Kirripp Park is here!

The Montague Precinct's beautiful new park is now open to the community.

Unveiled on October 20 by Member for Albert Park Martin Foley and City of Port Phillip Mayor Bernadene Voss, the 9000-sqm space also marks Fishermans Bend's first park and is an exciting symbol of what's to come for the area.

Inclement weather on the morning of the launch failed to dampen spirits as the council put on a show for local families with a range of children's activities, food and a dance performance by students from South Melbourne Primary School.

More pictures and story on page 11.

Colonial Tramcar conspiracy fear

By Sean Car

Yarra Trams' decision to force Colonial Tramcar restaurants off the tracks due to safety concerns last month has led to growing suggestions that it could be tied up with potential plans to open a new tram route to Fishermans Bend.

The company’s fleet of heritage restaurant trams came to a sudden halt last month after failing a Yarra Trams’ safety assessment due to weathered structural elements that were deemed to compromise their protection in the event of a crash.

Colonial Tramcar’s CEO Paul O’Brien accused Yarra Trams, operated under the joint venture partnership of Keolis Downer, of “moving the goalposts” by changing the standards under which it assessed the safety of heritage trams.

Mr O’Brien said that the company’s full fleet of three was now facing a potential return to the tracks as late as 2020 while it waited to gain access to new W8 trams, which are currently being built in Bendigo.

Having never previously failed a Yarra Trams safety assessment, he said the decision had already led to 40 of his 60 staff being offered redundancies and huge amounts of customer refunds.

Speculation has heightened that the decision could be associated with a state government desire to relocate the company’s now vacant Whiteman St terminal to make way for a new tram route to Fishermans Bend via a spur line off route 109.

“We’ve only speculated on that ourselves but nothing would surprise me,” Mr O’Brien told Southbank Local News. “It could well be.”

Mr O’Brien said he had hoped Minister for Public Transport Jacinta Allan would intervene to help protect both jobs and a significant contributor to the state’s tourism economy. However, her spokesperson said it was a “commercial matter” between Yarra Trams and Colonial Tramcar and played down the link with a new tram route to Fishermans Bend.

“The government is currently assessing a range of options for a future tram connection into Fishermans Bend,” the spokesperson said.

Continued on page 3.
Guy to scrap C270

An elected Liberal State Government would do away with the current Labor Government's C270 planning controls for the CBD and Southbank, according to its leader Matthew Guy.

Speaking at a Property Council event on October 19, Mr Guy said he would scrap Labor’s planning controls, which it introduced into Melbourne’s planning scheme in 2016 to curb height and plot-ratio of inner-city development.

Referred to as "Mr Skyscraper" during his time as Minister for Planning in the Baillieu and Napthine governments, Mr Guy said that the central city could grow in the "way we know it should be able to."

“There’s a market, a strong market and Melbourne’s growing and Melbourne’s changing,” he said. “People want to live in downtown Melbourne. Why would we put in place every rule you can and constrict that or stop that?”

"We need to bring back in supply to the downtown market where people want to live."

Mr Guy also hit back at claims that he had rezoned Fishermans Bend overnight as capital city, saying that he foreshadowed it before the 2010 election. "Not overnight, not out of nowhere," he said.

Local residents from the Save Dodds Street group, who are opposed to high-rise development in the low-rise Southbank Village, took to Facebook last month to express their concerns. One resident describing it as “the final nail in the Sturt St coffin.”

Members of the Save Dodds Street group fear the worst after a for sale sign appeared at 151 Sturt St this month, offering a “landmark development opportunity.”

With high-rise developments already approved at 135 Sturt St and 153 Sturt St, it’s been long anticipated that this remaining site will follow suit.

Southbank Residents’ Association (SRA) president Tony Penna raised his concerns about Mr Guy’s comments at the Southbank and Montague Meet the Candidates event on October 30 (see summary on page 7). Greens candidate for Albert Park Ogy Simic was the only candidate who commented on the Liberal Party’s proposal, labelling it as "insane".

“Rolling back planning controls for the Southbank area where here we have Mr Skyscraper reappearing is insane,” he said. “I think if you asked the community whether there were more skyscrapers and no control for developers you would probably find that most people wouldn’t be on board.”

Here we go again
Colonial Tramcar conspiracy fear

Continued from page 1

“The minister does not have the power to overrule a safety decision, however [she] has asked Public Transport Victoria (PTV) to ensure the works that need to be carried out are prioritised within our current schedule of city circle tram upgrades.”

Resident and business groups in Docklands and Fishermans Bend have long expressed their opposition to the state government’s proposed tram bridge via Collins and Lorimer streets, and opening up the 109-tram corridor has been flagged as a likely alternative.

Yarra Residents’ Action Group chairman Keith Sutherland said should the relocation of the Colonial terminal mean opening up capacity to Fishermans Bend, his group would encourage the government to do so.

“We would encourage the government to relocate them to another depot,” he said. “PTV and the government of the day should be looking at a new spur line off route 109, which would be a sensible compromise instead of the extremely expensive tram bridge.”

The group has put forward a number of different proposals to government in a bid to solve the tram bridge dispute, one of which involves rerouting tram route 12 from Spencer Street Bridge to the underutilised route 58 corridor over Queens Bridge.

Mr Sutherland said this would involve either a “relatively inexpensive tram track extension” along 400 metres of City Rd between Queensbridge and Clarendon streets or a new extension through Crown Casino's facilities on Whiteman St. A spokesperson for Crown Resorts didn’t respond to Southbank Local News when asked to comment on this idea.

While not wishing to comment on the relocation of Colonial Tramcar’s terminal, the Fishermans Bend Business Forum (FBBF) has also expressed its support for an extension off Route 109 ahead of a tram bridge.

In its State Election Policy Paper released last month, it has called on the government to instead prioritise the delivery of Metro 2, stating that a tram route across Lorimer St would create further congestion with heavy vehicles.

“Our position is that Metro 2 should go ahead immediately, thereby eliminating the need for a tram bridge,” FBBF executive officer David Weston said. “The Plummer St tram could be a spur line from the 109 Port Melbourne tram.”

Mr Weston has also called on the government to explore Chinese transport manufacturer CRRC’s new self-driving rail buses, which he said may not require Colonial to move its terminal at all.

The new technology, which works by scanning painted road markings using sensors, was reportedly rolled out in the Chinese city of Zhuzhou last year to great success.

“I could envisage it going along Normanby Rd and Ingle St without needing tracks,” he said. “It could terminate at the junction at Clarendon St and passengers could change to the 109 tram from there.”

While discussions over public transport to Fishermans Bend continue, Mr O’Brien said the tramcar restaurants would continue to face an “unknown future” while Yarra Trams and PTV used the company as “collateral damage”.

PTV CEO Jeroen Weimar told Southbank Local News that Colonial Tramcar was yet to receive any such offers in writing. He also said that Yarra Trams other offer to allow diners to eat in a stationary tramcar near its Southbank depot was “laughable”.

“There is a lot of distress from a lot of people,” he said. “Yarra Trams don’t get any financial gain out of heritage trams and they’ve looked at this issue only from their perspective.”

“We’ve had over 30 million passengers in 30 years and never had a single injury so to say they’re not safe is just ridiculous. It’s a very short-sighted view of the world and we’ve been caught in the cross fire.”

What do you think? Send your views to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

A Colonial Tramcar restaurant.

Colonial’s temporarily vacant terminal at the Whiteman St interchange, which is shared by routes 96 and 109 (left).

A Colonial Tramcar restaurant.

Colonial’s temporarily vacant terminal at the Whiteman St interchange, which is shared by routes 96 and 109 (left).
Inspectorate raps Doyle candidates

By Shane Scanlan

Councillors and candidates who ran on the ticket of former lord mayor Robert Doyle have been reprimanded by the Local Government Inspectorate over how they declared their campaign donations.

The inspectorate on October 28 wrote to the “team” of Arron Wood, Beverley Pinder, Hope Wei, Kevin Louey, Nicholas Reece, Sue Stanley, Susan Riley and Tessa Sullivan.

“I am writing to advise you of an assessment of a matter brought to the attention of the Local Government Inspectorate (inspectorate) in early 2018,” the inspectorate wrote.

“This matter related to a declaration by former Lord Mayor Robert Doyle of an additional $40,000 election campaign donation made by him to the candidates that ran in his team.”

On January 8 this year, Mr Doyle advised the council’s governance and legal manager Keith Williamson that he was updating his 2016 election campaign donation return with an extra $40,000 contributed by himself. He asked Mr Williamson to append his letter to the individual returns of his team members.

The inspectorate says there were a number of breaches to the rules.

They also erred by not resubmitting a revised return when it was known that Mr Doyle had declared a further $40,000 contribution. However, the inspectorate says the matter is minor and does not warrant a full investigation.

“Our assessment of this matter has indicated that all candidates on the Doyle ticket, including yourself, have not met the requirements to individually disclose the campaign funding,” the inspectorate wrote.

“However, this office does not propose to conduct a full investigation on the basis that the matter raises minimum risk and, even if an offence was to be made out, guidance and education would be the most likely outcome.”

“Accordingly, I can advise that this matter is finalised from our perspective but I do take this opportunity to remind you of the following, should you nominate for the office of councillor in the future:”

■ “All candidates are responsible for the submission of their own campaign donation information;”
■ “We caution candidates in submitting group donation returns and recommend all financial accounts be reviewed prior to the submission of campaign donation returns;” and
■ “Any amendments that are required are individually updated and declared by candidates.”

Team Doyle members (left to right): Sue Stanley, Kevin Louey, Beverley Pinder, Hope Wei, Susan Riley, Arron Wood, Robert Doyle, Nic Reece and Tessa Sullivan.

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Giving even more

Ray White Southbank and the Rotary Club of Southbank are continuing their popular tradition of providing presents to those less fortunate this Christmas.

Having collected the fourth-most presents of any Ray White agency in Victoria in 2017, the team is ramping up this year’s efforts by calling on our local community to help them achieve a target of a whopping 2000 presents!

“This is the fourth year that we’ve run ‘A Little Ray of Giving’ and we want 2018 to be our biggest year yet,” Ray White’s principal Andrew Salvo said. “When you see our tree go up, we urge everyone who is able to bring in a gift for those families less fortunate.”

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

Having distributed more than 200 presents to disadvantaged local families last year, this year’s campaign is being ramped up to provide additional presents to farming communities affected by the drought.

Ray White and Rotary will also be hosting an event at the Boyd Community Hub closer to Christmas where locals can drop their presents to and celebrate the festive season with food and activities. Look out for details in our next edition.

Ray White Southbank is located at 111 Clarendon St, Southbank.

Flood chaos

A heavy three-hour thunderstorm on Melbourne Cup Day resulted in one of the worst flash floods Southbank has seen.

From Kings Way and Sturt St to City Rd and Whiteman St, a 35mm downpour on the morning of November 6 saw large parts of Southbank submerged in water.

The Whiteman St area, which is notorious for flooding due to its low-lying nature and a drainage system that sits beneath the Yarra River, was again transformed into an extension of the river as residents waded knee-deep through water throughout the morning.

However, unusually high flooding also struck Kings Way, as well as City Rd West between Clarendon St and Queensbridge St, affecting apartment tower lobbies and local businesses throughout the area.

Southbank Village was also affected, with large parts of Sturt St under water.

The installation of a new drainage system at Whiteman St meant that water levels in the area cleared much quicker than what locals are used to.

(Left) Residents from Platinum Tower wade through water in the lobby and (right) Whiteman St. Photos: Twitter.
As local as it gets

The Liberal Party's new candidate for the federal seat of Macnamara Kate Ashmor knows our local area as well as anyone.

Having been preselected in September, the Caulfield mother of two enters the contest for the long held Labor seat with an impressive list of professional achievements both in business and the local community.

A career lawyer and principal of Ashmor Legal, Kate has served on a vast range of business and not-for-profit boards and from 2005 to 2008 she also served as a councillor for the City of Glen Eira.

A woman of proud Jewish heritage, she is also a member of the National Council of Jewish Women and Friends of the Holocaust Centre and said that since her family had migrated to Australia in the 1960s this electorate had been their life.

“My mother and her parents arrived in the late ’60s as stateless refugees from Poland,” she told Southbank Local News. “At that time if they were able to get out Jews left Poland stateless and my parents were fortunate enough to have an opportunity to come to Australia under the assisted passage scheme.”

“My grandfather was a printer and he was offered a job printing the Jewish News in the old Abbotsford Print Works. They were initially going to come to Australia for two years and that was about 50 years ago.”

“They settled in Milton St in Elwood in a Jewish welfare organisation. They scraped every dollar and managed to get a loan and bought a nearby flat and I have many fond memories running around their home and learning to walk in the St Kilda Botanical Gardens.”

From her days growing up in Elwood and Elsternwick, spending time at the old Prince Henry’s Hospital in Southbank where her mum was a nurse, to now working and raising a family in Caulfield, she said she “lived and breathed” the area.

With Labor MP Michael Danby retiring after next year’s election having held the seat for 20 years, the newly named Macnamara (formerly Melbourne Ports) represents the one seat in Australia that is a true three horse race between Labor, Liberal and the Greens.

Kate will be up against new Labor candidate Josh Ward and Greens candidate Steph Hodgins-May, who is recontesting having narrowly lost to Mr Danby in 2016.

While acknowledging that it had been a tumultuous time for her party given the recent ousting of former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and issues surrounding women, she said she was solely focused on the positives.

“I wasn’t there and I wasn’t apart of it so I can’t really comment on what’s happened,” she said. “There are a lot of good policies and plans to share and the thing is this - unlike my opponents, I’ve never worked for a politician.”

“I’ve never worked for a think tank. I’m not a member of a think tank and I’m not a factional player. I’m just an ordinary person with a family and a small business and a love for my community.”

If elected, she said she would push for a productivity commission enquiry into women at work, address housing affordability, support the Royal Commission into aged care and fight for a larger slice of the federal infrastructure budget.

Having recently resigned as a four-year board member of the Caulfield Park Bendigo Bank, a position that has given her deeper understanding of a range of community organisations, her main focus now is her community.

“This entire diverse community deserves representation,” she said. “There will be no bigger or bolder champion for them than me.”

As local as it gets

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SOUTH
Southbank and Montague vote

Candidates from the three major parties put forward their visions for the local area at the Southbank and Montague Meet the Candidates night at the Boyd Community Hub on October 30.

Current member for Albert Park Martin Foley (Labor) and City of Port Phillip councillors Andrew Bond (Liberal) and Ogy Simic (The Greens) each fronted up to locals ahead of the November 24 state election in what was one of the more amicable political events.

In somewhat refreshing fashion, there were very few ill words exchanged between candidates, and across most of the main issues affecting the local area there was general consensus as to what the solutions may look like.

Moderated by former City of Melbourne councillor and political activist Stephen Mayne, the event was attended by more than 80 locals, while hundreds more tuned in via Facebook Live.

Southbank Residents Association (SRA) president Tony Penna kicked off proceedings by asking candidates about the pertinent local issue of Crown and Schiavello’s plans for Australia’s tallest tower at One Queensbridge.

With the developers’ permit expiring in March next year, Mr Penna asked the candidates whether they would push for greater transparency should a renewal be sought for the 100-storey development.

Martin Foley has previously labelled the decision of his cabinet colleagues to grant Crown and Schiavello a permit under the planning exemption of State Significance as an “unmitigated disaster” and he said he stood by those comments.

“If they don’t meet the requirements of their planning approvals, which I think is March, then we need to make sure that things are dealt with on their merits,” he said. “I will continue to prosecute my concerns and my arguments as to what the problems with that process were.”

Andrew Bond and Ogy Simic both agreed that greater transparency would be required come March, with Bond going as far as saying that his party owed Crown no favours.

“They [Crown] made it quite clear which party they were backing when we all saw the conversation caught between Daniel Andrews and Lloyd Williams (November, 2014), who made it quite clear whose side they were on,” he said.

“I don’t think as a result of that conversation that the Liberal Party owe Crown any favours and if it was to come back to us I certainly agree with Martin that it will be judged on its merit.”

Montague Community Alliance (MCA) convener Trisha Avery followed this discussion by questioning candidates on current plans for Fishermans Bend.

Holding up a copy of the Labor Government’s recently published planning framework, she said the community was keen to get on with delivering the vision set out in the document.

Andrew Bond and Ogy Simic both reassured locals that they largely agreed with the plans, but also both raised concerns about financing the public infrastructure and timelines for delivering public transport.

“Where will the trains go, where will the trains go? At the moment that is still a very grey area in that Fishermans Bend plan and that needs to be defined, it needs to be funded and we need to have timelines of when that will be built and implemented,” Cr Bond said.

Ogy Simic said: “Overall I think the framework is quite good, but one of my major concerns is that if we want to achieve what’s in the framework with public transport, open space, the community space, schools and hospitals, then all of those things need to be budgeted.”

Other issues raised by locals on the night included Airbnb and short-stay accommodation and regulations.

Other candidates contesting the seat of Albert Park include Jarred Bartle (Reason Party), Tamasin Ramsay (Animal Justice) and Steven Armstrong (Sustainable Australia).
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*Prices can vary depending on size of residences.
A safer St Kilda Rd
By Jacklyn Yeong

New bike lanes separating drivers and cyclists will be installed on St Kilda Rd under a re-elected Andrews Labor Government.

Statistics show 196 crashes were reported involving a pedestrian or cyclist between 2000 to 2015. St Kilda Rd also had the highest number of “car-doorings” reported anywhere in the state.

Physically separating drivers and cyclists travelling on St Kilda Rd will benefit more than 300,000 people who use the busiest tram and cycle route in Melbourne every day.

Port Phillip Mayor Bernadene Voss, who strongly advocated the safety improvement, expressed her council’s support of the state government’s election commitment.

“Bike riding helps reduce traffic congestion, increase travel choices and has big health benefits,” Cr Voss said. “Offering better protection benefits existing users and is likely to encourage less confident riders to jump on their bikes.”

The design implemented will be a combination of Copenhagen-style bike lanes with physical barriers separating cyclists from both parked cars and the road as well as a central safety zone that will provide a separated lane for cyclists in the middle of the road while the outer lanes are reserved for vehicles.

Copenhagen-style bike lanes will be built south of St Kilda Junction from Carlisle St while the central safety zone will be built north of the junction to Linlithgow Ave.

Local MP Martin Foley was also pleased with the improvement works to St Kilda Rd.

“This is a welcome announcement for bike riders, pedestrian public transport users and motorists alike, ensuring this busy road is safer for everyone, all the way from St Kilda Town Hall to the NGV,” he said.

The project is expected to finish by the time the Domain precinct reopens after Metro Tunnel works are completed in 2025.

English Plus launched
Holmesglen’s City Campus in Southbank will grow the international student experience through the introduction of English Plus this month.

The program draws on the teaching models of international markets, including Japan, Thailand and Brazil, and will offer dedicated English language training.

Classes are a mix of workshops and hands-on learning and will run Monday to Thursday at the City Campus. Every fifth Friday, learners will have the chance to complete vocational study opportunities, designed to offer students a future pathway into further study with Holmesglen.

“We’re offering some extras to the program, that’s the plus,” head of language centre Adam Kilburn said. “The plus is English Monday to Thursday and every fifth Friday you have the opportunity to be engaged in Holmesglen programs.”

“We’re looking at offering barista courses, IT and gaming and we also have the opportunity to look at fashion design.”

For more information contact the campus on 9209 5518 or visit Holmesglen.edu.au

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332 St Kilda Rd, Southbank
holmesglen.edu.au
Yarra to be dredged

By Niccola Anthony

The state government has announced $4.6 million to dredge the lower Yarra River in an effort to improve commercial and recreational access.

$2.8 million has been allocated for initial works, followed by a further $1.8 million over three years to maintain the dredging program.

The funding represents the largest investment into the Yarra River since 2006, when Melbourne hosted the Commonwealth Games.

The announcement follows recommendations made by Parks Victoria in the Lower Yarra River Dredging Study, which suggest that the environmental impact of dredging on the river’s surroundings is low.

The study outlined a number of priority dredging sites, such as the Victorian Rowing Association Landing, Herring Island, Melbourne Park Landing, Collins Landing, Crown Floating Landing and Southbank Public Wharf.

The state government believes sustainable dredging will enable safer river navigation, ensuring that the Yarra is accessible for public use well into the future.

The funding was welcomed by a number of river stakeholders, which are hopeful that the river will remain a key draw for tourists and visitors to the city.

More visitors are travelling to Melbourne than ever before and we’re investing to keep them coming. It’s great news for local businesses and tourism operators along the lower Yarra River,” Mr Forman said.

The announcement was made on the same day that the Victorian Greens pitched an election plan to make the Yarra swimmable again in the CBD and around a number of inner city suburbs.

The Greens’ plan is expected to cost $34.3 million and would require significant changes to planning laws, in an attempt to reduce rainwater runoff from buildings, roads and footpaths.

A booming Bend

A report by infrastructure firm AECOM has made a number of recommendations that it says could help secure up to $12 billion of economic benefit in Fishermans Bend by 2030.

Released this month, AECOM’s Transforming Fishermans Bend report provides 10 recommendations it believes will help create a 230-hectare globally competitive employment precinct in Australia’s largest ever urban renewal zone.

The report’s author and AECOM Melbourne cities leader Tim O’Loan said that Fishermans Bend had all of the attributes of a globally successful employment and innovation cluster as it was a highly accessible location with direct access to the freeway and port with an already established foundation of employees.

“Much of the thinking to date around Fishermans Bend has been focused on planning issues in the residential areas,” he said.

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The Greens’ plan is expected to cost $34.3 million and would require significant changes to planning laws, in an attempt to reduce rainwater runoff from buildings, roads and footpaths.

The funding announcement follows the recent completion of the $2 million floating berths (pictured above) at Southgate - a project long advocated for by the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA).

YRBA president John Forman noted the historical and cultural significance of the Yarra River in Melbourne’s development and said that this latest investment would ensure the Yarra’s continued contribution to the “booming visitor economy.”

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A joint project between the City of Port Phillip and the State Government, the land for the park was purchased in 2015 for $19 million after the former Liberal government rezoned Fishermans Bend as capital city resulting in skyrocketing land values. From that perspective, Kirrip Park is a symbol of the State Government’s commitment to resetting the planning in Fishermans Bend in conjunction with the local community. Sitting opposite the brand new vertical South Melbourne Primary School, the community hub now provides the Montague Precinct with the best chance of realising the best version of itself.

“This urban oasis is a perfect setting for residents of all ages, families and students at nearby South Melbourne Primary to play, relax and connect,” Mayor Bernadene Voss said.

“This project shows what can be achieved in a partnership with the Victorian Government and we are looking forward to rolling out other fantastic spaces and places together as Fishermans Bend takes shape.”

A traditional indigenous smoking ceremony helped mark the opening on the morning of October 20, which was followed by Martin Foley and Bernadene Voss unveiling a plaque on a boulder.

Transforming the industrial site into a park posed challenging technical issues over the course of construction including flooding, demolition, a fire at a nearby factory and the removal of about 672 tonnes of waste material.

With Montague located in a flood plain, the design of the park site allows for a one in 100 year rain event by managing flooding backflow and a one in five hard surface to soft surface ratio helps mitigate the urban island effect.

Kirrip, meaning friend or mate in the language of the native land owners Boon Wurrung, was the name chosen via a community consultation process conducted by the City of Port Phillip. Mayor Voss said it was a fitting name.

“I’m sure many lasting friendships will be forged in this park, right in the heart of the Montague Precinct,” she said.
An attractive move South

Complete with a brand new vertical primary school and community park, the Montague Precinct is starting to attract more local families like the Colemans.

Relocating from their Southbank apartment, Tim and Kaman and their two children Owen (four) and Mila (two) have recently purchased a spacious new three-bedroom apartment in the South by Rothelowman development at 15-35 Thistlethwaite St. Commencing construction this month, the eight-storey development will be the first in the precinct to do so since the completion of the new South Melbourne Primary School and Kirrip Park, leveraging off the area’s growing family assets.

Architect Rothelowman’s striking building design has been strongly influenced by the area’s new amenities. From the outset, developer Ruiyi Australia emphasised a strong yearning to provide homes fit for families and downsizers, with the vast majority of the development’s 49 apartments consisting of two and three bedrooms. South will also include ground floor retail space, as well as a roof top deck offering beautiful views of the CBD and Port Phillip Bay.

With two growing children and a business located in the CBD, Tim Coleman said their new home would provide everything his family needed.

“It’s nailed it for us,” he said. “We lived in the area anyway and its proximity to the school, South Melbourne Market and the city is really convenient for everything we like.”

“We didn’t want to move out of the city so we needed an upgrade from where we were in a two-bedroom to somewhere that was a bit bigger and had all of the stuff we needed nearby.”

While development in the Fishermans Bend urban renewal area still remains largely stagnant, the Montague Precinct’s location within close proximity to the likes of Southbank, the CBD, South Melbourne Market and Albert Park is seeing it take shape much faster. Also serviced by the 96 and 109 tram routes via City Rd and Montague St, the area’s wide streets and accessibility for cycling and walking gives it all of the hallmarks of a family-friendly community.

With plans to send Owen and Mila to South Melbourne Primary School in the future, Tim said the family was very much looking forward to moving into their new home.

“I really don’t know what the rest of this area is going to be like but it looks like a lot of effort is being put into making it a nice place for CBD families and for people who don’t particularly want to live out in the suburbs who work in the city,” he said.

“Having a third bedroom and a bigger living space for the kids, as well as being able to come down here and go to the park and the market during the week instead of having to take the car is going to make a huge difference.”

southbyrothelowman.com.au

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Left: Kaman and Tim with children Mila and Owen at Kirrip Park with South Melbourne Primary School in the background. Right: a render of South by Rothelowman.
Local wins Minister’s Award

Southbank resident Emelia Young recently won the Minister’s Award for Outstanding Leadership at the 2018 Victorian Disability Awards.

Emelia, who works as a Yooralla occupational therapist, was recognised for her work and relentless commitment to supporting new parents with disability.

Her work with Yooralla and the Royal Women’s Hospital’s Parenting with Disability program aimed to support the independence and confidence of new parents who have physical, intellectual and mental health disabilities.

Emelia shared that being able to support new families before and after the birth of their babies through the one-of-a-kind program in Victoria was a privilege for her and for Yooralla.

Yooralla is one of Victoria’s oldest and largest disability services providers creating equal opportunities for people with disabilities. “We are striving for equality in our society and that requires giving people access to the right type of supports to enable independence and participation in everyday life,” said Emelia. “This includes providing information, support and equipment to parents with a disability. When these are implemented, parents thrive caring for their child and feel empowered.”

Emelia works every day to assess and implement strategies and equipment for people with disability, to increase their participation and engagement in meaningful everyday activities.

“When parents feel supported, their stress and anxiety around parenting is reduced, and they therefore have a more positive experience in the early stages at home with their baby,” said Emelia. “This is why I am passionate about continuing this program.”

Other than the Minister’s Award, Emelia was also nominated and received a commendation award for the Excellence in Promoting Health, Housing and Wellbeing category for her contribution to the program.

Boyd block comes down

Many locals will have rejoiced at the sight of the old classroom block behind Boyd being demolished last month.

The 1970s classroom building, which has housed Creative Spaces artists in more recent times, is finally being removed to make way for the long-awaited Boyd Park. With the project being talked about for the best part of the past 10 years, the sight of heavy machinery arriving to demolish the building is an exciting sign of progress.

participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boydpark
As our city’s business and retail landscape rapidly evolves, the role of precinct associations has never been more important.

This month, I’m excited to be meeting with one of Melbourne’s top precinct associations – the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA). At the event, I’m keen to hear from members and chat about how we can continue to work together to create the brightest futures for small-to-medium-size businesses located on and along the river.

The City of Melbourne has a long history of supporting the business community and our Precinct Development Program (PDP) has been operating for almost two decades. The program promotes economic prosperity by providing annual financial support to recognisable groups that represent businesses in nominated areas of our municipality.

Through the PDP, we have contributed a total of $590,000 to recognised precinct associations for marketing, events, learning and development in this financial year alone. In addition to funding, we also connect precincts to a wide range of opportunities to promote prosperity and create great outcomes for collaboration.

The YRBA has been a proactive member of the PDP from day one, providing a strong voice for the business community of Southbank and delivering innovation and advocacy on behalf of its constituents. The association also meets opportunities for collaboration with enthusiasm and considered feedback.

We greatly value the YRBA’s fantastic contributions to council’s draft strategies, plans and focus groups, and greatly appreciate the group’s consistent advocacy and support of council initiatives.

I can’t wait to meet more of the people behind Southbank’s vibrant business community at this month’s event. Together, we will discuss ideas for the future, including the importance of the river to the social, recreational and economic life of Melbourne and how it can be both protected and activated to enhance our city. Looking to the future, I look forward to continuing our work with the YRBA – and all of our precinct associations – to promote prosperity and create great outcomes for Melbourne.

The Lord Mayor Sally Capp will address the YRBA’s networking luncheon at the Cargo Hall at South Wharf on November 15.

Bookings: yarrariver.melbourne/lunch
The Future of Now & Yesterday

By Jacklyn Yeong

Chunky Move invites audiences to become immersed in the surreal worlds of two distinctive pieces presented through contemporary dance.

Its latest project Next Move 11 is an investigation into the self, memory and imagination of acclaimed dancers and emerging choreographers Lauren Langlois and Joel Bray.

Lauren Langlois’s commissioned work Neither performed with James Vu Anh Pham is an exploration into the collision of “meta-human” memory and technological obsessions.

Similar to the concept of being “superhuman”, both Lauren and James will be discovering how being a “meta-human” draw affects the physicality and internal states of the human body in their work.

Audiences will be prompted by the question “What happens to the body when you give it too much information?”

For Joel Bray, his new work Dharawungara in Next Move 11 will be a re-imagination of the ceremonial grounds of his Wiradjuri rite by incorporating light and sound with dance.

The inspiration for this work is an article I read by an anthropologist who observed a Burbang – a men’s initiation rite – in 1893,” Joel said. “It occurred at a place called Quambone in western NSW, where my great-great-grandfather lived, so I got excited by this idea that my great-great grandfather might have been a part of this ceremony.”

Working alongside composer Naretha Williams, who is also Wiradjuri, the choreography is a documentation of Joel’s personal struggles on learning about the culture that was stolen from him.

“The process has been incredibly educational as I learn more about my culture,” Joel said. “It has felt really empowering as I stand up and declare myself a proud Wiradjuri man and it’s been fun.”

As someone who personally understood the importance of rediscovering lost ritual inheritance, Joel wanted his audience to realise how much rituals of all kinds bind us as a community.

“Rites are important to us as humans,” said Joel. “How we make a cup of tea, or pour ourselves a bath, or congregate every Sunday for lunch with friends are all sorts of ritual. I’d love for my audience to walk out pondering how they can strengthen the community around them through ritual.”

Dharawungara will be performed with Joel’s signature quirkiness and self-deprecating humour interlaced through the seriousness of the theme.

However, breathing life into this Wiradjuri rite that he has only read about had been an incredibly challenging journey for Joel and his team as indigenous artists because they face a double challenge when it comes to balancing both traditional culture and contemporary dance.

“It’s been tough sometimes, as I’ve faced the reality that I’ve had this ritual – my birth right – stolen from me,” he said. “It’s also felt like an awesome responsibility.”

NEXT MOVE 11
LAUREN LANGLOIS
JOEL BRAY
9—17 NOV 2018
Same but different
By Jacklyn Yeong

The Garden of Forking Paths is the first in an annual series of international exhibitions held at Buxton Contemporary.

Evolved over the years
By Rhonda Dredge

The titles of artworks are clues to their reading. What does a name like “Hazard” really mean?

Does the title pop out of an assemblage of concrete dividers or is it pointing the viewer in the dubious direction of meaning?

Two shows on in the Southbank Arts Precinct give a viewer a chance to work around the roadblocks.

At the Margaret Lawrence Gallery all of the works are Untitled and at the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) they are like the answers to a cryptic crossword.

Artists like to play with narrative and Irish-born Eva Rothschild is no exception. Iceberg Hits 2018, for example, refers to a five-metre-high punching bag while Organic Threat is an over-sized play area with large, soft reclining shapes.

Some artists feel that their work speaks for itself. Consuelo Cavaniglia uses formal geometry such as the rhomboid, parabola and rectangle to make shapes in canvas, Perspex and ply.

These have to be experienced within the space of the gallery and titles would be distractions.

“A lot of people make untitled work,” said Alex Walker, who was viewing the show at the Margaret Lawrence. “If you can put it into words then you may as well be a writer or a poet.”

Is Untitled a category for those who prefer materials or does it have a wider cultural meaning?

Modernists were in favour of viewers making their own interpretations but post-modernists view all art as text, be it written, visual or performed. A title does not need to be prescriptive.

Technical Support (ACCA), a column extending to the ceiling and made out of old masking tape reels, lends itself to multiple readings. Is the artist supporting the roof or letting the curators have a say in construction or is the masking tape being honoured for being a useful old buddy?

Contemporary art prefers to set up a conversation rather than interpretation. Too many blurs can become tiring. The visitor needs to sit down and have a cup of tea. At ACCA there’s a barista and the volunteers love a chat.

The bottom line for abstraction is aesthetics. Rothschild shows she can be beautiful as well as relevant to her audience. Crystal Healing is an assemblage of squares and triangles, each joined at two corners, so that a thread of triangles intersects with one of squares.

This work requires no interpretation just admiration. Each shape is painted black and green or turquoise or yellow or red or purple. The contemporary mind is over-heated, Crystal Healing seems to be saying. Pure beauty is what it needs.

“If you look at the work of Hensons,” Ms Walker says, “He’s obsessed with in-between states. Roads that fade out. He uses a lot of Untitled. It’s everything and nothing at the same time, a kind of liminal state.”

For those who like to take sides, one thing is certain. Untitled as a title has evolved over the years.

COMING UP IN DECEMBER

KSENJIA SIDOROVA
Tue 4 Dec 7.30pm
Listening to accordionist Ksenija Sidorova is a revelation. Fingers fly across the keyboard producing a dazzling range of colour and emotion. Her playing touches on both the power of music and its potential for serious fun.

PETER COMBE’S CHRISTMAS ALBUM: LIVE IN CONCERT
Wed 12 Dec 6.30pm
Take part in a much-loved Christmas tradition, as Peter Combe and his youth choir bring to life favourites from his popular Christmas album such as ‘Happy Christmas to You’, ‘Chock-a-Block (The Innkeeper’s Song)’ and ‘Christmas is Coming’.

PANDA BEAR
Thu 13 Dec 7.30pm
Be immersed in the colourful wordplay and rich electronic textures of indie-rock icon Panda Bear. The solo project of Animal Collective’s Noah Lennox, Panda Bear captivates audiences with his daring songwriting and fearless inclination to experiment.
A (wo)man’s world

By Niccola Anthony

Heather Felix is on a one-woman mission to change the way in which we see women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, otherwise known as the “STEM” fields.

Hailing from Chicago, where she studied a masters in business systems and engineering, Ms Felix has extensive personal experience with the ways in which the STEM fields appear exclusionary to women.

She has worked on construction sites, in infrastructure and for an environmental company in her past “corporate” life, often being one of only a handful of women in such workplaces.

Now, a career rebirth as a professional photographer, with the help of the Photography Studies College, has enabled Ms Felix to combine her corporate-world business acumen with her artistic passion and impressive photography skills.

She has an exciting business idea in the pipeline. Her concept is a nationwide photography business based around family portraiture and professional headshots for low- and middle-income earners.

Ms Felix says it’s a concept that has been successful in the US and would fill a niche gap in the Australian market, considering the pressures of rising costs of living on many of these lower income consumers.

The business would also be underpinned by a charitable branch that works with community groups to provide professional photography to the most marginalised in our society, such as refugees and women escaping domestic abuse.

Furthermore, the business structure provides a great opportunity for mothers looking to return to the workforce in a flexible capacity, a pressure that Ms Felix understands all too well as a working mother herself.

“The provision of family headshots or portraiture is not exciting or new or innovative, but it’s really the business structure underneath that’s special, which is actually about creating good jobs for mums needing flexible return-to-work options,” Felix said.

With this consideration for the needs of working mothers, Ms Felix proves herself as a champion for women from all walks of life.

And the championing of women is a feisty undercurrent that features in most of her photographic works.

This semester at PSC, Ms Felix has been photographing women in the STEM fields at their workplaces with the intention of portraying these women in a completely different light to the way in which we’re used to seeing them.

Standard images of women in STEM fields vary significantly from those of their male counterparts. While men are portrayed in a stoic and formidable fashion, women are often infantilised through techniques aimed at making them appear smaller and less obtrusive in relation to their surrounds.

“Even the women I’m working with put themselves into these disempowered poses because that’s what we’re so used to seeing,” Ms Felix said.

“It’s not that one image itself is a problem, it’s the repetitiveness with which women are placed in a disempowered position all the time.”

“It propagates this concept of the gender pay gap and women not making it to the C-suites or breaking the glass ceiling, because we don’t look as managerial, we don’t look as strong, we don’t look as smart in the individual imagery of us out there.”

Ms Felix’s trailblazing take on women in the STEM fields hasn’t gone unnoticed. She has been awarded a couple of grants from Getty Images for her work, because the images provider has acknowledged the inequality in the way in which the genders are depicted across its own offerings.

“They’ve recognised that this has been a problem over the past several years and they’ve not been able to find anyone who has actually been able to execute on this brief,” Ms Felix said.

“You don’t really think about it until somebody raises it, which is the heart of unconscious bias.”

So how has Ms Felix seen the experience of women in the STEM change from her own time working in these fields?

“When I started there really weren’t a lot of women around and I just think it’s so positive to now see such large numbers in these fields. Having said that, there’s still a fight and we’re still seeing these women fight for that equal respect,” Ms Felix said.

“There’s no doubt that, through the work of Heather Felix, we’ll one day call that ‘mission accomplished’.”

heatherfelixphotography.com
Performing in Australia for the first time ever, Panda Bear aka Noah Lennox, will bring his revered bedroom pop sounds to the Melbourne Recital Centre on December 13.

A founding member of Animal Collective, the American burst onto the scene in 2007 with this third solo record Person Pitch. It would go on to inspire the sounds of independent electronic music for the next decade.

In turn, the record’s artwork gave credit to the sounds that influenced its creation, directing listeners to dig deep on the sounds that influenced its creation, to the Melbourne Recital Centre on December 13.

A wildly-prolific songwriter now based in Lisbon, Lennox has toured the world performing at festivals and collaborating with the likes of Daft Punk, Pantha Du Prince and Atlas Sound. He’ll be bringing this retooling back catalogue, along with something brand new, when he sets out on his first run of Australian headline dates this summer.

Known for a sublime live show that combines his music with visual elements to deliver an otherworldly, immersive experience, Panda Bear is an intoxicating sonic master.

Melbournerecital.com.au

The legacy of stolen Picasso

By Meg Hill

When NGV bought Picasso’s “Weeping Woman” in 1986, director Patrick McCaughey stood in front of it and proclaimed that it would “haunt” Melbourne for the next 100 years.

It was stolen just one year later by a group called the Australian Cultural Terrorists (ACT), who have never been caught. They sent ransom notes demanding better funding for the arts, threatening to set the painting alight.

But as laid out in Gabrielle De Vietri’s lecture The Stolen Picasso and Activism as Art, part of the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art’s (ACCA) Uncommon Knowledge series, funding for the arts 32 years later is not at a high point and most artists are in a precarious position.

Although the painting was found safe in a locker at Spencer Street Station after 17 days, protesting artists have continued to frame stunts around the painting.

Last year the Artists’ Committee covered the painting with a piece of cloth – black with a red “W” in the centre – to protest NGV’s ties to Wilson Security, which the government contracts for detention centre security on Manus Island and Nauru.

And the Weeping Woman belongs to a lineage of dissent that stretches further back than the theft.

The woman in the painting was taken as a motif by Picasso from his previous painting Guernica – a depiction of the Spanish Civil War that ended with power in the hands of fascist general Francisco Franco. Picasso refused to let Guernica be displayed in Spain while it was ruled by Franco. When the dictator died 36 years later, Picasso had already passed away.

When the Artists’ Committee targeted NGV last year, it was done with the secret precision of a military operation – NGV was mapped out, a buddy system was devised and police liaison officers placed in tactical locations.

But in her talk De Vietri, herself having withdrawn her art from a venue with links to the detention centres, is arguing for less covert, more collective, action.

"The question of an art strike is not simple – artists frequently shut down galleries, theatres and festivals and cancel shows. It didn’t just happen in the ’70s, it happened across the country in 2003, 2007 and 2013.”

De Vietri’s says Australian artists’ protests against detention have shown their ability to respond to wider politics, but asks what happens when they combine this to protest their own conditions?

"Artists report being fearful to ask if the job they’ve signed up for is paid,” she said.

De Vietri laments the romanticising of the poor, tortured artist “working for less and less, undercutting ourselves and each other and in turn fueling the cycle”.

Depicted, for example, in Carl Spitzweg’s painting The Poor Poet – an impoverished genius working alone, the majority surrounded by books while writing his next masterpiece.

It’s only when you look closer that you realise he’s burning the pages of that masterpiece to stay warm.

The painting was also apparently one of Hitler’s favourites, and was stolen in 1976 as a piece of performance art to make a point about public access to artistic institutions and the suffering of Turkish workers in Berlin.

Artist and activist Gustav Metzger called for a three-year art strike in 1977. He calculated that three years would be enough to crush capitalism, while more may be harmful.

De Vietri is not looking to cripple the system, but says the industry needs to be disrupted.

The question of an art strike is not simple – some of the questions De Vietri raises for her audience are what would be most effective? What would be noticed?

During discussion, an audience member highlights the need to connect with those workers who are non-artists but possess the skills to be considered by employers as strike-breakers.

De Vietri doesn’t see any illusions in shortcut, but pressures that the sentiment of the 1986 theft by the ACT remained legitimate.

“It is up to us to find new creative ways to emphasise the importance of our work and the depth of our discontent,” she says.

Celebrate New Year’s Eve at the Melbourne Star

Let our DJ set the mood while you enjoy drinks and canapes at the Star Departure Lounge. As the clock counts down to midnight, say goodbye to 2018 in style: watch the sky erupt with breathtaking fireworks as you sip Champagne 120 metres above the city with the best views in town!

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**THE BETOOTA ADVOCATE**

Nov 17 - Hamer Hall
Join editors Clancy Overell and Emol Parker as they lift the veil on the operations of Australia’s oldest newspaper and take you through the most iconic moments and stories in the Advocate’s history. Listen to how The Betoota Advocate has continued its upward trajectory as rival media companies fall or merge with Channel Nine. It’s sure to be a night of laughter, tears and irrational rage.
artscentre melbourne.com.au

**AUSTRALIAN MUSIC VAULT**

Ongoing - Arts Centre Melbourne
The Australian Music Vault features a free, immersive exhibition showcasing Australian music, innovative digital participatory experiences and iconic objects from our Australian Performing Arts Collection.
australianmusicvault.com.au

**BLIND AND LOW VISION WORKSHOP**

Nov 28 - Merlyn Theatre
The blind and low vision community is diverse, widespread, and currently under-served by the arts and cultural sector. While there is growing awareness of access strategies like audio description and tactile tours, deep and lasting awareness of access strategies like audio description and tactile tours, deep and lasting connections have yet to be made. Description Victoria will discuss how audience development requires more than just one or two described shows in a festival or season. How do you reach arts lovers and new audiences in the blind shows in a festival or season. How do you reach?

**WHATSOEVER FATHER**

Nov 16 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
Hasan is one of the most recognised and influential comedians of Latin America, famous for his character interpretations including Rogelio Patagia, Guervando and Preciado Rico. In Whatever Father, Hasan plays the role of Rogelio Patagia in a hilarious commentary on Colombian culture, which we can all easily identify with.
melbournerecital.com.au

**HOMER’S ODYSSEY**

December 1 - MPavilion
Featuring 24 prominent Melburnians including Magda Szubanski, Sigrid Thornton and Kate Kendall, a free 12 hour marathon reading of Homer’s Odyssey by Melbourne’s Stock Theatre will be a world first. It will feature the new translation from the original Greek by Prof. Emily Wilson from the University of Pennsylvania – the first woman to translate The Odyssey into English.
artscentre melbourne.com.au

**SEASON FINALE GALA**

Dec 1 - Hamer Hall
Master vocalist Marina Bengerov returns to Melbourne with his 1272 Stradivarius to perform the Australian premiere of a new violin concerto, written for him by the renowned Chinese composer Qigang Chen. To top it all off MSO’s former Chief Conductor Mark M Stern will conduct Stravinsky’s The Rite of Spring: the ballet that changed music and dance forever.
mso.com.au

**DESIGNING WOMEN**

Until March 2019 - NGV
Spanning nearly 40 years, Designing Women highlights the ongoing role of female designers as a dynamic and critical force in shaping contemporary design culture. From fashion design, contemporary jewellery, and product design, to architecture and digital innovation.
ngv.vic.gov.au

**TIXATSIX**

Ongoing - Arts Centre Melbourne
Arts Centre Melbourne has decided to revive the spontaneous night out with tixatsix. Shake off the peak hour blues and come by Arts Centre Melbourne for magnificent experiences from 6pm each night... for just $30! Be sure to check out what’s on before coming through!
artscentre melbourne.com.au

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southgatemelbourne.com.au
Minister previews conservatorium

By Niccola Anthony

Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley was given a sneak peek at The University of Melbourne’s new arts centre on October 15.

The $109 million Ian Potter Southbank Centre will be home to the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music (MCM), which comprises part of the university’s Faculty of Fine Arts and Music.

Accompanying Minister Foley to the preview was the University of Melbourne’s new vice-chancellor, Duncan Maskell, and the university’s dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts and Music, Barry Conngham.

A group of students, making up a three-piece brass ensemble, performed for the minister, the vice-chancellor and the dean at the preview, making them the first to play in the new conservatorium before its official opening next February.

The new centre is a feat of architectural excellence. Designed by John Wardle Architects, it will feature world-class acoustic spaces and an oculus window that reaches six metres in diameter.

In the conservatorium rehearsal spaces, a rock band can play at full volume and remain unheard by a string quartet in the next room.

“The Melbourne Conservatorium of Music is a stunning addition to our arts precinct and an important investment in our creative talent and the future of our creative state,” Mr Foley said.

“The Victorian Government has been proud to partner with The University of Melbourne to bring this new centre to life and to continue to transform Melbourne’s Arts Precinct into one of the very best, most exciting cultural and creative destinations in the world.”

The facility will open in 2019.

Celebrating Asian arts

By Jacklyn Yeong

In the first 16 days of December and in 14 venues, “Mapping Melbourne” will be serving as a platform for over 100 established and emerging artists from Australia and Asia.

The sixth annual independent contemporary arts festival will be showcasing Asia’s vibrant themes through a range of contemporary artistic mediums.

Participating artists from countries such as Australia, China, India, Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand will be celebrating the unique Asian-Australian identity that forms part of Melbourne’s multicultural arts community.

Multicultural Arts Victoria CEO Veronica Pardo introduced the festival as a presentation of the best independent contemporary artists exploring the themes of Asia and identity.

“Mapping Melbourne offers a rare insight into the contemporary art scene in Asia, bringing together collaborations and connections between Asian and Australian artists,” she said.

What’s on:

Testing Grounds will host events from the highly recommended #Perempuan – a collaboration with Project 11 and curated by Sanzy Saparti including Dumpling Boy Temple, MURTI and The Embodied Landscape.

#Perempuan, or woman, is a group exhibition from December 6-14 featuring works by emerging Indonesian artists that explores the current issues such as visibility in public and sociocultural roles that are affecting women in Indonesia.

Dumpling Boy Temple is an art installation space with an accessible and family-friendly temple space incorporating a mix of traditions and symbols combined with manufactured objects.

Frozen Sounds will be performing live music and contemporary dance performances.

Sugar Coated will be juxtaposing the joy and destruction that food can bring in The Sound of Shadows: Sugar Coated. The concert celebrates endangered Indonesian instruments in a farm-to-table narrative at the Melbourne Recital Centre on December 14.

www.multiculturalarts.com.au

Be a part of the Korean wave!

The Melbourne Korea Week Festival will be back for its fifth year in a two-day long event at Queensbridge Square on November 10 and 11.

Visitors are invited to enjoy performances, food stalls and cultural experiences of traditional and modern Korea.

The public event successfully attracted more than 26,000 people over the past four years by providing an immersive cultural experience.

Experience and be a part of a widespread “hallyu” – or Korean wave – with many festivities curated.

From 12 to 8 pm, a program line-up includes Korean traditional music performance, taekwondo, ‘The Ongals’ comedy show, cooking demonstrations, Gorilla Crew’s street dance performance, K-pop DJ-ing and cross cultural performances collaborated by MIKTA.

Food stalls will be offering Korean cuisines such as tteokgkalbi (grilled short rib patties), samgyeopsal (pork belly) and gageorgi (sweet and sour chicken), just to name a few.

Visitors can try on the hanbok (Korean traditional clothing), experience traditional Korean games and handicraft or take a taekwondo class hosted by Victoria University in the cultural experience zone of the festival.

For more information, www.facebook.com/koreanweekfestival
Be careful who you vote for...

A dynamic and lively forum was held on October 30 to “Meet The Candidates” with sitting Labor Party member Martin Foley, Liberal candidate Andrew Bond and Ogy Simic of the Greens.

We were fortunate and grateful to have both Stephen Mayne (the Mayne Report) as the moderator and of course to partner with the Southbank Residents Association. We thank the candidates and all forum participants and organisers for their support. The Facebook live video of the event can be found on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

In precis - the focus on Montague was:

**Labor** – to continue with the current Fishermans Bend plan, that includes lower heights and less density and to ensure the community continues to be involved and that the governance of the whole of Fishermans Bend is transparent and clear.

**Liberals** – to ensure that there is public transport infrastructure in place, or a plan for that prior to any final plan being decided. They would remove the current amendment that set lower heights and density, implying that higher heights and density would be restored.

**The Greens** – In principle, agree with the current Fishermans Bend plan but have concerns over lack of public transport, open space and sustainability. It was not clear what their alternatives were but in the case of a hung Parliament they saw themselves having a key role on the cross benches.

The candidates graciously and with thoughtfulness responded to some challenging and direct questioning from the audience, the issues that resonated most keenly for Montague were:

- Ensuring that no more money is spent on creating any further Fishermans Bend Framework Planning. The current Labor plan is the one that will be applied.
- Short stays - There was concern over the number of apartments being sold to investors for short stays, either through online platforms or physical agencies.

Public Transport - it was acknowledged that the 109 tram is the second busiest tram route in the whole of Melbourne and that this and the 96 tram route need more tram stock quickly.

The State Election is only weeks away so please use your vote very carefully. If you live and work here, think about who will provide what we need to live and work well, during the exponential growth of our precinct? Who will engage with us and support our voice?

Please get in touch via Facebook (@MontaguePrecinct), Twitter (@MontComAlliance) or email.

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**Meet a Montaguan**

I’m Joe Calleja. I’ve been running South City Automotive Repairs on Gladstone Street for almost 10 years now. I work with most cars including, Mercedes, BMW, Audi, VW, Holden, Opel etc. etc. And now I enjoy including hybrid petrol and electric cars as well as full electric cars.

**Who are you?**

I first came to work in the Montague Precinct in 2000, when Holden Preston opened their city dealership in the area. Prior to 2000 I had been working as a specialist mechanic and auto-electric and diagnostic technician with Holden at another location.

A few years into the role I was approached to become the foreman of the then Holden workshops in Montague. Through my time at Holden I developed a manufacturer level of expertise with the high-performance HSV models, as well as standard passenger cars.

When Holden left the area, I liked it so much, I decided to stay on in the precinct and started my own business.

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**What first brought you to work in Montague precinct?**

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When Holden left the area, I liked it so much, I decided to stay on in the precinct and started my own business.

**What are the most interesting things about working in Montague?**

- Working long hours, the type of work and the travelling. It means I miss family time, especially with my two boys. There are other challenges to do with the growth of the area.
- Parking is proving to be a problem, although I am lucky that my workshop means that I have no problem with managing vehicles.

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**Labor will invest in energy with a brighter future.**

We have a serious plan to stem rising power prices — to address climate change — to take back control of our energy future — and to deliver cheaper, cleaner power.

Together we can:

- Deliver 50% renewables by 2030;
- End the power privatisation mess;
- Better regulate power prices;
- Implement stronger gas export controls;
- Future proof our energy network;
- Support new battery-storage plants, transmission lines and gas pipelines;
- Support a just transition to renewable energy jobs for power workers; and
- Empower businesses and communities to access renewable energy, cut energy waste.

LaborForMacnamara.com
An election is upon us!

The Southbank Residents Association (SRA) held a Meet the Candidates event to give our residents the opportunity to ask the hard questions ahead of the upcoming election on November 24.

We had around 180 local Southbank and Montague precinct residents at the venue and several hundred more tuned in through Facebook Live as we tried our best to find out the likely outcomes and intentions of the party that will be leading this state for the next four years and how it will play out for our local area.

We had representatives from the Liberal party (Andrew Bond), Greens (Ogy Simic) and our current member from Labor being Martin Foley. We thank all three candidates for their time.

There are other candidates running as well: Jarred Bartle from the Reason Party, Tamasin Ramsay from the Animal Justice Party and Joseph Toscano as an independent. For practicalities of time, we had representatives from the Liberal party (Andrew Bond), Greens (Ogy Simic) as well: Jarryd Bartle from the Reason Party and our current member from Labor being Martin Foley.

We shouldn’t be surprised by this. When day experience of life is forever changed. You. It plots your new course. Your routine and rhythm of the church-life brings together walkers on the grief-journey entirely naturally. It draws you into a forum where about you are on the walk. When he turns up they go for their morning walk together. Or at least they did. One man now walks alone. I could be wrong, but I imagine that the man now absent at his daily dawn light roll call, died recently. His friend no longer waits on the corner. There’s no need. He walks on without him.

As well as feeling the pangs of vicarious grief, I couldn’t help but see in this a metaphor for what it is to grieve. There’s the discovery – the waiting on the corner – the realisation at a certain point that something’s not right. Then there’s the disruption – the routine is thrown out for the funeral and so on. Then there’s the re-emergence – the necessary onward walk. And in all of that, of course, there is the adjustment to a new reality, peppered as it is, with all kinds of emotions.

The walk of grief is a lonely one. I hate to say it, but it is. All the loving support in the world, all the hugs, cups of tea or meals to put in the freezer can’t take away the need to, at some point, take another step without your companion by your side. The survivor has to take that step, it can’t be taken for them and it’s a step into a new way of being. As brave as it can be to take that first step, continuing isn’t a victory. Grief isn’t something you overcome. It overcomes you. It plots your new course. Your routine might remain the same but your day-to-day experience of life is forever changed. We shouldn’t be surprised by this. When someone who has intermingled themselves with the fibres of your being is amputated, your centre of gravity is altered and either your direction or mode of transport is changed.

I hate using the line, “in my experience as a pastor” but to hell with it. In my experience as someone who, due to the fact that I am a pastor” but to hell with it. In my experience as someone who, due to the fact that I am a pastor, grief can have a journey and it’s theirs to navigate, but having a friend walk up alongside you for a mile or two can be a great help – especially after the magic six-week mark. In those early weeks of grief, people pop in, ask you how you’re going, share memories and so on. But after about six weeks, while you’re still grieving, others have moved on. For their own reasons they can’t bear to keep talking about it, so they politely ignore you.

Now for the shameless plug. This is where our local church can be of assistance. Death and grief are not taboo in the church. Every Sunday we pray for the grieving. Every Sunday heavenly hopes are alluded to in the preaching and underscored in the liturgy. Every November, on All Saints Day, you’re invited to have your dearly departed loved one named in a public remembrance and you’re welcomed to light a candle in their memory.

The routine and rhythm of the church-life brings together walkers on the grief-journey entirely naturally. It draws you into a forum where about you are on the walk. If you’re grieving, yes, the path before you is unique and no one can make you feel balanced on the cobblestones. Only you can find your footing. But just around the corner is a walkers club, full of experienced travellers. The one I know is called St Johns, and it’s always looking to help a new hiker lace up their boots.

Tony Penna
Tony Penna is the president of Southbank Residents’ Association. southbankresidents.org.au

St John Southgate

Routine observations

True story. Every morning, before dawn, an old man waits on the corner for another old man to meet him.

When he turns up they go for their morning walk together. Or at least they did. One man now walks alone. I could be wrong, but I imagine that the man now absent at his daily dawn light roll call, died recently. His friend no longer waits on the corner. There’s no need. He walks on without him.

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Tom Hoffmann
Tom Hoffmann is the pastor at St Johns Southgate Church. www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

St Johns Southgate

Sunday 18 November
9am Worship with Bach Cantata
Mass in G Major (BWV236)
for 4 soloists, chorus, strings, 2 oboes, and continuo
Consort of Melbourne and St Johns Bach Orchestra
directed by Graham Lieschke
8:30am Cantata in Context: pre-service talk

Every Sunday
9am Traditional worship with communion
10:30am Sunday School during school terms
11am Informal worship with communion
6pm Sunday Night at St Johns
Informal contemporary worship hosted by Lutheran Students and Friends
The Chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection

20 City Road Southbank Telephone 9682 4995 www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au
Supporting local traders

The Metro Tunnel Project is always looking for ways to support local businesses close to our work sites.

Our dedicated support team has been working with businesses since 2015 to minimise, manage and affect potential impacts from construction. Our latest initiative, Small Business Mentoring Service, the clinics provide business owners expert support and advice across a range of topics including marketing, digital media, business growth and finance. More than 20 businesses attended the free clinics during October and November, with more sessions booked out.

The clinics are just one of a number of initiatives the project’s Business Engagement and Support Team is providing businesses to address disruption including way-finding signage, events, offers, vouchers and promotional support through hoardings and social media.

The size and complexity of the Metro Tunnel Project means there will be some unavoidable temporary disruption during its construction. We are working to minimise and manage impacts while we build this urgently-needed public transport infrastructure.

For more information on Metro Tunnel business support visit, metrotunnel.vic.gov.au

Moray St bike path upgrade
The Metro Tunnel’s Moray St bike path upgrade will be finished in coming weeks. The upgrade gives cyclists, pedestrians and motorists a reliable alternative to St Kilda Rd during the construction of Anzac Station.

With the support of the City of Port Philip, nearly 1.5km of bike path has been upgraded with two new Victoria-first roundabouts opening at Coventry and Dorcas streets.

Speed limits have been reduced to 40kmh and cars are required to give way to cyclists and pedestrians using the roundabouts. This upgrade improves safety for cyclists and pedestrians and makes it faster and more convenient to get around.

The Metro Tunnel is upgrading roads and improving traffic management near work sites to keep the city moving throughout construction. Please take care when adjusting to the new traffic conditions in the area.

There is something rotten in the State of Victoria

Renewable energy and climate change rank as two of the most important topics for voters at the upcoming state and federal elections.

The Victorian Labor Party came out of the blocks early, with a proposal for a $1 billion subsidy to install solar panels to 650,000 homes.

However, the Labor policy deliberately excludes apartment dwellers from access to the solar subsidy. Given that those who dwell in apartments make up nearly a quarter of the total population in Victoria, then the policy shall do nothing for them.

The Greens Party, in its credit, has sought to raise this issue with the government, and is seeking to build and extend the policy by making it apply to apartment dwellers also.

Policies and electioneering tactics aside, many owners of apartments are fed up with the Liberal and Labor parties not understanding how strata works, and what is involved in living in a vertical community.

Take the recent example of the short-term letting accommodation reforms, which in what could be only described as comedic scenes in Parliament as the Labor Party proposed to pass the weak Bill, was roundly admonished by the Liberal Party in debate as the Bill was described by them as a "damp squib of a bill". In a show of farce, however, the Liberal politicians could be seen scurrying from the debating chamber, so they were absent when a vote was taken, thus allowing the "damp squib" to pass.

Then there is the saga of the long-awaited reform to the Owners Corporation Act. Some of the reforms in relation to owners’ corporation manager contracts have been sitting on the shelf waiting to pass since early 2015. The "new" reforms for the Owners Corporation Act went out for consultation and feedback in 2016 and the new legislation was written and passed to Parliament over 12 months ago.

The great embarrassment is that these "new" reforms for the Owners Corporation Act are already out of date and out of lockstep with court rulings and the way that technology is running.

The earliest the reforms could pass is by perhaps June 2019. At that stage, they may as well announce a new review and commence consultation on updating the legislation again to take account of reforms and developments in the industry.

Both sides of politics have shown complete disregard and a lack of familiarity and understanding of the complexities of apartment living. Until we see the Liberals and Labor showing a commitment and an understanding of the issues faced in our communities they simply don’t deserve our votes.

If I lived in the city electorate, I’d be voting Green, because at least the party has a conscience and has a commitment to understanding the complexities and the interests of apartment living.

That’s my five cents’ worth anyway, and for what it’s worth.

Tom Bacon
Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers. Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au
Southbank Sustainability Group

Can you grow a sunflower as tall as Eureka Tower?

After a successful couple of talks and a screening of the documentary Anthropocene to help adults be more sustainable, it’s the kiddies’ turn now!

On Saturday, November 10 we are hosting a fun, hands-on sunflower planting day at the Boyd Community Hub for inner-city children to interact with nature and learn how to grow plants sustainably at home.

Starting at 10.30am in the Assembly Hall, children will learn how to sow and grow plants, using used containers they can upcycle to pots. We also have a couple of fun activities planned to keep the little ones busy. Children will then take their sunflower home to care for and grow. The children that grow the tallest sunflowers within a couple of months will win some wonderful prizes!

We practice what we preach. Everything we do at our events, with the exception of the soil and seeds, uses repurposed or upcycled materials making us completely Zero Waste friendly! Children and their parents are asked to bring a used container from home and we'll show them how to upcycle and repurpose it into a beautiful planter box.

In terms of containers to bring on the day, think empty soda or milk bottles, cans, yogurt containers, or any other container with about a half litre capacity or more.

Children’s Sunflower Planting Day:
■ When: Saturday, November 10; 10.30am – 12.30pm
■ Where: Boyd Community Hub (Assembly Hall)
■ Why: So that our inner-city children can have fun while they learn how to grow plans and understand their importance to the environment.

■ Age categories for prizes: three - six years old and seven to 11 years old. However, children of all ages are welcome!

A big thank you to the team at MCM for assisting our group by creating and printing the event poster, as well as with sourcing the prizes.

Our next meet-ups after the event will be November 17 and December 1, where we’ll focus on gardening and harvesting veggies. You are welcome to join and go home with some fresh, organic veggies.

About the group:
We are a community group of Southbank residents that work to bring positive change in sustainability practices and education to our neighborhood. We meet every fortnight on Saturdays at 10am at Boyd (first & third Saturdays of the month) where we talk sustainability issues and solutions, and then do gardening in the community garden.

For more details or to get involved with the group or garden: facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup | southbanksustainability@gmail.com

Artemis Pattichi
Southbank Sustainability Group
southbanksustainability@gmail.com

Yarra River Business Association

Reflecting on the past 20 years

This month marks our 20th year of existence and, needless to say, it is a vastly different business and tourism precinct these days than it was in 1998.

The association’s big challenge for its first 10 years was to create a physical and psychological sense of integration for Southbank and Northbank. Those who did visit back in the late 1990s, usually did so only to visit specific venues, primarily Crown, Southgate and the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

There were still plenty of vacant lots, disused buildings and a cleanliness problem. In fact, when talking to a long-time staff member of the Photograpy Studies College in City Rd the other day, she mentioned that her only option for lunch 20 years ago was one greasy spoon cafe.

Our Trip Advisor feedback for Southbank and South Wharf is always very high, whether it be from Melburnians or from those from the other side of the globe. It seems that we have managed to strike just the right balance between public and private.

If you ever look at your feet on Southbank Promenade you might have noticed that the flagstones are worn. In fact, a lot of the 20-25 year old public infrastructure is showing real signs of heavy use, so we’re working closely with the City of Melbourne’s urban design team to upgrade the amenity of the public space.

Our pride and joy at the moment is the new boat berthing infrastructure at Southgate. After a decade of lobbying, we finally have a place for our boat operators that not only looks good, but is safe and comfortable for the tens of thousands of passengers who enjoy the waterway each year.

Other projects like the new Riverside Quay Park and the Mirvac laneways project are the icing on the precinct cake and, of course, we wait with great anticipation for details about the Sturt St arts plaza concept and the City Rd upgrade.

Over the next few years we must turn our attention with the council and other stakeholders to improve the north bank. Projects that immediately spring to mind are the redevelopment of Banana Alley to make proper use of that heritage building and its prime riverside location.

The failure of the small spaces of Rebecca Walk also provides a great opportunity to enliven Batman Park, perhaps using the sheds for low-rent artist studios.

In the short term, we are still lobbying the state government to ensure that the upgrade of Flinders Street Station also addresses the deplorable state of the Elizabeth/Flinders St underpass to the river.

There are still many ideas for the precinct to keep it at the top of Melbourne’s most visited tourist destinations.

No doubt our guest speaker at the November 15 Yarra River business lunch, Cr Sally Capp, will be adding her own to our “to do” list.

Please feel free to come along to the lunch. It’s not just for businesses and we always welcome residents to the table. Head to www.yarrariver.melbourne/lunch to book.

John Forman
John Forman is the president of Yarra River Business Association.
www.yarrariver.info
Strings of dedication

By Jacklyn Yeong

Joe Kelly could not remember a time when he was not engaging with music. Choosing to play the cello was a natural instinct for him as he grew up in a very musical family. His dad and mum play the trombone and viola, while his sister learned to play the violin up until the end of school.

Although Joe and his parents thought about forming a family musical trio, it was a little tricky to create a performance as all their instruments simultaneously produced lower and deeper tones.

"It’s hard, it would be a very unique group with a trombone, a viola and a cello," he said. "Actually, I think there’s a trio for that, we jokingly said maybe we should do it. We haven’t up until now but maybe we will."

Besides learning the cello since he was seven, Joe also learned to play the piano in high school up until grade five, as he thought that picking up another instrument would be an asset to helping other students practise.

Now a university student at Melbourne University’s Melbourne Conservatorium of Music, he is focusing solely on performing with the cello while studying under the music performance program. Joe and his family relocated to Wells St, Southbank in 2014 to be closer to the city’s music scene. He appreciated the fact that living in the Arts Precinct provides him and his family convenient access to the music community.

"I love the area, it’s obviously amazing for music because all of the arts would just be at your doorstep which is really nice," he said. "Just being surrounded by arts and with the Melbourne Recital Centre, Hamer Hall and the galleries just being down the street as well as being close to the city but not feeling like you’re stuck in the city all the time makes living in Southbank really special for me."

Having previously performed in The Librarian for Outer Urban Projects in a string quartet, Joe was invited to return and perform for the organisation’s collaboration with the Newboys Foundation’s 125-year anniversary concert in October. He had to recover and gear up for 125BPM rehearsals right after a recent tour where he performed in the Shanghai Symphony Hall in China and the Esplanade in Singapore with his university symphony orchestra.

In the near future, Joe is looking forward to further pursue music somewhere in Europe or America for post-grad studies, but for now he is focusing on perfecting his skills for upcoming university recitals and final exams.

Next to music, his biggest interest is the NBA basketball league. He used to play basketball competitively but had to sacrifice that to prioritise his love for performance music.

"I used to play but I don’t anymore, at least competitively because of my fingers and how important they are for cello and instruments," he explained. "I used to jar them quite a bit and obviously if you do that to your finger then you either can’t play for a week or you can’t play for a month so it’s very difficult."

Letters

Misleading imagery

Southbank Local News reported on the future developments on Sturt St (issue 79, page 7), which featured three approved developments.

The artist’s impressions of at least two of the new developments are somewhat misleading, in my opinion.

The big black monstrosity at 153 Sturt St couldn’t possibly be located where the artist has located it.

As the picture stands, it is more likely going to be the location of the building above it - as seen on page 7. If the pictures are correct, the black building at 153 Sturt St would be located in front of the smaller white building (Cityview) not behind it. 135 St would be located in front of the smaller building at 153 Sturt St with all the proposed developments featured.

Along with the huge development on the current carpark next to the VCA building, the face of Sturt St is about to significantly change and not for the better.

Along with the City of Melbourne and VicRoads’ decision to restrict traffic turning right from Sturt into Kings Way and Kings Way into Sturt, the tram super-stops on St Kilda Rd and the park development on Southbank Blvd, getting in and out of this little pocket of Southbank, although already frustrating, is about to become a nightmare.

Steven Lascelles

SOLD: 135 Sturt St

For sale: 153 Sturt St
How do you feel about the Spring Racing Carnival this year in light of all the animal cruelty aspects involved in horse racing?

I don’t have any opinion on the animal cruelty aspects. I like the races because it’s the beginning of summer and Melbourne puts on pretty dresses and its best foot forward.

I don’t have any specific thoughts on the animal cruelty aspects. I like the general feeling of happiness and excitement that comes with the season and the spring racing carnival in particular.

I hadn’t previously heard of the Melbourne Cup and I don’t know enough about the animal cruelty aspects to it. But during my visit here I have heard of all the excitement and of people getting ready for it. I understand it’s quite a big thing!

I’m not a fan of the races. I don’t like the way the horses are treated and the culture around it. I tend to find that it attracts a pretty bad crowd.

I have no specific thoughts on the animal cruelty aspects. I like the races because it’s the beginning of summer and Melbourne puts on pretty dresses and its best foot forward.

I’m pretty vehemently against the races. I think that the culture surrounding it is pretty awful, not only in the sense of the betting surrounding it but also the cruelty that the animals go through is pretty awful.

SARAH REJMAN, 43, NGO DIRECTOR, MALVERN EAST

ANOEK VAN DER VINNE, 36, TEACHER, TANZANIA

AMANDA WALLIS, 37, DOCTOR, DARWIN

DARCY PHILLIPS, 22, BARISTA, TOORAK

ELLA JACKSON, 18, STUDENT, PARKVILLE

SOUTHBANK SUDOKU

A variation of Sudoku, with the letters SOUTHBANK replacing the numbers.

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

This Sudoku is MEDIUM!

Good Luck!

H O N
A S B
T

B K H
T S B

N H S T B

S T B

B U O K N

N T H

H B U

S U O B
Austral Otis Lifts

It’s a sad little building today – facing Kingsway (behind the Boyd Centre), painted pink, covered in graffiti and looking like it hasn’t got long on this earth.

But the former headquarters of the Austral Otis company played an integral role in Melbourne’s massive 19th century development and contributed to making South Melbourne the manufacturing centre for the booming metropolis. Austral Otis was located in the industrial sector that formed part of South Melbourne (and is now part of Southbank). The works of the company occupied over four acres and in 1888 a new building for the company offices was constructed. The two-storey brick building was the hub of the giant enterprise, containing managers’ offices, drawing rooms for designs and a counting house. Next to the offices were stables and a large shed for storage of goods. Outside in the works area, two massive boilers provided electric power to the whole site where they worked, plus the ever-constant risk of fire in predominantly wooden buildings. As Melbourne climbed skyscrapers with multi-storied iron and steel framed buildings during the 1880s, lift technology became an increasingly important part of the equation. Like other cities around the world that embraced tall buildings, the issue of getting people to the top floors (and down again) was addressed by a number of companies, generally located in the USA. Early lifts were used for raising and lowering of goods, but when an executive from Otis in New York visited Melbourne, he saw the opportunity for widespread introduction of American lifts to move passengers to upper floors. They used a reticulated hydraulic power system, relying on controlling water pressure to drive the lifts safely and quickly. Austral Otis also made the lift cars that passengers rode in. The company was bought out in 1952 and Austral ceased to exist. However the name Otis can still be seen on lifts in many of Melbourne’s historic buildings. The headquarters building was adapted for other uses and modified internally and externally, but nevertheless retains its original general appearance (except for the pink paint job).
Show us the money!

We know the Labor government enjoys a cosy relationship with Airbnb, and we were bitterly disappointed when the Liberal members walked out of State Parliament just before the crucial vote on the so-called short-stay legislation.

Naturally, we ask ourselves what motivates politicians?

At the date of writing, only The Greens have declared a policy of outlawing political donations from developers. Now it is time for all political parties to reveal their paymasters: disclose the details of all donations from all sources.

Labor’s promises - déjà vu

It’s time to review some of the promises Labor was elected to fulfil over the past four years. We have analysed the promises made in the ALP platform, and Labor’s Plan for your election.

We Live Here calls on all parties to disclose in full all donations from property developers and multinationals including Airbnb.

So what has actually happened in the past four years?

The greatest disappointment has been the performance of Consumer Affairs.

1. An “independent” panel on short stays set up in February 2015 was seriously flawed:
   - Terms of reference of the panel were too narrow;
   - Selection of panel members not rigorous enough and allowed for conflict of interest;
   - Inadequate representation of owners and residents;
   - No opportunity for non-panel members to make submissions directly to the panel;
   - Additional consultations conducted by the government following release of the panel report were with panel members only; and
   - Not surprisingly, the final report was inconclusive.

2. The Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-stay accommodation) Bill, 2016 introduced into Parliament in May 2016, to curb unruly parties and bad behaviour, was ill conceived and a gross waste of taxpayers’ money:
   - A senior policy advisor for Airbnb admits the Bill was deemed an unfair Bill; and
   - The Bill subsequently passed through the upper house unopposed and with only minor amendments with a review promised in two years – a cop out by both major parties.

The government lost a golden opportunity to put Melbourne on the map by showing the world how the short-stay industry could be regulated to provide a level playing field for all. Instead, four years on, we now have a rampart short-stay industry that owners’ corporations have no power to control.

We are rapidly becoming a city of ghettos in the sky and, not surprisingly Melbourne has lost its status as the world’s most liveable city.

3. A review of the Owners Corporation Act 2006, initiated in August 2015 was also flawed and never completed:
   - The review specifically excluded whether owners’ corporations should be able to make laws prohibiting a certain use of a lot despite We Live Here providing detailed submissions (along with hundreds of others) to issues and options papers and a final report promised early this year, none has been forthcoming.

We hope that consumer affairs is taken far more seriously by whichever government wins the election; that owners’ corporations are given more powers to control how their buildings function; and that the voice of owners and residents who have made their homes in this city is heard.

We Live Here was created to give our community a voice – we have demanded, capitated, lobbied and pleaded. A far cry from the idea of a government “giving the community back its voice”.

What do we have to do to get politicians to hear and understand our message?

Business

Act of Wine opens!

Southbank’s very own sustainable wine store Act of Wine launched on Fanning St last month and is now open for locals to enjoy.

Celebrating its grand opening on Friday, December 12, the store welcomed more than 300 guests over the course of the evening. Brought to you by the team at Broad Bean Organic Grocer, the store features a huge range of sustainable wines from producers making honest wine – showcasing the best wines made with organic and biodynamic farming methods as well as minimal intervention winemaking techniques. Act of Wine also offers a selection of artisan spirits, craft beer and ciders!

The store is located at 22 Fanning St, Southbank and orders can be made online with same day delivery at actofwine.com.au
Fun and fresh new menus

With the warmer end of the year now upon us, Southbank’s favourite local eat out Downstairs Bistro & Lounge has just launched new brunch and dinner menus that are both quirky and delicious.

Between breakfast dishes that pay homage to millennials’ favourites and lunch meals that tip their hat to Quentin Tarantino, Downstairs head chef Tom Woodhouse and his team have come up with some inspired new offerings.

“We wanted to experiment by having a quirky aspect to our brunch menu,” Tom said. “This was done in order to freshen up our day menu and to suit today’s market and Melbourne’s growing brunch culture.”

Locals can now get “brunchy” seven days a week with quirky dishes such as the “Millennial’s Mortgage”, “Senior Sausage”, “Mon sieur Fungi”, “Ali Baba and the Baked Eggs” or the “Big Nelson”!

A tease to generation X investing more on avocado smash than a mortgage, the Millennial’s Mortgage symbolises that famous Bernard Salt news article that caused quite a stir since doing the rounds in 2017! As chef Tom said: “enjoy the now and don’t worry about the future!”

The Big Nelson pays tribute to Nelson Astola-Solomuna of Melbourne Storm who has a reputation for being the big man in the team and a fan favourite. The local association fits in to what is a big brekkie fit for the man himself!

If you’re up for a something simple for breakfast, then “Plain Jane Toast and Condiments”, “Grandma’s Apple Porridge” or “Eggs-Arty How You Like” have got you covered.

Moving on to lunch, which kicks off daily from 11am, all of the burgers have been covered.

“Ummmm This is a Tasty Burger” to the provided by Samuel L. Jackson, the titles from 11am, all of the burgers have been covered.

A movie Pulp Fiction titled in a way that pop culture lovers can from 11am, all of the burgers have been covered.

The team has also just introduced a new coffee blend from Rumble Coffee Co in Kensington, which sources its beans from all parts of the world. For something sweet with your coffee, fresh treats from the delicious Chocolatine Melbourne in Caulfield are also now available.

With dinner, it’s time to get serious! The new menu has placed an emphasis on some lighter options and sharing plates with a “sophisticated and classy” offering as Southbank heads into summer, according to Tom.

“The dinner menu has been designed around the idea of people coming in and sharing dishes on the three nights we are open,” he said. “We have the menu split into smaller sharing, larger sharing and the pizzas.”

Along with local favourites such as the lasagne spring rolls and pork belly lollipops, Tom said he was looking forward to serving up his smoked pork ribs, which are smoked on the grill first and then slow cooked for 12 hours before being served.

And while food is important, don’t forget to drink! The bar offers an extensive range of wine and craft beer, which is changed seasonally. A “wine of the week” will be alternated and Happy Hour will still be on from Thursday to Saturdays from 3pm - 6pm.

Frankie’s Story of ethical fashion

A 54-year-old family-run business at South Melbourne Market is turning its hand to ethical fashion.

When Hadassah Jordan’s grandmother first opened a clothing stall at South Melbourne Market in 1964, there was no such thing as ethical or sustainable fashion.

Everything was manufactured locally in safe working conditions, and back then, clothes were made to last.

But a lot has changed over the past half a century. Most of our clothing manufacturing has moved offshore, where labour costs are low and conditions often poor, to keep up with a global demand for cheap, disposable fashion.

Saddened by the devastating ethical and environmental footprint fast fashion was leaving on the planet, Hadassah - who spent 25 years working in the family business at the market - decided to do something about it.

In November 2013, she opened a second stall at the market called Frankie’s Story, which was initially dedicated to ethically and environmentally produced clothing for children. Such has been the success of the store, she recently closed the family’s original stall (A Story by Another Name) to focus solely on Frankie’s Story.

The store originally stocked ethical and eco-friendly children’s wear from high-end Swedish label Mini Rodini and sustainable and fair trade Danish organic brand Popushop, whose focus is a dye process containing no heavy metals.

Hadassah has since expanded her offering to also include ethically-produced basics and accessories for adults, including socially-responsible New Zealand label, AS Colour, and French sneaker brand, Veja – often referred to as the world’s most ethical sneaker makers.

“I really feel a sacredness to representing my family here at the market,” Hadassah said. “And my real passion now is Frankie’s Story, which is all about raising the standards of my goods to be ethical and sustainable and to be a retailer with a moral compass.”

Hadassah’s family are of Jewish heritage and migrated to Australia after the Holocaust. Her grandparents started at the market in 1964 after a family friend suggested selling a brand called Swiss Models and with her grandmother working as a tailor at the time, the business was a good fit.

Over the ensuing decades the stall sold an ever-changing range of brands and styles of clothing that evolved according to the fashion trends at the time. The store nurtured community mindfulness after the experience of the Holocaust, and Hadassah’s family were empathetic to the hardship of others.

At the time, South Melbourne was a predominantly working-class suburb so it was not unusual for Hadassah’s grandmother Fania to offer clothing to those less fortunate.

Since her grandfather and mother retired in the ’90s, Hadassah has been at the helm. “The South Melbourne Market is a really special place for me and in the 25 years I’ve worked here, I’ve not spent one day bored,” she said.

“There’s something about the market experience that can’t be replicated in a shopping centre. It has this element of discovery and surprise and you feel like you are part of the community.”

“With Frankie’s Story, I also feel like I’m giving back to the community in some small way, which has been part of an instilled family belief.”

Frankie’s Story is located at shop 78-79 Aisle B, South Melbourne Market. Frankiesstory.com.au
INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB
Meeting on selected dates and various locations, IMLAC takes in the city’s parks, its culture, fabulous eating options as well as festivals, galleries and concerts. www.life.org.au/imlac or call Dianne 0425 140 981

TUESDAYS - BOYD - $5 DONATION
BOLLYWOOD WORKOUT
Inspired by the high energy music from Indian/Bollywood films these workout sessions are focused on building and developing your dance technique and most importantly, having tonnes of fun!

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
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 8pm.

YOGA: SUNDAYS @ BOYD
Suitable for all levels of experience and includes an appropriate amount of challenges and relaxation which will help you achieve a balance between strength and flexibility. Register: facebook.com/events/62565644477843/

FRIDAYS 7.45AM - 9AM @ BOYD
COMMUNITY TAI CHI
WULONG TAI CHI offers you the opportunity to enhance your strength, balance, flexibility and well-being in a friendly, supportive environment. All welcome. lily@wulongtaichi.com.au

TUESDAYS
SOUTH MELBOURNE MARKET
The market regularly hosts a range of cooking classes, workshops and kids activities. Find out what’s happening this month by visiting the website: southmelbournemarket.com.au/whats-on/

FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY EACH MONTH
SUSTAINABILITY GROUP
A growing group of green and sustainability enthusiasts who live in Southbank looking to bring positive change. More info: facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB
Over 50, living in Southbank and want to join our vibrant club for activities, events and friendship? Meet at Library at the Dock at 10am. Contact Verna on 0407 065 910. MSPC.docklands@gmail.com

77 – 83 CITY ROAD, SOUTHBANK
ONE ROOF
A community, a home and an entire ecosystem providing everything a female entrepreneur needs to thrive under one roof. Find out what’s on: melbourne.oneroofwomen.com/new-events

MONDAYS @ BOYD
JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Local Southbank JP Atilla Akguner offers two hour sessions every Monday morning from 11am until 1pm at the Principal’s Office at Boyd. To book in a time contact: atillaakguner@gmail.com

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH
SOUTH MELBOURNE MARKET
The market regularly hosts a range of cooking classes, workshops and kids activities. Find out what’s happening this month by visiting the website: southmelbournemarket.com.au/whats-on/

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

SOUTH BANK LOCAL NEWS | ISSUE 80
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77 - 83 CITY ROAD, SOUTHBANK
ONE ROOF
A community, a home and an entire ecosystem providing everything a female entrepreneur needs to thrive under one roof. Find out what’s on: melbourne.oneroofwomen.com/new-events
23/161 Sturt Street, Southbank

- Boutique Building
- Exceptional CBD views
- Large open layout with natural light throughout
- Car Park on Title
- Tran stop at your Doorstep

Auction
Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

21/106 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank

- Large Terrace on Title 23 sqm (approx.)
- Enormous Open Living/Dining Area
- Renovated Kitchen and Bathroom
- Car Park on Title
- Boutique Low-Rise Complex

Auction
Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

Branches of Ray White Southbank

- 111 Clarendon Street, Southbank VIC 3006
  03 8102 0200
  southbank.vic@raywhite.com
- 23/161 Sturt Street, Southbank
  21/106 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank

Av. Days on Site in Southbank

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Av. Property Page Views in Southbank

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Qty Listings in Victoria

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Everybody deserves to smile this Christmas

Drop a present into our office and we’ll make sure it gets to a deserving member of our community.

Start giving from 1 December

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

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Data source: REA June 2018