Look who’s been visiting Southbank?

Santa made his way down to Southbank last month to check out the new buildings and map out his flight plan for December 24.

He’ll be back in town again when Boyd Community Hub invites the community to celebrate Christmas together with a Christmas Buoyed @ Boyd on Thursday, December 12.

The celebrations kick off from 4.30pm and include performances from The Mudcakes and Fairy Caitlin, Vardos and Santa to hear everyone’s Christmas wishes.

There will also be food trucks and a Christmas paper craft workshop from Paperlab.

Cr Richard Foster encouraged the entire community to come together and enjoy the surrounds of the Boyd community hub.

“Christmas at Boyd will no doubt be another wonderful family-friendly event and a time to celebrate and relax with your neighbours,” Cr Foster said.

“I encourage Southbank residents to come and enjoy the entertainment and good company at Boyd, City of Melbourne’s beautifully-restored community hub on City Road.”

For more information on Christmas Buoyed @ Boyd head to www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boyd or call 9658 8317.

There is plenty of other Christmas activities happening in Southbank over the month, check out all the details inside.
Merry Christmas from Southbank Local News!

Can you believe it? The year is all but over and, if you haven’t got your Christmas shopping sorted out yet, you’d better get onto it!

It’s been a big year for us here at the Southbank Local News as we’ve grown and established ourselves as an important part of this vibrant suburb.

The reason we’ve been able to bring you the paper each month is our advertisers. I thank them for their ongoing support and implore you to support them as well.

Of course there are many people who I’d like to personally thank for their hard work throughout the year and without whom the paper would simply fail to exist.

Starting off with David and Wendy Beech, my wonderful delivery wizards! David and Wendy have lived here in Southbank for 18 years and are the sort of people who make it a community rather than just a collection of buildings.

Our graphic designers, firstly Nicola St John and then Chris Vernon, who probably curse some of the ideas I come up with but always manage to make them look great on the page.

The column contributors in no specific order: Tim Bracher, Korey Fernando, Michael Smolders, Peter O’Rourke, Tony Penna, and the St Johns team including Father Ian Vaikkai and Malcolm Schmitke.

These different voices help create a diverse paper and ensure it stays interesting for you, the reader.

Also to all those readers who have been moved to write a letter to the editor this year, whether it’s positive or not, we appreciate the participation. Thanks also to proof-reader Bethany Williams.

Finally to Shane Scanlan who is the fatherly figure behind the paper’s success and his guidance and advice is invaluable.

So that’s it for another year. This edition will cover December and January and we’ll be back raring to go for our February edition.

So from the Southbank Local News, have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Social Inclusion Week concert hits Boyd

Southbank locals were treated to an interactive concert from the School of Hard Knocks at Boyd Community Hub in November as part of Social Inclusion Week.

School of Hard Knocks members invited the public to sing along to a collection of songs from voice warm-up exercises to numbers from their adaptation of a musical.

The concert also included members from the original Choir of hard knocks (now known as the Choir of Hope and Inspiration).

The School of Hard Knocks is a social enterprise which encourages people who have experienced hardship and is ran by Jonathon Welch AM.

Wills & Estates

Have you been left out of a Will?

Have you been appointed an executor of a Will and don’t know where to start?

Do you have a valid Will?

If you were to lose mental capacity who would look after you and your money?

Are you concerned about any of your answers?

When experience matters contact an Accredited Wills & Estates Specialist

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Southbank Local News

Jan 2014

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Reader contributions are welcome. Please send articles and images to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au
Deadline for the Feb edition is Feb 13.
Melbourne Now on display in Southbank

One of National Gallery of Victoria’s (NGV) most daring projects ‘Melbourne Now’ began in November and art lovers are in for a treat, as it is set to run right through summer.

The exhibition brings together over 400 artists and is not only spread between NGV’s two locations, on St Kilda Rd and the Ian Potter Centre at Federation Square but also utilises various other locations around Melbourne. Artists, architects fashion designers and jewelers have produced works for the exhibition.

NGV director Tony Ellwood said Melbourne Now was a coming-of-age for the NGV and enabled it to provide for both artists and consumers.

‘Melbourne Now has enabled us to evolve as an institution and provide new opportunities for our artists and designers while, at the same time, inviting participation from the widest possible audience,” Mr Ellwood explained.

Minister for the Arts Heidi Victoria said it showed off Melbourne to the rest of the world. “It is often stated that Melbourne is Australia’s cultural capital, Melbourne Now is set to prove this yet again,” Ms Victoria said.

“The exhibition will surprise and reward visitors again and again, and what is even more exciting is that it’s all free. The Victorian Government is proud to support this program and I encourage you all to explore, experience and be inspired by, the very best of Melbourne Now,” she added.

Melbourne Now runs until March 2014.

Happy birthday Recital Centre

Southbank’s much-loved Melbourne Recital Centre turns five in February and to celebrate it will hold a huge birthday bash.

The day-long event on Saturday, February 8 will feature a wide range of musical performances to ensure all music lovers will have something to celebrate. The variety also highlights the versatility of the venue.

Recital Centre CEO, Mary Vallentine, said MRC wanted to both celebrate the past and embrace the future, hoping to attract new faces to the birthday celebrations.

“Melbourne Recital Centre is the city’s home for music – it belongs to, and has something to offer, everyone. We’re proud to know that it is a welcoming place where the entire community comes together to make and share great music,” Ms Vallentine said.

The birthday bash is a free event. For more details head to www.melbournerecital.com.au/birthday

Holiday Special!

Rent a selected car for 5+ days from Budget Southbank in December or January and receive $20 off!* Quote coupon MPNZ077 when you book.

If you’re moving in January, Budget have great deals on moving vans and trucks!

*Valid for car groups B and above. Subject to availability. Valid at Southbank only. Conditions apply, contact Budget for full details.

January DIY Moving Special

When you rent a moving van from Budget Southbank in January, receive FREE trolley hire and FREE hydraulic lift!** Simply mention this ad!

**Valid for truck group F only. Subject to availability. Valid at Southbank Only. Conditions apply, contact Budget for full details.
Street transformed in ‘Dodds St ReBoot’

Dodds St underwent a transformation in November, as part of the ‘Dodds St ReBoot’.

The “reboot” was an initiative of CoDesign Studio which, in conjunction with Arts Victoria, attempted to activate the street space for the use of local residents, workers and students.

The four-day street “reboot” included creating a public space, providing greenery, better conditions for cyclists and pedestrians and providing more food options.

Helen Rowe from CoDesign said the ideas had come from a public consultation.

“Earlier in the year CoDesign’s team asked locals what they’d like to see happen on Dodds St and at Dodds Street ReBoot we aimed to prototype these ideas,” Ms Rowe explained.

She said the street was already blocked off to traffic so it was the perfect space.

“The basic idea of the project is that this space is under-utilised - it’s already blocked off to traffic - and Southbank could do with some more street life and community space,” Ms Rowe said.

“We thought it would be a great space to temporarily reclaim and see how else it could be used as well as finding out what people think of it,” she added.

Ms Rowe went on to say the experiment was a great success and locals responded very positively to it.

“We had a really great reception from locals - both talking to residents as well as students and people who live nearby,” Ms Rowe said.

“They saw it as a way to meet other locals, great for letting kids play on the street, especially doing chalk drawings! Even just providing seats and a bit of greenery was appreciated,” she added.

Mr Rowe said she hoped the momentum from this first reboot could lead to more activation projects in the future.

“We’re going to pull together the pictures and feedback from the event and provide this to the local arts precinct stakeholders and the City of Melbourne,” she explained.

“We hope that what we’ve achieved demonstrates that Dodds St could be used differently that this ‘reboot’ creates momentum for more creative uses of the street into the future.”

Pucker up for Christmas

It’ll be easier for you to convince your crush to cozy up under the mistletoe this Christmas with the installation of a giant mistletoe decoration on the footbridge between Southgate and Flinders St Station.

St Aloysius
A Catholic Girls’ College Year 7–12

Limited places available for 2014 enrolments. Enrolments or Year 7 2015 must be received by Feb 28th 2014
For further information contact Jodie McLeod on 9329 0411
31 Curran Street Nth Melbourne www.aloysius.vic.edu.au
Developer contributions on the agenda

The City of Melbourne wants to extract maximum developer contribution from a Haig St project.

The council is asking the Minister for Planning to apply the provisions of the new Amendment C208, the Development Contributions Plan Overlay, which allows for more transparency around developer contribution.

The development, at 57-59 Haig St, is 122 metres high, with 39 levels, will include 249 new apartments and has been designed by Bruce Henderson Architects.

Council supports the tower but, as well as wanting Amendment C208 applied, it also wants the Minister to look carefully at setbacks as defined in the Capital City Zone planning guidelines.

The council’s chair of planning, Cr Ken Ong, said it was a pretty simply conclusion to come to, now that Amendment C208 was in place.

“It’s pretty straight forward. The officers have looked at it and worked with the developer and also the Department of Planning to come to a conclusion and we’ve added in there the additional item of the development contribution, in line with planning scheme amendment C208, which has been out there for a while,” Cr Ong explained.

Cr Stephen Mayne said the amendment was important, given the historical discrepancy between Melbourne’s developer contributions and those of other major cities.

“I was up in Brisbane two weeks ago and the State Government up there gets $20,000 levy on every apartment. Massive. City of Sydney, $2 million a week coming through the door at the moment for the last 15 months in developer contributions,” Cr Mayne pointed out.

“Our arrangement, historically, has been a fraction of what has applied in Sydney and Brisbane and I think it is appropriate as we have that policy out there that we start applying it, or requesting that the Minister apply it, as these Ministerial applications come through,” he added.

Cr Mayne also noted that the Haig St application was 30,000 sqm and only just inside the Planning Minister Matthew Guy’s threshold for planning approvals.

“It’s only just over the threshold for the Minister of 25,000 sqm. The conditions are important, as is the amendment there with the developer contribution.”

Skywhale visits ACCA

The infamous Skywhale that helped Canberra celebrate its 100th birthday earlier in the year has made a fleeting visit to Southbank, taking flight over the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) during December.

The 34 metre long and 23 metre high Skywhale is double the size of a regular hot air balloon and is made from 3.5 km of fabric.

The balloon is a creation of Patricia Piccinini.

Right: The skywhale balloons itself over ACCA, thrilling the early morning onlookers.
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<tr>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Property Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3004/109 Clarendon Street, SOUTHBANK</td>
<td>Best Value Two Bedrooms Apartment with Great City and Bay Views! Nestled on the 30th floor in a wonderful location at Southbank, this stylish and spacious apartment offers great location, size and style. Fantastic investment opportunity with high rental return. Contact Julia Galeeva 0411 588 937</td>
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<td>Receive cash flow from settlement This 32nd floor North-East facing light and bright 2 bedroom apartment delivers a sensational mix of quality, style and inner city practicality. It already has an exceptional ongoing fully furnished rental agreement in place till September 2014, fetching an impressive $3,520 every month! Contact Julia Galeeva 0411 588 937</td>
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<td>2411 / 283 City Rd SOUTHBANK</td>
<td>Suburb Modern Living with Stunning Bay Views An impressive blend of space, style and Southbank flair, this two bedroom apartment is your ticket to the good life. Perfect for owner occupiers or investors alike and conveniently located on the 24th floor, this apartment features an open central living area, superb private balcony and urban kitchen. Located close to South Melbourne Market, Clarendon Street cafes and public transport. Contact Julia Galeeva 0411 588 937</td>
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<tr>
<td>1110/283 City Road, SOUTHBANK</td>
<td>Heart of Southbank! Located on the 11th floor of the BANK Apartments is this 2 bedrooms apartment which you can call it home or make it a great investment property. With public transports, shops and Crown Entertainment Complex literally at your door steps, it gives you easy access to everything Southbank has to offer. Contact Michael Pastrikos 0404 282 864</td>
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<td>3105/46-50 Haig Street, SOUTHBANK</td>
<td>The Jewel of Southbank Sitting on the fringe of Southbank and South Melbourne gives the perfect balance of city and suburban lifestyle, the recently built Tiara building is Southbank’s newest prestige development. Boasting a large balcony perfect for entertaining on the 31st floor, you will find yourself mesmerized by the stunning views of the Yarra and Melbourne city, this apartment is a must see! Contact Michael Pastrikos 0404 282 864</td>
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<td>Vibrant inner city living with stunning views This spacious two bedroom apartment on the 20th floor is located in the prestigious Tiara building, one of Southbank’s most desired developments. Recently completed this apartment is complemented with a modern European kitchen and stylish fittings throughout. Contact Michael Pastrikos 0404 282 864</td>
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New networking event a success

The first Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) and ‘Southbank Local News’ networking luncheon was a huge hit in November with around 70 local workers and residents coming together for food, connecting and learning about the area.

The event was held at Rivers Edge at WTC Wharf and diners had ample time to mingle and make new connections before sitting down for a meal and presentation from Red Rock Leisure’s John Foreman.

Mr Foreman explained the concept of a Chinese New Year extravaganza on the Yarra and implored businesses to get behind the idea.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said the organisation had been pleased with the response.

“We were very encouraged with numbers for the first event and it has confirmed that there is a need for a regular networking opportunity among the local business community,” Mr Bracher said.

He went on to explain that the luncheon, plus other events will become regular occurrences for the YRBA.

“It will definitely be a regular event on the YRBA calendar, interspersed with a couple of evening cocktail functions a year as well. The first cocktail evening will be in Eureka 88 during April, to announce the winners of the Yarra River Customer Service Awards.”

Council to protect heritage

With the high level of development in Southbank over the last decade it would be easy to imagine there are no heritage listed sites in the suburb at all.

In fact there are 35 different heritage listed sites here in Southbank and in November the City of Melbourne launched its 15-year heritage strategy to help protect these and other sites across the city.

Heritage protected sites include the Boyd school, the former Main Point Hotel (now the costume shop), the former Bank of NSW (now a cafe), the former Robur Tea building, the police stable and the old Collins Mitsubishi shed.

The strategy focuses on which sites are vitally important to protect and how the council can influence their protection.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said it was important Melbourne continued its protection of significant landmarks and buildings.

“Melbourne is renowned as one of the world’s great Victoria-era cities which contains many streetscapes, parks and buildings recognised as important heritage places,” Cr Doyle said.

Find out more about all the heritage listed sites in Southbank in our new column on page 16.

Have your say on arts strategy

Southbank is undisputedly Melbourne’s home to the arts so the City of Melbourne’s Arts Strategy 2014-17 will undoubtedly be influenced by voices in our area.

The council is calling for submissions from the public to let it know what its role should be in supporting and contributing to the arts.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the arts would remain one of the council’s priorities.

“The City of Melbourne’s current Arts Strategy has allowed us to support and promote artists and arts organisations and we would like to build on this in the development of our new strategy for 2014-17,” Cr Doyle explained.

You can have your say online at www.participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/projects/arts-strategy or on Twitter and Facebook using the hashtag #melbournearts.

The Opera Centre on City Rd is just one of the many heritage listed sites here in Southbank.

You like public art such as “The Wall” under the Kingsway overpass at Crown Casino? Let the Council know.
Bourne wins climb again

To borrow a line from AFL commentator Anthony Hudson, he's gone back-to-back-to-back!

Mark Bourne, the tower-climbing champion from Canberra won his third successive Eureka Climb last month and smashed the record that he set in 2012.

The elite woman winner was Brooke Logan who completed the 89-level race in just over 10 minutes.

There were around 2400 competitors in this year’s event who collectively raised $250,000 for charity partners of the club, Whitelion and Interplast.

Damien creates his own big break

Southbank resident Damien Lipp is one such character and his film, Beckoning the Butcher, is gaining traction in Melbourne’s film landscape.

After entering the horror film into a Monster Pictures festival Beckoning the Butcher sold out the Cinema Nova in Carlton and received a number of positive reviews.

Damien said the film was an off-the-cuff decision, after he had hired a camera.

“I just went out and got a camera and rang a mate of mine and said: ‘let’s make a movie’,” Damien explained.

“Got back to me with a script in about a week!”

From there the location of Kerang was decided on, a country town in northern Victoria, where Damien grew up.

“The whole town got behind the movie and we were given access the to house we wanted to shoot in which made it nice and easy,” Damien said.

Damien works for his family’s truck driving business, a job that he described as “an actor’s dream.”

He works mornings mostly, leaving the bulk of the day to chase auditions or make movies.

It helps that driving is something that Damien also loves, a fact that becomes abundantly clear when Southbank Local News asked whether he’d always dreamed of becoming an actor.

“No, I actually wanted to be a V8 Supercar driver and really, I still do. My thinking was I could get famous in Australia acting, then they’d let me drive in the celebrity V8 race.”

You can’t help but wonder what the careers counsellor at school would make of that plan.

For more information of Beckoning the Butcher, head to the Facebook page www.facebook.com/BeckoningTheButcher

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- Spray Tanning - $20

Left: Damien Lipp has just produced and starred in his own film. He gave 'Southbank Local News' a sneak peak at the film’s trailer.

There was no shortage of dress-ups as some of the less competitive climbers made their way up the 88 floors.
Tell us who has ‘Made your Day’

The Yarra River Precinct Customer Service Awards is a consumer awards program that enables you to nominate a business and/or an individual in the local retail, accommodation or hospitality sector who has impressed you with their commitment to service.

Nominated businesses or individuals need to be located or working in the area along the Yarra River between Punt Road and Bolte Bridges, including Southbank and on the north bank to the southern edge of Flinders Street.

The nomination also puts you in the draw for some great prizes.

Your name_______________________________________________________________
Your address ____________________________________________________________
Your email (or tel. no) ____________________________________________________

I wish to nominate the following person and/or business for consideration in the Yarra River Customer Service Awards

1. Individual nominee ______________________________________________________
   The business they work for _______________________________________________

2. Business nomination ____________________________________________________
   (note: feel free to nominate an individual and a business)

Cut out this form and post to:
Yarra River Business Association
Reply Paid 88876
Flinders Lane Vic 8009

Dancing on by the red stairs

The Australian Dancesport Championship was held in December but, before it got underway, it was launched with a dancing display at Queensbridge Square in November.

Council united against violence

The City of Melbourne (CoM) has confirmed its commitment to preventing violence against women and has adopting its ‘We need to talk: Preventing violence against women strategy 2013-16.’

In a first for a capital city council, councillors unanimously supported the strategy ahead of White Ribbon Day, which was on November 25.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said one in three woman over 15 had experienced violence and this was simple not okay.

“That is a frightening and unacceptable statistic, especially when we know that violence is the leading cause of homelessness among women in Melbourne,” Cr Doyle said.

“A year after Melbourne signed on as a White Ribbon city, and on the eve of White Ribbon Day I am proud that we have delivered on our pledge to do what we can to end violence against women,” he added.

Read the strategy online at www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/CommunitySafety/Pages/PreventingViolenceAgainstWomen

Changing attitudes

Active Melbourne City Sports is encouraging workplaces to get active during their lunch hour by taking up The Corporate Challenge.

The Corporate Challenge provides Southbank workers an opportunity to engage in physical activity at the Tan track or at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

The activities include soccer, netball, basketball and lawn bowls competitions.

Active Melbourne City Sports’ Peter O’Rourke said there was research showing just 30 per cent of workers were actually taking a lunch brek.

“It is well established that team-based activities contribute to building stronger workplace relationships and can improve the overall workplace culture,” Mr O’Rourke explained.

“The benefits of exercise include reducing cardiovascular risk, helps protect against type 2 diabetes and some forms of cancer. It also has benefits for musculoskeletal health in maintaining muscle strength, joint functioning and bone health,” he added.

For more information on the Corporate Challenge or to register a team head to www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/amcs

School of Hard Knocks Institute

SPECTACULAR! Christmas Spectacular!

Book now for the best Christmas concert in town!

JONATHON WELCHAM
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VIRGINIA CAY
Star of Women and Legends, All Saints, It Takes Two and The Heart

ALSO STARRING:
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Choir of Hope & Inspiration,
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‘ABSOLUTELY EVERYBODY’
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The City of Casey Choir,
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& The Latrobe Valley Voices

DEBORAH CHEETHAM
Awardeed Singer, white & crossover

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Internationally award-winning soprano

Proceeds go to support the
Schools of Hard Knocks Foundation

MELBOURNE TOWN HALL
SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 @ 3PM
Tickets: $35 adults / $35 conc and U16
Group bookings: (10 or more) @ $35 each
Family - (2 adults / 2 kids) $95

Online bookings: www.schoolofhardknocks.org.au
Enquiries: 0402 973 244

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The Australian Dancesport Championship was held in December but, before it got underway, it was launched with a dancing display at Queensbridge Square in November.
Southgate shares some Christmas joy

Southgate is ramping up its Christmas celebrations with a selection of activities and services to make sure shopping during the festive season doesn’t become a chore.

Again the centre will help take the stress out of gift-wrapping by providing gift-wrapping for a gold coin donation. The best part is the money raised will support the Starlight Children’s Foundation. The service will be available from 11am to 2pm on Wednesday-Friday during December.

And what would Christmas be without carols? On Sundays during December the Australian Youth Choir will be in the centre singing everyone’s favourite Christmas songs. The choir will also have three special performances on December 17, 18 and 19 from 7pm-8pm.

To top of the Christmas season Southgate Cinema will hold a very special screening on December 24, showing the live broadcast of Carols by Candlelight, from just down the road at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

Southgate’s Jo Gartner said it was a special time of year and Southgate was thrilled to provide these services.

“Christmas is a time to give back to those in need, so we’re pleased to support the Starlight Foundation through our in-centre Christmas gift wrapping, while also helping locals find unique gifts to place under the tree this year,” Ms Gartner said.

“Southbank’s local residents have really embraced Southgate Cinema over the past few years, so we saw the opportunity to broadcast Carols by Candlelight as a way to support the community in coming together on this festive occasion,” she added.

For more information head to the Southgate website www.celebratesouthgate.com.au

Recycling residents to be rewarded with green money

Southbank residents are being offered the opportunity to earn ‘GreenMoney’ for recycling after the City of Melbourne initiated a trial focused on its high-rise apartment complexes.

The 12-month initiative encourages locals to recycle by offering the opportunity to earn points which can be used to claim discounts and special offers at selected retailers such as Eureka Skydeck, Melbourne Theatre Company and Subway.

It’s the first trial of its kind in Victoria and Cr Arron Wood said the program was yet another example of the council being a world leader in environmental matters.

“The City of Melbourne is recognised as a global leader in sustainability and one of the reasons for this is our willingness to try innovative new solutions,” Cr Wood said.

The program lets locals earn points based on the weight of their recycling each month, with 100 points roughly equating to $10 worth of savings from participating businesses.

“One of the biggest challenges we face as a capital city council is the amount of landfill we produce, so we are always looking at new ways to reduce it and improve recycling,” Cr Wood explained.

He also said that there were added benefits on top of the obvious environmental implications.

“As well as promoting environmental responsibility, GreenMoney will support participating Southbank businesses by encouraging residents to spend their points locally.”

The program got underway in November and you can find out more or sign up online by visiting http://tinyurl.com/ml7l58x

School of hard knocks’ school fete at Boyd

The School of Hard knocks has been busy this month. As reported on page 2 it hosted a concert at Boyd Community Hub for Social Inclusion Week and to add to that it also held a school fete during December.

The fete featured stalls with plenty of craft and second-hand gift ideas for Christmas, music and a special visit from Santa.

Councillor Arron Wood is encouraging Southbank’s high-rise residents to recycle as often as possible.
Yarra loop back for summer

The Yarra Loop water taxi service will be in operation this summer after WTC Wharf again began running the service, transporting passengers by boat to destinations along the Yarra.

The service will run on Fridays between 4pm and 7pm and on the weekends between 11am and 5pm.

It has four stops: WTC Wharf, South Wharf, Southgate and Federation Wharf at Federation Square.

WTC Wharf’s Phillip Hill said last year’s service had been a great success and he hoped the loop would increase in popularity this year.

“Last year, 200 people used the service and with a growing number of premier restaurants, bars, shopping and entertainment precincts opening up along the Yarra, we anticipate numbers this year to increase dramatically,” Mr Hill said.

“We also expect that the Yarra Loop will once again be a desirable option for workers looking for a reliable and affordable mode of transport from one end of the city to the other,” he added.

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) are also pleased about the return of the Yarra Loop. YRBA president John Ahern said the service was a great benefit to the Yarra River precinct.

“The Yarra Loop service was a welcome addition to Melbourne’s transport network in 2012/13 and was a landmark step toward greater activation and integration of Yarra River landmarks and destinations,” Mr Ahern explained.

“We are thrilled that the service is set to re-commence in December 2013 as it is a great asset to local tourism and elevates Melbourne to the other great river cities of the world,” he added.

The service is $5 for a single trip or $10 for a day pass. Kids can travel for $2 for a single trip and $5 for a day pass.

The Yarra Loop will operate until March. For more information head to www.melbournewatertaxis.com.au/yarra-loop/

Left: Passengers ride on Grower, as part of the Yarra Loop Water Taxi service.

Night noodle markets attract huge crowds

Alexandra Gardens played host to the Noodle Night Markets in November with crowds swarming to sample tastes from several of Melbourne’s leading Asian eateries.

The warm weather made the gardens an ideal location for lazy afternoons.

Restaurants with stalls included Chin Chin, Longrain, Izakaya Den and Mamak.

The event has been held in Sydney but this was the first time it had come to Melbourne. Given the response, it wouldn’t be surprising if we saw it again next year.

Yarra loop back for summer

The Yarra Loop water taxi service will be in operation this summer after WTC Wharf again began running the service, transporting passengers by boat to destinations along the Yarra.

The service will run on Fridays between 4pm and 7pm and on the weekends between 11am and 5pm.

It has four stops: WTC Wharf, South Wharf, Southgate and Federation Wharf at Federation Square.

WTC Wharf’s Phillip Hill said last year’s service had been a great success and he hoped the loop would increase in popularity this year.

“Last year, 200 people used the service and with a growing number of premier restaurants, bars, shopping and entertainment precincts opening up along the Yarra, we anticipate numbers this year to increase dramatically,” Mr Hill said.

“We also expect that the Yarra Loop will once again be a desirable option for workers looking for a reliable and affordable mode of transport from one end of the city to the other,” he added.

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) are also pleased about the return of the Yarra Loop. YRBA president John Ahern said the service was a great benefit to the Yarra River precinct.

“The Yarra Loop service was a welcome addition to Melbourne’s transport network in 2012/13 and was a landmark step toward greater activation and integration of Yarra River landmarks and destinations,” Mr Ahern explained.

“We are thrilled that the service is set to re-commence in December 2013 as it is a great asset to local tourism and elevates Melbourne to the other great river cities of the world,” he added.

The service is $5 for a single trip or $10 for a day pass. Kids can travel for $2 for a single trip and $5 for a day pass.

The Yarra Loop will operate until March. For more information head to www.melbournewatertaxis.com.au/yarra-loop/

Left: Passengers ride on Grower, as part of the Yarra Loop Water Taxi service.

Night noodle markets attract huge crowds

Alexandra Gardens played host to the Noodle Night Markets in November with crowds swarming to sample tastes from several of Melbourne’s leading Asian eateries.

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This is the message of Christmas

In the Bible we read that the Prophet Jeremiah lived in a time of turmoil, when the fate of many nations—including Judah—was being sealed. The message from God was harsh as the creator lodged an indictment against his people. But in the middle of Jeremiah's prophecies, stands a promise of restoration and healing, which God would bring on his people.

One could argue that the high point of Jeremiah's prophecies is the foretelling of this promise of restoration - the "new covenant" - pointing to the coming Messianic era. In this passage Jeremiah writes: “The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel” [Jer.31:31]. This Messianic era has of course been fulfilled in the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

This is why "Jesus is the reason for the season". In Jesus's birth we have the fulfilment of the prophecy, which Jeremiah foretold some 600 years before Christ's birth. As the church celebrates another Christmas and as we prepare to receive yet another New Year, Jeremiah's prophecy gives us encouragement and hope.

It reminds us that God is the author of history and the ultimate director of human destiny. It reminds us that our days are in God's hands and that he is not unfamiliar with the joys and struggles of our lives. It reminds us that we can hand over our future and the future of our loved ones to God, because he cares for his own.

God came to us in Jesus Christ to makes things better and to remind us that throughout human history he has been at work and in control. In Jesus, Jeremiah's prophecy of restoration and healing has been fulfilled and is now offered to us in Jesus - the baby asleep in the manger, the crucified one on Golgotha, the risen Lord Jesus Christ. This is the message of Christmas.

Pastor Ian
Freshwater Place

Freshwater Place is a multi-purpose, four-building complex that includes residential, commercial and corporate use. Its name however has much simpler origins. It is named after the spot in the river on which it was built. It may not look like it now, but where the river is now crossed by Queens Bridge once ran a waterfall. It was the point of the river where the freshwater met the salt water and boats could go no further up stream.

The waterfall site held great significance to the indigenous people in the area. In the 1880s local authorities removed the waterfall by blowing it up with dynamite. Rocks from the waterfall can still be seen today on banks of the Yarra just to the south of Queens Bridge.
In the overseas market and, in particular, the US, a number of different programs exploring the idea of finding value in junk have been highly successful. Some of these shows feature the exploits of pawn shops and their dealings, while others open a window into the lives of professional storage unit auction buyers. These programs feature so heavily, that they have created their own genre within the medium.

Programs featuring more of a modern take on the premise of Antiques Roadshow have started to surface also, yet with a fundamental twist. American Pickers follows two professionals of this trade, Mike Wolfe and Frank Fritz as they travel America looking for people’s unwanted and rare items in order to turn a profit. It’s basically a one hour program that features experts in the field of antiques, canvassing the holders of deceased estates and octogenarian hoarders and conning them out of a huge payday of their own by relieving them of their items. It’s not exactly daylight robbery; sometimes these people need to clear space, or just need the money, but the fact that every transaction features profit margins at the end denotes the entire process as a little morally questionable.

If Mike and Frank make a big find and manage to undercut on it enough, through their narration they’ll explain what they paid versus what it is they’ll be asking for the exact same item. The entertainment comes out of the act of discovering some long-forgotten treasure that will fetch a high price with a collector. However, the above mentioned swindling of the honest, trash collecting folk does serve to be pretty unnerving, especially considering the vast amounts of filler between “picks” that try to humanise Mike and Frank by giving them playful banter. The overall result is conflicting, as you’re never exactly sure who you’re meant to be barracking for. American Pickers is the sort of show that you might pick up half-way through, while channel surfing after finding nothing but repeats of Two and a Half Men on TV. It’s one of those funny little shows that runs on a very basic formula, but it’s still entertaining because there will always be more rubbish to scrounge through. American Pickers can be found on 7Mate weeknights at 10.30pm.

Since the late 70s, curious Britons have been bringing their questionable junk to the appraisers of the Antiques Roadshow. Thirty years on and the TV audience’s fascination with the concept of unearthing the value of people’s items hasn’t subsided. Not only is Antiques Roadshow still an enduring and well-known program, but its success has led to a slew of programs that celebrate the heirlooms and collections of the average punter.
For Tereza Todd, going to work each day means coming face-to-face with a 750 kg crocodile.

Tereza is lead aquarist at the SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium and is one of the only croc keepers taking care of new addition, saltwater crocodile Pinjarra.

At over five-metres long, Pinjarra is one of the largest crocodiles on display in the world and has been living at the aquarium since September.

According to Tereza, working as a croc keeper involves a range of different tasks.

“Tereza said other duties included feeding attempts twice a week, exhibit cleaning and speaking with staff about Pinjarra’s behaviour alongside tending to other aquatic animals.

Tereza has worked at the aquarium since 2008 and has worked with crocodiles both at the aquarium and in previous roles.

Apparently not getting enough of crocodiles at work, Tereza also keeps them as pets.

“I’ve kept crocodiles at home for years and currently own a pet freshwater crocodile named Victor,” she said.

But working with a large crocodile such as Pinjarra required some extra training. Tereza said earlier this year she and four other aquarium staff members attended “croc college” in Queensland where they learnt the finer details involved in caring for one of the world’s most feared predators.

“The curriculum was pretty intense but when you’re dealing with such a large and powerful creature you definitely don’t want to leave anything out,” Tereza said. Given his size you’d think Pinjarra would have a massive appetite but according to Tereza, large animals like Pinjarra can take a few months to settle into new homes.

“We’ve been closely monitoring his behaviour each day since his arrival and can see he’s gradually regaining his appetite. Each day he is exploring his new surroundings a little more and lapping up the attention from all his visitors,” Tereza said.

“Once he is completely settled we expect he will eat a couple of chicken portions every day.”

Pinjarra, who is believed to be around 50 years old, was relocated to the aquarium from a crocodile farm near Rockhampton in Queensland where he has lived for the past 20 years.

According to Tereza, because saltwater crocodiles are one of the world’s most feared predators, many people don’t understand why it’s important to preserve the species.

“If we wish to protect them for years to come, it’s imperative to help educate the public and that’s what we hope to do working with Pinjarra at SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium.”

Apart from seeing Pinjarra at Croc Lair, visitors can see a range of underwater creatures at the aquarium, from penguins, to sharks, turtles, and tropical fish.

The SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium is located on the corner of Flinders St and King St and is open every day of the year from 9.30am until 6pm.
Powering into 2014

Well the year is abruptly coming to an end, much sooner than many of us would have expected.

And the feeling is no different for your new executive team. We have really hit the ground running trying to feel our way through the already established relationships and systems. I feel we are making great progress and into the New Year we hope to have a community meeting to share ideas on how we can better serve the community.

Over the past month there have been a number of significant events where the SRG has been present, representing the views of its members and the wider community.

Firstly, we attended a session regarding the C208 amendment and left there quite satisfied that this amendment was positive. In short, the amendment will see developers making contributions to infrastructure and community developments. SRG will be making a submission essentially supporting this amendment.

While I am taking the figures on face value for the development forecast presented by Melbourne City Council, I am hopeful that should this forecast not come to fruition, the council would continue with its infrastructure plans and make up the developer shortfall.

SRG had the great pleasure of being invited to contribute to the City of Melbourne Arts Strategy Forum at the town hall. The arts is something I have great interest in (being one of the contributing factors for choosing to live in Southbank) so I was excited about being able to voice my visions and opinions. This forum was well attended and structured. There were some great speakers who really got our minds thinking and people interacting. There were a lot of great ideas being thrown around.

One key point which everyone essentially agreed with was that there needs to be more communication and collaboration with the other councils and especially regional areas because art is not only about Melbourne city and its environs.

2014 is going to be another busy year because it is an election year. This is a great opportunity for SRG to really be heard, as the politicians will be listening! The best way we can ensure the SRG is taken seriously is through our membership base. If you are not currently a member and believe Southbank Residents Group might be able to make a difference to your livability in Southbank, then we welcome your membership support.

Alternatively, you may be an owners corporation committee member or know someone who is? Then what better way for SRG to get membership support than by a tower choosing to subscribe on behalf of all the owners within that tower. Even if you don’t know any of the committee members, then you can still lobby your committee to consider membership.

Want to keep up with what’s on in Southbank and what SRG is doing? Then make sure you like us on Facebook! Tell your friends and neighbours to like our page too - Southbank Residents Group.

From all the committee members, we would like to wish all our fellow Southbank residents, and adjoining communities a very happy and safe Christmas and New Year. Let's all enjoy this holiday season and start 2014 off with a bang.

See you all in 2014.

Photography Studies College

In our new column, each month we’ll take a look into one of the heritage-listed sites here in Southbank and give you a bit of history behind them.

Starting off with (as you may have guessed from the title) the Photography Studies College.

The college is located at 63-65 City Rd and is heritage-listed because it is a late Victorian warehouse that was given a decorated facade. It remains one of only three of these types of warehouses still substantially intact from Southbank’s days as an industrial extension of South Melbourne.

It was built in 1895 and is considered to be in excellent condition for its age. American Romanesque architecture, and particularly H.H. Richardson, heavily influenced the building’s design.

There are many buildings of this nature within the City of Melbourne, but this one is protected because they were so rare in industrial areas like South Melbourne.

Sacred Sites

Heritage-listed sites in Southbank

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But certainly another new one about to begin. This song, by John Lennon, still gives me a lump in my throat, and brings a tear to my eye. It really makes me think about the year that has been, and the friends and family that have passed, the people who will be celebrating in so many different ways – the fact that Christmas should be for everyone.

When I hear John Lennon sing “what have you done”, to me the question is what have you done? When I hear this song it makes me ache in my heart – and sometimes it even brings a tear to my eye. It really makes me think about the year that has been, the people who will be celebrating in so many different ways – the fact that Christmas should be for everyone.

I'm not saying to not enjoy Christmas, and I'm not saying to not enjoy a cocktail, but I can't help think if we could help build a house for people in disaster areas, maybe you could contribute financially to a worthwhile cause, maybe you could volunteer a little bit of your time. Because, imagine if we all did? If we all gave just a little bit? Even if we all just started to care that little bit more? I think that’s a New Year’s Eve resolution we could all make ... to help, just a little bit more.

So when I think about this being Christmas, and I look proudly at my son, I do think briefly about the one new years resolution I made that hasn’t been achieved. - I haven’t found love, the partner that I was so open to finding. I didn’t even come close! However, I have plenty of very funny disastrous date stories, which are great for dinner parties! But what I did do is achieve the resolution & goal that I could control – and that was to give more.

I have now been appointed, just at the end of this year, to the role of chairperson for my local health service and I volunteer my time working with the hospitals, health services and our community.

Through my business, I have donated product and event services to charity – my goal for next year is for those contributions to grow.

This goal sits right alongside my other big goal – to be the best mum I can be. In fact, I think it actually is part and parcel, to teach my son the values that I hold dear.

I am a single mum, running my own business and I have been passionate about contributing to not only my community but to organisations that can reach many more people than I can alone.

It has been rewarding, as well as humbling to see those with even less, give more. So if I can give just this little bit, I am hoping you might be able to find your way to give if you haven’t already.

I want to thank you, for giving me the privilege of writing this column for you for another year. I want to thank each of you who have taken the time to write to me. I now (literally, I’ve just poured a champagne!) raise my glass to each and every one of you. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With much love, Abby

Don’t forget you can email me at life@docklandsnews.com.au
PS please join me on Facebook or Instagram with either abbyjanecrawford or loveandprotect. See you there! xx
**SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**FASHION ILLUSTRATION CLASSES AT BOYD**  
Boyd School Studios, 207 City Road  
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

**THE FRENCH WORKSHOP**  
Every Wednesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road  
Discover the beautiful sound of French with Lucie, a native speaker! Our beginner group sessions are friendly and open to everyone and all material is provided.  
[thefrenchworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:thefrenchworkshop@gmail.com)  
www.facebook.com/thefrenchworkshop

**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

**YOGA WITH PEI**  
5th session, every 5th session free.  
Yoga mat and blanket/bath towel. $10 per

**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

**MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB**  
First Thursday of the month, 10.00am  
Wharf Hotel, Siddleay 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 carolberge@gmail.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 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: www.yulong.com.au/boydcommunity

**BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CLINIC**  
Every Tuesday, 10am-Noon  
Boyd School Studios, 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

**CHRISTMAS BUOYED @ BOYD**  
Thursday, December 12  
Boyd Community Centre, 207 City Road  
Santa will arrive on a big red fire truck at 4.30pm, then The Mudcakes and Fairy Cailin will delight the young... and young at heart.  

**ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY SCHOOL**  
Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am during school terms  
St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road  
Sunday School for children 3-11 years. Youth Group for teenagers.  
Every Tuesday 10am-Noon Playgroup for very young children and their carers  
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

**ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP**  
Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am during school terms  
St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road  
Blue Train Southgate, but subject to change  
Rotary Club of Southbank Inc meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year in the Southbank area. Visitors are always welcome.  
www.southbank.org.au

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**YOGA WITH PEI**  
6.30 pm Tuesdays & 9.00am Saturdays  
Mums and bubs class at 9 & 11am 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

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COMMUNITY

SPECTACULAR CHRISTMAS
SPECTACULAR!
processes support
MELBOURNE TOWN HALL
SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 @ 3PM
Bookings: www.schoolsfordocumentary.org.au
Enquiries: 0402 973 244

COMPUTERS / GRAPHIC DESIGN

DOCKLANDS COMPUTER SPECIALIST
AND IT CONSULTANT
Level 2 / 710 Collins St,
Docklands, Victoria 3008
Call: (03) 9008 7908
WWW.DOCKCOM.COM.AU
VISIT ONLINE COMPUTER STORE

SERVICES

BUDGET
295 City Road Southbank
Call Budget Southbank: 9299 2222

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS HERE
email advertising@southbanklocalnews.com.au or phone 8689 7980.

SCHOOLS

ST ALOYSIUS COLLEGE
Celebrating 125 years of educating young women
31 Curran Street, North Melbourne
www.aloysius.vic.edu.au
P: 9329 9411

PHOTO RESTORATION

SCHOOLS

INTERESTED IN ADVERTISING YOUR BUSINESS HERE
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ACCOUNTING & FINANCE

(accounting firm details)

ENTERTAINMENT

(level 2 - southgate - tab)

REAL ESTATE

(ray white southbank)

LAWYERS

(rigby cooke lawyers)

PETCARE

(port melbourne veterinary clinic & hospital)

PHOTO RESTORATION

(memories)

ACCOUNTING & FINANCE

(st johns church)

COMMUNITY

(spectacular christmas)

COMPUTERS / GRAPHIC DESIGN

(docklands computer specialist and it consultant)

SERVICES

(budget)

SCHOOLS

(st aloysius college)

PHOTO RESTORATION

(memories)

Looking for something?

Southbank Directory.com.au

What to do | Where to stay | Where to Eat/Drink | Beauty, Health & Fitness | Docklands Services | Where to Shop
WHY AREN’T YOU SELLING WITH EVOLVE?

Thank you for your continued business and support in 2013. From the Evolve Family to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

See you in 2014!

Rental of the Month

1409/480 Collins Street, MELBOURNE

STUNNING APARTMENT IN MELBOURNE CBD!

OAKS ON COLLINS’ FULLY FURNISHED 2 B/RM APARTMENT

Fully furnished bright & modern two bedroom apartment located within the heart of the CBD. Features include reverse cycle air conditioning, built in robe, well-appointed kitchen equipped with modern appliances, dishwasher, large windows with views of the city. In addition, you may also enjoy the amenities such as the fitness area, pool and sauna. Enjoy the convenience of city living by walking to the Southern Cross Station, supermarket, Docklands, CBD, Crown Casino and various fine restaurants.

Contact: Vanessa Ulyman 0458 386 583

RESIDENTIAL - FOR SALE

1406/283 City Road SOUTH BANK STUNNING, STYLISH AND AFFORDABLE

Boasting a five-star location, it is within walking distance to the CBD, Crown Casino, South Melbourne’s shopping precinct, the Royal Botanic Gardens and public transport.

Contact: Quinn Zhong 0422 242 013

325/37 Albion Street MELBOURNE MOTIVATED VENDOR IS SELLING!

Comprising of 2 bedrooms, a modern and stylish kitchen which includes stainless steel appliances throughout and a dishwasher, the apartment also sports modern open-plan living and a private, secure car space.

Contact: Henry Jiang 0467 890 123

7008 Euston Road SOUTH BANK MOTIVATED VENDOR IS SELLING!

This bright and spacious apartment looks off the morning sunlight and boasts 110m2 of living space, as well as a secure undercover car park, sure to impress the fussiest of buyers.

Contact: Michael Tudor 0487 86 85 84

345/383 City Road SOUTH BANK STUNNING APARTMENT IN SOUTH BANK

The location is perfect with access to shopping, restaurants, the CBD and public transport all within a short walk from this great apartment complex.

Contact: Henry Jiang 0467 890 123

BEST BUYS IN SOUTH BANK

Brand new and ready for you. Move in or add to your investment portfolio. Full depreciation applies to these properties.

- Apartment 1: 1
- Apartment 2: 2
- Apartment 3: 2
- Apartment 4: 2

Call Henry Jiang NOW on 0467 890 123. All offers will be seriously considered.

BEST BUYS IN RICHMOND

Brand new and ready for you. Move in or add to your investment portfolio. Full depreciation applies to these properties.

- Apartment 1: 1
- Apartment 2: 2
- Apartment 3: 3
- Apartment 4: 4

Call Michael Tudor NOW on 0487 86 85 84. All offers will be seriously considered.

Prices from $390,000

Prices from $310,000

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