spent time in Southbank over the last couple of weeks.

Many are staying in hotels here, while a select few descended on Crown, for its Tennis Players Party. Players including Maria Sharapova, Li Na, James Blake and David Nalbandian enjoyed the celebrations, while Australia’s Davis Cup captain Pat Rafter (pictured below) also made an appearance.

The tournament is on from January 13 to 27.
This immaculate apartment comprises bamboo timber flooring and is conveniently located within easy reach of the nearby CBD. Southbank Promenade and cosmopolitan South Melbourne, ensuring its suitability for investors and owner-occupiers alike. Features include: Secure car space, owner’s fitout, split-cycle heating/cooling in living area, laundry facilities in bathroom (drier included), tram stop on the doorstep, impressive building, facilities include a heated indoor swimming pool, tennis court, gym, BBQ terrace.

Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964

This luxurious & spacious near new two bedroom apartment located on the top floor in the newly completed Atlantis building comes fully furnished and presents the latest in inner-city living. The unit features a modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances and ample cupboard space that opens to a dining/living area which leads to a balcony with spectacular bay and Dockland views. This apartment is great for an investment or perfect for someone just starting out in Melbourne.

Lina D’Ambrosio 0430 939 851

Located on the 21st floor is this great quality huge 1 bedroom 1 Bathroom 1 Car Space super condition apartment. Includes Modern kitchen fittings, stainless steel Miele appliances including cook-top, oven, range-hood and dishwasher. This new apartment, too a generous size bedroom with Bills. Included also video intercom and resort style facilities. VUE GRANDE Southbank is situated within walking distance to Melbourne CBD. Southbank Promenade and restaurants

Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964

Southbank 327/9 White Swan Street
NO.1 FOR LOCATION & VIEWS
1 1 1
Private sale
$430,000
By appointment

This generous sized two bedroom apartment features fabulous modern kitchen with Gaggenau stainless steel appliances, gas and electric cooking, stainless steel fridge & dishwasher, ample cupboard space, open plan living and dining with floor to ceiling windows allowing loads of natural light. Main bedroom with built-in robes and Italian tiling throughout. Second bedroom is also generous in size and has built-in robes.

Lina D’Ambrosio 0430 939 851

Southbank 2107/63 Whiteman Street
GREAT LOCATION TO LIVE OR INVEST
1 1 1
Private Sale
$450,000
By appointment

Melbourne 3003/67 Spencer Street
LUXURIOUS & BRAND NEW!
1 1 1
Private sale
$525,000
By appointment

Southbank 2107/8 Kavanagh Street Southbank
TRIPTYCH WILL AMAZE YOU
2 2 2
Private Sale
$510,000
By appointment

Southbank 1201/109 Clarendon Street
EXCELLENT AND AFFORDABLE
1 1 1
Private Sale
$430,000
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Southbank 1403 – 65 Whiteman Street
2 BEDROOM WITH A VIEW
1 1 1
Private Sale
$658,000
By appointment

Docklands
Promenade
262/355 Victoria Harbour
WORTH EVERY MILLION
2 3 3
Private Sale
$1.8 mil
By appointment

Docklands
Promenade
262/355 Victoria Harbour
WORTH EVERY MILLION
2 3 3
Private Sale
$1.8 mil
By appointment

Melbourne
451/7 Spencer Street
GRAND OPULENCE
2 1 1
Private sale
$575,000
By appointment

Imagine yourself living in this luxury two storey sub penthouse on the 26th floor at Dock 5 premier and award winning development. Boasting 3 spacious bedrooms (all with ensuites) plus study, 2 bathrooms plus additional powder room and an expansive open plan kitchen / dining / living area, surrounded by floor to ceiling windows. This prestige apartment features white marble bench tops, butler’s pantry, large laundry, large study, balcony, European bar fridge + wine fridge, and large bar counter / bar stools, and billiard bar room, storage room and wine cellar.

Glenn Donnelly 0419 998 235

Nearly new city pad within walking distance to Crown casino and Southbank promenade. Functional floor plan includes fitted kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and ample cupboard space. Good size bedroom with two way ensuite and a second room which could be used as a large study or optional second bedroom. Secure under cover car park and the use of a fully equipped gym and spa pool.

Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964
**THE ARTS PRECINCT**

"Music is important in the lives of people of all ages.” This is the mantra that Lauris Hing hoped would carry her music lessons, Moving Into Music (MIM) forward into the new year.

For over 10 years MIM has been providing music lessons based from Allans and Billy Hyde music stores in the eastern suburbs and the CBD.

When those stores closed late last year, MIM needed a new home. Founder and principal Lauris Hing put the call out and was thrilled when St John’s Southgate answered.

Located right next door to the IBM and Herald Sun towers, and accessible from both the Riverfront Promenade and City Rd, St Johns was the perfect location for the school to continue to service the CBD patrons, and also opens up MIM to the exciting suburb Southbank is fast becoming.

“The Southbank community already enjoys world class restaurants, the Arts Centre precinct with its concert hall, recital centre and galleries and easy access to transport, shopping and entertainment. Now Southbank and its people will also have a local music school” Ms Hing said.

“Learning music should be stimulating, accessible and fun. It is never too early or too late to embark on your musical journey.”

She also said the church had proved to be the perfect place for music lessons and since moving in many additional benefits of the location have come to light.

“St John’s and MIM share a love of music and the belief in its importance in the lives of the Southbank community. It also means we can have extended teaching hours, including daytime, after-work and weekend instrumental lessons,” Ms Hing said.

*Continued over page ...*
“We can also now open up new classes for families – to enable babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers to begin their lives with music.”

It was also discovered the church has a “bunker” which was perfect for drum lessons, meaning students get to learn on a full acoustic kit, which is very rare, as noise restrictions in many areas usually mean electronic kits are used in lessons.

Ms Hing said it was a great location for workers, who could easily pop down for a lesson on their lunch breaks, saying: “You can do better than sitting at the desk to eat lunch! Recharge your batteries, get serious about your work life balance and seize the opportunity to engage the creative side of your brain.”

She also said MIM boasted some very talented musicians as teachers, saying: “Not only are they well qualified but they are also highly skilled performers.”

“They are regulars at gigs, they write, produce and record music in Melbourne’s thriving live music scene.”

With this quality right on our doorstep, there is no reason why Southbank can’t “make a resolution to learn music in 2013!” Ms Hing said.

Mr Harley is an established businessman. Premier and Minister for the Arts, Ted Baillieu, said he brought a great level of expertise to the trust.

“Mr Harley’s professional background, strategic acumen, corporate governance experience and extensive involvement across the heritage and philanthropic sectors, will be a great asset to Arts Centre Melbourne in this next stage of its development.”

Signal 37 is back with a program of workshops already underway and the promise of a free showcase coming up on January 26.

Signal 37 gives young Melburnians a great opportunity to learn art, dance, curate and design from recognised international artists in the intensive courses.

Councillor Rohan Leppert said the council was pleased to be able to offer youngsters such a great opportunity.

“This summer 150 young people from diverse backgrounds will get the chance to gain valuable experiences by working with professional artists, developing skills across a wide range of art forms and strengthening social networks,” Cr Leppert said.

The studio is just over the river, behind Flinders St station.
Celebrate the marvellous music of Mozart, as performed by Orchestra Victoria and musicians and alumni from the Australian Academy of Music in a mid-week morning concert with host Colin Fox.

Spend an hour with good company, light refreshments and great music including, Wagner’s Siegfried Idyll, Leopold Mozart’s Concert in D for trumpet and Mozart’s Les petits riens.

Wed 20 February 11am Complimentary morning tea from 10.15am Tickets $35 ($26 concession/senior) Four concert series package to the complete Mostly Mozart 2013 season only $112 ($83.20)

Transaction fees may apply

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Transaction fees may apply
**BENAUD TRIO: FRENCH CONNECTION**

January 17

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street

The Benaud Trio will take you on a French vacation with some of the most wonderful chamber music ever written. Saint Saëns’ first trio was inspired by the terrain and folk music of the French Pyrenees. It has a breezy simplicity and charming youthfulness which is contagious.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

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**ROKIA TRAORÉ**

January 17

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street

Mali’s Rokia Traoré is “the finest and most adventurous female singer in Africa” according to London’s Guardian newspaper. The daughter of a diplomat, Traoré grew up immersed in both African and European traditions, and her music reflects this.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

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**INVISIBLE ME**

January 17-19

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street

Invisible Me follows the adventures of Stripey, a baby Emu, as he searches for his place in the vast Australian bush. Based on Wendy Binks’ award winning story book, the Southern Cross Soloists blend narration and music in an interactive exploration of a land filled with wonderful animals.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

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**SIDNEY MYER FREE CONCERTS**

February 13-23 7.00pm

Arts Centre Melbourne, 100 St Kilda Road

East Side Story - Wednesday 13 February
Beethoven and Bartók - Saturday 16 February
Full Moon Dances - Wednesday 20 February
Mozart and Mahler - Saturday 23 February

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

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**WALLACE AND GROMIT’S MUSICAL MARVELS**

February 8 - 9

The Plenary, South Wharf

The Australian premiere of a new show, with classical favourites for all the family – including music by Mozart, Debussy and Stravinsky – plus specially filmed new Wallace & Gromit animations, featuring the dynamic duo’s backstage exploits.

www.mso.com.au

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**FROZEN PLANET IN CONCERT**

February 9

The Plenary, South Wharf

Emmy Award–winning British composer George Fenton conducts the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in the Australasian premiere of Frozen Planet in Concert. This new production combines live orchestral music with breathtaking HD images of the polar regions from the BBC television series.

www.mso.com.au

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www.mso.com.au

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**THE GARDEN PARTY**

January 25 - February 17

Corner of Southbank Boulevard and Sturt Street

Transforming a vacant site behind Melbourne Recital Centre into a relaxed, new music venue for four weekends (Jan 25 - Feb 17), The Garden Party will present a host of high calibre local and international artists across the indie music scene.

www.thegardenparty.info

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**DESIRE LINES**

December 15 - March 3

Australian Centre For Contemporary Art Inc.

A major survey exhibition that investigates the physical, conceptual and psychological tracks created by artists. Desire Lines refers to the wayward, improvised tracks created by walkers and others who defy the ways designed for them by urban regulators and councils.

www.accaonline.org.au

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**MOZART & HANDEL: A CELEBRATION FROM ST MARTIN’S IN THE FIELDS**

February 7

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street

Award-winning English conductor, Peter G Dyson, directs the Chamber Orchestra at St Paul’s in these baroque and early classical delights!

www.melbournerecital.com.au

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**TAN DUN - MARTIAL ARTS TRILOGY**

March 1 - 2

Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road

In a rare Melbourne appearance, Academy Award-winning composer Tan Dun will conduct the MSO in his scores for three critically acclaimed martial arts films. Featuring music and scenes from Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Hero and The Banquet.

www.mso.com.au

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**LEO**

January 15 - 27

Fairfax Studio, 100 St Kilda Road

Leo is a mind-bending, funny, surreal and surprisingly touching work that challenges the senses and tests perceptions of reality through the clever interplay of live performance and video projection.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

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**LESSONS IN:**

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- **PIANO**
- **VOICE**
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Moving into Music offers classes for pre-schoolers, toddlers & babies.

Enquiries: 9836 2686 | laurashing@movingintomusic.com.au | www.movingintomusic.com.au

Located at St Johns Southgate, we are Southbank’s only music school.

Our talented teachers are active performers in Melbourne’s thriving live music scene.

They teach all styles to students of all ages.

Lessons are available for beginners to advanced and offered during weekdays, evenings and weekends.

Our early childhood education specialists also offer classes for pre-schoolers, toddlers & babies.
New year, new opportunities

A new year always lends itself to looking at things afresh and starting anew. My hope is that 2013 will be the year that as residents we collectively shape our suburb by promoting our needs and aspirations to both local and State Government.

Don’t worry, this doesn’t mean that we need to protest, march on Spring St or sign endless petitions. It simply means taking a more active interest in the plans and development that occur within our suburb – and have discussions and ongoing dialogue with our local council and state representatives outlining what we desire. After all, our local representatives are there to advocate change for us.

Here are a few pointers on what you can do to have your voice better heard and help influence the ongoing development of our suburb in 2013.

Southbank Residents Group

If you’re not already a member, sign up to the Southbank Residents Group – your community organisation focussed on advocating the big issues facing our suburb with government. We’re here to advise you on how to best navigate the complexities of dealing with council or State Government.

You can become a member by visiting www.southbankresidents.com.au

And don’t forget to follow us on Twitter (3006ResiGroup) and “like” us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/SouthbankResidentsGroup). You’ll be kept abreast of upcoming resident group information meetings, and can also find out what’s on in and near Southbank.

Melbourne City Council

Contrary to popular belief, councillors are more than happy to hear from you and meet with you. And now that a new council has been elected, it’s a great time to introduce yourself to the new team. I’ve recently met with Cr Stephen Mayne to discuss planning matters in Southbank, and have also met with Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and his senior planning team. Barry Janes (VP Southbank Residents Group) has also had meetings with councillors Oke and Watts.

Contacting councillors is easy. Simply visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au and go to “About Council,” “Lord Mayor and Councillors” where you will find all their contact details.

You can also attend council meetings, which are open to the public – and can request at the start of the meeting to speak about matters on the agenda or ask general questions at the end. For the schedule of meetings in 2013 and upcoming agenda items, visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au and go to “About Council,” “Council and committee meetings” for all the information you need.

Remember, if you want to discuss an issue that affects a number of residents (eg, development), you should consider contacting your body corporate or the Southbank Residents Group – and we can help facilitate a meeting for you.

State Government

It’s certainly the hardest level of government to engage with, but it’s not impossible. We have a great local member, Martin Foley MLA (ALP) who, in my experience, has been very willing to make himself available to hear our views and issues.

We also have a number of MLCs who oversee the greater southern metropolitan region, which Southbank forms a part of. You can find all State Government contact details by visiting www.parliament.vic.gov.au/members

So there you have it – a brief introduction outlining what we desire. After all, our local representatives are there to advocate change for us.

Southbank Residents Group – and we can help facilitate a meeting for you.

New kids on the block

Polly and Meme, two Maltese Shih tzu’s, don’t have to imagine, because over the summer that’s exactly the move they’ve made.

Owner Edward said the move, from just outside Wangaratta to Southbank Village, had been hard on the dogs, but they have certainly acclimatised quickly.

“They missed running around and chasing bunnies, we at least have a small yard at our apartment, which has helped them adapt,” Edward said.

He also said they both were now more excited than ever when venturing out for a walk.

“The hardest part for them is having to give up their freedom. They have never had to be tied up before!”

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“The hardest part for them is having to give up their freedom. They have never had to be tied up before!”
Luke adores the location of The Bridge at South Wharf. He believed having a river run past the front door was far better than having a road. Not only because there is a lot less noise, but he also prefers the boats to cars.

Jazz has worked in Southbank for seven years and said it was the people around Southbank that made coming to work so much fun. He said the location was very popular among tourists, which meant he got to talk to different people everyday.

It’s the atmosphere that makes Southbank special, according to Elise. She said having the bustle of the shopping complex right next door to the serene river was amazing. Elise also mentioned that people seemed active in Southbank, which inspired her.

Jesse loves the fact the Southbank and particularly South Wharf was growing so quickly. He said it meant it was exciting to come to work. He also pointed out that the new people who came to explore South Wharf were always very friendly and happy to find a place to drink.

Lorenzo is from Italy and is in Australia for a working holiday. After two months of working here in Southbank he has come to really enjoy the area. He thinks it is a great balance of a beautiful area, but it was also accommodating for a great number of people.

Jaime said there were not many places he’d rather be when the sun was shining over South Wharf and the river. Jaime said he was a people person, so he really enjoyed the masses the sunshine brought. He said the fact that this was good for business was an added bonus!

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ONE BOX
with Korey Fernando

Arrow hits the mark

After the typically pedestrian summer programming, the best thing on television enthusiasts have to look forward to in the New Year is the bevy of almost movie trailer-esque previews for the coming year’s entertainment.

One such program is the highly anticipated 
- which the Nine Network has secured for later in the year. If you’ve watched Nine at all over summer you’d have seen their spruiking of - a show that according to the promo appears to be about a shirtless man who lifts concrete blocks in a dimly-lit gym. In truth, the American-produced program has been airing on the CW network, a station better known for its characteristically flashy teen dramas such as and the ill-fated re-make.

Based on the comic book , draws many of its characters from its source but also adds a fresh take on the world of Starling City. ’s story focuses on , a billionaire playboy who gets stranded on an island to return as a masked vigilante. Oliver Queen (played by ) is a brooding, musclemen who suffers from night terrors related to his time away.

As his hooded alter-ego, attacks the rich and greedy and tries to make up for his past deeds as a spoiled heir. In a lot of ways, the Oliver Queen character is very similar to . and in , it’s easy to see some resemblance between the two heroes. It’s a fairly cliched story but the added subplots of industrial espionage and romance really keep this show exciting.

Not to mention, the heavy action scenes which are very well executed. Queen is an intriguing main character, who apparently learned parkour and gymnastics as well as Mandarin and Russian during his time on the mysterious island.

The pilot episode reveals a fairly grim tone which is complemented by the feel of a modern soap. Early on in the piece it is revealed that this isn’t a program for children, as unlike many of the other comic-book related heroes in the media – Arrow kills his enemies. Sometimes graphically.

What can you expect from a guy that shoots arrows at people though, really? is part , part , and part . and Order but still manages to be quite a funny show. It has the romance and love triangles, mysterious island and the masked hero all in the one format and despite what I’d expected: it actually works.

has the charm and intrigue to compel viewers and I can already tell that it will gain a cult status among fans. is a lot of fun to watch, for many reasons and is definitely worth a look when it airs shortly.

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Letters to
the Editor
Send your letters to
news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

Who is this Guy?

Be your articles “New council, new approach” and “90,000 Southbank population claims”, in issue 14, I make the following comments.

What credentials does Matthew Guy have to be made Planning Minister, with sole approval of large developments?

He should be titled Minister for Pro-Development, as there appears to be no planning involved for Southbank, as there was none for Docklands.

Mr Guy will be responsible for the:

Development of the tallest high-rises possible to be squeezed into Southbank to house 90,000 people (from 10,000) and match New York’s Manhattan, the world’s 50th most liveable city;

Destruction of Southbank’s liveability, and residents’ enjoyment of their homes with no allowance for space between high-rises, privacy or sunlight, a basic human right. With 10 metres, for example, (originally to be eight metres) between the approved 71 storey, 275 metre, 1 Queensbridge St (QB Tower) and the picture windows of Freshwater Place’s west-facing apartments;

Denial of any voice or objection from residents, the Planning Minister having the sole right of approval; and

Decision to approve all high-rise developments, whether suitable for the site or not and with no thought as to whether the infrastructure can cope, or the facilities are available to service the huge increase in the resident population and vehicular traffic.

Citizens of Melbourne beware! Our “Most Liveable City” is in danger!

John B. Sheather, Southbank

Catherine Street

You may have thought you did really well with your Christmas present for your spouse this year, but chances are you’ve got a way to go before you reach ’s level.

The street was named in honour of in 1876. He didn’t limit his work in and around Southbank to that, also opening the Princes Bridge in 1888 as Minister of Public Works.

After failing at the 1892 elections even a street name couldn’t keep the Nimmos in Melbourne. They packed up and headed back home to Scotland to retire.

Mr was the first city surveyor of Emerald Hill, a councillor and mayor for Emerald Hill. Not content with those roles, he also named Catherine St after his wife, .

had arrived here via Scotland in 1853. By 1869 he was mayor of .

He didn’t limit his work in and around Emerald Hill, a councillor and mayor for Emerald Hill. Not content with those roles, he also named Catherine St after his wife, Catherine .

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Nimmo had arrived here via Scotland and was seen as a very popular figure of the time. The Nimmos in Melbourne. They packed up and headed back home to Scotland to retire.

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Led by President Steven Aquilina, Rotary Club of Southbank Inc. is comprised of a culturally and professionally diverse membership of community-minded men and women across a wide range of ages, from 20-somethings to 60-somethings and beyond.

- Southbank Rotary continues its commitment to service through its engagement with volunteers to deliver innovative and enterprising projects addressing social and business issues in the local and international community.
- Such initiatives include:
  - Our flagship project (this year in its fourth year) the Rotary Community Service Awards, celebrating the valuable work of Not-for-Profit organisations in our community and the contribution of partnerships between community organisations and their corporate and philanthropic partners;
  - Financial, material and volunteer support to local and national homelessness organisations including Swags for Homeless, Hanover Welfare Services, the Steps Outreach Service and The Big Issue;
  - Annual participation in the MS Melbourne Cycle providing significant fundraising for research into Multiple Sclerosis;
  - Volunteer Tree Planting at Westgate Park;
  - Support for local community arts and cultural institutions;
  - International community development including safe water projects in Bali and education and vocational development in Timor Leste, including a new relationship with Pranzham Education Foundation in India;
  - Industry and professional development through local corporate partnerships and the promotion of ethical business leadership, vocational education, corporate social responsibility, and sustainability through the Rotary Business Leaders’ Boot Camp and business breakfasts and;
  - Youth development through personal, academic and career development programs and leadership camps, as well as international scholarship opportunities for young professionals to promote global peace and understanding through The Rotary Foundation.

Southbank Rotary meets weekly on a Tuesday evening for dinner in the local area. Most weeks we host a guest speaker representing a business or community organisation, often from the local area. Presentations span a wide range of interesting and relevant topics, aiming to engage those who share a passion for making a difference in their personal, family, professional and community lives. Rotary International provides an ideal opportunity for community-oriented individuals to connect with a global network of like-minded people who are committed to making a difference through service. We welcome those interested to come and visit Southbank Rotary to join our community conversation and take the opportunity to leverage professional and personal skills, passions and resources to make a difference in our local community and communities abroad.

Contact us via www.southbank.org.au for your invitation to our next event and the opportunity to meet like-minded friends in a fun and rewarding social environment.

**SOUTHBANK SUDOKU**

A variation of Sudoku, but with the letters S O U T H B A N K replacing the numbers.

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line of the must contain the letters ‘SOUTHBANK’ as must each 9-square box.

**This Sudoku is extra difficult, because you’ve got two months to finish it!**

Good Luck!
Made in Heaven

**How compatible are you and your partner?**

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your partner’s birth date and time to heaven@docklandsnews.com.au

**Danielle**

Successful partnerships for you Danielle can be complicated as you expect a great deal from your partner. You are emotional, sensitive and love your family very much, so whoever is to be your partner had better love and respect your family or the relationship is doomed. You are also driven to succeed and have a passion for accomplishing the extraordinary. Your partners will have to be up early in the morning to keep up with you.

Daniel has come into your life to teach you about relationships. Dan’s North Node is conjunct to your seventh house. This simply means that, without even trying or being aware of this, his presence helps you to bond in a healthy way.

He will support you as a partner; believe in you, yet also teach you how to live in a healthy, non-possessive way. You probably knew straight away that Dan would make a good partner and you wanted to spend more time together. The feeling would have been very mutual.

None of us ever really knows how long we are in each other’s lives but to have a seventh house connection usually means that the relationship is centred on a committed bond. This bond is not necessarily marriage in the traditional sense, just that the bond is strong and the desire to stay and work things out is strong.

**Daniel**

Daniel, being with Danielle helps you to become very productive and to achieve your goals in a steady, organised way. Sometimes you may not like how you feel in her presence because you may feel like you are being tested and pushed beyond what you are willing or capable of doing. When you need to have a quiet time to reflect, or time to “let loose” and just be, you may seek out others (friends and or colleagues), not Danielle.

When you really need to be organised and productive, it is Danielle you need. When you need an honest opinion or help, it is Danni you call upon.

You are powerfully connected with Danielle from the start as you both have a seventh house connection. This means that as much as sometimes you don’t want to feel like the naughty boy being scowled at by his mother, you keep coming back, because instinctively you know Danielle is right.

You are very attracted to Danielle and therefore working out your differences seems to be unavoidable.

Daniel, the quite achiever, is disciplined, organised and very much “on the beat” with life, busy making his dreams come true. Danielle sees this potential in you and wants to help you achieve it.

**Outcome of relationship:**

All relationships, intimate or not, are given to us, not by coincidence, but by design to teach us something – to help us overcome something, to provide us with something or to help us achieve.

Dan and Danni, your relationship is leading you both to Aquarius in the seventh house. What this means is that building a relationship that is not restrictive, non-traditional and truly humanitarian is the goal.

You are learning to support and trust in one another and mankind, no matter what. When you understand the purpose of your coming together you may find it easier to let go of the jealousy, possessiveness, the theatrics and dramas that sometimes plague your relationship.

You will know that each of you needs to make sacrifices and compromises for the other but without letting go of who you are and what you want as individuals.

Neither one of you should control or manipulate the other. You will both give up your traditional or personal values around relating and may even follow a more unusual and individualistic relationship model. You may both set about devising your own very special way of being.

As always, good luck and I hope you thoroughly enjoy the learning.

Welcome to St Johns Church Southgate

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11am Informal, Liturgical worship
7pm Sunday Night at St Johns
Informal, Contemporary worship

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Music. Emerging hip-hop artists Diafrix and concert devoted to independent Aussie themselves in music.

MusicPlay aims to encourage young music festival for children and families.

MusicPlay is an exciting summer holiday Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street 17 - 19 January

MUSICPLAY CHILDREN’S FESTIVAL

Every Tuesday and Wednesday night 3 Southgate Avenue Southgate hosts free films on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Melbourne’s only silent deckchair cinema. Patrons are provided with individual headphones and audio kits to watch films, or you can bring your own headphones.

**SOUTHGATE CINEMA**

Every Tuesday and Wednesday night 3 Southgate Avenue Southgate hosts free films on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Melbourne’s only silent deckchair cinema. Patrons are provided with individual headphones and audio kits to watch films, or you can bring your own headphones.

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30am Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road Come and share the wonder of books with us! Enjoy approximately 40 - 50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities. Phone: 9638 8300 www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

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17 - 19 January Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Start Street MusicPlay is an exciting summer holiday music festival for children and families. MusicPlay aims to encourage young music lovers and their families to immerse themselves in music.

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**GAYBIES**


**CREATIVE BRIDES**

26 January Federation Square Celebrate Australia Day at Fed Square with a day of free activities including a live music concert devoted to independent Aussie music. Emerging hip-hop artists Diafrix and Chance Waters perform live.

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**Last month's Sudoku solution**

[Solution provided]
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