Designated bike lane unveiled
By Sean Rogasch

The long-awaited council bike-lane plan for Princes Bridge was unveiled last month, with the most drastic changes happening northbound, on the Southbank side of the bridge.

The north side will be reduced to one vehicle lane and have a full bike lane incorporated. The existing split path will become a full-time footpath. The decision has raised concerns that the already-congested St Kilda Rd city-bound traffic at peak hour will become diabolical.

The southern side of the bridge will continue with two motor vehicle lanes and the shared path between foot traffic and cyclists.

The northbound bike lane is being installed on a trial basis. Lord Mayor Robert Doyle was defiant, saying the north-side bike lane plan had addressed all modes of transport.

“Increases in population and visitation are creating a busier and more congested city. Princes Bridge in particular is a key transport interchange for people travelling in and out of Melbourne,” Mr Doyle said.

“You only need to observe Princes Bridge for a short period to spot the pinch points created by the high level of congestion in this area. There are 30,000 pedestrians and tens of thousands of bikes, trams and cars that travel along Princes Bridge every day,” he added.

“More than 80 per cent of these pedestrians are using the Flinders Street Station side of the intersection, which makes it essential that we address the configuration of the northbound traffic to improve safety and flow,” he added.

Councillor Cathy Oke said the plan would not impact the number of cars travelling across Princes Bridge northbound.

“While these works will provide one traffic lane for motor vehicles travelling north on the bridge there will be two right turning traffic lanes and one left turning lane adjacent to Flinders Street Station, allowing the same number of cars to get through the lights,” Cr Oke said.

Construction on the bike lane has begun and, to ensure minimal hindrance, is being carried out at night.

What do you think of the Princes Bridge bike lane plan? Let us know on our Facebook page or via Twitter @Southbank_NEWS.

Time to kick start your day!
Active Melbourne City Sports’ Peter O’Rourke is ready, are you? His team, in conjunction with Southbank Local News and the Yarra River Business Association, are launching Get Active Melbourne! at Queensbridge Square this month. Find out more on page 5.
King Kong promo causes stir

It was the publicity stunt that garnered more publicity than anyone could’ve imagined.

The gorilla hand that hung suspended against the Eureka Tower last month was supposed to be a promotion for the new King Kong stage show, but inadvertently became embroiled in the racism in football controversy, after comments from Eddie McGuire on his radio show about the promotion.

The hand was suspended for most of the month and was a spectacular way to promote the upcoming show.
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GETTING CHILLY FOR A CAUSE

If you thought you were feeling the cold as winter hit hard, spare a thought for former Olympian Tamsin Lewis, who last month braved the freezing conditions of Chill On Ice lounge ... while wearing a bikini!

Ms Lewis was in town to promote the Leukaemia Foundation’s Sunflower Club “Speedo Dash”, which will be held at Queensbridge Square on June 30.

She was joined by radio host Dan Anstey, but he, somewhat more suitably, donned the full ski suit.

Ms Lewis said the discomfort she felt was nothing compared to that of people with leukemia.

“Leukaemia touches so many people’s lives and personally I’ve known so many children who’ve had leukemia, that I’m willing to freeze in the middle of winter to encourage people to support the Sunflower Club’s Speedo Dash,” Ms Lewis said.

Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) executive officer Tim Bracher turned globe-trotter last month as he embarked on a fact-finding mission in Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr Bracher was hosted by Waterfront Auckland. He attended several meetings with many of its stakeholders and visited many of the sites along the waterfront of New Zealand’s largest city.

Mr Bracher also addressed 18 members of Waterfront Auckland about the potential of Melbourne’s waterfront areas and the issues it has, and continues to face.

The visit was organised through the Waterfront Connections Committee, which was formed after last year’s Melbourne Waterfront Forum, which featured Waterfront Auckland’s marketing and communications manager, John Gundesen.

In Mr Bracher’s report on his trip, he makes many observations about Auckland’s waterfront and how Melbourne could learn from its experiences.

Some of his key findings were:

- The authenticity of the Auckland waterfront. Mr Bracher compares the use of its heritage to the minimal efforts in Melbourne to maintain historical relevance on the waterfront.

- The everyday activation of the Auckland waterfront thanks, in part, to the embracing of everyday elements of the area. The use of a fish market and boat repair stalls maintain activation on a practical and daily basis.

- The integration of water transport in everyday life. This has been a constant talking point for Melbourne’s Yarra, with no solution in sight.

- The ability of one integrated entity to plan, control and execute the vision for the waterfront space. Compared with the 15 government agencies and organisations with a say over Melbourne’s waterfront, it cuts through a lot of the red tape and political problems.

Mr Bracher said the trip provided the perfect opportunity to give the YRBA some perspective on Melbourne’s waterfront and get the ball rolling on some new ideas for the future.

“Waterfront Auckland is a role model of what can be done with limited budgets, creative minds, a fully supportive council and an integrated waterfront organisation,” Mr Bracher said.

“Melbourne often misses the mark because it tries to get things aesthetically perfect, which usually involves expensive consultancies and big ticket solutions. We might win international solutions and pick some of the ‘low fruit’ to activate and enliven spaces.”

“For example, key locations like Queensbridge Square could be lively, attractive public spaces if small business and residents had been involved in its planning and delivery from the outset,” he added.

Getting chilly for a cause

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CEOs prepare for night out in the cold

Mr Davies is one of several CEOs from Southbank-based companies taking part in the St Vinnies CEO Sleepout on June 20.

Now in its third year, the Sleepout at Etihad Stadium in Docklands is an initiative that gives CEOs a real perspective on the trouble homeless people face on a daily basis and Mr Davies is looking forward to the real life experience.

"I’m doing it just to make a small difference. The best way to make a small difference is to experience what the homeless people go through," Mr Davies said.

He also explained that he was happy to take part in what was a novel awareness raising campaign, compared with just asking for money.

"I’m lucky to only be doing it for one night, but I expect it to be a wake up call of what these people face," he added. "I believe everyone should have a home to go to at night."

St Vincent de Paul Society Victorian president, Tony Tome, said the idea of the Sleepout had really struck a chord and had become one of its most impactful initiatives.

"It’s hard to understand just how challenging it is for the 22,000 Victorians sleeping rough every night, however the Vinnies CEO Sleepout provides business and community leaders with a small glimpse of life out in the cold," Mr Tome said.

"This event not only raises vital funds to support our homelessness services, it puts the spotlight on the issue to remind us that it’s everyone’s responsibility," he added.

"No child, woman or man should be living in such dire conditions, and the support of our business community is key to driving the charge against homelessness."

After what promises to be a long night, it seems Mr Davies isn’t looking forward to the recovery, saying: "I might take a few hours off work the next morning!"

To find out more about the CEO Sleepout or to sponsor Mr Davies or any other CEOs, head to its website www.ceosleepout.org.au

Southbank resident with a conscience

Belinda Hook (pictured) loves op-shopping. It was clear to see when she met with ‘Southbank Local News’, given she was dressed head to toe in op shop bought clothing.

It’s a perfect fit then, as part of her University course, that the Riverside Condos resident is taking part in Cross Conscious, a collaborative event between Whitehouse Institute of Design and the Australian Red Cross.

The event is set to highlight the appeal and advantages of wearing recycled clothing and will conclude with a catwalk fashion event full of “up-cycled” outfits.

Ms Hook said she was looking forward to showcasing just how great op-shop outfits can look.

"I’m a bit of an advocate for op-shopping, so I was really happy this event was part of my course," Ms Hook explained.

“Quality tends to be better at op-shops. You can’t find pieces of new clothing that are cut well anymore, plus its always cheaper too!”

The event is on June 12 and will be held at the Whitehouse Institute of Design. Cross Conscious’ public relations coordinator Talia Johansen said: “A cheap, second-hand jacket can be transformed with a few tweaks into an on-trend, trans-seasonal piece. The end results look amazing and the initiative is bound to get people through Red Cross stores’ doors.”

To find out more about Cross Conscious you can head to its facebook page www.facebook.com/crossconsciousevent

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For competition details and start dates

Get active in Melbourne!
**Southbank safety blackspot**

**Sean Car**

A safety audit conducted by Victoria Police has identified two CCTV black spots in Southbank.

The City of Melbourne has been offered $250,000 from the State Government to install security cameras in a number of black spots around the city, which it is yet to accept.

A spokesperson for the council confirmed that the audit recommended that two new cameras be placed at sites between St Kilda Road and Southbank Boulevard.

However, the spokesperson said there was "nothing before council at the moment" and, consequently, no action would be taken until the council decided whether to accept the funding.

Despite Lord Mayor Robert Doyle pledging to install numerous security cameras throughout the city during last year’s election campaign, the council remains divided on the issue.

Victoria Police spokesperson Natalie Webster said police would further advise council once the funding was issued.

"When there are funds allocated for this type of infrastructure, councils seek advice from Victoria Police as to where they believe the CCTV cameras would be best placed," she said.

Ms Webster said that CCTV systems were useful for a number of purposes.

"Video systems benefit police investigations and are particularly useful for evidentiary purposes," she said.

"The release of CCTV footage to the public also greatly assists police in identifying offenders and locating witnesses to crime."

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**Buoyed @ Boyd another success**

The Boyd Community Centre's monthly community night was again held last month and was another success, with many in the community coming down to enjoy the laid back evening of activities.

Activities included dance displays, skipping and the always popular bedtime stories, presented by the library.

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**Time to get active**

*Southbank Local News*, alongside the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) and Active Melbourne City Sports, is giving Southbank workers and residents a great chance to get out from behind the desk and get active.

Get Active Melbourne! will be run three times during June at Queensbridge Square, on June 12, 19 and 26.

The sessions are free for all participants and are a fantastic opportunity to brighten your day.

Active Melbourne City Sports spokesperson Peter O’Rourke said the sessions were designed to cater for anyone and everyone.

"You don’t need lycra, you don’t need to have a great body, just a sense of fun and a desire to get a bit fitter," Mr O’Rourke said.

"Get a group from your workplace involved, it will be a lot of fun!" he added.

*Southbank Local News* editor Sean Rogasch said the event was the sort of community activity many within Southbank had been craving.

"The red stairs are synonymous with Southbank, so it’s the perfect location for the entire community, both workers and locals, to get together and have some fun."

The classes start at 12.30pm, ensuring corporate workers can make good use of their lunch breaks.

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**Stars light up at MCEC**

*Spirits were high at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) last month, when it hosted and sponsored the Starlight Children’s Foundation’s major fundraiser.*

Guests at the event were treated to a spectacular five-course menu, with each course being supplied by guest chefs and MCEC executive chef Tony Panetta.

Guest chefs included Guy Grossi, Mark Best, Pierrick Boyer, Dan Hunter and Karen Martini.

Mr Panetta said everyone involved were happy to give to such an important cause.

“We get a real sense of pride being involved with this event and the team thoroughly enjoyed working with the five chefs and their assistants in preparing the night’s degustation menu,” Mr Panetta said.

The event raised over $400,000 on the night.

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**They sat where?**

*Southbank Local News spotted these adventurous friends looking for a unique Southbank experience last month.*

The three friends scaled the arched structure above the bridge between Flinders Street Station and Southgate shopping centre.

There were plenty of interested (and some concerned) onlookers as the lads enjoyed a refreshing drink and the view down the river.

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Guy hands over some control

Some of Planning Minister Matthew Guy’s control over Southbank was diminished last month, when he handed back planning power for a number of prominent sites.

At times a loathed figure among Southbank residents (due to his planning decisions on residential towers), Mr Guy has given the City of Melbourne planning authority for sites such as South Wharf, the Malthouse Theatre, Melbourne Theatre Company theatre and the Melbourne Recital Centre.

Minister Guy said he and the Government believed the council was now the best-placed authority to manage these local planning decisions.

“We are now moving to hand these planning powers back in the next few weeks, building on previous decisions to hand back planning power in some strategic sites to councils, by the Coalition Government,” Mr Guy said.

“A number of these sites to be redeveloped, are sites of local significance and will require detailed council input and, as such, the Coalition Government believes that the relevant local council is best placed to manage them,” he added.

City of Melbourne councillor and Chair of Planning, Ken Ong, said the city was ready to take on the extra responsibility.

“I welcome these transfers of planning authority to the City of Melbourne and thank the Minister,” Cr Ong said.

He also explained the city encouraged more planning responsibility, adding: “The City of Melbourne looks forward to further reforms in the future.”

Food hall to unite foodies

By Sean Car

A new concept food hall will soon be opening at Melbourne’s South Wharf promenade in Southbank.

The General Assembly Food Hall will incorporate 11 colorfully painted shipping containers inside a refurbished former cargo shed, each accommodating a different style of cuisine.

Melbourne Convention Centre owners, the Plenary Group, developed the project in the aim of uniting a range of Melbourne’s favorite dishes under one roof.

With applications for operating licenses now closed, the campaign has attracted more than 70 expressions of interest from up and coming chefs and entrepreneurs hoping to put their cooking skills on show.

Kelvyn Lavelle, Executive Director at the Plenary Group, said that the General Assembly would amplify what Melburnians love about their city - it’s quality food and unique venues.

“We wanted to create a dining experience Melbourne has never seen before,” he said.

“The General Assembly is all about uniting under one roof those dishes most revered by Melbourne’s foodie populaces.

“Melbournians have developed a real love of specialty street foods from different countries and the General Assembly project really speaks to this.”

The shipping container concept lends itself to the rich maritime history of the South Wharf promenade, with each one consisting of state of the art kitchen equipment and bright and playful interior.

With the promenade already bringing together some of Melbourne’s best restaurateurs, Mr Lavelle said that the uniqueness and excitement of The General Assembly would provide a fantastic addition to the mix.
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Wine tasting heaven

Wine lovers were on cloud nine in Quay West’s function room last month as the Cool Climate Wine Show hit Southbank.

The tasting session was run by Australia’s only female “Wine Master” Meg Brodtmann.

The festival was sponsored and run by the Red Hill Show Society and the wine tasting was held in conjunction with the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA).

Several cool climate wines were on show with many restaurant owners from Southbank taking the opportunity to see what the best wines of the seasons were.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said it was an event that specifically targeted some of its members.

“It was a different approach to member functions, aimed at a specific sector of our business community,” Mr Bracher said.

Awareness raised by candlelight

The glow of candlelight filled the air as the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial ceremony was held during May at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA).

The ceremony was held to raise awareness about HIV and challenge stigmas around the disease.

On a rather dreary, cold and wet evening, 130 guests braved the elements to pay tribute, raise awareness and reflect for people living with HIV.

It was attended by many people who have been either directly affected, or had a relative affected by the disease, but, was also open to anyone wanting to learn more about the HIV and the people who live with it.

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Toby Stephens and Anthony Nania enjoying the tasting and tips during the Cool Climate Wine Show tasting at Quay West.
An annual event, Education Week culminated in “Symphony in a Day,” a concert that was held on Saturday, June 1.
Southbank Local News spoke to a couple of the musicians who took place in the program, including violin player Rohan Carr and clarinet player Tim Raes.
Mr Carr said he was thrilled at the opportunity Education Week had given him, and knew the new skills he was learning would enhance his general play when he returned to his Essendon Symphony Orchestra.
“It’s a massive step up from what I’m used to, but personally, I’ve really embraced the challenge,” Mr Carr said.
“To experience playing with the MSO can only improve my performing, and hopefully I can take those extra skills with me when I head back to my orchestra,” he added.
The MSO’s education manager, Bronwyn Lobb, said the week and the concert were popular among amateur musicians and with good reason.
“Each musician involved in ‘Symphony in a Day’ has their own special story and connection to the MSO, and that is what this program is all about – people from all walks of life coming together to share their love of orchestral music,” Ms Lobb said.
“We were overwhelmed by the flood of applications we received for this year’s program and we can’t wait to create music with a whole new group of musicians,” she added.

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra’s (MSO) Education Week ran last month, and gave budding musicians a chance to mix with and learn from the very best in the state.
The studios at Boyd are a hive of activity, with painters, jewellers and designers calling the space home. Last month Southbank Local News spoke to some of the artists who together make Boyd the last hot-spot in the Melbourne creative scene.

Deborah Dickson (pictured top right) gets the best of both worlds at Boyd because she is a Southbank resident and painter and is thrilled to have a studio so close to home. “It’s great because I live on Queensbridge St, so I can just walk down to the studio. I feel like a very lucky artist,” Ms Dickson said.

“As an artist you are often in solitary confines while you paint, so it’s nice to have a community feeling in the building. There’s always people around to have a chat if you need a break,” she added.

Ms Dickson also spoke about the community centre from the perspective of a resident, saying: “As a resident it’s really nice to see Boyd turning into a community hub so quickly.”

Just down the hall is award-winner jeweller, Blanche Tilden (pictured left). Ms Tilden said the central location of Southbank’s Boyd centre was a huge advantage. “It’s fantastic to have a studio in the middle of the city with rent I can afford and to be surrounded by so many artists. It creates a great little community,” Ms Tilden said.

“It’s also really good to be in the arts precinct here in Southbank. When there are international visitors and curators in town, it’s not too far to come and visit my studio, which wouldn’t be possible if we weren’t so close to all the arts institutions,” she added.

She also explained the ease of which she could get to work at Boyd, saying: “There’s probably a misconception about working at Boyd, but really, it’s just a great place to knock down and get on with my work.”

Simone LeAmon (pictured bottom right), a designer, loves the artistic community that has been created here at Boyd. “The great thing is being surrounded by colleagues and peers, and that we are all professional creatives. It creates this amazing support network,” Ms LeAmon explained.

“It’s extraordinary creative DNA here on the top floor. It’s a really special place to work.” She also said spaces like Boyd, being offered at affordable rent, was so important for the artistic community in Melbourne.

“A lot of artists are finding it increasingly difficult to find affordable space, especially so close to the city. Melbourne is a creative city, but where possible, creative people need that extra support. I think everyone can see the great value of places like Boyd,” Ms LeAmon said.
The Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) lost its founder and longest-serving artistic director last month, with the passing of John Sumner. Mr Sumner died on May 24, aged 88.

MTC chairman, Derek Young, said Mr Sumner was a giant of the theatre world in Melbourne and Australia. “John Sumner’s contribution to Australian theatre is unparalleled. As founder of Australia’s first professional theatre company, he championed the development of Australian voices and writing in theatre,” Mr Young said.

“Our deepest condolences go out to his family at this time,” he added. Mr Sumner founded the Union Theatre Repertory Company, which became the MTC in 1953. He was his artistic director from 1953 to 1955 and then again from 1959 through to 1987.

“John Sumner’s contribution to Australian theatre is unparalleled. As founder of the Melbourne Theatre Company, he championed the development of Australian voices and writing in theatre,” Mr Young said.
Get Active Southbank

Get Active Southbank is a free initiative which offers free exercise classes at Queensbridge Square for three consecutive Wednesdays during June.

Contemporary lifestyles have become increasingly sedentary. A reduction in physical activity is occurring throughout Australia with only 46 per cent of males and 30 per cent of females aged 15 to 24 years participating in levels of physical activity as recommended in the national guidelines.

Get Active Southbank presented by Active Melbourne City Sports (AMCS), Yarra Business Association and Southbank Local News is an initiative designed to get both the Southbank worker and resident populations to engage in free exercise sessions. These free sessions will incorporate a boot camp styled work-out that is tailored to suit all different levels of fitness.

By utilising lunchtime, this initiative will provide a unique opportunity for corporate workers to get out from behind their desk and refresh both the body and the mind.

The Corporate Challenge

Want to know the best possible way to spend your lunchbreak? It has to be the Corporate Challenge, a lunchtime sports competition that provides its participants a selection of fantastic sports in very convenient CBD locations. Team based activities are a great way for corporate workers to interact outside the normal office environment, and some examples of the benefits our participants experience include:

- Incorporating fun and fitness into your week;
- Improved concentration and stress minimization; and
- Building a more cohesive working environment.

The current repertoire of sports includes netball, soccer, basketball and lawn bowls. With a strong culture of inclusivity and sportsmanship, the Corporate Challenge has something for everyone. Registrations open the end of June. For more information on this event, please visit the AMCS website, www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/amcs or call our offices 9604 8600.

Ditch the Desk

It has long been established that people living an active and healthy lifestyle enjoy increased energy, concentration and motivation in the workplace. Ditch the Desk is a fitness program developed to encourage workplaces to get out of the office and get active.

Guided by professional fitness experts, participants work at their own pace, are provided with helpful tips on how to improve their health and wellness and show you that being active can be very simple. Ditch the Desk offers a range of different exercises that can be tailored to suit different levels of fitness. Ditch the Desk participants are not only directed but are also educated in the concept of health and wellness, providing them with ownership and knowledge to take forward in life. Visit www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/amcs or contact amcs@ymca.org.au for more information.

NGV GETS ADVENTUROUS

Gatsby Glamour

by Nicola St John

With the release of ‘The Great Gatsby’ this month, all heads are turning towards the red lips, fringing and flapper fashions on screen.

To maintain the classy approach to 1920s dressing it’s best not to throw on all the pearls, feathers and beading you have hanging in your closet – you’ll end up looking like a bad Madonna wannabe from the 80s.

The key is glamour – incorporating an element of the 20s into contemporary sleek 2013 silhouette. For men, this means donning a tuxedo and a crisp bowtie, but for women things can be a bit more playful. Pop on a head piece for instant accent piece and take cues from Catherine Martin’s stunning creations onscreen for Daisy Buchanan.

A drop waist dress is also a classic piece from the era and easy to combine into a modern wardrobe. Pair it back so not to look as if you are actually in costume – the less beading the better. Worn with classic lacy stockings and you’ve got a 1920s knockout.

The easier option is to throw on a long strand of pearls or a large pair of sparking art deco diamond earrings (no need to buy real diamonds and pearls - just act as if they were real).

Aim for evoking the era of the 1920, rather than being an extra on set and you’ll end up all glamour with none of the garish.

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Our attraction to others is usually more dynamic than we know. When our north node and south nodes connect strongly, a karmic type of relationship begins. It is not always comfortable or easy but it is binding because each of us has something the other partner wants.

Danielle
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Sun in Capricorn
North Node in Capricorn

Wade
January 25, 1985
Sun in Aquarius
North Node in Taurus

The outcome
Together your destiny is to lovingly find the success, status and personal fulfillment you both desire. You will both need to learn true forgiveness, to be non-judgemental with each other, and to keep your expectations reasonable. Sometimes you may both wear rose-coloured glasses and sometimes you will expect too much from each other. I think it will be beneficial to always wear the rose-coloured glasses and to give each other your unconditional love and support through good and bad. If you are able to achieve this, you will strengthen your ability to achieve all that you desire in the material world. Good Luck and stay mindful.

Progressive Dinner at WTC Wharf

Every Wednesday night
(Commencing 1st May 2013)
6.30pm & 7.30pm sittings
Tickets $55 per person
(03) 9629 9228
tauregwtc@melbourne.com.au

A progressive dinner at WTC Wharf is your opportunity to experience an array of individual and distinctive cuisines. Try an entrée at one, a main course at another and then finish with one of the many mouth-watering desserts available at Melbourne’s newest riverside dining experience. From its majestic views of the river, Blyths Bar & Restaurant captures the spirit of modern Mediterranean and Lebanese food.

As the sun sets along the Yarra River, Kobe Jones & Riverside Teppanyaki and you can enjoy modern Japanese food, combined with a Californian flavour, featuring the newest and largest teppanyaki table in Australia. And what better way to complement your visit than the fabulous and relaxed menu of The Wharf Hotel. Capture the spirit of riverside dining at WTC Wharf.

Together
It is no surprise to learn that you both came together very quickly. Wade affects your eighth house, so his very presence makes you feel deeply bonded. Both of you would have felt a sense of spiritual or soul-mate connection. The relationship makes both of you feel safe and sure. Wade also has a positive effect on your Mars and that means that he drives you to achieve your deepest goals. Mars is where we naturally push forward. Yours is in Taurus, so the two of you both desire the good things in life and Wade naturally helps you to achieve this. For Wade’s part, you affect his fourth house. The fourth house is all about home and family and so your presence in his life makes him feel safe, loved and secure. You also have a positive effect on his Sun and Jupiter, which means that you are naturally lucky for him and energise his purpose in life. This is a strong mutually- comfortable bond that will most probably deepen with time. The notions of mutual help and devotion will be very strong in this relationship. If there is one caveat, it is that too much comfort may not drive you to make the difficult changes that life requires of us at times.
For most people, that program would be Q and A or LateLine or if you’re really reaching, The Bolt Report. For me, the fast and intelligent dialogue written by Aaron Sorkin, a man whose writing credentials include The West Wing and The Social Network, fills that void. Sorkin’s latest, The Newsroom, is a thoroughly engaging drama about what goes in to making cable news television.

Those familiar with Sorkin’s work will know that the dialogue in The Newsroom is its strongest feature. It is smart, punchy and very well structured. There is never a sense that this is just another comedy satire about the news. The Newsroom begins its story in 2010, using real life events such as the BP oil leak, the Tea Party movement and the death of Osama Bin Laden as a backdrop. These huge real world stories are examined from the challenging angle of presenting the facts, and the rest of the news. The cast is rounded brilliantly between the busy behind-the-scenes of news making, while zoning in and out of themes of politics, ethics, corporate espionage and conspiracy. It never loses sight of its characters, which are well defined and very human. The context of the news environment is very well researched and accurate to the time, with real clips and footage used to help anchor the show.

One minor drawback of the program would be its pacing. There is an infrequent comedic undertone that lurches up unexpectedly, drawing the viewer out of the program. It feels forced to add cheap, almost slapstick, moments to the series, but this could also be due to the performances of the wider ensemble cast which aren’t as convincing.

The Newsroom can be seen on SoHo channel and is definitely worth a watch.

The city of Melbourne’s draft lighting strategy really throws the spotlight on our river precinct as the ‘shop front’ for Melbourne.

It says...

“Melbourne’s waterways are finally being fully integrated with the rest of the city’s public open spaces. Effective public lighting can assist this transformation. It can support pedestrian access to the water, and enhance the views that make these places memorable...”

“Extend safe, legible pathways along the full length of each waterway. Enhance visual links and pedestrian connections among riverside amenities. Use light to bridge gaps between activity nodes...”

“Treat bridges as sculptural objects. Illuminate buildings, infrastructure and landscape features that can serve as beacons along dark sections of the rivers. Ensure that major paths and destinations are visible to observers on the opposite banks...”

“Exploit the dynamic combination of water and light. Use reflections to amplify and enliven the effects of illumination. Direct attention to boats, to adjacent roads and rail lines, and to the movement of the water itself. Give priority to temporary illumination or changing lighting effects, especially installations that are associated with events along the river. Lighting should aim to assist and not impede safe navigation.”

The Yarra River Business Association has lobbied for years regarding safety and security for pedestrians along Southbank, and Northbank, including presentations to a high level of Victoria Police. The importance of lighting is not only central to our visitors’ sense of wellbeing and safety at night, but it can also be seen on Foxtel’s soho channel and is definitely worth a watch.

The city of Melbourne’s draft lighting strategy really throws the spotlight on our river precinct as the ‘shop front’ for Melbourne.

We were pleased to host the Minister for Tourism, Louise Asher, on an evening river cruise last month. Ms Asher mixed freely with Yarra River Business Association members and was able to hear first-hand about the problems in doing business on the waterfront, especially the restrictions and red tape for our river tour operators. It is well known that there are 15 government organisations with some degree of control over the river, which can make it a nightmare when trying to stage an event or even propose new ideas for river activation.

The Yarra River Business Association is actively working through organisations such as the Waterfront Connections Committee to get governance of the waterway thoroughly examined by State Government. The current arrangements are not doing justice to the status and importance of the river to our city, its people and tourism.

Last month our executive officer spent three days working with the Waterfront Auckland organisation, which is an excellent model of a “one stop” shop that embraces infrastructure, strategic planning, place activation and marketing all under the one roof. Imagine how dynamic our waterfront could become if we enjoyed such an integrated approach.
There’s never been a better time to get involved in your local community. Here are a few great initiatives that you should be aware of and around Southbank.

University of the Third Age
University of the Third Age (U3A) is a worldwide network of learning communities for older, generally retired people. The concept began in France in the 1970s, but is now worldwide and there are U3A groups in many countries. U3As are built on a common philosophy of older people getting together to teach, learn and share their wisdom, just for the satisfaction that it brings – no qualifications are needed for joining and no certificates or accuracies are awarded.

The Melbourne U3A is located in venues across the CBD and Docklands. More than 40 year-long courses or activity groups run weekly throughout the year. There is also a 40 year-long courses or activity groups run across the CBD and Docklands. More than a growing range of short courses available.

Subjects have included:
- Languages – French, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, German;
- History and insights into other cultures;
- Cinema, literature, writing, book discussion, Shakespeare;
- Economics, current affairs, media insights;
- Music ensemble, choir;
- Painting, craft, floristry;
- Chess, mahjong, cryptic crosswords;
- Nutrition, exercise, relaxation and yoga;
- Philosophy, psychology, personal development; and
- Digital photography, computers, internet.

Membership to U3A is a very affordable $50 per year.
To find out more about the current courses on offer from U3A or to join, visit www.u3amelbcity.org.au

Southbank Rotary Group
The Southbank Rotary Club is a friendly and active club that welcomes guests and visitors - whether you are just curious about Rotary, visiting from another club, or thinking about joining the Rotary Club.

The club hosts a weekly dinner (usually held Tuesday 6pm) in Southbank, with a variety of guest speakers from business and community sectors. It’s a great opportunity for fellowship and networking with other residents from the local community.

To find out more about the Southbank Rotary Club or to attend their next dinner event, simply contact the club via their website at www.southbank.org.au

Melbourne Men’s Shed
A positive response has been received regarding the Melbourne Men’s Shed. The newly-formed committee continues to build membership numbers and has once again put out the call for interested men to join the group.

We encourage all men who are interested in being members of the Melbourne Men’s Shed and who also wish to use the facility, to make contact with David Loughton, membership secretary at mmsmembershipssecretary@gmail.com. au David will be in touch with details on membership and a tour of the site.

Emergency Markers
Most times when you’re out in public, you probably won’t need to call emergency services. But in the rare event that you do, giving the Triple Zero (000) operator your exact location can mean the world of difference in getting emergency support to you as quickly as possible.

Providing an exact location when you’re in a public park/area can be challenging - especially if there is no road intersection nearby. That’s why the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority and the City of Melbourne have installed emergency location markers around key public areas of Melbourne.

The markers are located on street poles and are easily identified with a large green background and white lettering. The markers carry a six figure alphanumeric reference (three letters and three numbers) which can be quoted when you call 000 and you are asked for your location.

The City of Melbourne has installed emergency markers around:
- The Tan track;
- Birrarung Marr;
- Alexandra Gardens;
- Victoria Harbour;
- Waterfront City; and
- Yarra’s Edge.

A great initiative that helps our community stay safe.

Planning matters
Unfortunately, due to a last minute diary change from the Minister’s office, we have postponed our scheduled meeting with Planning Minister Matthew Guy until mid-August. I’ll provide an overview of our discussions in the September edition.

Joining the SRG
Finally - and as always - you can become a member of the Southbank Residents Group 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.

Michael Smolders
President
Southbank Residents Group

Footpath oversight
I am a resident at Southbank Towers on 83 Queensbridge St, Southbank.
For the last number of months my journey, and many others’ journeys, to work in the morning has been disrupted by the footpath closure on Queensbridge St, due to the Prima Pearl development.

I don’t understand how this development is allowed to block a much-utilised footpath for three years! Any other such development in Melbourne would have to construct a gantry over the footpath so it could remain open.

Was this an oversight in the permit in the application? Or does the City of Melbourne always pander to the requests of developers and ignore the fact that a three-year footpath closure is incredibly disruptive to residents?

Either way I feel this is unacceptable. The City of Melbourne needs to work with the developers to find a solution in which the footpath is reopened ASAP.

Donna Shiel

Send your letters to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

Letters to the Editor

BearBrass

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on the river southgate arts & leisure precinct southbank bearbrass.com.au
Jim has worked in Southbank for the last decade and says the centrality and great mixture of people create an atmosphere that, in his view, never seems to change.

The tourism, hours of work and nightlife on a Friday night is what makes Southbank great according to Alison. “We make great pizza too,” she says.

The great people make it easy to work during the busy hours says Stefanie. She also loves the tourist edge to Southbank as they tell her what they think about Melbourne and give great feedback on their business, which makes it an interesting place to work.

Derrick says working alongside the beautiful Yarra is what he enjoys most about his job. “That in combination with the “lovely people and neighbours” is what makes it a great place.

The environment, views and people are what make Southbank special according to Jirapa. “I think working in Southbank gives you the opportunity to meet different kinds of people, tourists, students, workers and employees, which is great,” she says.

Jim Velhamos, 38
Owner, Coffee Minded

Scott Perrin, 25
Assistant Manager, Grill’d

Stefanie Athanasio, 20
Shop assistant, Big Pizza

Jirapa Kittithirapornchai, 26
Shop assistant, Simply Thai

Derrick Luo, 23
Supervisor, Healthy Habits

Scott says it is the people that make Southbank special. They are part of what makes the Southbank atmosphere great to be a part of, along with the constant events and activities, which all make for a great vibe.

The great people make it easy to work during the busy hours says Stefanie. She also loves the tourist edge to Southbank as they tell her what they think about Melbourne and give great feedback on their business, which makes it an interesting place to work.

The environment, views and people are what make Southbank special according to Jirapa. “I think working in Southbank gives you the opportunity to meet different kinds of people, tourists, students, workers and employees, which is great,” she says.

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!

U O T B K S H A N
H A N U T O S K B
S K B A H N U T O
K H A S N T B O U
B T O H A U K N S
N U S K O B A H T
T B H O S K N U A
A N U T B H O S K
O S K N U A T B H

Last month’s Sudoku solution

The environment, views and people are what make Southbank special according to Jirapa. “I think working in Southbank gives you the opportunity to meet different kinds of people, tourists, students, workers and employees, which is great,” she says.

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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

**FREE TAI CHI AT BOYD**

Every Friday, 8am - 9am
Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road
Instructors are from Yulong Wu-Shu Tai Chi. Classes are suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced. Courtesy of the City of Melbourne. Contact: 9600 1628 or carolbergercb@gmail.com

**MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB**

First Thursday of the month, 10.00am
Wharf Hotel, Siddleley 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 carolbergercb@gmail.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 products, inspirations and techniques. For more information: www.theartscentre.com.au

**CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES**

Mondays to Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm, Saturdays 10am-1.15pm
111 Sturt Street
Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength. For more info: www.chunkymove.com

**IMPROVE YOUR SUNDAY WELLBEING**

10am, Sunday
St Michael’s, corner Collins and Ruzzell 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

**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

**ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE MIDWEEK EVENTS**

Second Wednesday of the month
St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road
Friendship group – Brief Chapel service at 12 noon, followed by lunch at 12.30pm in the Function room. Interesting speakers and a great chance to make new friends.
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

**FREE BREASTFEEDING EDUCATION BEFORE BIRTH**

Tuesdays 6pm - 8.30pm
Mantra 31 City Road
Enabling Women to make an informed decision about Breastfeeding. Home visits, post-birth also available. Presented by; Maureen Brook an International Board Certifed Lactation Consultant.
wm.mybreastfeeding.net.au

**ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE MIDWEEK EVENTS**

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am
St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road
Children 3-11 years welcome. Not available during school holidays. St Johns also runs a playgroup every Tuesday from 10am - 12pm.
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

**ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Every Sunday
St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road
9am - Traditional liturgical worship.
11am - Informal liturgical worship.
7pm - Informal contemporary worship.
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

**BOYD 1ST BIRTHDAY PARTY**

Sunday July 7, 2pm - 5pm
Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road
Come down and celebrate the first year of Southbank’s much-loved community centre and library. Plenty of fun and activities during the day-long celebrations.
www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

**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.

**BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CLINIC**

Every Tuesday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm
Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road
Providing breastfeeding counselling, support and advice, run by a Maternal and Child Health Nurse/ Lactation Consultant. If you need any assistance/support for you and your baby! MCH 9340 1444, or mchbookings@melbourne.vic.gov.au

**YOGA WITH PEI**

6.30 pm Tuesdays & 9.00am Saturdays
Beginners class at 9.30am on Wednesdays
Assembly Hall at Boyd, 207 City Road
Join us and explore strength, flexibility, balance and relaxation through Yoga. BYO Yoga mat and blanket/bath towel. $10 per session, every 5th session free.
peipei@yogawithpei.com

**PRETENDERS PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**

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: 9658 8300
www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au

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www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

**FIRST FRIDAY DANCE CLUB**

First Friday of every month at 6pm
Red Stairs @ Queensbridge Square
Come along and test your dancing shoes each month with different genres of dance, but always high levels of fun.

**STOMPERS**

10.30am Tuesdays
Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road
Stompers is Melbourne Library Service’s new weekly program for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Come along for a half-hour of stories, songs, rhymes, music and most of all, FUN!
If you are interested in advertising your business here, email advertising@southbanklocalnews.com.au or phone 8889 7980.

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tax: 9600 1150
e-mail: tony@taxaid.com.au

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www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

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CONTACT ANGELA MESITI ON 9690 8855 TO SEE HOW!

FEATURED SALES

1708/283 City Road SOUTH BANK
STUNNING, STYLISH AND AFFORDABLE
2 □ 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
Price guide: $549,000
Contact: Michael Wang 0467 890 123

1701 Freshwater Place SOUTH BANK
LUXURY SOUTH BANK OPPORTUNITY!
2 □ 2 □ 1 □
Add a touch of elegance to your portfolio with this rare Freshwater Place gem! Located in the heart of Southbank, on the 17th floor of the sought-after Freshwater Place, you’ll find this corner apartment exceeding your expectations.
Contact: Quinn Zhong 0422 242 013

270/283 City Road SOUTH BANK
THE BANK APARTMENTS - FULLY FURNISHED
1 □ 1 □ 1 □
With everything your next right at your door, why look any further? This fully furnished one bedroom apartment comprises of kitchen with modern gas appliances, open plan living, private balcony, European style laundry and one car space.
Price guide: $495 per week
Contact: Angela Mesiti 9690 8855

1603/152 Sturt Street SOUTH BANK
THE GUILD APARTMENTS
2 □ 2 □ 1 □
Enjoy the city views from the 16th floor!!! Brand new modern design offers comfortable living with everything you could possibly need at your feet...Available for lease right now!
Price: $530 per week
Contact: Angela Mesiti 9690 8855

FEATURED RENTALS

1603/152 Sturt Street SOUTH BANK
THE GUILD APARTMENTS
2 □ 2 □ 1 □
Enjoy the city views from the 16th floor!!! Brand new modern design offers comfortable living with everything you could possibly need at your feet...Available for lease right now!
Price: $530 per week
Contact: Angela Mesiti 9690 8855

Head to www.evolverealestate.com.au to view our wide selection of properties!