### The voice of Southbank

# SOUTHBANK LACTUREWS

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# Council plan puts businesses at risk

By Sean Car

Southbank business owners say the way the City of Port Phillip plans to construct a new education and community precinct along Ferrars St will send them broke.

While the local businesses are unanimous in their support of the new vertical primary school and public park, they say the current plan to permanently close roads and remove on-street car parking will kill them.

The owners' corporation (OC) at Surveyors Place, which is bordered by Ferrars, Douglas and Meaden Streets, presented an impact statement and alternative proposal to the City of Port Phillip at a meeting this month.

The presentation, led by OC member and local architect Peter Harvey, stressed that removing all car parks and restricting larger and emergency vehicle access would cripple many businesses and see property values plummet.

The council's current plan would see the removal of 183 car parks in the precinct, as well as the permanent closure of Railway Place and the top end of Ferrars and Gladstone Streets.

The closure and narrowing of streets would ultimately pave the way for more green space at Montague Park, wider footpaths, tree planting and an upgraded entrance to the nearby tram stop.

While businesses are busy lobbying council, the final decision ultimately rests in the hands of Minister for Planning, Richard Wynne, who can decide irrespective of the council's recommendation.

Mr Harvey, who has operated his architecture practice out of Douglas St for more than 15 years, has called on Mr Wynne to listen to the local business community.

"We agree entirely with the school and park so we're not anti the Ferrars St education precinct. We need schools, but to suddenly



Business owners and local workers from the Surveyors Place precinct hold grave fears for their futures.

decimate our livelihoods is really serious," he said.

"These buildings will become defunct, totally compromised and unusual because no one will want to buy them. They'll be unusable."

"There are businesses like the tile shop and the soil samplers, which simply can't operate without vehicle access. We can't live with having not only that restriction but having it decimated in price."

Referred to as an "economic and creative

hub", which employs 295 workers across more than 30 businesses, Mr Harvey said council had so far been responsive to concerns of the business precinct.

With a number of creative and multimedia based businesses, which would complement a local school, Mr Harvey said that ensuring the security of the hub was in the community's interest.

"We're a very eclectic group of businesses and we're not offensive to the school," he said. "The loss of this vibrant creative and economic hub and all the rest of it would be devastating."

"We've also got more than 6000 apartments already approved within 500 metres of us now and there is one already going up. So to cut down existing car parking to meet that philosophy doesn't make any sense."

Businesses have also argued that the current plans would also have a detrimental impact on the day-to-day functionality of the school.

Continued on page 4.











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# SOUTHBANK Slow news Clay

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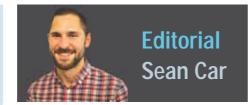


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I'm not entirely sure what Fairfax's never-ending smear campaign of Southbank and Docklands aims to achieve.

In a story this month titled 'World's most liveable city should be ashamed, The Age's reporter Clay Lucas described Southbank as a "dead zone" and a "windswept jungle of concrete".

He elected to single out Southbank as "a model of how not to plan a suburb" as the conversations continue around planning for Melbourne's next urban renewal precinct in Fishermans Bend.

No one denies that Southbank has been subject to poor planning over the years. It has undoubtedly been a case of development first, community planning later. The same can be said for Docklands.

However, what satisfaction does Fairfax draw from continuing to slag off a suburb, which more than 16,000 residents now call home?

Sure, it may not possess the open space and community infrastructure that your idealised suburb should. But as the Kavanagh Park development and the Southbank Boulevard, City Rd and Boyd Park master plans show, there is a lot more on the way. Southbank will be a very different place in 10 years.

I'm writing on the assumption that Clay has never lived in Southbank, or spent much time in the area for that matter. Going by his generalisations about our suburb I'd suggest this is the case.

When Fairfax wants to, it will jump on the

World's most liveable city should be ashamed



Go behind the success of Southbank's waterfront fine-dining and culture precinct, to its residential hinterlands beyond City Road, and you are in a dead zone - a windswept jungle of concrete apartment

This area of Melbourne might be partly zoned "mixed use", but there is only one use here: residential skyscrapers.



Clay Lucas's article as it appeared online this month.

back of the "sea of empty apartments" narrative and ride Southbank and Docklands into the ground.

Then in Clay's article we read that Southbank is a suburb for the "upwardly mobile", "those with no other option", and "student pile-ins".

He then points to the elitist example of the tent-for-rent on a balcony story, which got his newspaper's anti-Southbank engines firing last year. By the way, if any good reporter had actually clicked onto that link, the rentable tent was actually up for grabs at an apartment on Albert Rd - South Melbourne, not Southbank.

Next, he refers to former City of Melbourne urban strategist Leanne Hodyl's incredibly flawed and implausible Churchill Fellowship

As I wrote last year, Ms Hodyl's 40-page report, which refers to Southbank on a mere three of those pages was a gross misrepresentation of our suburb.

It singled out one Southbank block (Freshwater Place), as if to suggest that this was how the rest of our suburb appears. It's a poor representation of a suburb that has a lot more to offer than what many so-called experts choose to believe.

In large, I don't argue with you Clay. Yes, Southbank is dense. Yes, it lacks community space and infrastructure. But to many residents, it is home for reasons far greater

than what you've suggested.

Let's face it. Southbank is an extension of the CBD and most residents elect to live here for that very reason. Convenience.

However, that convenience also extends to many other wonderful local assets from the Botanic Gardens and Yarra River through to our very own Boyd Community Hub and Arts Precinct.

And it's not as if this "dead zone" you refer to is endless. Some of Southbank's lowrise community from Dorcas St through to Southbank Boulevard has happily lived in the suburb for more than 20 years.

It is convenient and, therefore lazy, to refer to Southbank as a whole in your bake of our suburb.

If you wish to do so in the future, you'd be better to refer to "parts of Southbank". The same could have been said for Leanne Hodyl.

I also think the discussion around Fishermans Bend would be just as constructive without dishing out on its future neighbours.

Sure, we can learn from previous mistakes.

But for those who happily live and work in our suburb and continue to strive to make it a better place, please leave us out of your next slow news day.



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A CCTV image of man police wish to speak to.

# Crown burglary

Police are investigating an alleged burglary at the Crown Metropol hotel in Southbank on Friday, May 13.

The man is said to have entered the Whiteman St hotel just before 11am and gained access using a lost hotel key.

The man is believed to have stolen a bag containing two laptop computers, clothing and two sets of keys.

Police have released a CCTV image of a man they believe may be able to assist in their enquiries.

He is described as Middle Eastern in appearance with dark eyes, dark hair and a moustache.

He was wearing a grey hooded jacket and a black cap with a brown diamond logo.

Police are urging anyone with information to contact Crime Stoppers on **1800 333 000**.

# **Fears for Boyd Park**

The City of Melbourne looks likely to put the development site at the Boyd Community Hub back on the open market and deny the community the park it desires.

This is despite the Southbank Residents' Association's (SRA) best efforts after it initiated a petition to turn the site into a full park in the wake of council's decision to tear up its commercial contract with developer Mackie.

To date, the petition has more than 900 signatures and SRA president Tony Penna says this is a clear sign as to where the community sits on the issue.

"We believe the success of the petition has sent a clear message to council that the residents are not only fed up with the lack of accessible open space but that land owned by this council is for investing in its people and not for developers to profit," he said.

"This is an extremely rare opportunity for council to truly give something tangible back to the community to benefit not only now but generations to come."

However, at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on June 15, council passed a special resolution stating that a report would be provided to the June 28 meeting recommending that council put the site back on the market.

The resolution proposed amending the 2016-17 Budget to include an additional \$200,000 in order to cover the necessary advertising, marketing and legal fees associated with securing "a new development partner".

At the June 28 meeting, council deliberated over its next move for site, however details of the meeting weren't disclosed as it was listed as a confidential item.

Mr Penna has questioned why the matter was discussed in confidence, given the contract had been terminated.

Deputy planning chair Cr Rohan Leppert



The community gathered at Boyd last month in a move to retain the site as a public park.

told *Southbank Local News* that council was unable to disclose the reasons as to why the item was confidential.

"I'm unable to disclose the reasons without breaching the Local Government Act," he said. "The CEO has declared the matter confidential as it's a contractual matter."

However, he did say further details regarding the site's future would be made available to the public this month.

Cr Ken Ong said he felt divided on what should happen at the site, but said all signs were pointing towards a return to the open market.

"I'm a bit divided on Boyd," he said. "On one hand, the city had forecast a long-term economic stimulus from the Mackie development, which we obviously couldn't predict wouldn't go ahead."

"On the other hand, there is the community

benefit that must be considered so council is in a difficult position on this one."

A spokesperson for the City of Melbourne said the council was also currently seeking quotes to demolish the fence between the library and open space to enhance access to the temporary park.

"It is anticipated that quotes will be received by the end of this week, with work to commence within the next two weeks depending on the contractor's availability," the spokesperson said.

"In relation to the red container, officers advise it is currently being used for community strengthening event activity at Boyd Community Hub so it needs to be accessible and onsite as there is an extreme lack of storage space within the Boyd building."

To add your signature to the petition head to **change.org** and search Boyd Park.



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Ray White Southbank's Andrew Salvo receives the buzz treatment (left) and while he holds what's gone alongside Lilian Kwan (right).

### **Buzz Buzz: Shave for a cure**

By Nicholas Li

As covered in our last edition, the principal of Ray White Southbank, Andrew Salvo, has undergone the number zero treatment and helped raise \$2639.85 for cancer research.

With many of those in the office experiencing the trauma of cancer first hand, Mr Salvo decided to do his bit to raise funds.

"Hair means nothing. Cancer affects many people. It touches everyone at some point in their life," he said. "It's the least I could do."

To watch a video of how the shave unfolded head to www.facebook.com/RayWhiteSouthbank

### **Council plan puts businesses at risk**

Continued from page 1.

One of the main student drop off zones has been placed on Kerr St within close proximity to the Gladstone St brothel, while many have questioned where teachers, school visitors and users of the adjoining future sports and community facility would be expected to park.

Mr Harvey's alternative proposal has suggested keeping roads open while maintaining and improving parking and traffic flows, as well as relocating the drop off zones to Buckhurst and Ferrars streets.

City of Port Phillip Mayor Bernadene Voss said council would not be in a position to decide on the changes until the public consultation process ended on July 22.

"We appreciate the time they have taken to provide this alternative proposal, which will be carefully considered along with the other community feedback received," she said.

"We are also seeking feedback from emergency services about emergency vehicle access to the new park and Ferrars, Douglas, Meaden and Gladstone Streets."

"Council officers will keep representatives of Surveyors Place informed of the next steps, which include an opportunity for community members to speak at a council meeting next month."

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne didn't respond to efforts by *Southbank Local News* to contact him for comment.

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# City Road gets the go ahead

The renewed vision for Southbank's central spine took a major step forward last month as City of Melbourne councillors unanimously endorsed the final City Road master plan.

Following an extensive community consultation process, which occurred during September and October last year, the final master plan was brought before councillors at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on June 21.

While there were only some subtle updates to the original draft vision that went before council last September, the one significant change related to plans to reconfigure Alexandra Ave as a boulevard.

Planning officers recommended that the best way to approach this part of the project was to incorporate such plans as part of the Domain Park master plan.

The City Rd plan will instead focus its attention on connecting Alexandra and Queen Victoria Gardens by establishing a new pedestrian crossing about half way between the St Kilda Rd overpass and Linlithgow Ave.

However, construction of the new crossing won't occur until mid-2017, while the rest of the project's construction works won't start until 2018, with no money having been provided in the City of Melbourne's 2016-17 budget.

The project, which is estimated to cost more than \$40 million, is expected to be completed in 2023.

The plan's approach imagines the arterial in two distinct sections of City Rd West (between Clarendon and Power streets) and City Rd East (between Power St and the St Kilda Rd overpass).

Developed in partnership with VicRoads, the master plan has been devised with the intention of improving accessibility and safety for pedestrians and cyclists by slowing traffic and transforming City Rd West into a main street.

Key features of the plan still include new crossings at Clarke and Balston Streets, 9000sqm of new community open space at the Kings Way undercroft, slip lane removals at Southbank Boulevard, Southgate Ave and Queensbridge St and enhanced access to the Arts Precinct.

The plan provides for 98 new trees, 1280sqm





The master plan has earmarked green spaces, bike lanes (above) and new open space underneath Kings Way (below).

of new footpath, 700 metres of bicycle lanes and three upgraded bus and tram stops.

Increases to commuter travel times also remain unchanged at an average 1:51 minutes in the morning peak and 1:37 minustes in the afternoon.

Cr Rohan Leppert praised planning officers for conducting what he described as an "impressive" and "robust" master plan.

"At the moment City Rd drives the communities up in to the towers and we want to pull them back down again to street level and make City Rd a wonderful place to be," he said.

"You can't embark on a project as large and frankly expensive as that without a really sound policy base and that's what we have before us."

The master plan proposes six-key changes to be delivered over five-years:

- Transform City Rd West into a "great central street";
- lacktriangle Reimagine Kings Way undercroft;
- Upgrade City Rd East to be safer and more accessible for pedestrians;
- Connect City Rd with the Arts Centre and the Yarra River;
- Connect the gardens; and
- Expand the cycling network.

The master plan's vision has also been developed to align with other major projects in Southbank including the Melbourne Metro Rail, Boyd Park, Southbank Boulevard master plan and the Arts Blueprint.

A new cycling route will be implemented along Balston and Kavanagh Streets, which will connect to the future linear park at Southbank Boulevard.

Early suggested reuses of the redundant taxi rank underneath Kings Way include a new skate park, climbing wall, sports courts, temporary art space and pop-up pavilions.

The existing open spaces near the Moray St tram stop and Queensbridge St corner will also be upgraded.

Visual upgrades to the St Kilda Rd overpass and Arts Centre walkways from Southgate Avenue are also included in the plans, as is the potential for permanent open space at Testing Grounds.

Southbank Residents Association president Tony Penna praised the City of Melbourne for producing a "landmark report" and said he was particularly happy about plans for new open space.

"We know that open space has been high on the agenda of Southbank of late particularly with the Boyd Park," he said. "We all know that Southbank has the lowest open space allocation per resident in the municipality."

"The creative transformation of the currently underutilised space of the Kings Way overpass is a real credit to this council and its officers."

Mr Penna noted that despite the positive impacts the plan would have on Southbank, the dangers posed by heavy vehicles using City Rd East to connect with the Monash Freeway were still of concern to residents.

Cr Ken Ong agreed and said it was an area the City of Melbourne would continue to address with VicRoads in the future.

"The trucks that you get coming off Power St and City Link coming into the City Rd area use that route because they're placarded and can't go into the tunnel and it's something that has always worried me a lot," he said.

"They can't go into the tunnel because they are dangerous but it's all right for them to go through a heavily populated area, so philosophically I think that's something that needs to be resolved with VicRoads and other authorities."









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# A true Southbank luminary

Acknowledged as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) on the Queen's Birthday last month, Southbank resident Kenneth Harrison has led a visionary life of helping anyone and anything.

The Melburnian resident's list of credentials and accomplishments is incredibly extensive and diverse, which is a reflection of his lust for life and giving to others.

The long list, which stems from his days as a co-founding director of investment bank Collinsbank, includes leading roles on the boards of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Oxfam, the Royal Children's Hospital, the Anaesthetists Foundation and the Australian Dental Association to name a few.

Starting out in the world of accountancy and finance banking, Ken's first major role came as treasurer of Australian Airlines (now Qantas), before he decided to go his own way.

Having taken on a number of roles with major banks following his time at the airline, he said he and his business partner wanted to create a vehicle to invest their own energy and ideas into giving back.

"I remember almost to the day in 1985 we were sitting in his office in Collins St and he asked 'Well if we're going to do this what will we call it?" Ken said.

"I was looking out the window at the time and here's the sign for Collins St and it overlapped with Bank of Melbourne and it looked like Collinsbank."

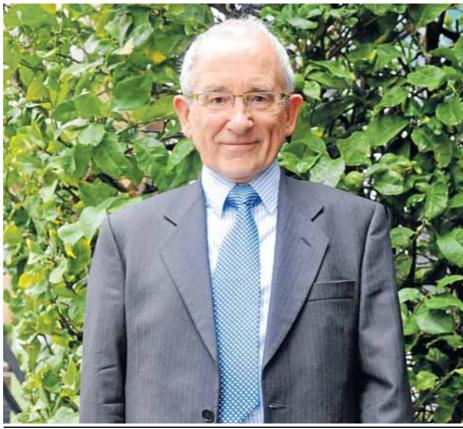
"The most rewarding part has been the ability to do the things you want to do, getting involved in philanthropy, working for organisations and not having to go there at nine and finish at seven at night."

For 25 years now the pair has been running the investment bank, which has given Ken the time to do many incredible things.

Having worked as director of Oxfam for 15 years, Ken was also responsible for establishing the Ethical Investment Trust in partnership with the Bendigo Bank, which he described as "innovation through philanthropy".

The idea behind the initiative was based on collecting interest off large investments, which is then distributed on to overseas aid projects.

Over 15 years, the trust has raised more than \$10 million and a consulting group



Southbank resident AM Kenneth Harrison.

established through the initiative continues to work with the Australian Government on international aid programs.

"My approach to life is trying to bring innovation and something different, not just get out there and just raise money through traditional runs and so on. It's to form businesses," Ken said.

"It's the approach. It's about being positive and not saying 'give us some money.' It's educating people about some really good causes and helping them understand why they should support it."

He has taken this innovative approach to various other organisations since handing over the reigns at Oxfam, which have most notably included a role with the Royal Children's Hospital and being chairman of the Royal Botanic Gardens.

As a self-confessed gardening enthusiast, Ken began his involvement with the Royal Botanic Gardens committee in 2012 and has already been an integral part of many exciting forthcoming upgrades (watch this space for more on that!).

Having lived in Southbank for 10 years, he said he had even tried to take his love for gardening to his apartment balcony over the years by building his own high-rise garden.

However, between his involvement at the gardens, owning a farm near Geelong as well as a chestnut farm in Bright, he said Southbank was central to all of his passions.

"I love Southbank but, as I said, being someone who really loves plants and botany and gardens, the frustration of trying to grow so many things on a 40sqm balcony is impossible!" he said.

"It's great though because we walk around the inside of the tan as often as we can through the gardens so I keep an eye on how the gardens are going."

### Montague Park put to public

By Nicholas Li

Residents are invited to participate in consultations with the City of Port Phillip in relation to the building of Montague Community Park.

Set to open in 2018, along with the South Melbourne State School, new sizing plans have been put forward by council.

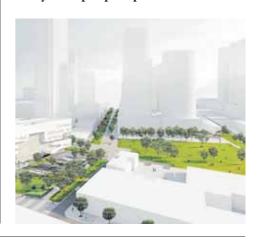
The council has proposed rezoning from Capital City Zone to Public Park and Recreation Zone, and for road closures to enable expansion of the park from 3450sqm to 8400sqm.

Mayor of Port Phillip Bernadene Voss said residents could expect changes to the face of the community.

"We're working with them through that change so we strike a balance between the interests of our community today, and the interests of our community in the future, and the delivery of the Montague Community Park is a major step in that process," Mayor Voss said.

Consultation ends on July 22, with the opportunity for participants to speak at a council meeting on August 9. Submissions will be assessed before a council decision on August 23.

For more information visit **haveyoursatportphillip.net.au** 







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## **Questions aplenty for lunch speaker**

Lunch guests will have plenty of questions for Parks Victoria CEO Bradley Fauteux when he addresses the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) lunch on July 15.

Mr Fauteux has only recently taken over the reins at Parks and will be mixing with a group of businesses which have had a strained relationship with the waterways manager over recent years.

In particular, water-based businesses will be interested in future governance arrangements over the river as well as the composition of a new interim committee being formed to guide future arrangements.

The YRBA was represented on the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group (LYRUFDG) which last year recommended a new governance model.

The State Government rejected the governance recommendations but some local stakeholders understood that an interim committee was being established to transition to an independent waterways authority.

However, in a recent interview with *Southbank Local News*, Mr Fauteux said that was not his understanding.

"Nothing in that announcement suggests that there is going to be an independent authority established in the future," Mr Fauteux said. "None of what I have heard says that that's going to be the likely outcome. I think it's a possible outcome and,

again, a lot can happen in a couple of years."

Local stakeholders will also have plenty of interest in the composition of a three-person committee which is being established to oversee a number of practical issues such as berthing and dredging. The committee is also expected to make recommendations on appropriate future governance models.

While the YRBA was expecting three independent business people to be appointed to the committee, it is far from certain whether there will be any at all.

Early in the interview, Mr Fauteax said: "We're going to have a three or four-person committee. We'll have someone from local government, we're hoping to have someone from the City of Melbourne, we're hoping to have someone from our board and someone from Parks Vic, I don't know who that will be, comprising the committee."

Later in the interview, Mr Fauteux said business would be represented on the committee. A transcript of the interview can be read at www.southbanklocalnews. com.au/editions/article/interview-withbradley-fauteux/

To book tickets for the lunch, email YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher at **exoff@** yarrariver.info



Parks Victoria's new CEO Bradley Fauteux.

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# "Major concerns" for recast vision

City of Melbourne councillors have expressed concerns around a number of elements of the State Government's recast vision of the Fishermans Bend urban renewal precinct.

In its submission to the vision, which was discussed at the July 5 Future Melbourne Committee meeting, the City of Melbourne raised a number of issues around transport, sustainability, infrastructure and land use.

The government's new vision has earmarked distinct land uses within five separate neighbourhoods of Montague, Sandridge, Lorimer, Wirraway and a new employment precinct.

The Montague precinct, much of which includes areas of Southbank and South Wharf, was an early recipient of former Liberal planning minister Matthew Guy's "capital city" rezoning of the urban renewal area.

The area has already been subject to more than 10,000 approved apartments and has therefore been touted for residential and retail use, while others have their own specific visions in place.

Cr Rohan Leppert said that because the capital city zoning applied across all of Fishermans Bend, the plan would be nothing more than "nice words" if the government couldn't explain how it planned to achieve its specific vision.

"This is the elephant in the room for me, the vision talks about the five different precincts and what land uses are going to be there," he said

"How every precinct is going to look in however-many years time, saying that you're going to have artists' studios over here and only employment over here and certain types of residential apartments over here and light industry here."

"None of it is going to be achieved with the

capital city zone applying across the entire area and (with) no other planning controls in place to direct land uses."

Councillors argued that the vision failed to provide any meaningful strategies around delivering viable public transport links, schools and public open space.

Councillor Stephen Mayne said he was also concerned by how much of the community infrastructure required for Fishermans Bend was going to be funded and by whom.

"There are proposals for some solid developer contributions and regimes but it is still unclear who's going to write the cheques to really deliver the public benefit that's really needed to fulfill the vision for Fishermans Bend," he said.

"I'm not sure where we'll be with Fishermans Bend in five years, given some of these uncertainties. But I think we're heading in the right direction having got off to a chaotic start in terms of embracing this region as an urban zone."

After former minister Guy rezoned Fishermans Bend, many development approvals were granted before the 2014 state election.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said he disagreed with Cr Mayne's view that Fishermans Bend had been the subject of a chaotic start, but said it was important a long-term approach was adopted to planning.

"The only instrument around developing Fishermans Bend, given that it's private land, is land-use planning and that's in our control and therefore we are going to be one of the key players in how it plays out," he said.



Acting Premier James Merlino and Minister for Creative Industries Martin Foley with the model of the new school.

### **New music school**

Southbank is set to become one of the world's best training grounds for the arts, with the construction of a new Melbourne Conservatorium of Music on Sturt St.

The project, which is a collaboration between the State Government and the University of Melbourne, will relocate and expand the university's elite music education and research facility from Parkville to Southbank.

The conservatorium, which will open to students in 2019, will be built at 33 Sturt St next to the Melbourne Recital Centre and the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).

The new facility will offer the most comprehensive range of music courses available, adding to Southbank's rich tapestry of creative education institutions, which already includes the VCA, the VCA Secondary School and the Australian Ballet School.

The State Government has contributed the land under a long-term lease arrangement, as well as \$3 million. Major philanthropic partners also support the project.

The \$105.5 million development is expected to generate \$350 million for the state and create more than 2000 jobs during construction.

The conservatorium will include a 400-seat auditorium and will open up a new public outdoor space linking Dodds and Sturt Streets

Acting Premier James Merlino said the world-class facility would provide a huge boost to Southbank and the state.

"Southbank is already home to an extraordinary concentration of top calibre arts training facilities, as well as the best art galleries and performance venues in the country," he said.

"The conservatorium will bring students from around Victoria, Australia and the world, giving them skills for the rest of their career."



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BAR AND KITCHEN

# One fewer excuse on governance inaction

**By Bethany Williams** 

The State Government has one less excuse up its sleeve to explain why it can't introduce a single, independent river authority for the Lower Yarra now.

While Minister for Water Lisa Neville has previously claimed more work needs to be done before any decisions are made about the single-governance model, the release of a discussion paper last month rules out at least one of these excuses.

The Protecting the Yarra River (Birrarung) Discussion Paper produced by the Yarra River Protection Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC), looks at how best to protect the Yarra River and doesn't mention river governance reform in Southbank or Docklands.

Earlier this year, Ms Neville rejected the recommendation of the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group to establish a single waterways authority for the Lower Yarra, opting instead to establish a waterways committee under Parks Victoria.

At the time she said she wasn't ruling out the eventual establishment of a single waterways authority but more work had to be done to

determine a long-term solution.

According to Ms Neville, this work included the maritime safety review and the Yarra River Protection Act.

The Yarra River Protection MAC was formed to drive consultation and draft the new Yarra River Protection Act.

However, despite Ms Neville suggesting this work could guide future governance solutions in Southbank and Docklands, concerns specific to these areas, including governance, are absent from the committee's recent discussion paper.

Chair of the Yarra River Protection MAC Chris Chesterfield confirmed the group was not specifically looking at the issues affecting the Docklands and Southbank sections of the river.

The government has also acknowledged their awareness of the unique river environment in both Southbank and Docklands through

the exclusion of these areas from recent planning reforms.

One of the key steps the government has already taken to protect the river is the implementation of stronger planning controls along the river, between Richmond and Warrandyte.

"The Andrews Labor Government is determined to protect the 240km of river between Richmond and Warrandyte. By working with the community we can deliver long-term, meaningful change," Ms Neville said.

Mr Chesterfield agreed that the planning controls were not introduced in Docklands and Southbank due to the very different planning environment.

He said a significant motivation for setting up the Yarra River Protection MAC was the amount of development occurring between Richmond and Warrandyte. This again refutes Ms Neville's claim that work relating to the Yarra River Protection Act could inform future governance arrangements in the lower Yarra.

By the end of 2016 the Yarra River Ministerial Advisory Committee will provide advice to the government on a number of reforms including;

- Waterways health;
- Community use, access and amenity of the river and its network of parklands and open spaces; and
- Interface of the river with adjacent land uses and its catchments

The Protecting the Yarra River (Birrarung)
Discussion Paper is open for public comment
until Friday, August 5.

Find the discussion paper at http:// haveyoursay.delwp.vic.gov.au/protectingthe-yarra-river

### Tower pegged back

In what was originally submitted at 82-storeys, the Minister for Planning last month granted approval to the controversial development at 334-344 City Rd at a more modest 38-storeys.

After its original design was refused, developer EAG Pty Ltd went back to the drawing board last year and resubmitted a 57-storey proposal, which Lord Mayor Robert Doyle slammed as a "terrible proposal".

Measuring at 190-metres in a zone stipulating a 100-metre discretionary height limit, the Lord Mayor had previously accused the developer of "thumbing its nose" at the city's planning controls.

The developer has since complied by scrapping hotel rooms and reducing the number of apartments from 482 to 290.

The \$200 million approval comes as one of five major projects approved by Planning Minister Richard Wynne in June, resulting in a \$2 billion boost to the Victorian economy.

While having been accused by the building industry of attempting to stifle development with tougher planning controls, Mr Wynne said the market was responding by providing greater apartment variety.

"The market is responding to high supply levels by offering more variety and we're seeing more apartments big enough for families," he said.

"The conditions imposed on the permits



A render of 334-344 City Rd's ground floor entrance.

make significant improvements to these developments, making sure the buildings are set back from the streets and apartments are liveable."

With another 45,000 new homes projected to be built in the inner city by 2031, Mr Wynne said he expected strong investment in development to continue.



# An arts superstructure

You might have noticed that the Testing Grounds site on City Rd is currently lying idly barren.

But there's no need to fear. The experimental arts space is just in hibernation mode over winter in preparation for a major expansion.

Described by head curator Joseph Norster as a "creative superstructure", construction will soon get underway on a giant steel grid, which is set to dramatically change the way artists and visitors engage with the space.

The structure, which will take up most of the site, will consist of four purpose-built atriums and a framework for shelter, hanging artworks and distributing lighting, power, data and water.

The four atriums will include a clear cube (observing the process of making the art); a white cube (gallery and studio); a black cube (visual and performance arts); and an open cube (multipurpose, ad-hoc space for anything).

The superstructure has been designed for artists to be able to manipulate the space as much as possible with portable display walls to also be incorporated.

Mr Norster said he was excited to see how people would engage with the new set up.

"We're really excited," he said. "It is going to be a very different proposition and we're really excited to see how people will now engage with the space."

"The idea is that this will be our last winter hibernation as the new space will provide year-round utility with the bigger and more accessible internal spaces."

"We hope it will help attract more artistin-residencies, seven days a week, all year round."

Testing Ground's supporter Creative Victoria is currently undertaking geotechnical surveys and soil testing on the site in preparation for construction, which is expected to begin this month.

The new set up will still include a café and bar, while the Fanning St corner will be pushed back to create new public open space with trees and benches.

The City of Melbourne has also been a major contributor to the project having provided 40 new trees, which will create an urban forest at the site.





A render of how the Testing Ground's will appear when reopened.

As part of its Urban Forest Strategy, the City of Melbourne provided the trees to the project to help meet its canopy cover targets for the Southbank area.

In what will be known as the "edge of wildness", the urban forest will be located along the City Rd edge of the site and act as a buffer to noise and traffic for users of the space.

Mr Norster said the upgrade would mean that it could more productively connect with and provide space for local arts institutions, schools and universities and major events.

He also said that the City of Melbourne's recent adoption of the City Rd master plan

meant that the site would be able to connect more effectively with the arts precinct and the local community.

"The City Rd master plan will also provide a lot of benefits to the site in the future in terms of accessibility, awareness and safety," he said.

"It's currently very disconnected from our artistic neighbours on St Kilda Rd so we're looking forward to having that connection enhanced."

It's expected that the site will be officially reopened to the public by November 1.

For more information visit **www.testing-grounds.com.au** 

### **Bridge revamp**

**By Mindy Gill** 

VicRoads presented at a forum at the Malthouse Theatre last month to bring local residents up to speed with the widening of the Swan St Bridge.

Hosted by the Southbank Residents Association (SRA) on June 15, the forum discussed the State Government's \$30 million upgrade to the bridge, which is set to reduce congestion and improve safety in Southbank once completed in 2017.

The project will include an additional traffic lane and two new separate shared paths for cyclists and pedestrians on both sides of the road.

SRA president Tony Penna said that the current design created heavy congestion on Alexandra Ave leading onto City Rd, and was also unsafe for Southbank residents, pedestrians and bike riders.

"People inadvertently drive down the right hand lane because the left hand lane gets congested, not realising that it's a toll lane," he said. "It creates road rage. It's innocent. You've got no choice but to push in."

The upgrade will include a facelift to improve the look of the bridge and surrounding area, with designs including lighting, viewing platforms and unique architectural features.

"We were very impressed and very happy with the thought they'd put into the whole project," Mr Penna said.



A VicRoads officer speaks to the SRA last month.

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# Cabaret at the Melbourne Recital Centre this winter

#### **By Mindy Gill**

A trio of Australia's best cabaret talent will be performing at Melbourne Recital Centre's intimate Salon space this month.

Acclaimed cabaret performer Michael Griffiths, who kick started the series on July 4, explored the life and music of Cole Porter in his show *Cole*, including renditions of classics such as *You're the Top*, *I've Got You Under My Skin* and *Night and Day*.

Griffiths has received five-star reviews and standing ovations for his performances in shows right across Australia and beyond, to New York, Auckland, Hong Kong, London and Edinburgh.

A review from *Glam Adelaide* included the following praise: "His elegantly charming wit shone through as brightly as Porter's timeless songs ... there have been many tributes to Cole Porter's life, but *Cole* must rank as one of the best."

An Evening with Fem Belling will celebrate the exceptional

jazz talent of South African-born Fem Belling in a night of reimagined classics of the Great American Songbook, which will feature on July 16.

An ARIA nominated artist, Fem has an energetic appetite for braiding musical styles and reteaches her audience the almost bygone art of taking it easy.

"I will be taking songs that would never usually see the light in a jazz environment and making them swing," Ms Belling said.

"A lot of the time people associate jazz with yesteryear, a different kind of generation, a different kind of music. But there's an amazing new generation of us that are making jazz for now, a new generation of listeners."

The Salon cabaret club will conclude on July 22 and 23 with national treasure and multi-award winner Robyn Archer, whose show will feature iconic American songs in  $\it The$ 

(Other) American Songbook.

Featuring songs by Bob Dylan, Woodie Guthrie and the odd Broadway hit, her performance will explore themes of drought, booze, gambling and the Great Depression, presenting a revealing, joyous and moving portrait of America.

Robyn Archer is adored for her distinctive take on repertoire and intriguing musical journeys that tell of juxtaposition and surprise, the old with the new, the tough with the sweet, and the familiar with the unfamiliar.

One review by the *Adelaide Advertiser* observed: "Archer ... sang unaccompanied a US civil war song called *Hard Times* with such pure power, tenderness and beauty that people wept."

For more information and to book tickets, visit  ${\bf www.}$   ${\bf melbournerecital.com.au}$ 



The Wayne Shorter Quartet mesmerised the Hamer Hall audience on Sunday, June 12.

### Jazz hits the mark

**Review by Sean Car** 

### Where do you start? This year's jazz festival simply had it all.

The diversity of the 2016 edition was something the festival's artistic director Michael Tortoni had stressed throughout the series and it was certainly evident.

In the words of Tortoni, this year's festival, which ran from June 3 to 12 was about "capturing a moment in time" and creating a "live improvisation" of jazz music's ability to stay relevant by absorbing everything in its path.

Let's begin on Wednesday, June 8 at the Malthouse Theatre with Mulatu Astake and the Black Jesus Experience – an infusion of Ethiopian jazz, soul, funk, hip-hop and Latin.

Hailed as the father of "Ethio-Jazz", Mulatu Astake's performance had something for every punter whether new or accustomed to jazz. It was a show that had the audience dancing, clapping, chanting and all of the above.

Fast forward to Thursday night at Hamer

Hall where Japanese virtuosic pianist Hiromi quite simply blew minds.

Never in my life have I witnessed such madness on a piano. It was as if she had two sets of fingers on each hand.

Combined with Paul Simon's former bass player Anthony Jackson and former Judas Priest drummer Simon Phillips, this was certainly a modern twist on jazz and one which most people wouldn't expect at a jazz festival.

A different interpretation all together followed on Friday – again at Hamer Hall – with Eddie Palmieri and his Latin Jazz Septet.

The Puerto Rican pianist and New York jazz legend was given special treatment by organisers as the first 15 or so rows of Hamer Hall were extracted to create a giant dance floor.

The result was an atmosphere one might find on a hot sultry night in New Orleans, as the audience danced and jived throughout the entire show in what was a fun-filled performance.

The closing weekend's main events consisted

of a return to a more stereotypical taste of jazz but, again, interpreted differently.

Saturday evening saw modern master Marcus Strickland and his talented assembly Twi-Life pack out Bennetts Lane Jazz Club.

Combined with that unique Bennetts ambience, Strickland's contemporary take on classical cool jazz was not too dissimilar from a Davis-Coltrane mood. It had all the intricacies necessary to create those moving jazz feels.

And then to cap off the festival, you won't find many more legendary to do so than icon Wayne Shorter and his quartet. Having made his name alongside the likes of Art Blakey and Miles Davis, this performance was something to behold.

A series of delicate, detailed and dynamic jazz arrangements took the listener on an amazing journey. It was a stirring show and one which transported the audience to another realm for a good hour and a half. Heads were left transfixed.

Another year, another job well done. See you next year jazz lovers!

# MSO under the big top

By Nicholas Li

The MSO is joining forces with an elite cast of international circus performers to present a marriage of classical music and circus acts at Hamer Hall.

Cirque de la Symphonie will showcase aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers and strongmen and will run for two nights – July 15 and 16.

The program features works by Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, Bizet, Dvorák and John Williams, with a special performance of Williams' score for *Hook* to close the first half of proceedings.

The performers will exhibit their skills above, in front and around the musicians.

MSO associate conductor Benjamin Northey said the event would offer audiences a unique experience.

"This performance promises to be a wild and fun way to experience popular classical music. I can't wait to see what the sound of the orchestra brings out in the circus performers as they dance, juggle and fly through the air all around us," he said.

Bookings:  $\mathbf{mso.com.au}$  or 9929 9600













### For Stella, photography is all about capturing emotions

**By Bethany Williams** 

"It's being able to communicate something
- a feeling - through imagery rather than
words," Stella explained. "Words can't always
capture an emotion like images can."

Halfway through her part-time Advanced Diploma of Photography at the Photography Studies College (PSC) in Southbank, Stella has rediscovered the joy of photography over the past few years.

A lover of photography and creative pursuits as a child, Stella said that, as she got older, she put those ideas "on the backburner" and chose a pathway that would be more financially viable and keep her parents happy.

"I was a maths and science teacher for quite some time and then I decided to do a degree in creative arts therapy," Stella said. "That kind of brought back all of the joy of being creative."

Eventually Stella signed up for a course at PSC and has since been busy building her portfolio and developing her skills.

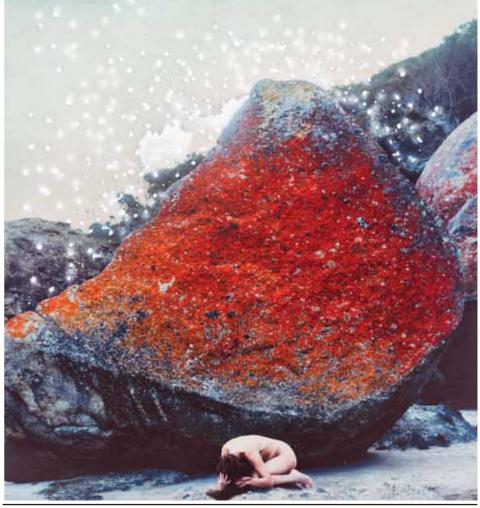
Stella describes her photography style as "romantic" and "whimsical" and says she's used her art photography to document her "emotional landscape".

"The last few years at PSC I've just been using it as a vehicle (because I've studied art therapy) to make sense of things going on in my life."

"I went through a period of anxiety and depression, so I explored that. Then, for my next body of work, I'd just had a massive fight with my family, so I did some work on following what you love versus others' expectations. Then I explored heartache and then briefly infatuation."

Alongside her art photography, Stella also enjoys portrait photography and capturing moments between people.

"When I'm photographing families and people it's kind of slowing down and, through the lens, being able to capture the



Stella's piece titled 'Inconsequential'.

love and intimate moments."

"I love photographing children and it's been great having repeat customers and being able to document their children growing up," Stella said.

According to Stella, studying at PSC is just like being part of a little family, with the added bonus of inspiring tutors and classmates.

"I've also really enjoyed the camaraderie from classmates over the past two years," she said. The class recently held a group exhibition and Stella is also celebrating winning two silver awards at the Australian Institute of Professional Photography Victorian State Awards earlier this year.

With two years of studies at PSC remaining, Stella is looking forward to further developing her practice.

"What I've really enjoyed about studying here is learning how to trust my instincts," Stella said.

Stella's work can be found at www. stellatnguyen.com





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IMAGES (L-R): Matthew Molloy, Ian Kemp, John Carruthers



#### **SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR**

August 7 - Melbourne Recital Centre

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www.melbournerecital.com.au

#### **PAINTING. MORE PAINTING**

July 30 - Aug 28 - ACCA

Presented in two chapters across ACCA's four exhibition galleries, Painting. More Painting is a big-picture focus on contemporary Australian painting, featuring the work of over seventy living Australian artists. The work of 14 influential painters will be presented in a series of solo studies offering focused insights into their practices.

www.accaonline.org.au



#### **JASPER JONES**

Starts August 1 - The Sumner

Hailed as an Australian To Kill a Mockingbird, Craig Silvey's acclaimed, best-selling novel is lovingly adapted for the stage by Kate Mulvany, directed by Sam Strong (Private Lives, The Weir). A heart-warming coming-of-age story wrapped in a mystery, Jasper Jones recalls a long, simmering summer in which friendships are tested and illusions are lost.

www.mtc.com.au



#### **EDWARD II**

July 29 - Aug 21 - Malthouse Theatre

Edward II is a leader who fails to lead - a king who loses everything because of his addiction to another man. Newly crowned and convinced he's invincible, he flaunts his affair and in doing so, affronts the nation.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

#### TIM ROGERS SINGS SONGS OF LOVE AND LOSS

Aug 4 - Playhouse

Troubadour, flâneur, dilettante, icon and Australia's favourite frontman as you have never seen him before - an intimate theatre, a couple of accomplices, a microphone and a killer song list of unrequited love songs in a joyous setting. A man beaten up by Rock n' Roll sings his favourite songs of love, passion, regret and rehab.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au



#### FRIDAY NIGHTS AT NGV

Running until Sept 16 - NGV

Complementing the Melbourne Winter Masterpieces exhibition Degas: A New Vision, Friday Nights at NGV offer after-hours access to the exhibition, live jazz, short talks, Degas-inspired French food, bars, and live music performances by outstanding local and international acts. To see the full list of artists visit:

www.ngv.vic.gov.au



#### **OTHELLO**

Running until July 23 - Fairfax Studio

One of William Shakespeare's most famous and passionate tragedies, Othello will be directed by Artistic Director Peter Evans, in a gripping production that will touch audiences to their core, as envy is a weapon wielded with brazen savagery, and the complex contradictory nature of humanity is tested.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au



#### **SPARKS OF CONFLICT**

July 20 - Melbourne Recital Centre

Works by Shostakovich, Vine and Barber as part of the Local Heroes series 2016.

Three composers from three different continents respond to an inner unease caused by their powerlessness to change circumstances in the outer world.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

Running until Sep 4 - Gallery 1

#### **HENRY TALBOT**

Running until August 21 - NGV Australia

Melbourne and 1960s fashion are the starring subjects of more than 80 striking never-seen-before photographs by fashion photographer Henry Talbot which feature in this exhibition from the NGV Collection.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au



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www.malthousetheatre.com.au



#### NON-PROFITS AND PHOTOGRAPHY

July 29 - Photography Studies College For non-profits photography is an instrument that allows our supporters to connect with their work. The speakers at this event, Laura McKinley and Martin Wurt, are both photographers with extensive experience in the field and together have over 20 years' experience as photo editors at Oxfam

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### Winter fun in Southbank!

Families took to the Yarra River precinct between Southbank and South Wharf over the school holidays for some wintery fun.

Between the snow machines at South Wharf, ice slide at Riverside Quay and ice rink at Federation Square, there has never been a better time to experience winter along the Yarra River.

Families can still enjoy the ice slide and ice rink until July 17.





(Right) A mother and son take to the ice slide at Riverside Quay last month, (left) while a young man receives a face of snow at South Wharf. Photos: Nicholas Li and Shane Scanlan.

# Trees to go for Metro

In its response to the Melbourne Metro Rail project's environmental effects statement (EES), the City of Melbourne has expressed concerns about the loss of trees along St Kilda Rd.

According to the statement, which was released last month by the Melbourne Metro Rail Authority (MMRA), 475 trees will be affected by the project many of which lie within the new Domain Station precinct.

In its submission, which went before council at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on July 5, council highlighted that the EES proposal was at odds with its desire to retain trees wherever possible.

"The quantity of trees that is likely to be lost is something that is very concerning and the MMRA has said to us and we've said back to them that we must assess the value of each and every tree," Cr Rohan Leppert said.

"We must make sure that every single tree has got a plan in place and that every option has been looked at to make sure that trees can be retained where possible. That's all we can ask for and that's all we do."

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said MMRA CEO Evan Tattersall and his team had been very responsive to the council's concerns and that both organisations would mitigate tree loss one by one.

"Noise and vibration, the tunnel alignment below the Domain Precinct and there are 475 trees affected within the City of Melbourne and, okay, about half of them are either juvenile or end of life but, nevertheless, it is almost a tree-by-tree negotiation," he said.

"This touches something like 26 policy documents and strategies for the City of Melbourne so it reaches into all of our business. Evan Tattersall and his team have been remarkably co-operative with the city."

The submission also stated that the siting, design and scale of the Domain Station should be modified to reflect projected use and to reduce adverse visual impacts.

It suggests achieving this by creating a colocation of structures and siting the station's entrance further to the east on Domain Rd.

It also notes that the project provides an opportunity to create a St Kilda Rd master plan in collaboration with relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Council has also stated that it doesn't

support the MMRA's proposed tunnel boring launch sites in Fawkner Park due to loss of open space and impacts to the local community child care centre and senior citizens club.

Council has stated that it wishes to work with the MMRA to facilitate a construction management plan that wouldn't require the occupation of Fawkner Park.

Overall, Cr Leppert said the submission was a remarkable document that accurately spelt out the city's position on the project.

"The metro rail is something that the City of Melbourne has long advocated for. It is City of Melbourne policy that this project, in this form, in this route should be built," he said.

"Any EES process is always going to be one of finding out what can be improved upon and so the perception that this report is just a list of things that we're finding that are wrong misses the broader point."

"The metro project is going to be absolutely vital to city's future and this council supports it whole heartedly."

### **Southbankers** like to share

By Andia May

Southbank has the thirdhighest proportion of share houses in the state, according to a recent analysis by website flatmates.com.au.

According to Flatmates, 13 per cent of Southbank dwellings are shared by people who previously did not know each

Southbank came in behind Melbourne CBD (19 per cent) and West Melbourne (14 per cent).

The analysis found that 26 postcodes across Australia had at least one in 10 dwellings that were being shared while a further 70 postcodes had between five and 10 per cent of dwellings.

Flatmates achieved the results through analysis of share home listings created in the past 12 months and private dwelling data from the Bureau of Statistics.

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### Nothing to draw with and the well is deep

One of the most compelling encounters described in the New Testament is a casual conversation between Jesus of Nazareth and a Samaritan woman.

It doesn't involve the raising of anyone from the dead and there's no turning of water into wine, but still, many Christians point to this chat as touching upon something that is central to their faith.

Jesus had been travelling, he was tired and thirsty and he sat down by a well just outside the town of Sychar. Then approached a woman of a different culture – whom we're later told was living a questionable lifestyle. Jesus didn't have anything with which to draw from the well, but the woman did, so Jesus asked her for a drink.

This all sounds fairly humdrum, but the cultural norms of the day made it quite the scandal. Jesus, a Jewish teacher, shouldn't have been speaking in public with a woman, let alone a Samaritan woman. But Jesus didn't seem to care about the rule-book. In

fact, he threw it out!

Before him was a woman of a people he was supposed to be enemies with, a woman who'd had five failed marriages and was now shacking up out of wedlock and Jesus asked her for something. Jesus needed a drink and he was willing to share a cup with her – but even more than that, he wanted to share a cup with her.

The recent tragedy in Orlando, Florida has rightly drawn attention to the relationship between homophobia and religion. The gunman claimed to be carrying out his horrific crimes in the name of a militant religious group while media reports have suggested that he himself may have been gay.

It's at times like this that religious leaders

of various faith traditions find themselves sitting by a well, parched with thirst and losing their voices. They find themselves unable to quench that thirst and remove the frog from their throat because they're unwilling or unable to ask someone different – someone gay perhaps – for a drink.

Religious types can tend to be this way because if you look hard enough you can find sacred texts in just about any religion that condemn homosexual love. But the love of Jesus – as shown to the woman at the well – is a love that doesn't condemn, it only seeks to build community.

If pastors, priests, imams, rabbis and so on were to take a moment to ask a friend in the LGBTI community for a drink they might just find that they have a bucket to lower into the well, and that it comes out full of a refreshing

water that even Jesus himself wanted and needed.

At that well in Sychar, Jesus showed that he wants to open a single world-wide nightclub where all people are unified and satisfied and thirsting for nothing. In this nightclub, Jesus is the bartender, freely serving all people his water – a water that gives life, the kind of life that even hate, fear and assault rifles can't take away.



#### **Tom Hoffmann**

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



Southbank Residents Association

### No winter hibernation for Southbank residents

Winter has definitely set in but your SRA committee certainly hasn't gone into hibernation.

As you may recall from last month, we have been actively lobbying the City of Melbourne to reconsider the use of the block of land behind Boyd on City Rd. It was originally ear-marked for a 30-storey residential tower before council withdrew the permit from the developer after failing to commence the development.

We launched a petition on Change.org and were elated to see the community get behind it and endorse the entire space being converted to a park – green open space – by contributing almost 900 signatures of support.

We presented our petition to council and on June 28 it considered this matter by way of a confidential agenda item. The detail of the deliberations are not yet known, but what we can report is that no final decision was made.

This is promising news though, as it is clear to us, council recognises the real opportunities here and appears committed to give the matter due diligence and further consideration, which we believe is critical in order to determine the best outcome for council and the residents of Southbank.

In the meantime, our petition remains active and we're still asking everyone with an interest in Southbank and green open space in the city to sign and share it with as many friends and family as possible. We acknowledge there will be many competing interests in this matter and we trust council will do what is necessary to get it right and

not rush their decision. We'll continue to keep you informed as we now know first hand just how important it is to so many of you.

In other news this month, the budget was passed by council and it was comforting to know the City Rd upgrade will commence in the coming financial year. This is a significant project for Southbank and will provide wonderful amenity to residents and improve the feel and safety of our environment although it will be many years until completion.

We're always trying to grow our membership base to increase our advocacy, so if you live in Southbank, please visit our website southbankresidents.com.au and consider becoming a member. It's only \$10 to support a cause that works for you. Did you know your building can become a member too?

Please feel free to ask for more information and find out how being a member of SRA will benefit the OC in your building.

Looking ahead, our AGM date has been confirmed for October 17. If you are passionate about your local community and would like to get involved and have a say, then I urge you to consider joining our committee. We are always in need of an extra set of hands.

Until next month, keep warm!



#### **Tony Penna**

Tony Penna is the president of Southbank Residents Association.

southbankresidents.com.au

Southbank



# **Committed to community**

As far as people go, you won't find many better than Kavanagh St resident Peter Duras.

As an active member of groups such as Rotary Central Melbourne, the Melbourne Men's Shed, and Youth Projects among others, there are very few community initiatives Peter is not across.

While his community credentials are impressive, the former Essendon resident originally made his name as a decorated sports physiotherapist.

Having worked at the Sydney Olympics, seven Commonwealth Games, four world championships and two AFL clubs over more than 40 years, Peter said he was a self-confessed "sports tragic".

With an apartment littered with Olympic and other sporting memorabilia, Peter said his passion for Olympic history was born out of attending the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games with his father as a 16-year-old.

"I was already a bit of an athletic follower but I've been hooked on the Olympics ever since," he said.

"I've got an extensive memorabilia collection. I'm a member of the Australian sports historians society. I work as a volunteer at the sports museum a couple of Thursdays every month, so I'm very enthusiastic about Olympic history."

Having moved to Australia from Germany as a refugee in 1937 to become a professor in physical education, Peter said his father had been an inspiring influence growing up.

However, it was his father's commitment to his local community through Rotary, which has shaped Peter's own passion for giving back.

Since moving to Kavanagh St four years ago with wife Sue, Peter said he strongly believed in applying that same passion in Southbank.

"My father was very community orientated and Sue and I have been the same. We're both very interested in trying to build community in a high-rise area," he said.

"We have an absolutely exceptional concierge service that gets the message out. We have barbecues and drinks together in

other people's places so we are proactively trying to establish a community here."

While he said the Boyd Community Hub had been a wonderful community initiative, he said his only regret about living in Southbank was that it was a suburb run by developers.

"There's been no planning, no money set aside for public amenities and we've been left now at crisis point where we have a desert of glass and concrete," he said.

"There's a lot of money taken out of this area and there are a lot of people living in this area and nothing has been put back."

As a member of the Owners' Corporation (OC) Network of Victoria and chair of the liveability sub-committee at his own apartment complex, Peter continues to work to ensure a better home for his neighbours.

Through his work at Rotary, which has spanned over more than 40 years between Essendon, overseas in Burma and now Melbourne, he also continues to strive for a better life for those less fortunate.

Having been an integral part of the establishment of the Melbourne Men's Shed at Federation Square, Peter has also become heavily involved with assisting Melbourne's homeless community through Youth Projects in the CBD.

"The men's shed is very well equipped but it's trying to diversify its activities and also look at linking with Youth Projects because there are a couple of days where it's not used at all," he said.

"We have a huge homeless problem. It's really escalated in the last 18 months. We can't fix it but it's going to take time and a lot of money but we can take some of the hard edges off it and that's what Youth Projects are doing."

Peter and Sue have opened the doors to their apartment for fundraisers and meetings on a number of occasions and continue to work tirelessly to improve the lives of those around them.

While he said giving back was important, the

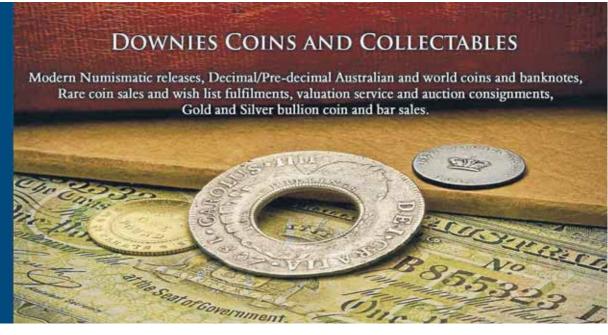


Southbank's Peter Duras at home with some of his Olympic Games memorabilia.

most rewarding part of it all was networking with others to create a community of change.

"I feel much happier if I'm giving back, but I've given a whole lot of other people an opportunity and I think that's more rewarding," he said. "If you can create those networks that allow other people to contribute and the end result is huge that's what is satisfying. I could write a cheque for \$500 but there is very little satisfaction in that."





# Winter on the river like never before

Do you remember when winter along the Yarra was, basically, going to the footy or a concert at the Arts Centre?

Well, you can still attend plenty of great concerts at Arts Centre Melbourne, but this winter has proved once and for all that colder weather in the Yarra River Precinct can be just as exciting and appealing as the warm months.

The June calendar of events for the river included the ice rink at Fed Square, the new ice slide at Riverside Quay and 10 days of "It's Snowing on South Wharf". Add to those major activations the Disney on Ice show at Rod Laver Arena, the kids' film festival at ACMI, Finding Dory at the aquarium and the Degas exhibition at NGV, and that starts to sound like a Yarra River winter festival.

An official winter festival along the Lower Yarra is exactly what this business association is aiming to achieve, and we will be working hard to make it an official winter event for 2017, with the cooperation and generosity of many of our member organisations.

The precinct is easy to fill between late spring and autumn – the fantastic range of bars and eateries ensures an almost full house. Our challenge is now to boost visitation to our attractions, hospitality venues and accommodation during winter.

It shouldn't take much to achieve it, because our businesses are already doing great activations during the colder weather.

As a business association, we just need to ensure that it is better co-ordinated and communicated to the public.

Speaking of communication, the best way to keep up with what's happening along the river bank is to join our Facebook community, which will keep you up to date with not only new events, but also

new hospitality products emerging all the time and any special offers from them. We have over 17,000 followers on Facebook and well over 10,000 on Instagram.

The website, yarrariver.melbourne is also a huge source of information about what to see and do along the river, including our ongoing calendar of events, so that you can not only plan what to do on your doorstep this week or this weekend, but also during the weeks to come.

Exciting things to look forward to over the next few months include the new-look and expanded Pure South Dining at Southgate, the start of works on the Southbank Boulevard redevelopment into a linear park, and landscaping works to improve the amenity of the much-neglected Enterprize Park.

Things are always moving ahead in the Yarra River Precinct, but the on-water scenario still lags well behind. The guest speaker at our July 15 business luncheon is the new CEO of Parks Victoria, Bradley Fauteaux, who is formerly of Ontario Parks service in Canada. Parks Victoria controls the on-water activity of the precinct, and it has promised to "lift its game" considerably during the years to come. So, pop along and hear what vision and activities the new CEO has for our waterway. Contact exoff@yarrariver.info for booking information.

John Forman



John Forman

John Forman is the president of Yarra River Business Association.

www.yarrariver.info

#### Pet's Corner



Godwin and his companion Jackie Chan the Ram enjoy a walk along Southbank.

## No ordinary pet

Former Bacchus Marsh resident Godwin Aquilina is sleeping rough on the Northbank in a bid to save his best mate Jackie Chan the ram.

Southbank Local News spotted the pair strolling along Southbank Promenade last month, which Godwin said was one of Jackie Chan's favourite places to walk.

Godwin said he first found the nine-year-old ram on the side of the road as a newborn and had cared for him ever since.

His love for his companion is so great that even despite threats from the Moorabool Council to remove Jackie Chan, he has resorted to living at Enterprise Park in order to save him.

"It wasn't a pet that you chose. He sort of chose us and now he's been thrown out of Bacchus Marsh and his only safe place is here in the city," Godwin said.

"He doesn't have much choice. It was either this or the mayor was going to kill him. That's what he wanted and that's what the neighbours wanted."

The Moorabool Council recently ordered that the ram be removed from its home amid

neighbour complaints that it had attacked people.

The punishment for not doing so would have seen Jackie Chan permanently seized by the council, which ultimately forced Godwin to relocate to Melbourne's streets.

However, despite all that the pair has been through Godwin said Jackie had quickly adapted to life in the city.

"He seems to enjoy it more and more and he likes the attention I think," he said. "You've got to give him time to eat his food and once he's eaten his food he's more than happy to have leisure time."

"He eats anything green whether it's cucumber, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower it doesn't matter. Plenty of people give him apples," he said.

For more information and to sign a petition to help protect Jackie Chan head to www. facebook.com/savejackiechantheram



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224 Normanby Street, Southbank 3006

www.southbank.paintright.com.au

\*Conditions apply: Bring ad in store to redeem offer, one pot per person.



# Choosing the right brush

There are so many paint brushes to choose from and sometimes staring at them all on the wall at a paint shop only makes things more confusing. So I'm going to give you a basic tutorial on what brushes you should use for your projects.

Let's start with bristles. There are two types of bristles that are predominately used these days – synthetic and 100 per cent pure. The 100 per cent pure bristles are best for oilbased paints while the synthetic can be used with any type of paint. Synthetic is what is predominantly found across the board now and has been developed very well to now provide the same finish as 100 per cent pure bristles.

Types of brushes also vary, but the two main types are wall brushes and cutters. Wall brushes are fairly standard and basic in design and can be used for most jobs, including patching walls and painting furniture.

Cutters are best for cutting in edges before rolling and come in three different styles: oval, sash and angle. Sash cutters are ideally suited for applying water-based paints. Oval cutters provide great control due to its oval shape at the base and ability to hold more paint in the centre. Angle cutters are the same as sash except for the angle of the tip, which is designed to allow more accuracy. Each has its benefits.

The size of your brush always depends on the size of your project. I would always suggest

at least a 50mm brush for cutting in walls as it is wide enough to allow the roller to get in nice and close, but not too wide that you risk leaving brush marks. For smaller and more detailed jobs a 25mm or 38mm is great as it allows you more control.

Now, as with everything, quality counts for a lot and paint brushes are no different. The last thing you want is for loose bristles to come out and ruin your project as you are painting. I would recommend the Monarch and Durol ranges. They are reasonably priced, good quality and come with packaging that protects them while they are

being stored.

I hope this is helpful and, as always, if you are unsure just ask the friendly staff at your local paint shop or come and see me at Paintright Southbank.



Kathleen Toohey

Kathleen Toohey is the store manager of Haymes PaintRight Southbank.

www.southbank.paintright.

Health & Wellbeing

## Exercises prescription has come a long way

#### Do you still do sit-ups?

Yes they work your abdominals (the rectus abdominus in particular) but there are so many better and more effective ways of helping not only improve your abdominal musculature, but more specifically targeting your core strength and stability and are of functional value.

In our daily lives we are increasingly sedentary and our posture reflects this and often results in our normal curved "neutral" spine flattening out and resulting in more of a kyphotic seated position when at our desks in front of the computer, driving in our cars and sitting on the couch at home.

All of this results in a shortening of our abdominals through contraction. Then by performing sit-ups, all we do is accentuate this problem by further shortening through contraction.

Sit ups are hard on your back and by that I mean that they increase the pressure on your

intervertebral discs. Worse still is when situps are performed with your feet held so that you engage your hip-flexors.

In short, there are so many other corerelated exercises that are safer and more beneficial. Seek a fitness professional to help select some better options for you and if you have a trainer or someone that subjects you to them in your fitness classes, challenge them and ask why.

Sit-ups and crunches are an outdated exercise - STOP or phase them out!

#### Deadlifts ... why?

The deadlift in my opinion is one of the most commonly over-prescribed exercises and in my opinion, it is not a necessary exercise for your everyday person that merely wants to keep in shape, healthy, active and mostimportantly injury-free.

Sure it is a great exercise and I am going to put in the line I hear all the time when anyone refutes that the deadlift is a dangerous exercise – "it is a very safe exercise when performed correctly". Please note the major word in there that makes all of the difference – WHEN.

Whilst I may execute a deadlift perfectly for the first one or two repetitions, the more repetitions that I perform, and as I fatigue, technique will then be sacrificed and my chances of injury are increased the longer I continue. And when I say injury, I don't necessarily mean instant injury but longer-term. Our spine is a very precious structure.

Whilst pain or injury may not happen today, tomorrow, next week or even next year, but over time we are placing increased loads on our spine and many structures within our bodies and again I will say that whilst the deadlift is a great exercise, it is not a necessary exercise for many of the population.

#### Planks?

These are a great exercise but too often

do I see them performed with poor body mechanics.

I suggest that if you don't know how to already, follow these steps – depress and retract your scapula (shoulder blades), find your neutral spine, activate/contract or brace your core and contract our glutes all while keeping your head in a neutral position.

Note- these are a great exercise but you just need to ensure you are doing them well!

For more information, exercise guidance or if you have any questions feel free to contact me www.justintimept.com

Justin Moran



Justin Moran

Justin Moran is the Owner of Just In Time Personal Training. www.justintimept.com



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**Owners Corporation Law** 

# Wet 'n' Wild comes to Strataland

Unfortunately, we are well into storm season in Australia, and the east coast is being battered with its usual fair share of heavy rains and high winds.

Dealing with the aftermath of a storm is difficult for everyone affected. It is particularly difficult for owners' corporations (OCs) because they must also deal with upset lot owners, dispossessed tenants and damage caused to common property. But where exactly does an OC's obligations start and end?

The most important thing that an OC should have in place is the right coverage under its insurance policy. It is a statutory requirement to be insured for the full replacement value of all common property assets (unless you are in a two-lot scheme).

In addition, you should ensure that your insurance policy covers damage such as storm damage, to the greatest practicable extent, and covers the cost of emergency or crisis accommodation for displaced residents, to the greatest possible extent.

In the aftermath of a storm, an OC needs to be proactive to ascertain the extent of any and all damage to the common property. Ideally, its manager or a consultant should come on-site as soon as possible to assess damage and, if a resident reports any damage, the OC should act promptly to investigate and make repairs.

This assumes of course, that the damage is done to common property, not lot property. In Victoria, the boundaries within a lot that delineate the point between common property and lot property can vary widely.

Much depends on the notations recorded on the header sheet of the registered plan of subdivision as there are no hard and fast principles of interpretation. Often the notations read like gibberish to the ordinary person and state matters such as "location of boundaries defined by buildings – interior face – all boundaries". What this seemingly innocuous phrase means is that items such as tiles and waterproof membranes, and the

underside of ceilings will belong to the lot owner, not the OC.

This matters a great deal when there is storm damage to these types of items, as it might well mean that lot owners might be required to claim any damage from a storm to these items under their own home and contents policy. If their insurer does not provide this type of coverage, then the owner can be left high and dry.

In recognition of this situation, some OCs elect to ensure that their policy of insurance for damage covers all parts of the building (including lot property) but may have a rule in place to require owners to pay for the excess under any claims made to the insurer. Committee members ought to discuss these types of situations each year when the policy is up for renewal.

The legislation states that OCs have a strict duty to repair and maintain the common property in good condition. Where an OC fails to meet these obligations, they may be liable for any property damage caused as a result, as well as pure economic loss if that loss is reasonably foreseeable.

In other words, when a storm damages common property and that damage causes consequential damage or loss to a lot, the OC may be responsible. If an OC does not act promptly, it places itself at risk of being sued. That is why being proactive and acting promptly is so important.



#### Tom Bacon

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers. Tom@stratatitlelawyers. com.au We Live Here

# **Council supports** residents on short-stays

Melbourne City Council has voted unanimously to support residents in the fight to regulate the short-stay industry.

A motion to pressure the State Government to support residents was put forward by Cr Cathy Oke at the June 7 meeting of the Future Melbourne Committee and was supported by all councillors present. The vote was taken after considerable discussion and presentations by Paul Salter representing the short-stay industry and by Marshall Delves from We Live Here.

The Lord Mayor Robert Doyle will be writing to the Ministers for Planning and Consumer Affairs, seeking to improve the powers of owners' corporations (OCs) on a range of issues including short-stays, rooming houses and emergency management.

Cr Doyle will be highlighting the shortcomings of the government's review process to date. The council believes the scope of the review has not gone far enough, and that it should also cover the Residential Tenancy Act 1997, Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008, Building Act 1993 and the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

Council is very concerned that legislation has failed to keep up with economic and technological change. The motion to formally take these concerns to the State Government was initiated by Cr Oke after she attended the We Live Here "Meet the Residents" Forum on May 9.

#### Minister resigns

We Live Here supporters have been very vocal in opposing the ill-considered bill proposed by former Minister for Consumer Affairs Jane Garrett. We are pleased that the Minister's resignation has given the State Government time to rethink this bill.

The Minister did not understand the issues facing residents dealing with short-stays. The bill merely addressed the issue of noisy guests and little else. The We Live Here Movement wants the State Government to wake up and have a look at the global issues

that go way beyond the behaviour of short-stay guests.

We need a level playing field. All tourism accommodation operators should be part of the same regulatory framework. You cannot have some tourism accommodation operators paying GST and others avoiding GST, being effectively subsidised by all taxpayers. All accommodation businesses should be subject to the same fire, safety and health regulations.

New York, San Francisco and Berlin show how short-stays can be regulated. Last month, San Francisco's board of supervisors voted unanimously 10-nil to pass tougher legislation that makes short-stay businesses enforce the city's rental laws.

In May, New York State Assembly passed a law to control the advertising of apartments as holiday rentals. Berlin has passed new laws that allow short-stays to let no more than 50 per cent of the property – the very model that Airbnb features in its marketing.

Around the world, major cities are facing the same issues around amenity and fairness and coming up with solutions. The challenge for the State Government and councils is to develop – NOW – a comprehensive framework to regulate an unregulated industry and protect the rights of residents to live in a safe environment.

#### **Change.org petition**

Please join the fight to protect residential community living and sign our petition at www.welivehere.net. Please continue to send us your feed-back to campaign@welivehere.net



www.welivehere.net emails to campaign@ welivehere.net



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#### **Business**



Rachael and Emma from the Sidearm Cafe and Gallery.

## A hidden gem

Tucked away on Normanby Rd behind South Wharf, many might be surprised to learn that a cool, cozy and community-centric cafe and events space exists.

The Sidearm Cafe and Gallery has become a regular staple for many locals living and working in Southbank, South Wharf and the quickly growing Montague precinct of Fishermans Bend.

Hidden in amongst what is largely a commercial and industrial hub, cafe and events manager Emma Williams said more and more people were still surprised to discover it.

"People often walk in and say 'I had no idea you were here. This is so lovely. It's always well received," she said.

"We love our local customers and we want them coming back and feeling as though they're part of the family."

According to Emma, the business's owner Craig McDonald originally established the business as a "sidearm" to his adjoining business, MailGuard.

It's an initiative that has been incredibly well received by many locals, with a menu offering a broad range of homemade breakfast and lunch options.

Emma said the new winter menu offered everything from fresh pies, sushi and sandwiches to cooked breakfast, baked delicacies and Five Senses coffee.

"We've got such a mixture of clientele from your corporates, to your tradies, to your general customers walking in," she said. "It's great to have that mix because the tradies love a good pie, whereas some people might have a salad or a soup."

"We're also well known for our barista coffee. We offer the Five Senses experience and alternate single origin beans alongside our blend, Dark Horse."

As well as offering an extensive catering service, the business differentiates itself from other cafes again with a large gallery and events space.

Housing a niche collection of Australian

artwork, the large space can be hired for any event ranging from birthday parties and exhibitions to work functions and user group meetings.

Emma said that the space added another surprising element to the business and was something that was always well received by those who had used it.

"People love the event space," she said. "Whenever they come down they say it's a beautiful space. It's huge, it's unique and it offers a lot in terms of offering something a little bit different."

"Locals often pop in to use the art gallery space for ad-hoc meetings and informal catch ups. It's a break from the office space, with the revolving artwork acting as inspiration at times. This shared space is free to use during the day for short periods of time."

As the business continues to grow Emma said it was constantly evolving and finding new ways to satisfy its local customers.

And being located right in the thick of the future Fishermans Bend urban renewal precinct, she said the Sidearm was looking forward to serving the growing local community for many years to come.

"We've got quite a few buildings going up in the South Melbourne area and, at the moment, we've got the builders coming so hopefully when all of that's finished we'll get all of the residents coming in, which will be great," she said.

"There's definitely potential so hopefully it just keeps growing and getting bigger and I can keep hiring more staff!"

Sidearm Cafe and Gallery is located at 200 Normanby Rd.

For more information visit www.sidearm.com.au



Downies Southbank's Steve Kirby holds some of the latest Australian-minted gold sovereigns to arrive in store.

## Found any old coins?

If you've ever unearthed an old coin from the bottom of a drawer that you may have inherited from a loved one or kept as a keepsake, it might well be worth seeking a valuation.

Downies coins and collectables numismatist Steve Kirby said many people would often find old coins lying around from time to time and might never realise just how much they could be worth.

Steve told Southbank Local News that a woman in the United Kingdom recently cleaned out her husband's chest of drawers and found a coin inside worth 150,000 British Pounds.

"The widow had no idea her husband had the gold coin stashed away among his clothes," he said.

"She only realised its true value when a coin expert identified it as a lost coin made from gold seized by the British from a Spanish treasure ship in 1702."

Located on the upper level of Southgate Shopping Complex, Steve invited local residents to the Downies Southbank store for a free no-obligation valuation or to simply just pop in for a browse.

Open Monday to Saturday, Downies houses a broad range of rare coins, banknotes and collectables and specialises in buying and selling, free appraisals, specialist collecting advice

Steve said for those interested in learning more or starting a collection there was no better place to begin than at Downies.

"For new collectors buying coins a coin shop is the place to buy and sell coins," he said. "Coin shops are a good place in which to build a working relationship while dealing with someone face to face."

"A good relationship with a local dealer can become important if you are building a meaningful relationship."

And Steve said there was no better way to start collecting than by investing in one of Downies most recent and exciting additions to its Southbank store - a series of rare Australian-minted gold sovereigns

Originating from England in 1489, the Sydney Mint was first established in Australia as a branch of the Royal Mint in London in 1855 and Steve said the series was one of the more interesting collections.

"Sovereigns could be produced at one mint, two mints or at all mints and when enough coins were thought to be in circulation no sovereigns were produced at all," he said.

"Gold Sovereigns are Australia's first coins and one will discover collecting them to be one of the most fascinating and rewarding hobbies."

Steve is one of two new staff members to the Southbank team along with fellow numismatist Emily Blankendall, who both bring a wealth of knowledge and experience.

With more than 30 years of coin collecting between them, both have travelled extensively around Australia and overseas to major coin fairs, auctions and seminars.

Together they work closely with Royal Australian Mint and Perth Mint coin specialist Sally McTaggart to provide the best service available.

Steve said he and the team looked forward to warmly welcoming local residents in store to Downies Southgate for a visit soon.

For more information visit www.downies.com

## WHAT'S ON **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

APR I MAY I JUN I JULI



#### 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.

website www.life.org.au/imlac or call Carolyn on 9696 1090



#### THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

#### DADS PLAYGROUP @ BOYD

Are you a dad living within the bounds of the City of Melbourne? Here's something just for you. Dads are invited to bring their preschool child(ren) along. Bookings:

kirsty.bates-webb@melbourne.vic.gov.au

#### **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



#### **WEDNESDAYS**

#### FITNESS FUSION @ BOYD

If you're looking for a great way to start the day, come along to Fitness Fusion at Boyd for a series of fun and challenging exercises. Starts at 6.45am and finishes at 7:45am

#### **TUESDAYS**

#### **SOUTHBANK ROTARY**

Rotary Club of Southbank meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year at Federation Square. Visitors are always welcome.

#### **JULY 30 AND 31**

#### OPEN HOUSE MELBOURNE

Buildings across Southbank will open their doors this month for Open House. The annual event, which puts a spotlight on unique buildings and spaces, will feature more than 140 buildings. Those in the Southbank area include:

- Prima Tower
- National Gallery of Victoria
- Southbank Tram Depot (pictured)
- Arts Centre Melbourne
- Royal Botanic Gardens (Plant Cottage)
- The Shrine of Rememberance

www.openhousemelbourne.org



#### **TUESDAYS**

#### LAUGHTER YOGA @ BOYD

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



#### FRIDAYS @ RIVERSIDE QUAY

#### TAI CHI ON SOUTHBANK

Every Friday 8am-9am. Excellent for stress management, strength, balance, flexibility and wellbeing. Beginners most welcome. **Contact Lyn for more information** lcarrodus@masmanne.com



#### **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.



The class is gentle yet dynamic in synchronising active movements with active breath. A perfect start for beginners and older people alike. Free, no bookings required. Saturdays from 9am to 10am.



#### **SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

#### LIONS CLUB

The new Melbourne City Southbank Lions Club hosts its monthly meetings at Boyd from 7pm until 8pm. All welcome.

Email chengji1214@gmail.com for more information



as they lead a not just walking group for Boyd walkers. The program runs on Wednesdays from 9.30am to 10.30am.



#### **WEDNESDAY JULY 20 @ BOYD**

#### **I-LEARN**

Develop your digital tech skills. This month we learn iPad Essentials. Come to one or all of these sessions and bring your own device each time. Bookings essential. From 6pm to 8pm.

#### **SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

#### READING CIRCLE

A free and informal chat about whatever it is we've been reading. Fiction, non-fiction, plays, poems, travel writing, biography anything at all!

6pm - 7pm @ Boyd Library

#### **FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH** SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

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

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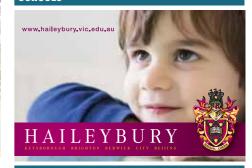
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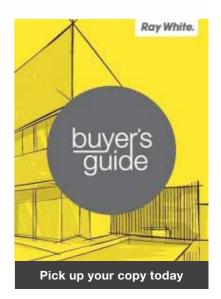


#### JULY, 2016

Has there ever been more significant global events occurring at the same time. Now with Brexit, Australian Elections and the end of the financial year behind us, we expect certainty to flood back into the market. With the prospect of the abolishment of negative gearing being now dead, the single biggest cloud over our property market has been lifted.

This being said, we feel we are entering a market where a committed seller will respect a committed buyer. Interesting times indeed, but as we can see over 100+ years of property data, the buyer that waits for the good property to decrease significantly in value is a buyer who in time is a very frustrated disgruntled individual.

Andrew Salvo - Principal P: 03 8102 0200 andrew.salvo@raywhite.com



1901/109 Clarendon Street, SOUTHBANK Boutique building with all the trimmings



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