Green light for overshadowing

By Sean Car

City of Melbourne councillors have again thrown their support behind overshadowing of the Yarra River in return for public open space in the CBD.

Developer Cbus has once again gifted the CBD with nearly 2000sqm of badly-needed open space as part of its development plans for the old Suncorp site at 447 Collins St.

It comes after its attempt last year to trade off a gift of 1990sqm of public “open” space in return for permission to overshadow the south bank of the Yarra.

And while City of Melbourne councillors were enthusiastic in their support for the plan (against their planning officers’ recommendations), former planning minister Matthew Guy said no.

Cbus was back at last month’s Future Melbourne Committee meeting with a new proposal, which has the town talking and councillors gushing in their praise.

While it now strictly complies with south bank overshadowing provisions, it would still cast a shadow over the north bank as well as cast a shadow up to the edge of Queensbridge Square during the deepest part of winter.

Having opposed last year’s proposal, Cr Rohan Leppert said he was a “little surprised” to be supporting the new application, which still overshadows the north bank.

“There’s very little additional overshadowing of the north bank as there is a lot of overshadowing already, given the built form immediately north of Flinders St in that area,” Cr Leppert said.

“The area proposed to be overshadowed is not the open space of Batman Park or Enterprize Park. It’s predominately space that’s already under overpasses or the railway yards and that sort of thing as well.”

“It’s unfortunate that supporting this means supporting the partial overshadowing above the north bank of the Yarra. However, on balance, given the key positive aspects of this application, I’m actually quite happy to do that.”

Southbank Residents Association president Tony Penna dismissed the rationale of councillors by stating that “overshadowing was overshadowing”.

“It’s a truly remarkable development, however it still falls short,” he said. “We are perplexed with understanding the position of the officer (who recommended acceptance to councillors).”

“This is a contravention of the planning scheme as it currently stands, which is there to protect the south and north banks from overshadowing. There is no compromise.”

“If this council, or even this government, is going to allow an exemption to overshadowing of the north bank, it sends a very dangerous message to developers that overshadowing is negotiable.”

Continued on page 2.

Southbank street party!

Southbank Boulevard was transformed into a pop-up garden party on Sunday, November 29, as residents experienced life at their future park. Story and pictures on page 9.
Another year over

As we approach another silly season, it's always important to reflect on the year that's been.

2015 was undoubtedly a year where our community continued to mature and, as always, development continued to occur! Through our coverage of news and events in the area, it appears that a noticeable change in the dynamic of our community seems to be gathering momentum.

This change has certainly been facilitated by a progressive City of Melbourne through vital initiatives such as the City Rd and Southbank Boulevard master plans, and the ongoing services offered by Boyd.

There is no greater indication of this maturity than the growth of the Southbank Residents Association which, through the hard work of its president, has even established a first-ever owners’ corporation network.

The important role that the Yarra River Business Association plays in advocating for vital changes to our suburb can’t go unnoticed, nor the ongoing work of Southbank Rotary.

And the exciting establishment of a Southbank Lions Club and a Men’s Shed at Federation Square I’m sure will only bring greater things for our community.

Given the high-rise nature of living in Southbank, it is always great to see the community band together and neighbours talking to each other and there has certainly been plenty of that this year.

As always, I hope you have enjoyed reading the newspaper and that it has played a role in helping to facilitate that sense of community.

It is only due to the ongoing support of our advertisers, columnists, and of course you, the readers, who make this community asset a reality. Thank you to all.

Here’s to a happy and safe festive season. I look forward to bringing you more news in 2016.

Sean Car
Editor

Green light for overshadowing

Continued from page 1.

However, with an offer of 2000spm of space on the table, Cr Leppert said supporting the application was the “best possible planning option.”

It’s wrong to be talking about “open” space though. The precise language used in the documentation speaks of “public space”, “public realm” and, in the words of council planner Jane Birmingham, “publically accessible spaces”.

Those hankering for a return of the sun-drenched 2500sqm forecourt in front of the old Suncorp building will be sorely disappointed.

The actual “public open space” component of the proposed development is limited to a pocket park on the corner of Collins and Market streets, which is an obligatory contribution from the developer.

Much like a shopping mall, the bulk of the “publicly accessible spaces” are forecourts, arcades and entrances to retail as well as the twin towers themselves.

The City of Melbourne is coming to the party though, and wants to contribute 1500sqm of Market St to the cause. The developers call this genuine open space, the “extension”.

The council supports the developer’s application to the Minister for Planning for a planning scheme amendment for its master plan for the site.

At its Future Melbourne Committee meeting of November 17, acting Lord Mayor Susan Riley said: “I think it looks fantastic. I absolutely think it’s one of the best developments that I’ve seen in a long time. It’s got character, it’s got views to the Yarra and I think it will be just a landmark on Collins St.”

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A visual render of Cbus’s proposal for Collins St.
City of Melbourne CEO Ben Rimmer answered questions on a range of Southbank issues at last month’s final 2015 Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) luncheon.

Held at the Arts Centre on Thursday, November 19, YRBA members were treated to a delicious lunch and a frank and informative Q&A session by the city’s CEO, who gave insights into the council’s position on a number of issues.

Mr Rimmer was quizzed by YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher on a range of local issues including water governance, the Flinders St underpass, pedestrian safety and the arts precinct, before taking a number of questions from the floor.

As a late replacement for Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, who was forced to withdraw due to overseas commitments, Mr Rimmer proved a more than worthy replacement providing members with an honest and entertaining session.

Read some of his insights on some of the most significant issues affecting Southbank below:

**On water governance:**

“We need to get our act together administratively about how we manage it and how we do business on the water and there is a long way to go in that area.”

“A single authority is something that council would have a significant interest in and from a duty of care perspective we wouldn’t put staff and assets into the new arrangements without being very confident that it was going to work well.”

“We are very hopeful that we can get to a more streamlined set of arrangements that better reflect the important role that the river now plays in the city.”

**On the Flinders St underpass:**

“The underpass is damp, dingy and crowded but the whole expansive Flinders St Station is not up to Melbourne’s standards.”

“It’s dead, inactivated, very traffic centred and there’s no activation, there’s no business, there’s no life along that edge at all.”

“We think it’s right time for some further works from a range of different agencies to make it a better and safer place to be and to do business.”

**On cycling along Southbank Promenade:**

“I think we have a lot more work to do in terms of education, campaigns together with Victoria Police together with VicRoads about making people think a little bit harder about their own behaviour.”

“I don’t think that there’s any plan for a full ban at the moment I can’t imagine that we’ll do anything other than keep looking and keep exploring ideas.”

**On upgrading the Arts Precinct:**

“We see the arts map as an incredibly important part of our future. It’s growing and developing everyday.”

“We really have a piece of work to do here with Creative Victoria and the Arts Precinct organisations to help them come together to get to an even better set of outcomes.”

**On the City Rd master plan:**

“When we’ve finished the work it will feel like there are two distinct parts of City Rd. One that is effectively a transport thoroughfare that it used by placarded loads, and one that is, frankly, far more interesting - a local and active road with more space for pedestrians, more green and more space for cyclists.”

The CEO of Tourism Victoria/Visit Victoria Nick Foa will be the guest speaker at the Yarra River Business Association’s first luncheon for 2016, which will be held in February.

For more information visit www.yarrariverinfo.info

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Residents told: ‘rules are rules’

By Sean Car

Residents of Southbank can’t feel too hard done by when a development is approved just metres from their windows ... so long as it follows the ‘rules’.

That was the message 62 objectors received at last month’s Future Melbourne Committee meeting, as City of Melbourne councillors gave the green light to a 101-metre, short-stay apartment tower at 64-68 Clarendon St, Southbank.

The 412sqm site, which shares a boundary with the Tiara apartment complex on Haig St, is barely big enough to house the double-storied building that currently sits vacant in preparation for forthcoming demolition.

In its place, developer Hachto has been given the all clear to construct a slender 27-storey tower, comprising 171 serviced apartments and rising nearly two metres above the recommended height limit.

Tiara resident Jenny Fletcher made a heartfelt submission to councillors on behalf of 62 objectors, pleading for council to deny the developer a permit for the good of the neighbourhood.

“Our concerns are very real and very obvious,” she said. “We are fighting for our wonderful light-filled homes, our privacy and our ability to engage with our city.”

“This is our home, this is our neighbourhood and our health.”

“Two very small residential hotel tower on an extremely small site will steal our sun, our light, our privacy and our ability to stay apartment tower at 64-68 Clarendon St, Southbank, which has been approved for a 27-storey development.

The application was assessed against old planning controls, as it was submitted prior to September 4 when Planning Minister Richard Wynne’s new planning controls (Planning Scheme Amendment C262) kicked in.

Compounding submitters’ frustrations, Cr Ken Ong told residents that they couldn’t feel too aggrieved by the prospect of more accommodation on their doorsteps.

“The important thing I think is that, while the site is small, it is still a developable site,” he said.

“I acknowledge that neighbouring residents will always feel aggrieved when something new comes up next to them but it happens all of the time.”

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle echoed these same sentiments: “How much is far enough?”

Southbank is our most dense suburb and if you buy into Southbank you buy into density.”

Located in the immediate vicinity of Crown Casino, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and a stone’s throw away from the CBD, there can be no doubting that more accommodation is required in the area.

“This is probably the most important tourism precinct in Melbourne and we keep hearing about the lack of capacity and the higher occupancy level,” Cr Stephen Mayne said.

However, while the development fills an accommodation gap, and does so within the rules, these justifications would have been hard for the 62 objectors to swallow.

With an imposing development approved under rules for which they had no say in making, even Cr Rohan Leppert suggested that the planning scheme had limited flexibility when it came to applying common sense.

“The weak controls in this general area are something that are of great concern to me,” he said. “10 metres between towers just isn’t enough.”

“It is a site that really shouldn’t be developed but the rules say it can be.”

The developer first submitted an application in February of this year, which proposed a 91-metre development with a setback of only 5.8 metres to Tiara apartments.

In an amended application, planning officers have instead gifted an extra 10 metres of height in return for increased setbacks based on that fact that it would “achieve desired built form through DDO60.”

Council officers listed a range of conditions, including the removal of a giant “SOUTH MEL” sign off the side of the northern façade, which indicates the developer didn’t even know what suburb it was building in.

And while the conditions were listed on the amended application, Southbank Residents Association president Tony Penna made the point at the meeting that the amended plans were not even included in the final report for public evaluation.

In summarising, Cr Leppert said he sympathised with residents over what he considered to be a “pretty rough outcome”.

“It’s a stroke of luck that the objectors have stumbled upon the application,” he said. “I think it’s quite outrageous that you’ve had no right to be told about this application and hopefully one day we’ll fix that.”
**A pricey new public park**

The State Government has made a significant move in its promise to deliver more community infrastructure for Fishermans Bend, with a $19 million purchase for a public park.

The new one-acre Montague Precinct park will be located only a stone’s throw away from Southbank at 2-4 Buckhurst St in South Melbourne.

The park’s site is located directly opposite the site of the future vertical primary school at Ferrars St in Southbank, in what comes as the first major allocation of public open space for the urban renewal area.

Planning Minister Richard Wynne said that, while it was disappointing that Victorians would be lumped with a $19 million bill, it could have come at a third of the price under the previous government.

Mr Wynne said former planning minister Matthew Guy’s rezoning of Fishermans Bend had meant his government had been forced to buy the land from coffee entrepreneur Pitzy Folk, who had proposed two apartment towers for the site.

“Matthew Guy botched Fishermans Bend. He ignored expert advice and failed to plan for the 80,000 people who will live there by not giving enough thought to building healthy places for them to live in.”

“Parks are invaluable and each new park is an extra lung for the city, as well as helping people live healthier lives.”

“We want it to be a place where people can have some grass to kick a footy, have a barbecue and meet with friends.”

The City of Port Phillip has also contributed $6.3 million to the purchase, and Mayor-elect Bernadene Voss reassured local residents that it would come at no expense to the community.

“The $6.3 million contribution from Port Phillip is not using existing ratepayers money. It will be funded using Fishermans Bend Developer Contributions Funds (DCP) for open space contribution,” she said.

“These funds are specifically ring-fenced so that existing ratepayers are not funding the Fishermans Bend development.”

“This is the start of the precinct rollout of Australia’s biggest urban renewal project and we want to work closely with the Government to help set the standard for vibrancy and liveability,” Mayor Voss said the new park would be grassed in time for the opening of South Melbourne Primary School in 2018 and that council would engage with its community about ideas for the park.

South Port Urban Responsible Renewable Authority (SPURR) spokesperson Rowan Groves said, while the acquisition of the new park was great news, it was a “drop in the ocean” for what was needed.

“The Government has paid too much for what is only the tip of the iceberg,” he said. “We’re concerned about issues of overuse and it could become degraded as a result.”

“At the moment, the political reality is that the Montague Precinct is simply still seen as a continuation of Southbank.”

The news comes after SPURR held its fourth general meeting on November 19, which was attended by members of the Fishermans Bend Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC), including the committee’s chair Meredith Sussex.

Mr Groves said the more than 20 attendees unanimously agreed that the planning process for the area needed to slow down in order for the community to adequately assist the MAC in creating a renewed vision.

He said education and public transport were also key focal points discussed at the meeting.

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**UpMarket shuts up shop**

Organisers of Southbank’s newest designer UpMarket called stumps on the initiative last month following a difficult establishment period.

The highly-anticipated market launched with a bang on September 6 at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Arts (ACCA) forecourt. However, a combination of bad weather and administrative difficulties led organisers to discontinue – having only staged four markets.

The market also temporarily shut for a month in October after blustery conditions forced organisers to plan for its relocation to the sheltered courtyard in between ACCA and the Malthouse Theatre.

UpMarket director Belinda Buckley said, while the market was deemed unviable to continue, she hoped her group had created a template for the arts institutions and Creative Victoria to potentially fund and reintroduce in the future.
Wrong rules applied

For past two months, City of Melbourne planners have been applying the wrong rules to planning applications, but they say it wasn’t their fault.

It was generally understood that when Planning Minister Richard Wynne introduced interim planning controls on September 4 (Planning Scheme Amendment C262), applications made after that date were to be assessed under the new rules.

But the council interpreted C262 to mean that some of the old rules still applied to certain aspects such as setbacks and overshadowing.

The State Government in mid-November introduced a new amendment (C266) to clarify the situation.

Council planners say the misunderstanding made no difference to any of their recommendations, but the Property Council is not impressed.

Property Council executive director Jennifer Cunich said the council’s planning staff needed educating.

“The Property Council is glad to see the CoM planning department’s C262 frolic resolved via the introduction of C266,” Ms Cunich said.

Sadly, their actions read like deja vu to the property industry’s most seasoned observers.

“Every time the Minister announces changes to the planning rules, the planning department exceeds their authority by attempting to impose the rules retrospectively.”

“The council should invest in an industry education program to help lift the business sensitivity of their planning staff”

Council planning chair, Cr Ken Ong, defended his staff saying lawyers had struggled to discern the actual meaning of the language used in the C262 amendment.

Cr Rohan Leppert agreed, calling the drafting a “monumental error”.

The heritage-graded Opera Australia building and its neighbour joined forces last month to list for sale the two high profile properties at 35-41 and 43-47 City Rd.

The heritage grading of the building, essentially means nothing in terms of its protection from developers or demolition.

According to the City of Melbourne, a building can be granted a heritage grade from A to F; however if it is not included in the heritage overlay, it is ultimately defenceless.

Adam Ford from Melbourne Heritage Action (MHA) said the building was an integral piece of the City Rd landscape.

“I think it stands as obvious testament to how heritage can improve the street-level character of otherwise soul-less apartment towers,” he said.

Mr Ford said other City Rd towers were perfect examples where unprotected but graded heritage buildings had been incorporated into the new development.

“The point is we are at the mercy of developers’ good will unless there is an overlay,” he said.

Three CBRE Melbourne city sales agents represented the two owners during an International Expression of Interest campaign, which attracted more than a dozen offers from a broad range of local and offshore developers.

Agent Josh Rutman said the property represented a unique opportunity to undertake a landmark project.

“Despite some concern from the market about recent changes by the minister, the depth of offers reflected the ongoing point up demand for well-located development sites in and around the Melbourne CBD,” Mr Rutman said.

“This significant sale marks the first major land transaction to take place since planning framework changes were introduced in the CBD and Southbank.”

Mr Rutman explained the buyer would take full advantage of the premier location, nestled between the CBD, Crown and the Royal Botanic Gardens.

“The buyer is looking to deliver a major hotel on the site, in response to the growing demand from tourists for hotel rooms and the City Of Melbourne’s objective to see more hospitality offerings in and around Melbourne,” Mr Rutman said.

“The Melbourne City Council has also made it known it would like to see more hotel rooms delivered to cater for the influx of tourists that Melbourne sees frequently during the year, so we could see more hotel developments to come.”

Opera Australia will remain in Melbourne and is now immediately on the search for a new home, although it retains a lease on the current site. The company’s ambition is to secure a larger site with more comprehensive studios for its own rehearsals, community use and commercial hire.

New resident’s association

The battle against short-stay apartments in residential buildings is set to go state-wide with the launch of a new association this month.

To be known as “We Live Here”, the association will be formed at a meeting at the Medibank building in Bourke St, Docklands on Monday, December 14.

We Live Here is the brainchild of the Watergate tower owners’ corporation (OC), which has been leading the fight against short-stays with various legal actions since 2012.

OC chair Barbara Francis said the idea stemmed from feedback received from residents and OC’s across Melbourne keen to join the fight.

She said a new incorporated association would be formed to represent the interests of strata-titled residents on a range of matters.

“Although this campaign has originated from Watergate’s ongoing efforts to regulate short-stay apartments, the main purpose is to encourage other like-minded residents to join together to have our voices heard,” she said.

The association aims to give a voice to owners and occupants of residential apartment buildings and to achieve legislative, planning and regulatory changes.

The group aims to effect change in a number of areas including:

- Protecting the rights of owners and occupiers;
- Maintaining residential apartment buildings for long-term residential accommodation;
- Enhancing the sense of community in residential buildings; and
- Supporting owners and residents of apartment buildings on issues affecting apartment living.

The first meeting will be held on December 14 from 5.30pm (for registration) on level 12 at 720 Bourke St, Docklands.

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The sod turned on a landmark

Major stakeholders gathered for a ground breaking ceremony on Tuesday, December 8 at the site of what will be Melbourne's tallest building, Australia 108.

Those gathered to celebrate the start of construction included the building's architect Karl Fender of Fender Katsalidis Architects, representatives of builders Brookfield Multiplex and CBRE residential projects managing director Andrew Leoncelli.

When completed in 2020, the $1 billion tower will rise 319 metres, feature 1105 apartments and included two infinity swimming pools located 210 metres above ground.

Singaporean developer World Class Land appointed Brookfield Multiplex to deliver the project across five stages.

World Class Land CEO Koh Wee Seng said the beginning of construction was a huge milestone for the building.

"This is an exciting milestone for what will be a grand addition to Melbourne's skyline," he said.

"The construction process will be complex, which is why we selected Brookfield Multiplex – arguably Australia’s most experienced skyscraper builders."

Brookfield Multiplex will start construction in December after moving onto the site in November for preparatory works.

The first stage is earmarked for completion in 2018 and residents at lower levels will be invited to move in as higher levels are completed.

The building and lift system has been designed to allow for several staged handovers, with separate lobby areas for different areas of the tower.

After launching sales last February, the tower is almost completely sold, with less than 30 residences still remaining.

The luxury building will also house Australia's most expensive apartment, a level 100 penthouse spanning 750sqm, which was sold to a Chinese businessman in April for $25 million.

(Left to right) CBRE managing director of residential projects Andrew Leoncelli, Fender Katsalidis founding director Nonda Katsalidis and Japali CEO Mr Koh Wee Seng turn the sod on Australia 108.

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Controversial approval

By Eva Garnes

Recently, Planning Minister Richard Wynne approved Central Equity’s plans to build a 159-metre tall residential tower on Kavanagh St.

Although granting a permit, the Planning Minister added conditions relating to changes in the original plans. This includes improved internal amenities, as well as adding an extra five metre setbacks towards Kavanagh and Power streets.

The City of Melbourne was originally expected to vote against the new high rise due to its height and lack of setbacks.

According to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), setbacks have been partially addressed and the number of apartments, parking spaces and overall floor space has been reduced from the original application.

However, the height concern has not been addressed and the tower will stand tall at its planned 159 metres.

As mentioned in the May 2015 issue of Southbank Local News, the process around the application in the Future Melbourne Committee was fraught with controversy as the council lost the quorum when the application was up for discussion earlier this year, and it was unable to vote on the matter.

This was due to councillors declaring a conflict of interest as they had received election campaign funds from the developer.

Southbank Residents’ Association President Tony Penna told Southbank Local News back then that the conduct of the council was “disgraceful”, a description he repeated when asked about the approval process recently.

Mr Penna was also not happy about the Planning Minister’s decision to allow the original height of the tower, which is 59 metres above the discretionary height limit.

“The height that has been approved does not fit in with the surrounding environment, although the fact that they seem to have addressed the internal amenities is a good thing,” Mr Penna said.

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Park has gone cold

Southbank Residents Association president Tony Penna quizzed Lord Mayor Robert Doyle last month as to why the community was still waiting for its future park at the Boyd Community Hub.

Mr Penna questioned the status of the site at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on December 8, and asked why the draft master plan for the 2500sqm park had again been delayed until mid-2016.

Developer Mackie is still sitting on a building permit, which was issued by former planning minister Matthew Guy in September 2013 and is due to lapse next September.

While construction was expected to begin earlier this year, the space that once housed the former playground of the JH Boyd School still remains undeveloped.

Mr Penna alleged that the CEO of the Mackie Group Ralph Mackie told him in a conversation that “he wouldn’t be dictated to” as to what the urban park would look like.

“The developer has implied in those discussions that he’s not going to be dictated to by the City of Melbourne with regard to what that park is going to entail,” Mr Penna said.

He appeared to have had his own plans and, in my own observation of the planning permit that was issued, I couldn’t see anything that was locking him into what happens with that park.”

Mr Penna asked the Lord Mayor whether the community consultation process was ultimately pointless.

The Lord Mayor responded to Mr Penna by saying that the City of Melbourne had been “very patient” with the developer.

“We can’t comment on some third party conversation that you may or may not have had with the developer,” Cr Doyle said.

“Our arrangements are in place with the developer Mackie, and I think we’ve been very patient as a council in dealing with that developer to get this development moving.”

“My understanding is that the open space is developed in consultation with community and the council and not at the discretion of the developer.”

The City of Melbourne entered into a commercial agreement with the developer in 2012 for a residential and commercial development, having purchased the former Boyd school for $10.5 million in December, 2007.

The 22-storey development will comprise 239 one, two and three bedroom apartments (including floor plans specifically designed for people with disabilities), affordable housing and 2000sqm of retail and commercial space.

Mr Mackie didn’t respond to efforts by Southbank Local News to contact him for comment.
Community puts its future to the test

Southbank Boulevard was transformed into a pop-up garden party on Sunday, November 29, as residents were given a chance to experience life at their future park.

The event was organised by the City of Melbourne as part of a broad public consultation on the proposed linear park along Southbank Boulevard and Dodds St. Free coffees, food trucks, yoga classes, hula hooping, art displays, live music, kids’ activities and a pop-up dog park were just some of the offerings made available to residents and visitors as part of the public engagement exercise.

The event also featured a range of market stalls, indigenous history and architecture walks, as well as a live radio broadcast with 774 ABC Melbourne presenter Libbi Gorr. Participate Melbourne consultants ran workshops and engaged with locals throughout the morning, as information was collected for the linear park’s draft master plan.

Speaking with Ms Gorr as part of the live broadcast, the City of Melbourne’s director of city design Rob Adams said it was important that locals be given a chance to sample their future space.

“You come to a space like this in the middle of Melbourne and you would not normally find the sort of family groups that you’ve got gathered like this so this is the beauty of spaces like this. It will actually get families coming out and talking. We can see people sitting down having conversations. There’s coffees. There’s hula-hoops. This is people using the space.”

Following its closure as a route to the CBD with the construction of Queensbridge Square in 2001, Southbank Boulevard no longer carries the volume of traffic for which it was designed.

The City of Melbourne has identified the 2.5-hectare land as a solution to addressing a lack of open space in Southbank, which will connect St Kilda Rd to the Yarra River.

The public can share their ideas via the Participate Melbourne website until December 20: participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/southbankboulevard.
WHERE THE SEA MEETS LAND

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BAR AND KITCHEN
A new year’s celebration with a bang

As part of World Carnivale 2015 celebrations, locals can secure a place to witness the only ground-level fireworks display in Melbourne this New Year’s Eve, and enjoy a selection of five uniquely themed parties.

For the second year in a row, seven launch pads will be installed along North Wharf that will each let off an exciting 10-minutes worth of fireworks, bringing in 2016 with a real bang.

Event organiser Eddie Muto said fireworks at ground-level was a unique experience not to be missed.

“Watching fireworks that are launched from a high level is not as intense,” he said.

“The sound wave doesn’t hit your body so therefore, your body is not being told to get ready for action and therefore you don’t get any adrenaline.”

“You feel the vibrations at ground level and automatically your brain sends out this adrenaline so you’re ready for action.”

To coincide with the fireworks show, World Carnivale 2015 will see a host of South Wharf venues transform into an array of themed Carnivale parties.

Venice on the Yarra (Common Man), Bueno Vida (Bohemian) and Rio Grade (Meat Market) will each celebrate Italian, Argentinian and Brazilian themed Carnivales respectively.

The Lights, Love and Lanterns display (Showtime Events) will host some world-class musical acts, including New York DJ Osunlade and local artist Mike Steva.

The Melbourne Lawn, located between Showtime Events and the Meat Market, will see a temporary outdoor installation host an Australian spin on Carnivale through an extensive offering of contemporary Australian foods.

Mr Muto said the celebration would provide locals with an atmosphere like no other.

“It’s a multi-genre and multi-demographic event, which no one has ever attempted to do before,” he said. “You have five different food genres and five different music genres all in one ticket.”

“It’s a celebration of all of the world Carnivales and we’re going to be bringing that same spirit to Melbourne.”

For more information and to book your spot to witness the fireworks display visit: www.WorldCarnivaleNYE.com.au

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North Wharf site sold

Developer Asset 1 has purchased the North Wharf site from the State Government for $28.5 million.

The developer, which is part of Clement Lee’s Riverlee Group, will develop a residential, hotel and retail development and refurbish the historic wharf and heritage-listed goods shed at the western end of the precinct.

Asset 1 says the proposal includes extensive public works, refurbishment of the wharf, restoration of the historic crane and delivery of a new public park. Wharf remediation works are expected to begin in 2016.

Asset 1 previously received planning approval for a proposal including the partial demolition and redevelopment of the goods shed, construction of a 13-storey office tower, retail, cafes, restaurants, an art gallery and refurbishment of the existing Seafarers Rest Park.

The developer is yet to receive planning approval for the new proposal.

According to Riverlee founder Clement Lee, the North Wharf concept is the final part of a long-term vision to revitalise Melbourne’s Northbank precinct.

“Our vision is to deliver an integrated and iconic precinct – a new waterfront destination for Melbourne,” Mr Lee said.

The North Wharf precinct will be activated with pop-ups throughout the summer, as part of a pre-activation plan.

Melbourne Monopoly

By Jack Hayes

The new Melbourne edition of Monopoly has hit stores, with streets making way for landmarks – and Southbank features notably.

In all, 22 Melbourne and greater Melbourne property landmarks were selected to replace the famous London streets from the original board after the public was invited to offer up their suggestions via email and Facebook, earlier this year.

Southbank’s prominence in the adapted version of the world’s favourite board game is indicative of its evolving position in Melbourne’s cultural makeup.

With Melburnians noted for their love for the arts, Southbank plays host to two of the "red" spaces on the new edition of the game.

The National Gallery of Victoria, Arts Centre Melbourne and Royal Exhibition Building now occupy the traditional positions of The Strand, Fleet St and Trafalgar Square.

Next to join those three positions is Southbank’s iconic Eureka Skydeck. Melbourne’s tallest building will now be featured on the “Light Blue” position.

The place where memories are made and childhood dreams come alive, the famed MCG has scooped the board’s most exclusive and coveted “Mayfair” site, with Federation Square scoring the other Blue position.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said bringing Melbourne and Monopoly together was a great idea. “Being named the World’s Most Livable City for five years in a row, it makes sense for Melbourne to have its own version of the world’s most famous board game.”

The new edition of the game also features quintessential Melbourne-esque tokens; a tram, take away coffee cup, Phar Lap, Sherrin Football, graffiti spray can and a city of literature book.

Equally relatable, roadways and journeys ask you to pay $15 million for being stuck on the Monash Freeway. Or on a more positive note, your friends take you on a road trip to the Twelve Apostles allowing you to collect $10 million from every player.

New life for love locks

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle recently announced that the famed Southbank love locks will be transformed into intricate works of art and auctioned to raise money for charity.

The City of Melbourne has partnered with Craft Victoria to repurpose the love locks that were removed from the Southbank footbridge in May this year.

The repurposed, delicate works of art and jewellery will culminate in an exhibition and auction at Melbourne Town Hall in August, 2016.

The Lord Mayor said the project was the next step in the love lock story that captivated the city and the world.

"Melbourne’s romantics can rest assured that their locks will contribute to a unique, inspired project that will benefit people in need,” he said.

"In partnering with Craft Victoria we intend to create a series of works that acknowledge and celebrate the meaning behind the love locks.”

The City of Melbourne removed 20,000 love locks from the Southbank Pedestrian Bridge in May this year due to safety concerns.

“We explored different options and spoke to other cities around the world, which had a similar situation and in most cases they just disposed of them,” the Lord Mayor said.

“But we are in Melbourne, so we wanted to do something different.”

Craft CEO and artistic director Jane Scott said the organisation was thrilled to have the opportunity to create a lasting legacy with the love locks project.

The City of Melbourne and Craft Victoria are now seeking expressions of interest from artists who are interested in the project.

For more information and to get involved visit www.craftvictoria.wufoo.com/forms/love-locks-project/
Enter City Calm Down, a four-piece experimental/electronic band from Melbourne’s inner-east that are making waves in the Aussie music scene.

Formed in 2008, the band has slowly been gaining momentum since the release of its first EP, Movements, in 2012 and has just dropped its eagerly-anticipated debut album, In a Restless House.

The band has been likened to a swath of incredible artists including The National, Nick Cave, Joy Division and The Horrors.

Front man Jack Bourke says, instrumentally, this album is vastly different to any of their past work.

“We had a much greater focus on synthesisers. They are still there, but they play a more embellishing role. With this record we tried to strip things back a bit and use different instruments to fill spaces, instead of layers and layers of synths,” he said.

With a three-year gap between their first EP and debut album, Bourke explained creating this record wasn’t always smooth sailing.

“A lot of the earlier stuff was just junk. There were some really good ideas in there. Some of them, in a very very changed form, made it onto the record, but it was just very much a learning of what we truly wanted to do.”

“We came off the back of that EP and you don’t want to keep just doing the same thing. I think you want a bit of continuity, but you don’t want the two to sound like you haven’t changed anything. So working out where we wanted to go was the challenge, I guess.”

As well as playing at Sugar Mountain, City Calm Down will also be gracing the stages of the hugely popular Falls Festival in Lorne.

“Falls will be fantastic, I have actually never been but all my friends have always said they had a blast. I can’t wait to play there, it’s going to be pretty insane,” Bourke said.

After Falls Festival the band will turn its focus to Southbank’s own Sugar Mountain Festival and, with something up their sleeve, the band are eagerly awaiting.

“I think we are going to try add a few new things for that show. Just because I think the crowd it attracts will suit whatever it is that we are planning, which I won’t disclose for obvious reasons.

“Having not been, it is always a hard one to say, but it (Sugar Mountain) seems to have developed a really strong reputation of being a great festival to go to. I think that’s really important.”
Grand illusions coming to Southbank

By Eva Garnes

From January 2 – 10, visitors will be transported back to the era of magician superstars at the Arts Centre.

The Illusionists 1903 features a world-famous cast portraying the magical greats of the past. As part of the cast, audiences will meet The Eccentric, The Immortal, The Conjurers and The Escapist.

“We are taking the audience back to the golden age of magic, to the retro-cool era where illusionists were performing all the infamous tricks,” Charlie Frye said.

Charlie fills the role as The Eccentric in the show and, together with the rest of the cast, he is giving audiences a first-hand experience of performances such as the Floating Lady and the Water Torture Cell.

With both a cinematic score and beautifully-made sets designed to transport you back in time, we are ready to show Melburnians the best from our golden age. We believe our performance has a broad appeal, especially now with the success of films and TV shows portraying the same era. Also, people always love a great illusion,” Mr Frye continued.

Even if you think you know the tricks, you will be surprised, as new twists have been added to keep the excitement on top. When you join this international top group of magicians, you will experience an evening you’ll never forget.

More information about the show, and tickets, can be found at artscentremelbourne.com.au and tickets, can be found at an evening you'll never forget.

Hitchcock Classic Returns

By Kara Bertoncin

Following a sell out season earlier this year, the stage adaptation of Alfred Hitchcock’s North by Northwest will be returning to the Arts Centre from January.

Audiences have already boasted about the show as leading actress Amber McMahon says it really does have everything for a fantastic night at the theatre.

“It’s an absolute crowdpleaser. It’s a joy to perform because you feel the thrill of the audience as they go along for the ride with you. Especially, it’s those classic tropes of murder, man on the run, chase, cliff-hanger that people really respond well to,” she said.

Matt Hetherington, Nicholas Bell, Ian Bliss, Sheridan Harbridge, John Leary, Rozzy Llewellyn-Jones, Lucas Stibbard and Lachlan Woods will be returning to the production, in addition to newcomer Lyall Brooks.

Amazingly, Gina Riley will also be joining the cast as Roger’s mother, which will no doubt bring a whole new group of show-goes.

“It will be fantastic. New blood is always welcome, she’ll bring a new energy to it, plus she’s amazing. It will be great,” Ms McMahon said.

For those wondering whether to see the film before seeing the stage show, Ms McMahon’s advice is simple – make up your own mind.

“There’s virtue in both. A lot who have seen the film love recognising things in the stage show and they loved seeing how things are resolved theatrically, so there’s that kind of ‘meta’ experience. And people who haven’t seen it just love the story because it’s a thrilling story. Unfortunately you have to make up your own mind, but both options are fabulous,” she said.

North by Northwest will be playing at the Arts Centre Melbourne for two weeks only so get your tickets now from Ticketmaster.

Music Play Children’s Festival

By Eva Garnes

On January 14 – 16, the Melbourne Recital Centre becomes an oasis of fun for children in Southbank, as the Music Play Children’s Festival takes over.

The three-day festival offers kids an introduction to music through entertainment, where the children themselves can participate in the musical creation.

Some of the highlights in their program include events such as the Space Symphony, where youngsters are introduced to space-themed compositions. Here they will encounter iconic music such as John William’s Star Wars and Richard Strauss’ Also sprach Zarathustra, which was used as the theme to 2001: A Space Odyssey.

Another big event of the festival is Think of an Adventure with Jay Laga’aia. Together with the Play School entertainers, children can dance along to his story filled with fun and mysteries.

In addition to these highlights, the festival caters to all groups of children and, on January 16, pre-schoolers with autism can attend the Sing-Swing-Play Music Class for Preschoolers with Autism. Here the children can play with musical instruments and sing nursery rhymes in a safe environment, all while being led by specialist music educator for children with autism, Melinda Cernovil.

For the full schedule, as well as ticket bookings, visit melbournerecital.com.au/musicplay.
Initially intending to spend a year enhancing his photography skills, Lloyd's time at PSC has snowballed into a four-year, part-time, Advanced Diploma in Photography, specialising in fine art.

Lloyd, who also works as a researcher part-time with the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre, said he chose to study merely to fill in some spare time.

"I have always been hanging around with a camera doing stuff, so I thought I'll just do a year of the course and see how I go. Four years later I'm still chugging away at it," he said.

With two young boys in tow, juggling work, family and study hasn't been easy, but if his artwork is anything to go by he has done it with great success throughout his degree.

"What you learn and the quality of your work is really dictated by how much effort you put in outside class hours, so I really enjoyed what I was doing and I put a lot of effort in to work outside those class times."

As well as earning a Bachelor of Science, Lloyd has undertaken a post-graduate degree at RMIT, lived and worked in Holland for several years and has more than two decades of experience in the workforce.

Lloyd combines his learned technicality with a somewhat unorthodox camera method to capture images of still, seemingly cold, life portrayed with a unique gentleness and warmth.

He uses low quality lenses, shoots into the sun and shakes the camera erratically to produce a kind of focused blur – something that took some time to master.

Inspired by the angelic softness of countless Japanese photographers and the eerie ingenuity of the Starn brothers, Lloyd draws not only on fellow photographers, but also from a number of authors.

"To be told by teachers that anything is possible, then let's try and turn everything upside down and see what happens. From mistakes you get original ideas and concepts, and just poke and prod, to try different things. I found that really quite inspiring," he said.

Lloyd will showcase his images at PSC's end of year exhibition starting on December 10.

www.lloydperereiranorthernlightphotography.com
**FRIDAY NIGHTS @ NGV**

**Dec 11 - April 22 - NGV International**

Start the weekend early with Friday Nights at NGV, including after-hours entry to Andy Warhol and Ai Weiwei, talks, food and bars, plus DJ sets in the NGV Garden and weekly live performances by international and Australian acts in the Great Hall.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au

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**THE MAKING OF MIDNIGHT OIL**

Running until Feb 28 - Theatres Building

The Making of Midnight Oil is a straight-up rock 'n roll exhibition that charts the Oil's impact on Australian musical, political and cultural history. From their early development on the pub circuit of Sydney's Northern Beaches, Midnight Oil went on to win audiences across the world with their fierce commitment to no holds barred rock music and a strong social conscience.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

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**THE LAST MAN STANDING**

Running until Dec 12 - The Summer

From comedy legend Steve Vizard and celebrated composer Paul Grabowsky comes a glorious and irreverent satire with song, starring the acclaimed Peter Carroll alongside a hugely talented ensemble cast.

www.mtc.com.au

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**CHRISTMAS CAROLS**

Dec 12 - 13 - Hamer Hall

The unmissable Brunnell Tovey joins the MSO as conductor, pianist and host in this celebration of the great musical traditions of Christmas, from famous orchestral works and favourite Christmas songs to the most beloved of yuletide carols.

www.mso.com.au

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**LADIES IN BLACK**

Running until Dec 12 - Fairfax Studios

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www.mtc.com.au

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www.ngv.vic.gov.au

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**FRANK YAMMA & DAVID BRIDIE**

Dec 11 - Salvo

Yamma will be accompanied on piano by fellow Australian performer David Bridie. For over 20 years these two friends have collaborated on live performances, songwriting and recording. Their music has been enjoyed around the globe – at festivals from the UK to the Australian desert, and beyond.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

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**THE LISTIES RUIN CHRISTMAS**

Running until Dec 13 - Malthouse Theatre

From comedy legend Steve Vizard and celebrated composer Paul Grabowsky comes a glorious and irreverent satire with song, starring the acclaimed Peter Carroll alongside a hugely talented ensemble cast.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

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**RICHARD MOSSE - THE ENCLAVE**

Running until Feb 16 - NGV International

Partly inspired by Joseph Conrad’s modernist literary masterpiece Heart of Darkness, the visceral and moving work was filmed in the Democratic Republic of Congo using Hélas colour infra-red film, which captures otherwise invisible parts of the spectrum.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au

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**SOUTHSEASON 2015**

Dec 12 - 13 - Playhouse

An exciting opportunity to appreciate the artistry and passion of a school that strives to honour the past while creating the classical dancers of the future. Classical and contemporary works deliver a breadth of experience for the students and a range of pleasures for the audience, who will see all students of the school perform and our graduating students truly shine.

www.australianballet.com.au
Cycling for equality

Local deaf cyclist Reece-Emerson van Beek is aiming to break a world record in order to raise awareness about inequalities in hearing impaired sports in Australia.

Following his latest success on the international stage at the Asia Pacific Deaf Games in China where he claimed silver in the 35km time trial, Mr van Beek said he wished to become an advocate for deaf sports.

Since claiming his eighth medal from only his seventh international deaf cycling event, he said he still had many deaf cyclists encouraging him to push for equal rights.

While Paralympians have expenses such as flights, equipment and training paid for, he said the same couldn’t be said for deaf athletes.

“I want to work with the Paralympic committee to recognise the barriers we face because at the moment Paralympians are too far ahead and getting more of an advantage.”

As a means of raising awareness, he said was setting his sights on completing 54km in one hour on the velodrome, which is a cycling world record.

“In December 2016 I want to break the one-hour record,” he said. “I will do this with my money and my time and separate to any event.”

“Next year I will do some racing overseas and there are the national championships on at Ballarat in January, which is a bit of a short time to prepare but I’ll give it the best I can.”

The Southbank resident has represented Australia around the world, having taken part in two deaf world championships and three Deaflympics.

As he prepares for the next Deaflympics in 2017 at Samsun, Turkey, he said he was hoping to find a blind cyclist to pilot for the Paralympics and join his push to advocate for greater equality.

“I want to try and find a blind advocate to partner with me for next year for six months but I haven’t found anyone yet,” he said.

“If I manage to find one I’ll have about a month to try out for the national championships but my long-term goal is to focus on that.”

He said his world-record breaking attempt would also help raise funds to help support deaf cycling.

To find out more visit www.deafprocycling.com

Local deaf cyclist Reece-Emerson van Beek.

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THE LANGHAM, MELBOURNE ONE SOUTHGATE AVENUE 1800 641 107
Chief architect to sooth the city

By Shane Scanlan

Southbank residents can expect newly-appointed Victorian Government Architect Jill Garner to be a moderating influence on the frenzied development cycle within the city.

The Office of the Victorian Government Architect (OVGA) is enjoying upgraded status and independence, having been moved from the planning department into the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The office’s advice will be sought by Planning Minister Richard Wynne when assessing planning applications.

Ms Garner told Southbank Local News that Melbourne enjoyed the status of being Australia’s only real residential city.

“This extraordinary position brings with it great responsibility for our design and construction industry,” she said.

“It is a significant responsibility to ensure change in our built environment is never dictated purely by economics, but is always overlaid by deep considerations about the quality of place.”

Property Council executive director Jennifer Cunich has cautioned the OVGA about concentrating on design at the expense of affordability in its pivotal role in the Government’s current review of apartment standards.

“The current review has been widely panned by industry as being too focused on design minutiae at the expense of housing affordability,” Ms Cunich told Southbank Local News.

“There is no point imposing the highest apartment design standards in the world if only the rich can afford to live in them.”

“We look forward to working with Jill on developing new design standards which every Melburnian can afford.”

Ms Garner responded by saying that affordability was too complex an issue to be simply solved.

“It is not simply correlated to providing better amenity as has been suggested, and the solution does not lie in cutting a site into smaller and smaller components,” she said.

“International examples suggest different development models, different financing methods, different precincts based design solutions – all innovative thinking – might contribute to ease the tension.”

Ms Garner’s appointment by Minister Wynne on October 27 has been welcomed within the architecture community. She was previously acting in the top job and had been Associate Victorian Government Architect since 2010.

Being the co-founder of a modest suburban practice, her credentials are both academic and practical.

“I am gratified by the feedback I have received across both industry and government as to my fit for the role,” she said.

She said she loved detail, understood construction and the “real contingencies of building”.

“I love and appreciate beauty, excellence and skilled performance in various domains,” she said.

But she said her personal aesthetic would not govern her advice to government.

“Despite personal preferences, the Government Architect’s role is one requiring judgement and perspective,” she said.

“It is important not to jump to conclusions, and to maintain the capacity to change one’s mind in the light of convincing evidence.”

Ms Garner said she recognised and appreciated the move to higher density living.

“We are in a period of significant population growth and change, and statistics show that much of our community is ready to embrace an alternative, denser type of home than we have come to expect in Victoria,” she said.

“Research (such as the work of the Grattan Institute) also suggests that some sectors of our community cannot find the new type of home they have in mind.”

“I believe this is an issue that has a design-based answer, yet to be fully explored locally, and I look forward to the OVGA being a supportive advocate for excellent examples of higher density housing.”

OC Act under review

Major changes could be in store for owners’ corporations (OCs) throughout Victoria, if the State Government follows the lead of interstate authorities.

The Government is currently reviewing the OC Act, alongside other pieces of property legislation.

In October, the NSW Government introduced the Strata Reform Bill, bringing with it a number of changes.

These include restrictions on length of contracts for OC managers and building managers, holding developers to account for promises made regarding low levies and curbing proxy farming.


In terms of the OC Act, the review would focus on the management, powers and functions of owners’ corporations and conduct of professional owners’ corporation managers.

In 2013, under the previous government, Consumer Affairs Victoria undertook a review of the regulation of owners’ corporation managers, with public submissions closing on November 27, 2013.

However, the outcome of this review was never released.

A Consumer Affairs Victoria spokesperson said the current review would include findings from the 2013-14 review of the regulation of owners’ corporation managers.

“The review will start with an issues paper, to be released before the end of the year, looking at licensing and conduct issues for owners’ corporations managers, real estate agents and conveyancers,” the spokesperson said.

“Issues papers relating to the other aspects of the legislation under review will be published in the coming months.”

The spokesperson said members of the public would be invited to make submission to the review.

According to Strata Titles Lawyers CEO Mr Bacon, the Government should make accountability and transparency for the industries that service OCs a priority during the review.

“There are plenty of examples that I have seen of unfair, unreasonable and uncompetitive service contracts that affect a number of OCs, principally in the areas of strata management, elevator services and repairs, building management and internet and telephonic systems,” Mr Bacon said.

“And also the Government should clarify the OC’s role in enforcing rules about overcrowding and boarding houses as it is becoming a large issue across the city.”

“And I also believe that the practice of proxy farming should be brought to end as it has been in Queensland and as it will be in NSW with the 2016 legislation.”
MCEC’s Plenary hosted the WBC Silver Welterweight World Title fight between Mundine and American Charles Hatley, in what was only the second event of its kind held at the venue. Fans were treated to an entertaining fight between the pair, with Hatley eventually going on to claim a technical knockout (TKO) win, after Mundine’s camp threw in the towel during the 11th round.

Plenary first hosted a boxing event in 2013, and the sport’s comeback to the versatile venue proved an overwhelming success. A range of local and international boxers featured in the other eight undercards matches as part of the event, which was attended by a total of 3182 fans.

Question:

How do you intend to spend your Christmas?

I'm looking forward to spending time with all my family and getting together, and of course the food – that's the best part about Christmas.

-Jarred Johnson

Artist

I'm actually trying to go into self sustainable living and a waste-free lifestyle. There is a few cafes in Melbourne that do that and I would love to work there.

-Michaela Goode

Hospitality worker

I'm looking forward to going back to New Zealand and spending Christmas there with my friends and family.

-Brad McLean

Financial planner

I'm going to be spending my Christmas with my loved ones, hopefully have a nice Chrissy lunch.

-Steph Rowe

Works at Cargill Japan Limited

I suppose just catching up with family. Oh and I will be selling tickets and playing the ukelele by the Yarra River.

-Anthea

River cruise operator

I'm going to be spending Christmas with my friends and family.

-Dani Krue

Holidaying

Hanging out with friends and maybe going to parties. I am from Frankfurt and here until March.

-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

Question:

An unsuspecting arena

More than 3000 fans packed into the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) in Southbank on November 11 to see a rare boxing match involving Australian boxer Anthony Mundine.

Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

I'm looking forward to spending time with all my family and getting together, and of course the food – that's the best part about Christmas.

-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

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-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

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-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

I suppose just catching up with family. Oh and I will be selling tickets and playing the ukelele by the Yarra River.

-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

An unsuspecting arena

More than 3000 fans packed into the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) in Southbank on November 11 to see a rare boxing match involving Australian boxer Anthony Mundine.

MCEC’s Plenary hosted the WBC Silver Welterweight World Title fight between Mundine and American Charles Hatley, in what was only the second event of its kind held at the venue. Fans were treated to an entertaining fight between the pair, with Hatley eventually going on to claim a technical knockout (TKO) win, after Mundine’s camp threw in the towel during the 11th round.

Plenary first hosted a boxing event in 2013, and the sport’s comeback to the versatile venue proved an overwhelming success. A range of local and international boxers featured in the other eight undercards matches as part of the event, which was attended by a total of 3182 fans.

Question:

How do you intend to spend your Christmas?

I'm looking forward to spending time with all my family and getting together, and of course the food – that's the best part about Christmas.

-Jarred Johnson

Artist

I'm actually trying to go into self sustainable living and a waste-free lifestyle. There is a few cafes in Melbourne that do that and I would love to work there.

-Michaela Goode

Hospitality worker

I'm looking forward to going back to New Zealand and spending Christmas there with my friends and family.

-Brad McLean

Financial planner

I'm going to be spending my Christmas with my loved ones, hopefully have a nice Chrissy lunch.

-Steph Rowe

Works at Cargill Japan Limited

I suppose just catching up with family. Oh and I will be selling tickets and playing the ukelele by the Yarra River.

-Anthea

River cruise operator

I'm going to be spending my Christmas with my friends and family.

-Dani Krue

Holidaying

Hanging out with friends and maybe going to parties. I am from Frankfurt and here until March.

-Fans enjoy the battle between Anthony Mundine and Charles Hatley at MCEC’s Plenary.

Question:

An unsuspecting arena

More than 3000 fans packed into the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) in Southbank on November 11 to see a rare boxing match involving Australian boxer Anthony Mundine.
DO IT YOURSELF

It’s project time

So far we have covered a few broader topics so I thought this month, it was time to provide you with a project you can easily do at home.

You could make a perfect Christmas Gift, or it might just be a little something to keep you occupied over the holiday break.

Spray painting pot plant stands is this month’s project of choice. Pot plant stands are very popular at the moment and they are a great way to inject some colour, style and greenery into your home – especially handy for small spaces like apartments.

First things first. Head down to your local paint store to get all your supplies. You will need the following: Rokset plastic drop sheets (to pick up overspray), Sequence dust masks (for protection), Hi Chem super etch primer and Anchor spray cans in the colour of your choice.

You will also of course need the stands.

Step 1:
Set up a little spray area, preferably outdoors for ventilation purposes. There will be overspray so cover everything in the direct vicinity with the drop sheets. Pop on the dust mask so you don’t breath in the fumes and you are ready to go.

Step 2:
Apply a coat of the Hi Chem super etch primer. Depending on what the stands are made of, this will ensure adhesion. Super etch primer is very strong. Keep the can about 30cms away from the stand and keep the can moving using short, sharp strokes. This will avoid dripping.

Step 3:
Once dry, repeat the process with the top coat colours until you are satisfied with the coverage. Leave to dry overnight and give a few days to cure up and it is ready for use.

That’s about it! Easy right? Such a simple project to make something suit your home, plus you will have the satisfaction of knowing you did it yourself.

Remember to have fun and any questions you may have on this or any other project please come see me at Paintright Southbank.

T: 9272 7600
224 Normanby Street, Southbank 3006
www.southbank.paintright.com.au
*Conditions apply. Bring ad in store to redeem offer. one pot per person.
Amazing Dorothy

By Eleanor Long and Sean Car

Having regularly attended worship at St Johns Southgate since the age of six, Dorothy Hamilton has been a much-loved figure of the Southbank community for 83 years.

Dorothy was born in Rainbow, Victoria in 1926. She is the same age as Queen Elizabeth.

Dorothy was born blind. “Not vision-impaired,” Dorothy insisted, “totally blind” and is the eldest of seven children in the family, three of whom were born blind.

In 1932, at the age of six, Dorothy came to live at the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind to start her primary school education. Her parents brought her to St Johns for worship and her first impression was that it was a nice place because there were cushions on the seats!

During term time, members of St Johns would take turns to bring her to church each Sunday, and to the Sunday School classes held then across City Rd at the YMCA, which is now the site of Testing Grounds.

Dorothy noted that, back then, Southbank was a very different place. “It’s a very busy area now and there’s lots of activity going on, which is very nice because I remember what it was like and we had lots of industries around here and now it’s all high rise,” she said.

Supported by the excellent musical education provided in her primary years, Dorothy became an accomplished musician. At the age of 14, together with a sighted student, she gained first place in Victoria in sixth grade piano.

The examiner, Sir Bernard Heinze, then conductor of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, recommended that Dorothy be given the opportunity to study at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music.

At a time when few girls were educated at senior levels, she matriculated (Year 12) in 1944.

In her five years at the University of Melbourne, Dorothy completed a Diploma of Music in piano, and then went on to become the first blind woman in the southern hemisphere to obtain the degree of bachelor of music.

However, this was far from the last of the “firsts” for Dorothy.

“I became a teacher and my aim was to be teaching at a sighted school,” Dorothy said. “In 1953, I achieved this when I accepted a position as music teacher at Korowa Girls School in Glen Iris.”

“For five years I taught piano (from beginners to Year 12), theory and recorder. I took the singing classes for the junior school, played for assemblies and ‘music through movement’, played the organ for church services and conducted the choir in the Malvern Town Hall for speech ceremonies.”

Meanwhile, Dorothy continued as an active member of St Johns congregation.

“It meant a lot to me that I could be a regular member of the youth group and I played the piano for their meetings and social activities,” Dorothy said.

“I was a member of the church council, I sang in the choir and I taught Sunday school. I played for the Sunday school assemblies and there would be around 90 children gathered for the session.”

Keith Hamilton also a committed member of St Johns and he often used to accompany Dorothy to the tram at St Kilda Rd. A loving relationship developed, and Dorothy resigned from her position at Korowa, married Keith in 1957 and became the mother of four children: John, Peter, Margaret and Rosemarie.

She managed the full range of household duties – even cooking, which she shared with her husband who was a baker. When the children were all at school, Dorothy started her own music teaching practice, sometime with 30 to 40 students.

She also began to transcribe music into Braille with the support of sighted musicians who read from printed copy according to rules set out in a manual. When the new St Johns Southgate opened, Dorothy began organising annual musical afternoons featuring Melbourne Lutheran musicians.

There was no thought of retirement for Dorothy as she achieved another very significant “first”, probably a worldwide first, Dorothy conceived of a way to transcribe music into Braille using a computer.

In 1994, she travelled to England as an Australian delegate for a project to write a manual for Braille-reading musicians that integrated English with European languages.

While in London, Dorothy visited the Royal National Institute for the Blind and she asked about their progress using the computer for transcription and they said “impossible!” So Dorothy taught them her system.

In 2013 Dorothy was a finalist for Victorian Senior of the Year. She still transcribes music using the computer four mornings a week at Vision Australia. She reads emails and newspapers via her Braille Sense laptop, which she carries around with her everywher.

For everything incredible milestone she has achieved, she said the community of St Johns Southgate had supported her through every step of her journey.

“It’s a very welcoming community and it’s a lovely one to be a part of. My son and I attend here every week and we wouldn’t be without our church,” she said.
So just what is “healthy eating”? Diets don’t work!

Diets don’t work

It is with ever-increasing debate on just what constitutes “healthy eating.” Who do you believe? Do we eat paleo, LCHF (low carb, high fat), low GI, low carbohydrate, Atkins, etc.

The list goes on and, sadly, the majority of Australians constantly chase “the ideal diet!” I hate to tell you but there isn’t one. There never has and never will.

Why? We are all very different. We process food differently, some of us are highly stressed, overworked and/or don’t get enough sleep which in turn raises our cortisol levels. We are either male or female, active or inactive, have varying health conditions and have different heights and weights. It is for this very reason that there simply cannot be one diet that works for us all. Statistics show that the majority of people that diet put on all weight lost and add some more!

What is healthy eating?

There are many critics of the “healthy eating pyramid” that we have all seen over the years. People blame the actual guidelines for our spiralling rates of overweight and obese Australians, not to mention increased heart disease and diabetes.

But, sadly, the reason that the healthy eating pyramid guidelines are blamed is because hardly anyone actually follows them, instead electing to follow (as stated above) unsuccessful diets. Perhaps it is time that you revisit the recently revised “healthy eating pyramid” and see how your eating habits stack up. http://nutritionaustralia.org/sites/default/files/HealthyEatingPyramid.jpg

There is no one-size-fits-all approach to healthy eating. The key is working with people to know and understand what they are consuming, educate them to read and understand food labels, plan their daily and weekly eating and therefore be pro-active rather than re-active to what they choose to consume.

I often get clients to complete a seven-day diet diary (over as many weeks as it takes to guide them to a better understanding of themselves), have them rate their weekly diet from 1-10 and then I sit down and go over it with them and give them a rating from 1-10 to compare.

Over time the two figures get closer and we strive to always rate between a 6-8 out of 10. That then is sustainable and allows for living a happy, fun, sociable and healthy life and, if weight loss is the aim (which it is for so many), then this allows for a safe and healthy weight loss in the range of 0.5-1.0 kgs a week.

In concluding, everyone is different and a paleo diet that may work for chef Pete Evans may not work for the next seven people! We are all different.

Find what works for you but try and stay closer to the nutritional guidelines and you will be a greater chance of being where you want to be with respect to health and your ideal weight and/or size.

Please note that in late February/early March next year, myself and Lisa Middleton (one of Melbourne’s leading sports dietitians) are looking to put on a 2 -3 hour seminar/workshop at the Boyd Community Hub. We will be covering the topics of Health, fitness and lifestyle balance along with healthy eating and nutrition. If you would like further details or to register your interest, please contact me via www.justintimept.com

Wirth’s Park

Wirth’s Park, 4.5 hectares (approx.), was on the site now occupied by the Melbourne Arts Centre.

An American circus had arrived in the District of Port Phillip as early as 1852. Cooper and Bailey’s Great American International Circus became renowned and this was followed by the FitzGerald Brothers’ Circus which became the first Australian circus.

The FitzGerald Brothers built a permanent circus home on the Sloss streets triangle site and the area not used for the circus became a fashionable meeting place called Prince’s Court featuring a Japanese Tea House, open-air theatre, miniature train and a water chute.

In 1906/7 the Wirth Brother’s Circus bought the site from the FitzGerald Brothers and by 1930 they had developed the site to include: The Trocadero Danse Palais (previously called the Green M1) and a large hippodrome amphitheatre (Wirth’s Olympia) which ran along Sturt St. This was the main arena, a cavernous structure of timber and galvanised iron, elegantly appointed, with a foyer, padded seats and cloak rooms. Wirth’s roller skating rink was alongside Sloss St (and of the photograph).

Wirth’s Olympia was not only the place for circus-style performances. It was used for film screenings, garden shows, exhibitions and fairs (for example the Pan-Pacific Exhibition and Fair which ran between May 9 and May 23 in 1923), jazz concerts and YMCA gymnastic displays.

In December 1953 a catastrophic fire left Wirth’s Park in ruins and brought the era to an abrupt end. Sloss St was subsumed by the building of the Arts Centre.

A mosaic linking the arts, cultural and entertainment history of the site and marking the 150th anniversary of circus in Australia was unveiled on June 7, 1988 at the Victorian Arts Centre. This was a joint project between the Circus Fans of Australasia Inc. and the Performing Arts Museum, Victorian Arts Centre.

The Royal Historical Society of Victoria is the historical society for the City of Melbourne. It has a program of exhibitions, lectures and walks. The RHSV is at 239 A Beckett Street Melbourne. Open Monday – Friday 10am – 4pm. Further information: www.historyvictoria.org.au

with Justin Moran
Just In Time Personal Training

Diets don’t work

Health & Wellbeing

with Justin Moran
Just In Time Personal Training

Victorian Arts Centre. This was a joint project between the Circus Fans of Australasia Inc. and the Performing Arts Museum, Victorian Arts Centre.

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Kate Prinsley
Kate Prinsley is executive officer of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria

History

History

Elephant with male attendant standing on low-loader outside Wirth’s Park (situated between Sloss and Sturt streets), c. 1946-1947

http://nutritionaustralia.org/
Anticipating Christmas

There's nothing quite like seeing a little child bursting out of their skin with excitement. The jumping up and down and the squealing with delight is quite a sight to behold.

My five-year-old daughter recently exhibited such behaviours in anticipation of her little brother’s second birthday. He’s still a little too young to properly understand what it's all about, but it didn’t stop her from being thrilled for him. She was counting down the days with wide eyes and delightful questions about the presents that awaited him and how she might mark the occasion.

Before dawn on the big day she came running into our bedroom asking if we could wake him up so he could open his presents. Looking at the face of this little girl with such a heightened sense of anticipation was a beautiful thing.

To see her anticipate something with such vitality and fullness of spirit forced me into a moment of self-reflection. I asked myself: “When was the last time you felt that way about anything?”

It was a good question and one that I suspect might stump your average Aussie adult. Maybe you have to go back as far as being a kid waiting for Christmas to conjure up such a memory?

Studying toy catalogues, begging your parents and then shaking the boxes under the tree is quite the Advent tradition and it’s entirely appropriate from a spiritual perspective because Advent is a season of anticipation. But how can we grownups get excited about Jesus coming into our lives at Christmas? How can we feel the excitement that I saw in my daughter’s eyes about the birthday of another?

To be honest, I don’t think anything’s going to do it for me. In reality, the busyness of life, with its never-ending to-do lists, will probably keep me from even coming close to joyful anticipation. Another Advent and Christmas will come and go and that will be that. Perhaps you can relate to that sentiment.

But you know what? It doesn’t matter! It doesn’t matter how I feel or how you feel – or how excited we are about Jesus coming at Christmas. It doesn’t matter because Jesus comes anyway. Jesus, God’s only son – the saviour of the world – came to earth as a little baby precisely because we’re preoccupied, too busy, too inward looking to gaze with any permanency toward the divine.

This Advent and Christmas, don’t worry if your experience is like that of my two-year-old son – not really sure how to anticipate the birthday and not really sure what it’s all about – but even so, still being there, opening the gifts, and responding with joy.

Like a toddler at Christmas, you too are free to just open the box, to see the gift that is the baby Jesus, and to smile.

Recently the CoM hosted a garden party in front of the ABC studio on Southbank Boulevard which in a way officially kicked off the public consultation for the transformation of Southbank Boulevard into large swathes of open space.

This appeared to be a great success with residents and resident poaches heading on over to enjoy the temporary dog park and events that were put on for the day, while CoM staff were busy conducting surveys.

This is a magnificent project for Southbank so I ask all residents to embrace the consultation and either make your thoughts known on the Participate Melbourne website (participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/southbankboulevard) or, for those who enjoy being more interactive, to RSVP for the community workshop on Saturday, December 12 (register via the Participate Melbourne website link).

While on the topic of open space, a number of us have been watching closely for the Boyd Park project to commence. As many of you are aware, the CoM began public consultation on what the space should look like and the interim report was expected to be released in September. I was disappointed to learn, however, that the CoM project team have advised the report has been postponed until mid-2016.

Last week in the public question session I asked council the reason for the delay. The Lord Mayor responded that some funding which had led to the delay. The Lord Mayor responded that some funding had been withdrawn from the developer for the 30-storey tower at the rear of the site which had led to the delay.

There was no mention as to when the development would be back on track (although I am not sure if it was ever on track since it is years overdue). I am concerned this might mean the project may not even eventuate, as it was apparently dependent upon the developer proceeds from the sale of the apartments.

Given that the community was overwhelmingly opposed to its sale at the time, perhaps this could be an opportunity for the CoM to reclaim the block of land and make it public open space. I thought this was worth mentioning.

A small point of note, if you haven’t already noticed, is that we have had a small name change. Recently at a special general meeting, a motion was unanimously passed to change our name from Southbank Residents Group to Southbank Residents Association.

We also have a new logo to go with that – check it out on our Facebook page – southbankresidents and if you haven’t already, “like” us while you’re there to keep abreast of what’s happening in our neighbourhood.

Well once again, that is another year from Southbank Residents Association. We truly appreciate the following we have – on Facebook, my newspaper column and, most importantly, our dedicated members who stand right beside us with their support by actively joining this volunteer not-for-profit community association. If you too would like to show your support and become a member, please visit our website at www.southbankresidents.com.au.

We have an action packed year ahead with some exciting new projects, so keep a look out and let us know of your thoughts and ideas for the community.

From the entire committee, we would like to wish you a delightful Christmas break and a joyous New Year. May 2016 be the start of something new and great in everyone’s life.

A special thanks goes out to the editor of Southbank Local News for his wonderful support throughout the year. See you all in 2016!

Tony Penna
President
A LITTLE RAY OF GIVING

The inspiring Christmas campaign will see the team at Ray White Southbank partner with the Mirabel Foundation to help disadvantaged children who may need a little extra light in their festive season.

The team is calling on locals to embrace the giving season and dig deep for children in their community who need it most by dropping in presents to its office at the corner of Clarendon St and City Rd.

With the campaign now underway, Ray White Southbank principal Andrew Salvo encouraged locals to come by and drop in a gift.

“This gift drive is a really simple way to help put a smile on the face of children and families who may need some extra cheer at this time of year,” he said.

“All you need to do is wrap up your present and drop it under the tree in our office.”

2015 marks the fourth consecutive year that Ray White has run the initiative across Australia and New Zealand.

Last year saw nearly 300 offices across both countries help raise 15,000 Christmas gifts for disadvantaged families.

Mr Salvo said those who wished to donate a gift just needed to inform the team if the gift was for a boy or girl and nominate an age group.

He said even the smallest gifts could make the biggest difference to families who are struggling at an expensive time of year.

To drop in a gift, head to Ray White at 111 Clarendon St, Southbank.

For more information visit
www.raywhitesouthbank.com.au

Southbank-based businesses wishing to be profiled in this section should email: advertising@southbanklocalnews.com.au
Dirty habit can also be a very expensive habit

How to combat the issues of smoke drift from balconies and the dropping of cigarette butts into units below is no doubt a familiar and frequent talking point for committee members at owners’ corporation meetings.

And there are no hard and fast obvious solutions for these problems also. By special resolution, an owners’ corporation can pass a rule to prohibit cigarette smoking and the dropping of butts on residential balconies and can prohibit smoking on common property, however the enforcement of these rules is another matter entirely.

Some owners’ corporations have set up infra-red cameras to detect when cigarette butts are thrown at night, but this technology is expensive, and there are obvious privacy issues to overcome. The task of actually catching up with the offending smoker and / or litterbug is even more difficult, especially as it adds to the workload of the building management, and often the matter becomes a dead-end if the person was an invitee of the resident, or even a guest in a short-term stay apartment.

One building that I acted for recently took the extraordinary step of paying for the installation on all balconies in the building of custom-made inbuilt cigarette ashtrays. While this dealt with the issue of litter, it also had the effect of indirectly legitimising the practice of smoking on the balconies, and the building now has an unofficial tag of being a “pro-smokers” building.

Smoke drift is also a big issue and a source of concern for permanent residents. In November in NSW, a Sydney landlord was ordered by the NCAT (NSW’s tribunal) to compensate a tenant to the tune of $11,600 for failing to provide a safe unit to live in. In this case, the tenant in the flat below was a chain smoker and the smoke from his unit drifted upstairs through the internal ventilation passages. The tenant claimed the smoke was making her and her daughter unwell. The landlord claimed that the alleged failure to provide premises fit for habitation was outside his control, that the smoke drift was caused by faulty building design, and that he had made reasonable attempts to resolve the issue.

The tribunal disagreed, and ordered the landlord to pay rent reduction, parking and moving costs, as well as administrative fees. This case should serve as a cautionary tale and a sobering reminder to landlords and OC committees that they owe a duty of care to residents to take all possible steps to resolve issues about smoke drift.

While there will always be guests and invitees who flout the building’s rules (because they are there for a good time not a long time) all committees should ensure they are seen to be taking all steps to reduce, restrict and regulate issues relating to smoking in residential units, lest they be made an example of by VCAT by being ordered to pay damages to a resident harmed by the smoke.

Local charmers

Southbank’s Paul Doyle says his two beloved pugs Jasper and Jewel are well renowned around town for their charm.

Paul informed Southbank Local News that the pair were of an extremely proud pedigree, with pugs having been originally bred by the court of the Chinese emperor.

And while he admitted they were each guilty of the odd spot of flatulence, their charming qualities had turned him into a “pug man” for life.

“There’s a little bit of snorties and farties but otherwise they’re pretty charming,” he said.

“I think once you’ve had pugs you can’t go back.”

“They’re a little ray of sunshine that brighten up the place. They’re bred to be charming and they always put a smile on everyone’s face.”

Paul said he and wife Jackie first adopted Jasper seven years ago after conducting some extensive research to find the perfect apartment pup.

It was an experiment that well and truly paid off, with Jasper’s sister Jewel joining the family only a few years later from the same breeder.

Paul said the pair was very well looked after, with their Southbank apartment having being repurposed to suit the needs of the pugs.

“We’ve put a pet door in our sliding door onto our balcony so they can come and go as they please,” he said.

“We also put a little thing called a pet loo on the balcony, which means they can go when they need to so they’re not hanging on until we get home to take them for a walk.”

Paul said the charismatic and sociable nature of the dogs had even helped to improve he and Jackie’s social networks, having recently joined a group called “Pugbourne,” which meets regularly at the off-leash dog park on Park St.

He said he strongly recommended pugs for anyone living in an apartment.

“They’re fantastic. They really suit the city lifestyle, as they don’t need a lot of space to run around,” he said.

“It’s been a really good thing. It’s improved our social network and they give you something to look forward to when you get home.”
WHAT’S ON
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SOUTHBANK LOCAL NEWS | ISSUE 48

TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS
CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASS
Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays at 111 Sturt St. Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength. www.chunkymove.com

TUESDAYS
SOUTHBANK ROTARY
Rotary Club of Southbank meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year at Federation Square. Visitors are always welcome. www.southbank.org.au

RUNNING UNTIL JAN 4 @ BOYD
CHRISTMAS INSTALLATION
Have you seen our Christmas installation by Mimi-Myrtle +Co. at Boyd? Good excuse to come check it out at the CHRISTMAS PARTY or pop in for a look until January 4.

MONDAYS & SATURDAYS
YOGA WITH ALISON @ BOYD
Looking to improve both your physical and mental well-being? Instructor Alison Corsie hosts classes at Boyd every Monday at 6.15pm and Saturdays at 9am. alison@inner-rhythms.com.au

FEB
FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB
For over 50s living in Southbank. Join for fun, activities, events and friendship. First Thursday of the month at Library at the Dock 10am. Contact Sue 0425 831 954. www.clubrunner.ca/mspc.

WEDNESDAYS
FREE WALKING GROUP
Join local fitness experts Justin Time as they lead a ‘not just walking group’ for Boyd walkers. The program runs on Wednesdays from 9.30am to 10.30am.

SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
LIONS CLUB
The new Melbourne City Southbank Lions Club hosts its monthly meetings at Boyd from 7pm until 8pm. All welcome. Email chengji1214@gmail.com for more information

TUESDAYS
LAUGHTER YOGA @ BOYD
Laughter Yoga is a unique concept that allows you to laugh even when you least feel like it and is ideal for all ages. Sessions are at Boyd Community Hub, Assembly Hall each Tuesday at 6pm

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THURSDAYS
MELBOURNE’S GOT SOUL
A fun and friendly group who meet at BOYD to sing and socialise. There are no auditions, and you don’t even have to have an amazing voice. Thursdays 6pm @ BOYD

JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC

SUNDAYS
ARTS CENTRE MARKET
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. www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

WEDNESDAYS @ BOYD
THE SECRET GARDEN
A free event for families and young children. Artists Joyce Watts and Cat Lew will transform the Boyd playgroup room into a garden playscape for babies and toddlers to explore. 10am - 4pm.

JAN 11 TO JAN 29 @ BOYD
THE SECRET GARDEN
A free event for families and young children. Artists Joyce Watts and Cat Lew will transform the Boyd playgroup room into a garden playscape for babies and toddlers to explore. 10am - 4pm.

WEDNESDAYS
READING CIRCLE
A free and informal chat about whatever it is we’ve been reading. Fiction, non-fiction, plays, poems, travel writing, biography – anything at all!
6pm - 7pm @ Boyd Library

THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH
DADS PLAYGROUP @ BOYD
Are you a dad living within the bounds of the City of Melbourne? Here’s something just for you. Dads are invited to bring their preschool child(ren) along. Bookings: kirsty.bates-webb@melbourne.vic.gov.au

WEDNESDAYS
BOOT CAMP @ BOYD
If you’re looking for a great way to start the day, come along to Boot Camp at Boyd. Active Melbourne instructors will take you through a series of fun and challenging exercises. Starts at 6.45am

6 - 8 PM, DECEMBER 10 @ BOYD
CHRISTMAS PARTY
The team at Boyd is hosting a free Christmas celebration, offering a range of Christmas activities and treats for the community to enjoy.

JAN 11 TO JAN 29 @ BOYD
THE SECRET GARDEN
A free event for families and young children. Artists Joyce Watts and Cat Lew will transform the Boyd playgroup room into a garden playscape for babies and toddlers to explore. 10am - 4pm.
BUSINESS DIRECTORY

CHURCH

St Johns Southgate
20 City Road Southbank
Telephone 9682 4995
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

DAYCARE

City Kids
www.citykids.com.au
222 Normanby Road, Southbank VIC 3006
p. 9681 7771  e. info@citykids.com.au

HANDYMAN

Clever Dick
www.cleverdickthehandyman.com.au
Mobile: 0448 896 578

HAIR & BEAUTY

Roop Rani
Hair & Beauty Specialists
PS Southgate Complex - PH 9686 6504
WWW.ROOPRANI.COM.AU

MEDICAL CENTRE

Southbank Family Medical Centre
224 Normanby Street, Southbank
T: 9272 7600
www.southbankpaintright.com

PETCARE

Port Melbourne Veterinary Clinic & Hospital
224 Normanby Street, Southbank
T: 9272 7600
www.southbankmedical.com.au

PHYSIOTHERAPY

Elite Sports Physiotherapy
L3, 4 Freshwater Place, Southbank
Phone: 9690 2626
web: www.elitesportsphysio.com.au

REAL ESTATE

Ray White
111 Clarendon Street, Southbank 3006
P(03) 8102 0200
F(03) 8080 3284

RESTAURANT

167-169 Russell St
Melbourne 3000
(03) 9638 8856

SERVICES

Stop Noise
1800 880 844
INFO@STOPNOISE.COM.AU
WWW.STOPNOISE.COM.AU

SUPERMARKET

Interests in free advertising?
SEND AN EMAIL TO ADVERTISING@SOUTHBANKLOCALNEWS.COM.AU
OR PHONE 9689 7980

RESTAURANT

167-169 Russell St
Melbourne 3000
(03) 9638 8856

SERVICES

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SUPERMARKET

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December, 2015

In the lead up to Christmas, the team at Ray White Southbank have recently been sparing a thought for those who aren’t privileged enough to celebrate this festive season. This Christmas we are participating in a nationwide Ray White charity initiative “A Little Ray of Giving”.

We have partnered up with the Mirabel Foundation who assist children who have been orphaned or abandoned due to illicit drug use and are now in the care of extended family (kinship care). Mirabel supports children aged 0-17 years and works at restoring a child’s sense of self-worth, belonging and hope for the future in order for them to reach their full potential as young adults. Mirabel believes that investing in children is the most compassionate and economic investment we can make.

From the 1st of December, we encourage you to place a gift under our Christmas tree, located in the Foyer of Ray White Southbank at 11 Clarendon Street, Southbank (corner city Road). We have arranged for all of the gifts to be delivered to those children supported by the Mirabel foundation prior to Christmas.

If you are interested in seeing the progress of our community campaign, please like our Facebook page.

From all of us at Ray White Southbank, we’d like to thank everyone for their support over the past year, and wish you all a safe and happy festive season.

Andrew Salvo - Principal
Ray White Southbank & Ray White Projects Victoria
(03) 8102 0200

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