Action needed amid flood concerns

By Sean Rogasch

Much of Southbank could be flooded today and action is needed to avoid more severe threats in the future, according to a report released to the public last month.

The report, entitled Port Phillip Bay Coastal Adaptations Pathways Project, is a hypothetical economic analysis of potential flooding at different points along the Port Phillip Bay coastline. It provides a framework for councils responding to flood threats.

It includes a specific case study on Southbank, warning of current flooding risks and also projecting to 2100, taking the effects of climate change into account.

The report details the economic effects of damage caused by flooding and outlines the most cost-effective time to act and type of remedial action required.

It also includes maps showing how vulnerable Southbank is to flooding, given our low-lying land.

The maps, and the report, are based on a hypothetical one-in-100-year rainfall event. They show that in 2011 (the year the report was commissioned) most of Southbank could have been inundated with up to 20 centimetres of water following such an event.

Without remedial action by 2100, more of Southbank would be covered and the depth would increase to potentially two metres in most areas after one of these storms.

The report stresses that, despite the high levels of potential flooding in Southbank, we shouldn’t be building our arks just yet. It says solutions are achievable and it outlines the most cost-effective actions to counteract the threat.

The report says waiting until 2040-2070 is the most cost-effective approach, as this is when the economic value of Southbank will be at its greatest. It says taking limited action between now and 2040 would also be cost-effective.

“Continued action should include improving both council and community awareness, preparedness and recovery from flood events and increasing resilience to additional larger events in the future,” the report states.

“Council should continue to progress actions to improve drainage in conjunction with Melbourne Water. This is expected to be the most cost-effective approach to reducing both current and future flood risks.”

The report also takes into account the central location of Southbank and its prominent state assets.

“Damage or loss of these assets will impact on key public services and amenity. While protection of these assets is beyond council’s responsibility, council should further consider how it can best support efforts to either improve the resilience of these assets to inundation or transition them out of the hazard zone.”

It also recommends close analysis of the Yarra River be undertaken.

“Further investigation of future river heights as a result of sea level rise and upstream rainfall should be undertaken.”

The report can be viewed online at www.abm.org.au/adaptationproject

Areas of Southbank potentially flooded by up to 20 centimetres of water after a 1 in 100 year rainfall event in 2011.

Without action, almost the entire suburb will be flooded after one of these rainfall events in 2100.
In a Twitter over planning

The planning debate continued to simmer and leap into the 21st century last month, when a war of words broke out on Twitter between Southbank Residents Group (SRG) and Planning Minister, Matthew Guy.

The stoush began innocently enough, when Southbank Local News posted the SRG’s latest column on the social media website, prompting the Minister to accuse the SRG of factual errors.

“A whole lot of factual inaccuracies. Fine to criticise, but at least be factual,” Mr Guy tweeted.

The residents were quick to respond saying: “SRG welcomes Matthew Guy to point out inaccuracy. Residents can’t understand decisions not inline with MPS (Melbourne Planning Scheme) and not being heard by state.”

Melbourne City Councillor Rohan Leppert also questioned the Minister by tweeting: “I can’t spot any factual errors? Which are they?”

The planning concerns in Southbank were also highlighted via the more traditional medium of television, during a special report on ABC’s 7.30 Report, investigating the approval of Australia 108 last month.

There were also fiery scenes at the Planning Melbourne Forum, run by the SRG, Docklands Community Association and East Enders, as our report on page seven explains.

Final public submissions to the planning document Melbourne, Let’s Talk About the Future closed during March.

Bike lane to be increased

The plan to double the bike lane width on St Kilda Rd and over the Princes Bridge has had a boost, with support given from VicRoads.

As part of the expanded and improved bike network being created by the City of Melbourne, the council will need to give final approval. That approval is looking closer than ever after a meeting with stakeholders and work could begin as early as June.

The Princes Bridge is a notoriously busy stretch of road for both motorists and cyclists, so it will be interesting to see how the extended bike lanes will effect the flow of both kinds of traffic.

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Lights shine on us

The Yarra River is set to become the middle of the city, at least after dark, according to a draft City of Melbourne lighting report, released last month.

The report, Public Lighting Strategy 2013, stresses that the city should highlight the river as the centre of the city, given (according to the report) that Southbank is already the most popular night spot in Melbourne.

The report states that the city needed to “ensure that the quality, intensity and evenfulness of illumination identify this river as Melbourne’s pre-eminent public space.”

It also recommended that the city “emphasise the bridges as thresholds to the central city,” and “install distinctive light fittings that announce the special status of the river precinct.”

Yarra River Business Association executive officer, Tim Bracher, said it was great to hear the council wanted to showcase the Yarra River and its banks, and encouraged it to do so.

“It is yet another sign that the council truly recognises the river as the major visual and recreation focus of the city, and is continually working with the precinct to improve amenity and services,” Mr Bracher said.

He also said the YRBA encouraged the council to look at Southbank and the Yarra River as one entity and design any lighting with that in mind.

“The various lighting and signage systems that have evolved over the last 20 years have not helped in our effort to create a visually-unified precinct so a stylish, uniform lighting system will be a big step forward to emphasising to visitors that they are in a special part of the city,” he said.

“The lighting will need to be in keeping with the stylish modernity of the precinct’s architecture, sufficient in illumination to provide a sense of security to pedestrians, but angled so that it does not detract from the best views of Melbourne’s night skyline.”

The report also discusses the need to illuminate significant buildings and landmarks in and around Southbank, including Federation Square, Flinders Street Station and the bridges across the river.

OMG! Totes time for young peeps to shine

If you felt like the young’uns had taken over last month it was because National Youth Week was launched at Southbank, with fanfare and excitement from a group of young Australians.

To signify who the week was all about, the standard opening speeches were hijacked by a flash mob, with some street-style dancing.

The event revealed art installations to be placed all over the city, featuring a blackboard with the saying “Happiness is…” which invited youths from all walks of life to complete the saying.

The Minister for Youth Affairs, Ryan Smith, didn’t seem to mind being interrupted, and said the week was of great importance to all young people in Victoria.

“The theme of National Youth Week this year is ‘Be active, be happy, be you’, and in keeping with this sentiment there is a major focus on youth mental health,” Mr Smith said.

“The events have been organised by young people, for young people and are focused on providing opportunities to share stories and experiences, to participate in community activities and to talk about issues that are important to them.”

Melbourne Citymission’s CEO, Rick Holland, said the Southbank area was particularly important in his organisation’s work.

“It was here at Southbank, when it was a tent community, that Melbourne Citymission started its work, way back over 150 years ago,” Mr Holland said.

“It’s a privilege to be part of today’s event and we will be responding to the issues raised by the ‘Happiness is...’ campaign.”

National Youth Week ran from April 6 through to April 14.
Comedy duo drop by

Boyd Community Centre had a couple of surprise guests last month, when radio and television superstars Hamish and Andy dropped by for a game of one-on-one basketball. The gold-Logie nominated pair were recording a segment for their radio show, seeing how long it would take them to score from “half court.” For the record, ‘Southbank Local News’ believes it took 18 shots.

Soup to help food charities

Southbank locals were treated to gourmet soup at bargain prices last month, when Feed Melbourne trucks rolled into Queensbridge Square to feed the hungry masses. The pop-up soup kitchen was stocked with soups from some of Southbank and Melbourne’s top-end restaurants such as Pure South, The Meat and Wine Co and Rockpool. The one-off event was to raise money for Feed Melbourne’s food charities.

Council promises transparency

City of Melbourne has vowed to become a more accessible, transparent and responsive organisation in its four-year plan. Council released the Council Plan 2013-17 document for community input last month. The document is the initial release of the plan, which outlines the work council intends to do over its four-year term. Councillors have added goals about accountability and transparency to a list of existing council priorities. The document states that council aims to increase public disclosure and access to information. Council will measure its progress in achieving these goals through a decrease in the amount of agenda items that are dealt with in confidential sessions and an increase in the level of information published online. Comments on the document can be submitted until April 12 via the feedback form at www.melbourne.vic.gov.au or in person at City of Melbourne customer service centres and libraries. The draft plan and draft Annual Plan and Budget will be released on May 10.

Strata Briefing for Owners Corporations & Strata Managers

Strata Briefing for Owners Corporations & Strata Managers

Date & Time: 6.00pm Tuesday 23 April 2013
Venue: Waterfront Room
Level 1, 427 Docklands Drive
Docklands VIC 3008

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Watergate Decision - Implications for Short-Term Letting

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TEYS LAWYERS
It’s hip in the square

The First Friday Dance Club went modern last month as unique brands of hip-hop dancing were taught to an enthusiastic crowd.

Robot Girl, or Arna Singleton off the stage, got the crowd up and going, teaching the skills of “poppin’ and lockin’.” Following her was James Welshy, leading a class of “voguing.” The dance club is on every first Friday of each month on the big red stairs at Queensbridge Square.

Walk to raise autism awareness

Thousands descended into Southbank last month for a walk and carnival to raise awareness of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), as part of World Autism Awareness Day.

The march started in Alexandra Gardens, travelled along Southbank and then back over the river to Federation Square. As part of the campaign, major Southbank landmarks like Eureka Tower and the Arts Centre lit up in blue during last month.

Autism Victoria CEO Murray Dawson-Smith said the day was a great success and would really help to raise awareness of ASD.

“We were really delighted. We were especially delighted with the numbers. Unfortunately we couldn’t avoid a short shower of rain, but it didn’t dampen the spirits of the crowd,” Mr Dawson-Smith said.

He also said Southbank was an ideal location for an event of this nature, given it was so visible to so many people, especially in the middle of the day on a Sunday.

“To have all of those families to meet just next to, and then walk through Southbank, and then over to Federation Square, it means we’re right in the public eye. A lot of people were stopping us and asking why we were there, which is the whole point of the exercise.”

Mr Dawson-Smith said the walk had grown substantially over the last couple of years, and he hoped that trend continued into the future.

“We’d love to see more and more families who have a family member with autism, but just want to come down and find out more,” he said.

“We started four years ago with about 800 and this year we had about 5000. We’re hoping to grow to seven, eight or maybe 9000 in the next couple of years.”

Southbank underworld case reopened

By Sean Car

Police have recently launched a fresh probe into the 1971 disappearance of Melbourne waterfront victim Alfred “The Ferret” Nelson.

Nelson, 47, went missing in 1971 following a bitter dispute between the factions of the notorious Painters and Dockers Union. Whilst his body has not been found, the only evidence discovered was Nelson’s car which was pulled out of the Yarra River at 21 South Wharf after being discovered by a police diver in 1972.

At the time, high levels of excitement surrounded the discovery, as police had initially believed Nelson’s body might be in the car boot. However, this was not the case. Homicide squad chief Kevin Carton had raised the possibility at the time that Nelson’s body had floated out through the open front windows of the car.

After police divers spent several days searching the Yarra they failed to find any trace of Nelson.

The two original suspects, mafia hitman James Bazley and associate Painter and Docker Billy “The Texan” Longley were said to be quizzed by police regarding their possible role in the disappearance.

Police have urged anyone with information on the Nelson case to call crime stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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Rotary calls on friends for a hand

Meeting right in Southbank

A meeting of high-powered political and business figures converged on Southbank last month, for a dinner to celebrate the 70th anniversary of right-wing think tank, the Institute of Public Affairs.

Despite a guest list boasting Opposition Leader Tony Abbott, Australia’s richest person Gina Rinehart and media mogul Rupert Murdoch, the event hit the news because of protests at the front of the NGV, which became particularly violent at the arrival of Melbourne’s Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle.

The protesters mounted the Lord Mayor’s car while he was inside and police had to use force to disperse the crowd.

The following day the Lord Mayor labeled the protesters as “pissants” and “idiotic”.

Sake for sake’s sake

Southbank Rotary and friends joined forces last month to kick off the “Rotary and Friends” program, a nation-wide initiative, with a working bee held at Westgate Park, under the shadows of the Westgate Bridge.

New trees were planted, mulch moved and spread and coffee, tea and biscuits consumed on a beautiful Saturday morning for the national launch of the program.

Southbank Rotary president, Steven Aquilina, said it was the perfect morning for the launch and he was thrilled with the turn out and work that had been completed.

“It’s a fantastic event, really connecting Rotary to the local community,” Mr Aquilina said.

“Rotary and Friends showcases the connection through volunteering and it has been really nice to get out in the fresh air and put my back into some hard yakka.”

Sake for sake’s sake

Southbank’s Japanese restaurant Wagamama put a different spin on the standard wine-tasting course last month, holding a sake master class.

The master class was for anyone interested in learning the finer points of tasting sake and which types matched best with certain foods.

Under the instruction of sake master Toshi Maeda, the guests were guided through five different types of sake, ensuring they left both very happy and with more knowledge on the popular Japanese beverage. Lets just hope they remembered it in the morning!

Kampai! (A Japanese version of cheers). Narelle, Michelle, Magda and Sally enjoying a sample of sake. Good to see the table had plenty of water on hand too!
Southbank Residents Group (SRG) came together with the Docklands Community Association and the Eastenders last month for a community forum about the Metropolitan Planning Strategy.

The forum, at the town hall on March 19, gave residents the opportunity to hear from representatives from the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) and to voice their concerns.

The forum followed the release of the discussion paper Melbourne, Let’s Talk About the Future in October last year.

The forum featured a presentation from DPCD community relations manager Ken Thornton and DPCD planner Lester Townsend and a question and answer session.

Attendees were vocal in their concerns when it came to development decisions that affected Southbank.

Concerns discussed included traffic congestions, building approvals and building regulation of serviced apartments.

Many attendees said they felt they were wasting their time attending community forums and making submissions to the planning department as they felt the planning minister ignored their concerns.

Mr Townsend said the feedback provided at the forum would be passed on and all formal submissions about the discussion paper would be considered.

Formal submissions on the discussion paper were accepted until March 28 with the draft strategy intended for release for consultation in June and the final draft release later this year.

The first ever Buoyed @ Boyd community event was held last month at, you guessed it, Boyd Community Hub.

The centre opened its doors to the public, displaying many of its activities available to locals.

The evening included poetry readings, live music, face-painting, children’s reading (by a pirate no less) and a taco truck.

Boyd community animator, Natalie Warren, said the event was a great success and the response from locals had been extremely positive.

“All of my City of Melbourne colleagues were really enthusiastic about the turn out, level of engagement and response to the evening. There were lots of familiar faces, but also lots of newcomers too,” Ms Warren said.

“In addition to the City of Melbourne service providers, such as the Southbank Library and Maternal and Child Health, Buoyed @ Boyd was a fantastic opportunity to showcase groups that now are regulars such as yoga, tai chi and the Boyd craft group.”

The next Buoyed @ Boyd event is on Thursday, May 2 at 5pm.

Sue and Peter Duras enjoy a game of coyts at Boyd.

Ai Jin, Caitlyn and Phillip enjoying the afternoon. Caitlyn was particularly impressed with the balloon art!

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NEON SET TO INSPIRE SOUTH BANK

By Sean Car

Melbourne Theatre Company is excited to launch the NEON Festival of Independent Theatre, celebrating the finest of Southbank’s and Melbourne’s inspiring independent arts community.

Kicking off on May 16, the festival is set to feature original works from Daniel Schlusser Ensemble, Fraught Outfit, The Hayloft Project, THE RABBLE and Sisters Grimm that each run for a ten-day session in the Lawler at the Southbank Theatre until July 24.

MTC artistic director Brett Sheehy said the inaugural festival was one of the theatre company’s most significant initiatives to date. “With NEON, we celebrate Melbourne’s unique and thriving independent theatre landscape and its astonishing artists.”

Mr Sheehy reflected on the exciting talent on show as he unveiled the program saying “These five NEON companies represent a huge diversity of talent, and all create work which is thrilling, confronting and entertaining.”

The festival will also feature NEON EXTRA, a diverse program of activities for the public and independent theatre makers, which includes forums, workshops, networking events and mentoring opportunities.

Bringing together industry commentators, journalists and leading creatives, Mr Sheehy said NEON EXTRA would see Southbank Theatre become a 10-week focus of discourse and discussion designed to flesh out the experience of the performances.

“NEON is devoted to presenting only Melbourne companies and is dedicated solely to the art form of theatre. Part of our mission is to literally throw open our doors to all of Melbourne and to make Southbank Theatre a place of connection, accessibility and welcome, no matter what form of theatre Melbourne desires.”

Tickets to each show are $25 or a NEON PASS allows one to see all five plays for just $100.

Booking details: Southbank Theatre Box Office – 8688 0800 or mtc.com.au/neon
By Sean Car

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO) will welcome Sir Andrew Davis as its Chief Conductor this month with two exhilarating concerts at the new Hamer Hall in Southbank.

To officially welcome Sir Andrew back to Australia, A Joyous Celebration Gala – Beethoven’s Symphony No. 9, will be held in his honour for two shows on Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th of April.

The Gala will celebrate some of the biggest names in musical history and will feature one of the greatest singers of our time, Bryn Terfel, which will make for a program that Sir Andrew himself described as “truly spectacular”.

“To have Bryn Terfel singing is a huge coup in itself and for audiences to hear him sing Wagner, which he does marvelously, followed by Beethoven 9” he said.

The world-renowned conductor, most famously known for his work as Music Director of Lyric Opera of Chicago and Conductor Laureate of both the Toronto and BBC Symphony orchestras, expressed that being announced as Chief Conductor of the MSO was a great honour.

“It’s terribly exciting!” he said. “For me it was important to build a relationship with an orchestra with whom I had great chemistry, and I found that from the first time I stepped on the podium in Melbourne.”

Beyond the Gala, Sir Andrew and the orchestra will be bringing their sublime musical experience to classical music enthusiasts throughout the season, which is something he is highly anticipating.

“I think that the breadth of programming that I will be conducting in the coming season is going to be wonderful” he said.

“So many composers and pieces for whom I have great affection - from Mozart to Verdi to Elgar and Michael Tippett, the MSO and I will be having a tremendous time bringing it all to vibrant life.”

For bookings or more information call 13 61 00 or visit www.mso.com.au
A Torres Strait art exhibition was given a boost last month, with the appearance of the Badu Island Zugubal Traditional Dancers. The dance group celebrated the exhibition “Performative Prints from the Torres Strait”, which can be viewed at the Arts Centre Melbourne. One of the dancers, Alick Tipoti, also has artwork featured in the exhibition. The exhibition runs until June 23 and is free.

By Sean Car

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne has confirmed the attendance of India’s most celebrated movie star, Amitabh Bachchan, who has been announced as the special guest of the festival.

The festival takes place from May 3-22 and will feature a retrospective tribute screening at Federation Square of all of Bachchan’s films, aimed at honouring the decorated film star for his contribution to the Indian film industry.

IFFM festival director Mitu Bhowmick Lange spoke in glowing terms of what Bachchan’s presence at this year’s festival would mean for both Indian film enthusiasts and the community.

“The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne has confirmed the attendance of India’s most celebrated movie star, Amitabh Bachchan, who has been announced as the special guest of the festival. The festival takes place from May 3-22 and will feature a retrospective tribute screening at Federation Square of all of Bachchan’s films, aimed at honouring the decorated film star for his contribution to the Indian film industry.

IFFM festival director Mitu Bhowmick Lange spoke in glowing terms of what Bachchan’s presence at this year’s festival would mean for both Indian film enthusiasts and the community.

“For over four decades his ground-breaking roles have nourished a billion souls and 8.5 million online followers will all be reading about his visit,” he said.

“There is no greater way to build the bridges between our two cultures.”

The festival was established in 2012 as an initiative of the Victorian Government and Minister for Tourism and Major Events

Louise Asher said the attendance of Bachchan would only enhance the global appeal of Victoria.

“Securing international film stars of such high esteem is a great coup for Victoria and confirms the strength of the relationship between Victoria and India.”

Bachchan will also be honoured with IFFM’s International Screen Icon award, to be presented by the Victorian Government, and the Ambassador of Goodwill award from the vice chancellor of LaTrobe University during his stay in Melbourne.

Bachchan, the undisputed “Godfather of Indian Cinema”, will be officially closing the festival on the May 22 at the screening of his ground-breaking new movie Deewar, which will be presented at Hoyts Central.

For more information and bookings visit www.iffm.com.au
Events

**NEON**
May 16 - July 21
The Southbank Theatre
NEON features original works from Daniel Schlauser Ensemble, Fraught Outfit, The Haysoft Project, THE RABBLI and Sisters Grimm.  
www.mtc.com.au

**METROPOLIS**
April 8 - 20
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Chamber opera and electronics, orchestra and DJs - A musical collision that celebrates the rich and diverse sounds of contemporary London.  
www.metropolisfestival.com.au

**TRUE MINDS**
April 25 - June 8
The Southbank Theatre
Alive with her characteristic wit and needle-sharp social observation, True Minds is Joanna Murray-Smith's most glittering comedy to date.  
www.mtc.com.au

**BEETHOVEN'S SYMPHONY NO. 9**
April 26 - April 27
Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road
Celebrate Sir Andrew Davis' official return to Australia as Chief Conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra with this exhilarating concert featuring one of the greatest singers of our time, Bryn Terfel.  
www.mso.com.au

**THE PAJAMA MEN**
April 4 - 21
Fairfax studio
Dave Cannon is getting pretty tight with the Thai food delivery guy. Janet can’t act her way out of a paper bag, and nobody gives a shit. Bill puts the ‘one’ in lonely and it’s starting to show. Things aren’t going so hot for Hank since the rumor mill kicked into overdrive, and Eddie is on the fence about murdering.  
www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

**LOOKING FOR COWSLIPS**
April 20
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Intimate works for electronics, singers and instrumentalists in the Melbourne Recital Centre's most intimate space. Stay after the MSO concert for Mick's DJ set to close Metropolis in true London underground style.  
www.metropolisfestival.com.au

**INSIDE**
March 28 - April 21
The Famous Spiegelfest
Masterful comic Frank Woodley (Lano & Woodley) joins forces with award-winning physical performer, Simon Yates of internationally acclaimed company Acrobat, for their tragi-comedy Inside.  
www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

**DANCE OF DEATH**
April 18 - May 12
Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street
Twenty-five years of wedded hell has given Alice and Edgar a special gift – they know how exactly to destroy one another. And their hatred has forged a bond stronger than any romance.  
www.malthousetheatre.com.au

**A CLOCKWORK ORANGE**
April 6 - 21
Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street
To mark the 50th anniversary of Anthony Burgess' literary cult masterpiece, A Clockwork Orange will tour Australia in a high-octane, muscular and arresting production. Direct from their sell-out UK performances, the cast of Action to the Word's physical theatre tour-d'-force will head to Australia in April.  
www.clockworkorangecom.au

**DIOR AND YAMAMOTO: THE NEW LOOK**
March 16 - July 28
NGV International, 180 St Kilda Rd
Dior and Yamamoto: The New Look is a small exhibition that considers two pivotal moments in the history of fashion through designers Christian Dior and Yohji Yamamoto.  
www.ngv.vic.gov.au

**SHADOWS**
April 20
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Kai by British maverick Mark-Anthony Turnage is a viscerally emotive drap performance by the MSO and star cellist Steven Isserlis under Thomas Ades' direction.  
www.metropolisfestival.com.au

**BEA MODDOCK**
March 20 - July 21
NGV International, 180 St Kilda Rd
Bea Maddock is one of Australia’s most acclaimed artists, recognised in particular for her innovative and evocative prints. This exhibition examines her long career through works selected from the NGV’s strong holdings.  
www.ngv.com.au

**BALLETT & FASHION**
Until May 19
NGV International, 180 St Kilda Rd
Ballet & Fashion is a joint project between The Australian Ballet and the NGV that showcases some of the most successful collaborations between fashion designers and dance companies over the past three decades.  
www.ngv.vic.gov.au

**FABLES AND OTHER WORKS**
April 19
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
A survey of Mira Calix's works for ensemble and electronics, including the wondrously strange Nani for musicians and a choir of insects, and works by Ades, Ligeti and Sastraba.  
www.metropolisfestival.com.au

**THUS SPAKE ZARATHUSTRA**
May 2 and May 4
Hammer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road
From its awe-inspiring opening bars to its haunting conclusion, Thus Spake Zarathustra is a sublime musical experience. Don’t miss one of the world’s great conductors, Sir Andrew Davis, directing Richard Strauss' masterpiece.  
www.mso.com.au

**THE CITY JUNGLE**
April 19
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Explores the dramatic soundworld of jungle and Drum'n'Bass, two of the hallmark British electronica genres from the 1990s transcribed for virtuosic percussionists and electronics.  
www.metropolisfestival.com.au

**SAMMY J**
April 9 - 21
Fairfax studio
Sammy J returns with a brand new solo show about poosums, ninjas, blimps, childhood and the joys of sweating.  
www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

**A CONTRACT OF LOVE**
April 22
Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street
We’ve all heard it before - love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage. Or, at least, they did in the ’50s.  
www.malthousetheatre.com.au

**BEACHED**
April 22 - May 10
The Southbank Theatre
Arty is living a double life. In his head he is an explorer, a movie star, devilishly handsome. In his real life Arty is a blok, a beachad whale, Jabbie the Hutt in a housing commision flat. At 400kg and rising, he’s a young man literally going nowhere.  
www.mtc.com.au

**WELL’MEET AGAIN AUSSIES AT WAR**
April 22
Hammer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road
This year Anne-Marie McDonald, Stuart Maunder, Lucy Maunder and Alex Rathgeber invite you to a special ANZAC Morning.  
www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

**MURRAY SMITH’S TRUE MINDS**
April 20
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
Sharp social observation, True Minds is Joanna Murray-Smith’s most glittering comedy to date.  
www.mtc.com.au

**THINGS AREN’T GOING SO HOT FOR HANK SINCE THE RUMOR MILL KICKED INTO OVERDRIVE, AND EDDIE IS ON THE FENCE ABOUT MURDERING.**
The location of Southbank is its real advantage over other areas, according to Caleb. Not only is it close to everything you need, it also has beautiful scenery, thanks mainly to the Yarra running through it.

Kushma passionately describes Southbank as a place that always makes her feel incredibly happy. The multicultural side to the area provides you with a nostalgic feeling every time you leave making it one of the most vibrant parts of Melbourne.

Travelling from Bentleigh everyday, Aleia describes how she loves the fancy side of the area as it provides something different. As someone who loves the city and seeing people from all walks of life, the variety of restaurants and activities makes it’s a place that has something for everyone.

The location by the river, the variety of infrastructure and the mixture of people is what sets Southbank apart from the rest of the city according to Matt. There’s simply an awesome energy around the area with its constant flow of colour and activity that he says makes it a great place to work in.

Last month Southbank Local News confused Nathan and Caleb, so we gave them another shot! Nathan said it was special being able to teach within such an extensive arts precinct. The whole area was inspiring for his students and, according to Nathan, it was pretty cool for the teachers as well.

The mixture of funk, fun and class along one of the most scenic natural landmarks in Australia is what makes it such a unique area to live and work.

Josh describes Southbank as a place that has everything you want. The mixture of funk, fun and class along one of the most scenic natural landmarks in Australia is what makes it such a unique area to live and work.

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The location of Southbank is it's real advantage over other areas, according to Caleb. Not only is it close to everything you need, it also has beautiful scenery, thanks mainly to the Yarra running through it.

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Recently I convened a meeting with the presidents of capital city zone resident associations to discuss our collective issues regarding planning. Within minutes of the meeting commencing, it was clearly evident that the planning frustrations and concerns expressed to me by many people in Southbank also extend across the whole capital city zone.

There is undoubtedly a rapidly-growing groundswell of residents across the city who are becoming increasingly incensed and disenfranchised with the State Government’s recent spate of development approvals with no apparent town planning vision or reasoning behind these approvals that, in many cases, contravene the Melbourne Planning Scheme.

Not only are residents becoming aggravated by a lack of openness and logic at the state level in its decision making, so too is the Melbourne City Council. To this end, council in a recent meeting unanimously decided to make public, high-rise planning decisions of the last five years clearly showing the decision made by council and the subsequent decision made by the Minister for Planning.

It will be interesting to see if the recently created Government “super portfolio” of planning, infrastructure and transport – to be managed by Terry Mulder – will make a significant difference in the holistic planning approach taken by the State Government.

The ministerial meeting will be held in late May and will be one of several discussions with local and State Government representatives on residents’ expectations of great planning outcomes for our city. I’ll continue to keep you posted on our progress via this column and on our Twitter and Facebook pages.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

If you want to be kept up to date on the latest issues that the Southbank Residents Group is tackling, or to hear about events taking place in and around Southbank, then join the conversation by following us on Twitter (@3006resigroup) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/southbankresidentsgroup). We post messages on a range of topics such as planning alerts in Southbank and information on local events.

And of course if you’re interested in becoming a member or making a donation to the group, simply visit our website at www.southbankresidents.com.au

St Aloysius
A Leading Catholic Girls’ College

Enrolments are now available for Year 7 to Year 12
Register for a Talk & Tour by contacting Ms Jodie McLeod on 9329 0411 or visit our website.
31 Curran Street, North Melbourne  www.alloysius.vic.edu.au

Hanna Street
What is left of the street is difficult to unearth, even with a GPS!

That is because from 1960 the main part of Hanna St became known as the infamous Kings Way when the area was redeveloped. What remains is a tiny strip of road wedged underneath the Kings Way Bridge connecting to Walker St, a no-through road.

The street itself was difficult for even Southbank Local News to find. Our desperate search wasn’t helped by the late discovery that the Hanna St street sign had actually been deemed missing from its usual location.

Nevertheless, the street is named after Patrick Hanna (1819-1890) an Irish engineer and shipbuilder who worked across England and Scotland before arriving as one of the earliest residents of Emerald Hill in 1853.

He is responsible for establishing the city ferry near the Yarra River falls between King and Clarendon streets in 1853. He held the ferry licence until 1884.

Furthermore, he held leases for tollgates during the late 1850s which laid the foundation for his later wealth.

This ultimately enabled Hanna to purchase LaTrobe House in William Street in 1863, and also to meet the property qualification to stand for the Legislative Council.
Meet Shelby the 10-year-old mastiff Rhodesian ridgeback great dane and her compatriot Ned, a seven-year-old Kelpie cross who both prove opposites can attract.

Samantha Gold, the carer of the two city-based dogs, describes them as a “funny pair” with Ned’s intelligence perhaps compensating for the clumsiness of Shelby’s great dane DNA, all resulting to create a functioning friendship.

Although Samantha assures Southbank Local News that if the pair does share one trait in common it is a fear of the common cat, one of which has been providing the allies with significant trauma of late by stalking them from beneath the stairs at Samantha’s home. However, with Ned considered the smarter of the two, Samantha shares an anecdote suggesting that Shelby might not be as slow as she leads some to believe. “We were waiting at the lights once shoulder to shoulder with 200 pedestrians and a man beside me smiles at me and asks ‘what are you doing?’ I look down and Shelby is licking his hand so the bloke thought I was fiddling with his hand,” she says. “He just got picked up by a great dane!” she laughs.

Samantha enjoys walking the pair everyday and reveals that they are quite renowned by locals for their well-mannered personalities, helping bring out the best in everyone from the area.

Shelby and Ned, an unlikely duo

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A variation of Sudoku, with the letters SOUTHBANK 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! Good Luck!

Last month’s Sudoku solution

BSANOTHKU
NUKTBASAO
OTKSTHABNO
HTNBUKNT
STHOUNKABS
UKSABOTHNT
ABNHSSTUOK

The community of St Johns Church Southgate invites you to join them in worship services

Every Sunday
9am Traditional worship with communion
11am Informal worship with communion
6pm Sunday Night at St Johns
Informal contemporary worship
hosted by Lutheran Students and Friends

Sunday School
10:30am Term 2 begins Sunday 21st April

Thursday, 9th May
7:30pm Vespers for Ascension Day
Bach cantata service
War da gleubet and gelubt wind (BWV 37)
for 4 voices, chorus, strings
2 oboes d’amore and continuo
St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra
Directed by Rick Erikson, Conductor
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, New York City
Visiting Melbourne as the 4th
St Johns Visiting Music Director

Sunday 12th May
Mothers Day

Sunday 2nd June
10am Thanksgiving Celebration
Single morning service only

The chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection

20 City Road Southbank Telephone 9682 4995 www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au
What are the working dynamics of your relationship?

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

Our attraction to others is usually more dynamic than we know. When our north node and south node connect strongly, a karmic type of relationship begins. Understanding the dynamics is half the battle.

David
David is a perceptive person and is particularly attached to the material or tangible things in this world. David likes luxury, nice clothes and nice cars but is never excessive about it. David is very self-critical, constantly analysing every motive or desire and very conscious of personal faults and vulnerability. David is a perfectionist who needs to be in control. His strict system of thought does not account for the irrational elements of human life. This forces David to constantly question certain personality aspects. David demands the same kind of perfection from other people, which may be what gives him a reputation as a difficult person. These critical and methodical analytical skills can be of use in his professional life. A pragmatic attitude can help David solve even the most difficult problems. Your North Node is in Leo. David, you have come to learn how to accept love. You have come from many lifetimes of having the “common good of the team” as your mantra. Your fellow beings and can always make allowances for people’s misdemeanours because you know instinctively that everyone makes mistakes and forgiveness is divine. David always has to a task to do or something to excite interest. An audacious personality and impulsiveness make Andrea a perfect sportsman or athlete who has to satisfy a strong desire for independence and constant need for change. Andrea’s position will help him to overcome some of his deeply ingrained psychological barriers to success with kindness, support and understanding.

Andrea
Andrea is perseverant and diligent, self-disciplined and pragmatic, and capable of accomplishing great things. Behind a cold attitude is someone very sensitive and tender-hearted, someone who is hungry for passion. It is hard for Andrea to express emotions because they are not rational. Incredibly patience and self-control allow Andrea to endure restrictions and frustrations that for many would be unbearable. Andrea is a lively, feverish person who seems like a real live wire. Although unaware of it, Andrea has a subconscious insecurity that sets the high pace and stays in constant motion. Andrea always has to a task to do or something to excite interest. An audacious personality and impulsiveness make Andrea feel like a businesswoman or an athlete who has to satisfy a strong desire for independence and constant need for change. You North Node is in Virgo. Andrea you have come to learn discernment and discretion in your choices. You have a soft spot for your fellow beings and can always make allowances for people’s misdemeanours because you know instinctively that everyone makes mistakes and forgiveness is divine. Andrea has a subconscious insecurity that sets the high pace and stays in constant motion. Andrea always has to a task to do or something to excite interest. An audacious personality and impulsiveness make Andrea feel like a businesswoman or an athlete who has to satisfy a strong desire for independence and constant need for change.

It’s time to get Active Melbourne!

Have you ever sat at your desk and tried to proof-read a piece of work you were constructing for hours, only to be told by a passing colleague that you have made an extremely obvious mistake? There is great truth to the notion that it is extremely advantageous to have a fresh set of eyes proof read your work, whatever your occupation may be. By doing this you can potentially reduce the numbers of mistakes you might have made or even provide you with a different perspective in as seeing the material you have collated. Alternatively by getting out from behind your desk and becoming active, you will find when you return to your own desk, that even you can become a fresh set of eyes for your own work. Having taken your eyes away from your computer screens, you will be amazed by the attention to detail your fresh mind can achieve upon your return. It might be as simple as taking the stairs instead of the elevator on your way into or out of the office or as rewarding as participating in a corporate sports series.

Fitness in the Square

Fitness in the Square is a fantastic community event which provides free Zumba classes at Federation Square. These classes will be held on April 17 and 24 during lunchtime from 1.00pm - 1.45pm. These sessions are led by a qualified Zumba instructor and are guaranteed to provide a refreshing way to break up your working week.

The Zumba revelation that has spread worldwide is due to the fact that Zumba is an exercise class that anyone can enjoy regardless of prior experience, age or fitness levels. Zumba can be described as a program that fuses hypnotic Latin rhythms and easy to follow moves to create a one of a kind fitness program.

To register for event information and updates please visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/amcs or email mcs@ymca.org.au for any assistance.

Together

The notions of mutual help and devotion will be very strong in Andrea and David’s relationship. The sun’s position will help Andrea to know immediately when something is bothering Andrea. Andrea’s personal remarks will help David realise limits in certain areas and do what is necessary to solve the problems. The notions of work and love will be inseparable in this mutually beneficial relationship.

This position will allow Andrea to completely incorporate David’s professional goals and objectives into their life as a team. Andrea will help David to realise how to use creative imagination toward career development. Andrea’s great faith will help David to visualise future professional success.

The outcome

Together your destiny is to creatively find the success, status and personal fulfilment you both desire. An ability to use light-heartedness and playfulness is a great asset to help you both when life seems too serious. Andrea will help David to understand that even the most serious matters can be handled with a little fun! David will help Andrea to overcome some of her deeply ingrained psychological barriers to success with kindness, support and understanding. Both will benefit because of this.

What’s your Tan Time?

Almost everyone that has ever lived in Melbourne has a “Tan Time”. If you don’t it’s about time you went out and got one. What’s so special about the Tan? It is a world-class running track located centrally adjacent to Melbourne’s CBD with fantastic accessibility by foot, bike, car and public transport. Furthermore the amazing scenery of the Royal Botanic Gardens that makes the pain of a gut-wrenching run almost bearable. So what’s a good time for the Tan? Well the fastest ever recorded time by a male was 10 minutes and 8 seconds and the fastest female time was 11 minutes and 57 seconds. So it’s safe to say we can work backwards from those times. To walk the 3.8km course can take close to 40 minutes, whereas a runner starting out on a fitness campaign can take anywhere from 20 – 30 minutes. So if your watch statistics tell you you’ll start hitting the 15 minutes mark, right through to the gun runners who can push under 12 minutes.

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Businesses in Southbank

Many Southbank residents don't have cars; this could be due to lack of space or proximity to the city. However, there are always occasions when having a car would just make life easier. Here's the solution!

Budget Rent A Car has become a Southbank institution having been based in the area for over 50 years.

It provides a safe, secure service that is far cheaper than owning a car, and far more convenient when wanting to travel out of town. Southbank branch manager, Mario Alonzo, said the best thing about Budget is the service.

"We do everything we can to say yes to any request. If we don’t have what you want, we will try and get it for you." Mr Alonzo said.

Budget sales representative, Bianca La Bozetta, said it doesn’t take much to provide a friendly service, and all the staff at Southbank prides themselves on it.

"People love just having a chat. We endeavor to make the rental process a fun experience." she added.

"Budget is a name you know and you can trust. We have twenty-seven different locations within Melbourne, but it's great to be here in the heart of Southbank, it's such an exciting area of growth."

With so many flexible options, whether it be long term or short term hire, Budget is the ideal service for hiring a vehicle. Their fleet is diverse and ranges from sports cars to a zippy city car, a bus, a truck or a van …they have it all!

For more information call the Southbank branch on 9299 2222 or visit the Budget website www.budget.com.au to view the hot deals online.

An Ode to
Burn Notice

Occasionally, there’ll be a show on television that no one else but you can appreciate.

For some people, it’s soap operas. Recently, reality television has become the go-to guilty pleasure; with who-sussed-who becoming idle water cooler chatter around the Monday morning workplace. Can you believe what that couple from MKR did to their Chicken Scaleppini last week? Can you believe how zany Mark and Duncan’s third toilet was on the Block? Did you see that incredibly talented musician on Australia’s Got Talent? (the last one was most likely never said by anyone) and so on and so forth.

I digress. For me, personally, I take great pleasure in watching a show about to begin production on its seventh season of mind-numbing dialogue, explosions, fast cars and even faster women.

Burn Notice is like watching a weekly James Bond movie that’s directed by Michael Bay’s younger and less talented little brother. The plot centres on exiled spy Michael Westen (played by former B-Grade actor Jeremy Donovan) who has been unceremoniously dumped by his agency in the colourful city of Miami. Michael will stop at nothing to find the people who have “set him up” and he is supported by his new unlikely team of friends. The core plot is usually set aside in favour of delightful bits of filler, as Michael and his team are usually out in the Miami community, assisting folks in need while using their special “spy skills”.

It’s starting to sound familiar and to be honest; there are some similarities with other shows that have carried a similar format. The Pretender, Quantum Leap and more famously The A-Team have all carried stories of down-on-their-luck individuals fighting the good fight, Robin Hood style. This is where the similarities end however, as espionage is the central theme of the program.

The appeal of Burn Notice is the simplicity. Miami has a warm climate. Every episode has a beach littered with scantily clad girls, there are plenty of fast cars and there are more guns than any recent Die Hard film. The one-liners are often out in force. Burn Notice doesn’t pretend to be anything that it’s not, and that’s what makes it such an unashamedly fun show to watch.

With so many flexible options, whether it be long term or short term hire, Budget is the ideal service for hiring a vehicle. Their fleet is diverse and ranges from sports cars to a zippy city car, a bus, a truck or a van …they have it all!

For more information call the Southbank branch on 9299 2222 or visit the Budget website www.budget.com.au to view the hot deals online.

Buoyed @ Boyd

Our first community get together was such a success that we have decided to do it all again……an evening of fun and entertainment, recreation and mini exhibitions at Southbank’s vibrant community hub, Boyd.

Connect with your friends, family and neighbours, and explore Boyd and all it has to offer.

Thursday 2 May
5.00 pm - 7.00 pm

There will be bubbles, balloons and a Silent Disco Tour by Guru Dudu, henna and massage, a ukulele ensemble, health checks and facepainting in the Playroom.

KareKare cafe will be open and a mystery gourmet food truck will be there to whet your appetite.

Boyd: explore, connect, create ...belong.

207 City Rd, Southbank
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**BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

Phone: 9658 8300

**READING CIRCLE**

First Tuesday of the Month 5:45 - 6:45pm
Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road
Come along to talk about books: those you love, those you want others to love, and those you still haven’t discovered.
Phone: 9658 8300
www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

**SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**FASHION ILLUSTRATION CLASSES AT BOYD**
Boyd School Studio, Kavanagh & Balston St
Learn the art of fashion illustration from one of the most experienced illustrators in the world, Louise Baker. Classes designed to prepare their portfolios for tertiary admission or for potential careers in the fashion industry. By appointment. Call Louise Baker 9826 9019

**IMPROVE YOUR SUNDAY WELLBEING**
10am, Sunday
St Michael’s, corner Collins and Russell St
On foot or on wheels. On bike or on tram. On your own or en masse – hear Dr Francis Macnab talk about the wellbeing of a New Faith that has many Old Faith religions protesting on and on.
www.stmichaels.org.au

**READING CIRCLE**

First Tuesday of the Month 5:45 - 6:45pm
Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road
Come along to talk about books: those you love, those you want others to love, and those you still haven’t discovered.
Phone: 9658 8300
www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

**CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES**
Mondays to Thursdays 6.30pm - 8pm
Southbridge hosts free films on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Melbourne’s Southgate.
 Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength. For more info: www.chunkymove.com

**MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB**
First Thursday of the month, 10.00am
Wharf Hotel, Siddelye St
Probus clubs cater for the needs of men and women over 50. Keep your mind active and meet new friends while enjoying a range of activities.
9600 1628 or carolbergecb@gmail.com

**MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS**
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm - 8pm
3 Southbank Promenade
This night photography class runs in Melbourne’s city centre and has all the night photography tips you’ll ever need. For more info: www.pennykoukoulas.com

**ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET**
Sundays, 10am - 4pm
Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
Meet over 80 of Victoria’s finest artisans first hand. Discover how these unique artworks are made, chat directly about the first hand. Discover how these unique artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the artworks are made, chat directly about the arts...
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STUNNING, STYLISH AND AFFORDABLE

2 1 1

This North facing apartment situated in "The Bank Apartments" oozes style and ultra-modern charm. With spectacular views of Melbourne’s city skyline and floor to ceiling windows.
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Contact: Michael Wang 0467 890 123

17C/460 Collier Drive MELBOURNE
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2 0 0

Ideal for the astute investor and property owner this 2 bedroom apartment has all the bells and whistles.
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2208/8 Marmion Place DOCKLANDS
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2 1 1

Located in prime position on the Strand! Comprising of 2 Spacious Bedroom, Master with En suite, 2 Separate bathrooms, 3 Living areas, 1 Study area, Kitchens with modern appliances.
Price guide: $475 per week
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29 The Strand WILLIAMSTOWN
PURE BLISS WITH EXQUISITE VIEWS

2 4 4

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