

The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

■ **Polly Woodside turns 126**

See page 3

■ **I'll be in the shed**

See page 4



■ **Animals receive blessings**

See page 5

■ **Bill's still connected**

See page 6



Amendment to be reviewed

The City of Melbourne's Future Melbourne committee has bowed to public pressure, admitting at its October meeting that Amendment C171: Southbank needs reviewing.

The committee has requested an independent panel be introduced, to confront the many issues arising from the amendment.

Issues surrounding height restrictions of buildings and space restrictions between high-rise towers sparked the majority of interest.

The committee has resolved to request the panel from the Minister for Planning due to the high number of submissions the amendment received when it was put up for public exhibition.

The committee said it wouldn't assess the public submissions.

Councillor Ken Ong believes it was to be expected that the matter take this path, saying: "It is standard procedure under the Planning and Environment Act when submissions have been received from the exhibition of a proposed amendment to request the Minister for Planning refer the amendment to an independent panel he appoints to consider the amendment and the submissions received."

When the amendment was exhibited for public comment between April and May this year it received a staggering 224 comments, questions and suggestions.

There were clearly restless residents within

the viewing gallery at the Future Melbourne meeting and a representative from Urbis made a presentation on behalf of Rothe Lowman, about the specific issues.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle stressed to all that the council was not making a judgement on any issues within the amendment, rather passing that task onto the independent panel.

Of the 224 recommendations put to the committee, 170 were identical and concerning the change in height restrictions in Southbank village.

The proposed change would see the current 14-metre height restriction lifted to 40 metres (with a 30-metre exception off Dodd St).

While many residents are concerned about the relaxation of height restrictions in the southern part of Southbank, others, such as architectural consultant Urbis, suggested the exception of Dodd St was too constricting for architectural purposes.

The amendment is part of the 2010 Southbank Strategic plan, which outlines how Southbank's residential population will grow from its current 12,000 to 74,000 over the next 30 years.

Southbank residents groups president Joe Bagnara, who comments on this issue in his column within this edition, said residents were concerned about building heights and lack of space between buildings.

"We believe C171 is a disaster and the removal of height limitations is an opportunity for developers to go unchecked in their quest to make money for their directors and shareholders," Mr Bagnara said.



Bring it on

Danae Trethewey eyes off her challenge as she gets set for the annual Eureka Climb. The stair-climb takes place on November 13. See page 7 for the details.



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Deadline for the Dec edition is Nov 10.

Hamer Hall tasty revamp

The redevelopment of Hamer Hall is well underway, and it is not just the theatre facilities being upgraded during the process, with a brand new restaurant also to be included in the works.

Trocadero, a Mediterranean-style brasserie and cocktail bar will be added to the iconic concert hall, ensuring guests won't go hungry while enjoying shows.

The eatery is just part of the \$128.5 million redevelopment. Other features of the revamp include a new outlook to the city, better amenities, expanded foyer spaces and improved disability access.

There will also be a secondary entry to the hall at the river level added, which will help open up the building up to the river and St Kilda Rd.

On the inside, the refurbishment will include upgrades in acoustics, as well as new auditorium seating and new state-of-the-art staging systems.

The Arts Centre is very pleased to have Trocadero, owned and operated by the Van Haandel Group, coming on board, with chief executive Judith Isherwood saying: "We're setting out to create an exciting new Melbourne dining precinct at this singular location and the Van Haandel Group will bring to it their brilliant combination of quality and relaxed style."

The redevelopment remains on track to be opened by mid-2012.



Southbank property market doing fine

Southbank's property market is not as dire as mainstream media would have you believe, according to the real estate agents on the ground in the area.

The *Herald Sun* reported during October that Melbourne's property market was losing money for "thousands of battling homeowners" and that Southbank was one of the biggest loss-making suburbs.

But Gary Cakir, principal at Evolve Real Estate on Queensbridge Rd told the *Southbank Local News* it wasn't all doom and gloom.

"Southbank has a lot to offer its residents, and it certainly has great appeal to many investors," Mr Cakir said, and added: "I can confidently say that Southbank is not any worse off than others (suburbs) around Melbourne."

Mr Cakir also noted that the story did not explain possible reasons for selling, saying: "People who sell for a loss generally have a genuine reason for selling, whether that be the purchase of another investment, mortgage stress, employment unavailability, or a change in personal circumstances. We should consider all the underlying motives of sales."

He also said that the type of property within Southbank was another underlying factor. "It's a different demographic here. Apartments are always better for rental growth, and generally not as strong as houses for capital growth," Mr Cakir said.

Andrew Salvo from Salvo Real Estate agreed with Mr Cakir, assuring the Southbank market that it certainly had no need to panic.

"I think it is a media beat-up of mass proportions. There is no doubt that the market has paused as people sit back to see what is happening, however we are still getting really good sales in our buildings," Mr Salvo said.

Mr Salvo went on to say there were plenty of good news stories in the Southbank property market, and plenty of people making money.

"We have had many recent sales that have far exceeded the prices we were selling these apartments for in 2008," he said.

Anton Wongtrakun from Dingle Partners stressed the importance of looking at time when talking about property investment.

"Property is and has always been a long term investment and Southbank has been no different in showing appreciation over the long term," Mr Wongtrakun said.

He said Southbank had its up and downs in the market, but the cycle came around and

there was no need for panic.

"Southbank like all other inner city suburbs fluctuates and if you happen to have owners who need to sell at any given point in time, conditions could engender a loss but this does not necessary provide a true reflection of the overall performance of the area," Mr Wongtrakun pointed out.

He went on to say: "Over the last few years we have sold countless properties where owners have enjoyed strong cash-flows and importantly strong capital gains - it's all about the timing."



Noise cameras closer for tunnel

Southbank residents should prepare for a good night's sleep as VicRoads is closer to implementing permanent noise cameras at the entrance to the Burnley Tunnel.

The area has long been plagued by truck drivers using their engine brakes as they approach the tunnel.

Local resident David Jones has been at the forefront of the solution and sent his first letters of concern to authorities in 2007. He wants to make sure everything possible is being done to minimise the noise.

"The truck drivers choose to use their engine brakes rather than the normal wheel brakes, as this saves wear and tear on the wheel brakes, and therefore saves money for the truck operators," Mr Jones said.

"Normally, engine brakes in themselves are not overly noisy and excessive engine brake noise is mainly the result of sub-standard, cheap or defective mufflers."

In 2010 the *Herald Sun* featured a piece on a mobile noise camera system but VicRoads vehicle management and safety director Don Hogben said the system was not suitable for Southbank.

"Unfortunately, the mobile camera cannot be used at some locations, including the Burnley Tunnel entrance, for operator safety and other reasons," Mr Hogben said.

Mr Hogben has revealed that permanent

static noise cameras are expected to be in place by early next year.

The latest development in technology is set to provide some relief for Southbank residents.

"VicRoads appreciates community feedback and is currently developing a static noise camera system," Mr Hogben said.

"This will enable the remote monitoring of excessively noisy trucks at locations that are unsuitable for a mobile camera."

"The static noise camera prototype is expected to be complete and ready for

testing in November 2011, with installation near the entrance to the Burnley Tunnel expected to be complete in early 2012," Mr Hogben said.

Mr Jones said the problem affected many residents within Southbank, including: "Several high-rise apartment buildings along Kavanagh St and Southbank Blvd, and low-rise apartment complexes in Kavanagh St, Southbank Blvd, Sturt St and Moore St."

"In all, thousands of families in this area are affected," Mr Jones said.



Polly is 126 years young

The Polly Woodside is gearing up for a big birthday bash and, for the first time in five years, the public is invited to come along and join the party.

Celebrating the 126th anniversary of her maiden voyage, the birthday party will coincide with Polly Woodside's family day, to be held on Sunday, November 6.

The party will contain plenty of action, with roving pirates, face painting and arts and crafts activities sure to keep the whole family entertained.

While it was closed to the public during the South Wharf redevelopment, Polly Woodside received its own gift in the form of a \$3.6 million refurbishment.

The upgrade was to ensure the ship's future, with The National Trust of Australia (Vic) CEO Martin Purslow saying: "The renovations will enable the ship to be more sustainably maintained so that it can be accessed and enjoyed by future generations."

As part of the celebration, *Southbank Local News* is giving away tickets to the family day.

It is easy to win. All you have to do is go to our website - southbanklocalnews.com.au and become an online subscriber. The first six people to do so will win four-tickets packages to the event. Who you take is completely up to you!



Positive report for retail

The Melbourne retail strategy 2006:2012 Year Five report card was released during October, and it painted a very positive picture about Melbourne's wider retail industry.

The report focused heavily on the activity within the CBD, but did make mention of the growth within the Southbank area, listing Southgate as one of the most popular retail venues for residents, regional Victorians and interstate visitors.

Yarra River Business Association executive officer Tim Bracher knows the Southbank retail scene is improving, but still has a way to go.

"The precinct is probably only just evolving as a retail destination, and the rising profile

of the South Wharf DFO complex will certainly help things," Mr Bracher said.

He also said that Southbank and the wider Yarra region was so well known for other areas, such as arts, tourism and hospitality, it was understandable that often our retail is overlooked.

"Because our retail is locked-up in major complexes, it often flies under the radar of shoppers and authorities. It therefore tends to become a side benefit of visiting a tourist or dining attraction such as Crown, Fed

Square or Southgate," Mr Bracher noted.

The CBD certainly is the centre of Melbourne retail scene, but with the rising awareness of the South Wharf complex as well as the re-opening of Southgate during November, Southbank is sure further strengthen in the retail sector.



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- All Thursdays : Champagne Thursdays (5 - 7 pm)
- All Fridays : Friday Happy Hours (5 - 7 pm)

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I'll be in the shed

Residents are getting behind a campaign for a "men's shed" to be built within Southbank, with an initial meeting held during October to discuss the idea.

The suggestion for such a community space was raised by Peter Harkin, a resident, who became frustrated at having no-where in his Southbank apartment to do odd jobs.

After Mr Harkin was reprimanded by building management for spray-painting in his car space, he decided it was time to approach the council and get the idea rolling.

"After 30 years of having my own space, moving into an apartment with no-where to work has been difficult, and I wanted to find a solution to that," Mr Harkin said.

Mr Harkin spoke to John Harris, the City of Melbourne's community partnerships co-ordinator, and the idea was born.

The first meeting was held at the Southbank Resident Group's meeting room at the Boyd school site.

Mr Harris presented the group with examples of what a community space such as this could be (including the recently-opened Carlton's Men's Shed) and the group responded very positively to the idea.

Mr Harris pledged the council's support and commitment to get the idea off the ground. He also agreed for the council to research an appropriate site for the shed.

He was buoyed by the response from the community, saying: "There are enough

people in this room with enough skills that this group can develop a shed."

To add to the council support, Acting Lord Mayor Susan Riley also showed she approved of the idea.

"It is brilliant to see so much support for the men's shed in Southbank, a place where men can come together around hobbies, craftsmanship and learning. This is an exciting community initiative for residents of Southbank and we look forward to seeing the outcomes of the working group," Cr Riley said.

Upon hearing exactly what a "men's shed" is, the group of men, and one woman, discussed their collective plight and frustrations with lack of space and freedom to complete jobs they had previously done in their personal sheds.

The group then moved its attention to setting up the shed, how it should start and what issues had to be considered.

Issues included where to get tools, costs, making sure everyone was happy with what they could complete in the space, vehicle access and, of course, a suitable location.

Many members of the group resolved to visit other "men's sheds" across Victoria to investigate just how they were going to go about setting this shed up.



Lance Collins, Alan Mannering and Peter Harkin discuss the "men's shed."

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The Wharf Hotel

Businesses to benefit from festival

Southbank businesses are set for a huge boost during the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival (MFWF) next March thanks to a massive marketing push being given to Melbourne's riverfront during the festival.

The 2012 MFWF sees the 20-day festival celebrate its 20th anniversary and Southbank is the location for the official launch with a spectacular weekend on the riverfront on March 3-5.

The weekend will include events and happenings all along the river, from Princes Bridge, down to Docklands.

The MFWF may not be until March next year, but already its organisation is in full swing, with many events finalised and minor details

being completed for others.

The opening weekend will be terrific for all Southbank businesses. Businesses hosting events will have great patronage and exposure and the benefits will flow on to others simply from the increased number of people visiting Southbank.

The festival will open on the Friday with the Long Lunch, this year to be held in Alexandra Park. From there guests will be encouraged to follow the path of the Yarra River, to discover all the events of the weekend.

In a presentation to members of the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) during September, MFWF marketing manager Ellie Roland posed the question: "What is the evocative, exciting area of Melbourne?" and duly answered: "We think that it is the river."

Yarra River Business Association president John Ahern agreed, saying: "The festival management recognises the lower Yarra River as being the heart and soul of modern Melbourne and a place that embodies the best of our city's dining, so what better place

to locate one of the world's greatest food and wine events?"

Mr Ahern was ecstatic the MFWF had chosen the area to focus its first feature weekend and said the benefits would be massive for the whole riverfront of Melbourne.

"It's a gilt-edged opportunity to reinforce the dining credentials of the precinct and I encourage all relevant businesses to leverage from it. It's probably the biggest opportunity we have had since the Commonwealth Games," he said.



Image courtesy of Melbourne Food and Wine Festival.

Animals receive blessing

Southbank pets had the rare opportunity to show a little faith during October, as St Johns Southgate opened its doors for a special animal blessings service.

Members of the church, including Greta, Rebecca and Beth (pictured) brought their pets along for the special day.

Pastor Ian Vainikka said he was rather nervous before the session, as it was the first time he'd had animals sitting in on a church service before.



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Bill's still connected

When Southbank Local News spotted this picture in the Police Museum at the World Trade Centre, we thought it looked like a familiar face.

Our suspicions were soon confirmed – the picture features a young detective at the Collingwood Criminal Investigation Branch by the name of Bill Horman. It's the same Bill Horman who has worked in and around Southbank for years and is still on the Yarra River Business Association executive.

Bill tells us this is just one of many times the photo has come back into his life. It first appeared for a newspaper story in 1967, but has since popped up not only at the Police Museum, but also in the 150-year anniversary book on the Victoria Police and was even found on the door to Bill's office during his time working at Crown Casino.

Bill was employed by Crown when a temporary casino was set up in the World Trade Centre in 1994, as head of security. He had a number of other roles until he retired from the venue in 2009. He certainly saw a lot of change in our area during that time.

"In those days Southbank was a very

different Southbank. No World Trade Centre, no casino, no high-rise apartments. The changes have been phenomenal," Bill said.

He also confirmed his love of Melbourne as a city and confessed it to be the reason he was still so active in many councils and boards for organisations across the city.

"One of the things I've done over the years is develop many networks. I help connect people," he said.

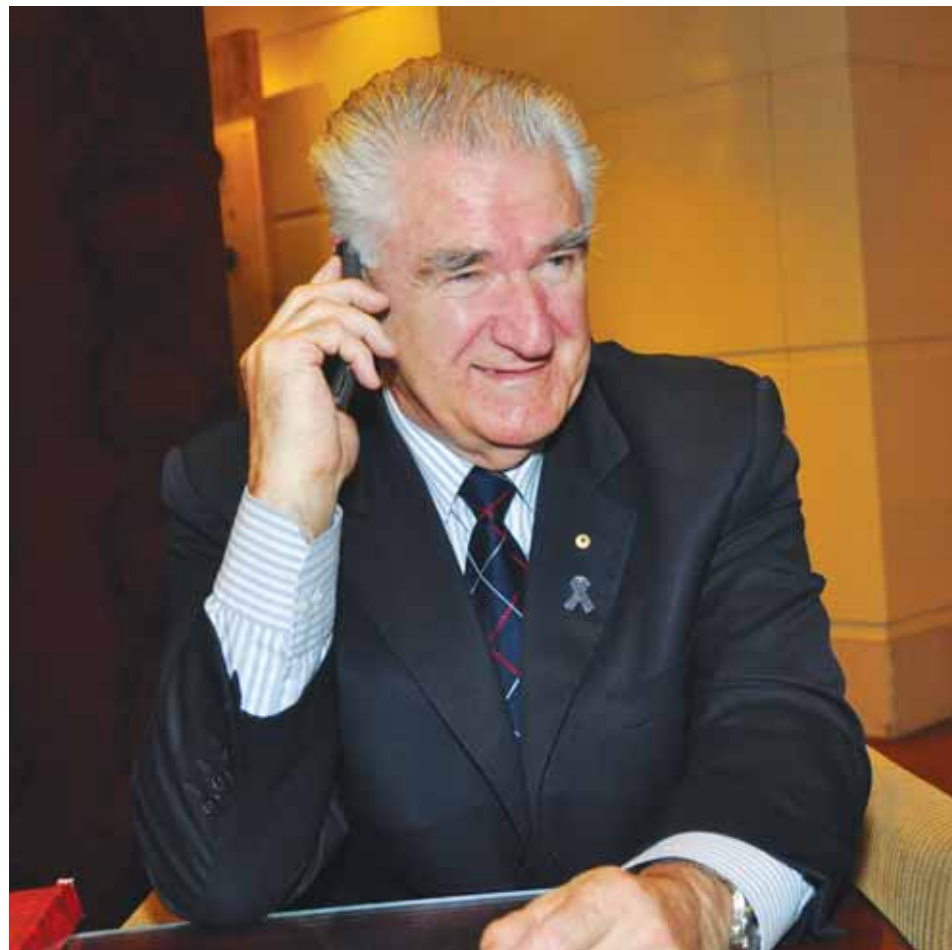
After spending the afternoon with Bill in a restaurant at Crown, the number of employees from the casino who recognised and wanted to say hi to Bill indicated to *Southbank Local News* that he obviously had

a great skill with people.

Bill is excited for the future of Southbank, saying: "I do think there has been a remarkable transfer of focus onto the riverfront, on Docklands and the waterways. The new Southbank will certainly benefit from it."

Bill's future will certainly remain in Melbourne and particularly the Southbank region. He says he "wants to continue to make Melbourne the most liveable city in the world."

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Marathon runs through Southbank streets

Runners from far and wide descended on the streets of Southbank during October for the Melbourne Marathon.

Our section of the course was near the end of the gruelling 42km race – down Southbank Boulevard and around the back of the arts centre to City Rd.

Many of the runners won't have fond memories of Southbank, as pain was written all over their faces and fatigued running

styles, knowing they were edging closer to the finish line.

The half-marathon race also came through Southbank.

The race raises money for Cerebral Palsy Education Centre and the James Macready-Bryan Foundation, and this year donated \$258,935.

The winner of the elite male category was Japhet Kipkorir who successfully defended his title from last year. First home in the elite women's was Irene Mogaka.







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Skydeck's the limit

Southbank resident Danae Trethewey is pumped about taking on the area's greatest physical challenge.

Danae is signed up for the annual Eureka Climb on November 13 and is very excited about the prospect.

"Absolutely, yes, I am looking forward to the challenge," Danae exclaimed as she glanced up at the tower she was soon to take on.

The climb up one of the world's tallest residential building is a gruelling test of endurance.

Danae has been in training for a while now, all in preparation for the big day.

"My training has consisted mainly of lower body exercise - cycling, squats and of course stair climbing," she said.

The climb isn't just a physical and mental test its competitors. It also raises money for charity partners Whitelion and Interplay, which support disadvantaged young people both in Australia and overseas.

That means it doesn't matter how fit you are, you can still get involved and support the event.

For competitors there are two options. Either take on the climb as a team of four, or (for the brave among us) go for it alone.

Event organisers are very excited about the race, with Eureka Tower building manager Peter Jones saying they were making sure the

tower would be ready for the big day.

"We are all very excited and working hard to make sure the tower is at its best for race day. Registrations are going well and we hope to see a big crowd," Mr Jones said, knowing just what the race means to the top competitors.

"The elite race has some of Australia's best stair climbers and they are very serious about the event. It's in the top ten of the highest stair climbs in the world, so we have to make sure that nothing is left to chance," he said.

The event is hoping to raise \$250,000 this year, and hopefully all the locals can get involved in the fundraising efforts.

Danae urged all Southbank locals to get behind the climb.

"It's a great community event, and you can get involved in so many ways. Elite race, walking or donating and sponsoring," Danae said.

"Even if I only do it once, I know it will be a great achievement," she said.

To register for the event or sponsor a climber such as Danae, head to the website www.eurekaclimb.com.au.



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CUISINE UNDERCOVER

INDEPENDENT REVIEWS FROM SOUTHBANK'S PHANTOM DINER

La Camera

Friendly not fancy – not fine dining but fine enough for most

Generally speaking, and particularly in Melbourne, it's true. The more you spend, the better the meal. Some may disagree, my dad for example (probably any man that answers to dad), but by and large I find food in Melbourne is usually worth the price you pay.

Then of course, there's the ridiculously cheap – the lunch deals you wonder how an establishment can afford to provide. It's risky, indulging in such offers – much more room for error or disappointment (or slightly off produce). Which is probably why I ignored those on offer at Southgate's La Camera recently. Besides that, I get paid to do this column, and which comes with a certain obligation to spend ...

La Camera is not exactly one of Southgate's fancier offerings, but it would appear a great number of people visiting Southgate are not after fancy. On a sunny Monday lunchtime

the place is packed, with the down-to-earth vibe suggesting it rarely slows down.

Their deal? The lunch deal is a \$10 pizza special, and there are also \$15 and \$20 lunch deals – all with several options to choose from (although not available Fridays to Sunday nor during December and January). I'm told there's lots of breakfast specials as well.

We trawl instead through the regular menu, the likes of which you often come across on holidays. At first glance it appears there are a million and one options to choose from but on closer inspection, it's mostly just lots of pizza, pasta and meat.

We select one of the more interesting-sounding dishes, the insalata di cappesante – seared Japanese scallops on a potato pancake with a watercress, rocket, fennel and orange salad, which at \$26.90, we felt was obliged to deliver.

To balance this out, we also chose a heavier dish, the gnocchi con coda di bue brasato (oxtail with pancetta, basil, chilli, vegetable and mushroom ragu) for \$23.90. While we waited, the friendly and exuberant Italian waiter had a half-hearted attempt at convincing us the white wine by the glass was "very good", conceding rather sheepishly as he put it down that perhaps instead, "it wasn't

bad ..." and that about summed it up too.

Meanwhile some absolutely fabulous-looking pizzas began making their way past – large, thin, crispy-looking bases and a smattering of brightly-coloured, fresh-looking toppings – and all for just 10 bucks. Mmm. My lunch partner then confessed she used to come here regularly for the pizzas, confirming they were indeed very good.

Then out came our meals. There were just the five scallops, although they were indeed large. A touch muddy, some more so than others. The potato pancake was bland, but the orange salad provided a fresh citrusy burst to compensate.

The gnocchi came complete with the bones of two ox tails, with the majority of meat having melted its way into the dish – not sure the inclusion of the bones themselves was entirely necessary. The gnocchi was a touch gummy and the ragu a touch gelatinous, but it was also rich and intense. The slow-cooked meat was suitably flaky and soft and the chilli just managed to speak up over all that was going on in there (lots of pancetta almost pushing the richness into obscene wealth at times).

The meals were fine – good, solid performers in an open and friendly environment and

maybe had all things been similarly-priced, they wouldn't have left a slightly sour taste in our mouths. They were good, yes, but they definitely weren't the best value for money in the room.

Still, there was lots to like about La Camera. Easy, friendly and lots of (nothing special, but hard to go wrong with) options to choose from. And cheap – if you know how to order and aren't showing off ...

Location: Address is 2 Southgate Avenue, but entry is from the mid-level of the Southgate building (next to the arts centre) and above the food court.

Overall rating ★★☆☆☆

View all our Southbank restaurant reviews and rankings online at www.southbanklocalnews.com.au/review



Melbourne Festival in Southbank

Each year the Melbourne Festival brings together some of the world's best theatre, music and dance artists. During the program, audiences converge on Southbank, where many of Australia's best theatre venues call home.

This year's pan-cultural program offered many Southbank residents a chance to catch a show – only a stone's throw from their front door.

I managed to get to see quite a bit of the festival but one of my highlights was by the Back to Back Theatre Company which hails all the way from Geelong! *Ganesh Versus the Third Reich*, directed by Bruce Gladwin was a play about the Indian deity who travelled through Nazi Germany to reclaim the swastika – an ancient Hindu symbol.

Not without controversy, the production saw some of Melbourne's Hindu community voice concern with the promotional material and early descriptions – some even protesting outside the Malthouse Theatre, claiming the depiction of Lord Ganesh was offensive.

In a statement, Back to Back Theatre and The Melbourne Festival expressed great

regret at the inadvertent harm or offence at the perceived depiction of Lord Ganesh in the play. Furthermore, one statement of support from Hindu Mahamandaleswar Swami Shankarananda said, "When we consider the play, *Ganesh Versus The Third Reich*, we should not become humourless fundamentalists. Ganesh is lovable. I'm convinced that the figure of Lord Ganesh is treated respectfully and the play itself is a plea for tolerance and humanity."

Back to Back Theatre Company includes people with intellectual disabilities who take part in all aspects of the production. Through the Ganesh story, they examine how individuals who are perceived to be outsiders, can comment and respond to, and be more strongly integrated into a pluralistic society. The company is highly-regarded in Australia and tours extensively around the world.

I thought the show was both a challenging and brilliant piece of theatre because as Ganesh embarks on his journey a second narrative is revealed as the actors themselves feel the weighty responsibility of storytellers and question the ethics of cultural appropriation.

This play within a play looks at the how the actors themselves must overcome obstacles in their own lives. By highlighting these issues around cultural appropriation, the show asks who has the authority to tell stories, and how they can be told. Ultimately, the status of Ganesh is represented positively

and his status never threatened.

The Malthouse Theatre is one of Australia's leading contemporary theatre spaces. It presents new and adventurous works by some of Australia's brightest talent. Living in Southbank puts seeing a show on your "must do" list throughout the year. Coming up on November 11 is award-winning cabaret star Meow Meow's new show, *Little March Girl*, directed by Malthouse artistic director Marion Potts.

Originally built in 1892 as a brewery and malting works, The Malthouse was donated by Carlton and United Breweries for the creation and presentation of contemporary Australian theatre in 1990.

The CUB Malthouse complex now houses three theatres, a cafe and a bar at 113 Sturt Street, Southbank, 3006

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

Kevin McGreal is a Southbank resident and playwright/director.

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Letters to the Editor



Send your letters to
sean@southbanklocalnews.com.au

We're here too!

We have just read, from cover to cover, the first edition of Southbank Local News.

Congratulations on the presentation, content and coverage. This has been a long time coming and we hope that the diversity and community spirit of Southbank flourishes through the future editions.

Eighteen years ago, when Southbank was a jumbled mess of old buildings and derelict spaces, we moved from the eastern suburbs and settled in a new apartment on the site of the old Prince Henry's Hospital nursing quarters. For about 10 years we survived in a veritable "war-zone" of frantic construction and re-development sites.

Southbank is now coming-of-age and, over the next 18 months we will enjoy the completion of three new complexes in Sturt



St and Coventry St. The most significant contribution to the local amenity has been the superbly-designed and constructed Grant Street Reserve (see photograph). This is enjoyed by young families through to the elderly who appreciate the excellent seating and rapidly-growing trees and shrubs.

However, this is just not enough! Friendly, inviting and well-planned open space is still lacking. The selfish encroachment of high-rise buildings has to be examined very closely before we find ourselves in "little Singapore".

One concern about the content of edition one: The "Faces of Southbank" segment is a VERY biased cross-section with the average age of people being 24 years. What about some balance from residents (not simply workers) who are in their 30s, or 40s, or 50s - wow! - even 70s, like us!

We really appreciate the birth of *Southbank Local News*.

David and Wendy Beech

It's a team effort

The annual Ride to Work Day took place on October 12.

For those people who ride a bike regularly, there are great health and financial benefits in pushing the pedals.

Too often though, bicycle riders also end up facing great risks.

In our motor vehicle practice, we regularly represent both cyclists and drivers who have been involved in an accident of some sort. Recent figures indicate that bicycle accidents are on the rise.

Now more than ever, roads are a shared environment. Ride to Work Day is a great idea - getting more people to commute in an affordable, healthy way - but it's only part of the equation for cyclists.

It is crucial that cyclists and drivers alike have consideration for each other on the road.

Reducing the number of bike and car accidents has to be a team effort.

Janine Gregory
 Lawyer, Slater & Gordon Melbourne

SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS GROUP WITH JOE BAGNARA

Can you envisage Southbank with a residential population of 74,000 and a worker population of 54,000?

The mind boggles at this level of density and the expectations of our planning authorities to accomplish this in, and I quote, "a friendly, pleasant and welcoming neighbourhood where all public spaces are comfortable, bright and safe and local services and facilities are readily available".

They must be being fed a diet of magic mushrooms if they think this is a possibility. Where will they find the public space? Where are the local services? Even now with a residential population of 11,500 we do not have even a post office or bank.

With this density of apartment housing, the only way to expand is up. It is doubtful if any sunlight will ever penetrate to ground level, not withstanding the meteorological effects of high-rise buildings causing unpleasant wind tunnels.

This modern philosophy that bigger must be better is not supported by classical examples and to unleash a piranha-like attack by hungry developers keen to make their millions at the expense of our

environment is unacceptable.

Our elected representatives and the bureaucrats they employ are commissioned to carry out the wishes of the electors, those that voted them into power, not the groups lobbying on behalf of developers who seem to have infiltrated decision-making at all levels of government.

How does the presently less than 0.11 hectare of public open space for every 1000 people (when a minimum of 0.22 is recommended by the planning authorities) going to be resolved?

The Planning Scheme Amendment C171 that incorporates these proposed changes has triggered a flood of local submissions complaining about the scheme and it is our experience with so-called public consultations they will be ignored and, in effect, will be only a public relations exercise.

Maybe there will be a change of policy with the Minister for Planning listening to his electors and using some common sense in the future for Southbank.

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(EDGE)
MELBOURNE DOCKLANDS



A taste of Japan on the banks of the Yarra at Kinya

Kinya is one of Melbourne's most enviably-located Japanese restaurants, nestled in the south Docklands precinct of Yarra's Edge, overlooking the Yarra River and Docklands Park.

Kinya serves fresh, contemporary Japanese cuisine at affordable prices while you soak up some of the best water views in Melbourne.

Kinya's house specialities include a delicious range of dishes, as well as the freshest and finest sashimi in Melbourne. Enjoy a boutique Japanese beer at their

alfresco tables by the Yarra's Edge, or share a pitcher of sake in the casual atmosphere of the restaurant's Yakitori Bar.

Kinya Japanese Restaurant is a popular venue for special events and corporate functions, providing quality service and tailored menus to suit your needs. Their experienced Japanese chefs and knowledgeable staff work with you to make your event memorable, relaxed and delicious. Call 9646 2400 to make your reservation.

Discover Yarra's Edge

Yarra's Edge is located just across the Yarra from the ANZ building. Take a walk across award winning Webb Bridge to this truly undiscovered gem. This pristine neighbourhood, developed by Mirvac, boasts stunning apartments as well as luxury homes. Delightful dining opportunities and a beauty salon also make it well worth a visit on a beautiful day. Take advantage of the sunny north facing bank of the Yarra - it is there for you.

Apartments now selling: yarrapoint.com

Luxury homes now selling: mirvacriver.com

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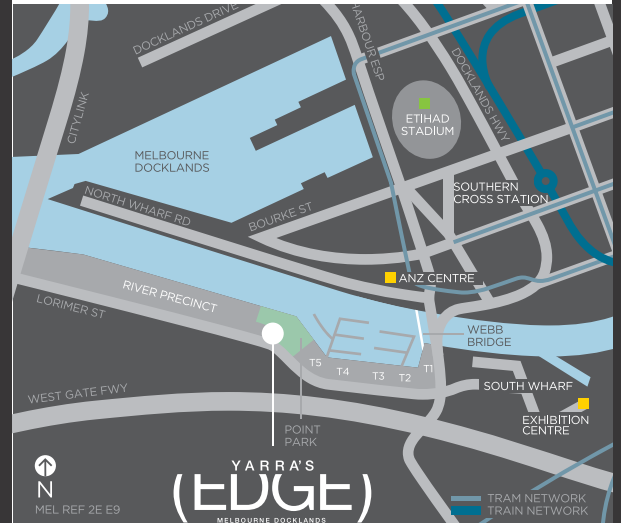
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Ponzu the 'energiser' puppy

Keeping up with Ponzu is no mean feat. After the five minutes Southbank Local News spent with him, we felt like a lie down.

For Ric Leong it's just part of the experience of owning the seven-month-old pup. Having had the pomeranian-shih tzu for two months, Ric admits at times the dog can be a little "too active!"

The curious name of Ponzu comes from two different sources. Firstly Ric and his girlfriend decided that it sounded similar to putting the words pomeranian and shih tzu together.

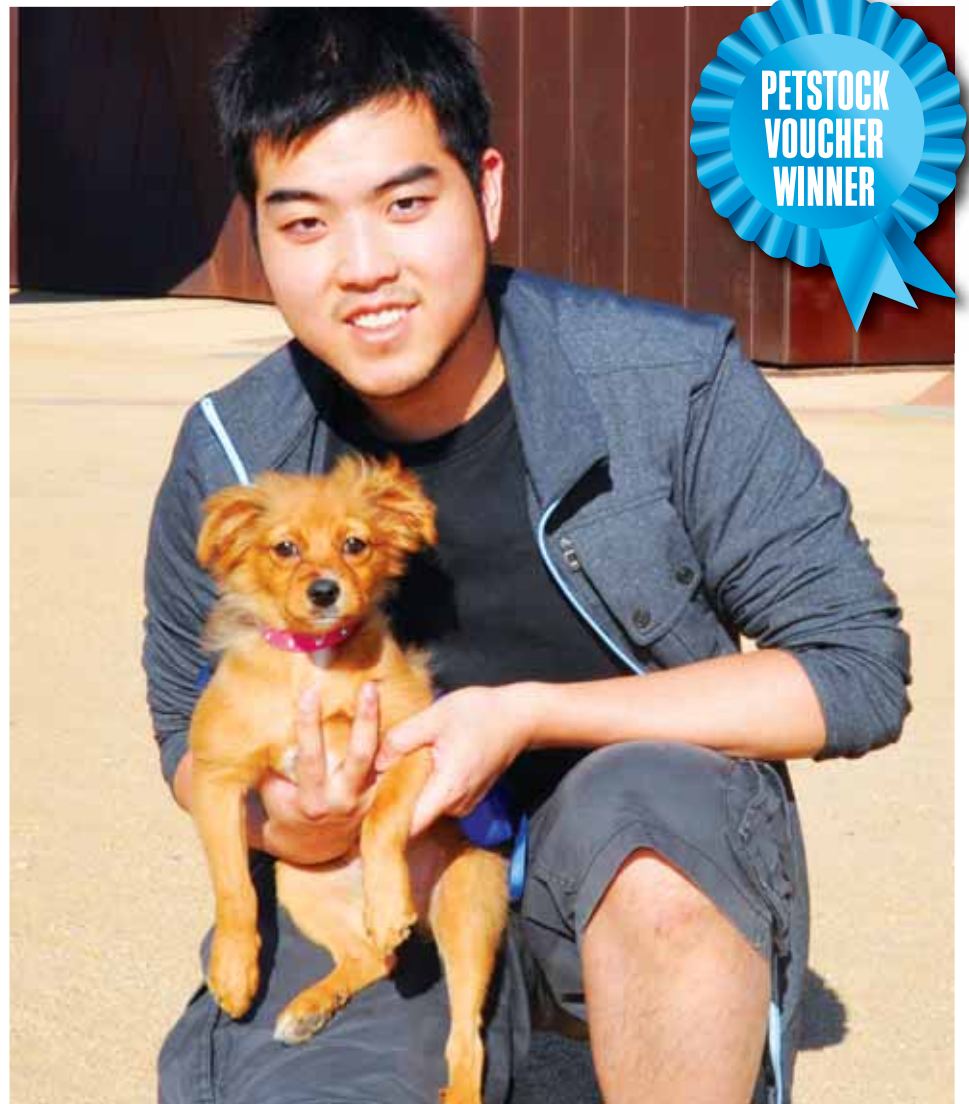
The second reason is slightly less conventional. Ponzu is also the name of a Japanese sauce. The brown-coloured sauce is very similar to the colour of Ponzu's coat, and hence the name was adopted.

The pup may lack size, but certainly makes up for that in enthusiasm. Ric assures us though that Ponzu is always friendly and is always looking for a bit of fun.

He gets that from Ric, who takes Ponzu for walks two or three times a day.

Ponzu loves his food. Ric says, like all dogs, Ponzu will often try to steal a bit of their dinner, but he makes sure the diet for Ponzu is strictly dog food.

Maybe he should try topping up the dog food with a bit of sauce?



I THE NIGHTLIFE *with DJJ*



Friday night and the lights are low ...

An offer of \$1 billion couldn't bring the original members of ABBA back to the stage. Damn, that's a lot of Swedish meatballs! But the next best thing, "Bjorn Again" the number one ABBA show on the planet is guaranteeing a good time.

Break out the disco shoes, mood rings and maybe that old karate outfit that you've only worn twice and head downtown for some 1970s action. Oh, and the chocolate at the bottom of this sundae is the fact that the fun-loving Old Romantics is playing as support act to the dancing queens.

They'll be cranking out their comedic retro 80s classics to bring out the big hair or mullet in you. So that's a good couple of decades in one night, Mama Mia!

WHAT: Bjorn Again

WHERE: The Palms @ Crown

WHEN: Friday, November 18 and Saturday, November 19

WEB: www.bjornagain.com.au

DJJ says relax!

Relieve yourself, cornflakes, clean shirt, tram pass, work, sandwich, work, home, thawed chicken, TV show where you don't have to think, floss, bed, phew! I've noticed that people seem to be getting busier, except those people who spend all their time telling you how busy they are!

From Friday, November 18 to Sunday, November 20 there'll be 200 exhibitors at the Melbourne Convention Centre to help you get some "me time". The MindBodySpirit festival is touring around the country leaving its incensed aroma and positive vibrations all over the convention centre.

So if you're keen on learning how to not pull all your hair out with stress or if you're keen to learn how to grow more hair, do yourself a favour and get on down to the festival, or get a hat like Molly Meldrum!

WHAT: MindBodySpirit Festival

WHERE: Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

WHEN: Friday, November 18 to Sunday, November 20

WEB: www.mbsfestival.com.au

Meet the winemaker

Going out Thursday night is just so sneaky isn't it, and drinking on a Thursday night just makes it even more fun! Martin Krajewski from Chateau de Sours is taking wine buffs on a magical rosé tour.

Now I just know rosé as the dancing juice that can't decide whether its white or red wine but I'm guessing there's a bit more to it.

Throw in a slow roast pork roll (I'm currently drooling on my keyboard thinking of the one I had there a few weeks ago) and add some celebrity chefs from the Melbourne Storm behind the spit and you've got yourself a not-so-shabby school night. Enjoy, but you can't blame me come Friday morning!

WHAT: Meet the Winemaker

WHERE: The Wharf Hotel

WHEN: Thursday, November 10

WEB: www.wharfhotel.com.au



SOUTHBANK FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Southbank

Dahna McKay

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

Today I am wearing a black shirt from Cameo, a black and white striped skirt from Cotton On and brown leather boots.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Sometimes the clothes I wear are really girly and sometimes a bit alternative. I like clothes that are easy to wear and my clothing choices often reflect my mood.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK?

I'm visiting Melbourne with a group of friends and we decided to visit Southbank today to do some shopping.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I'm from Perth.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

I really don't think I can choose. I give all my clothes the same amount of love.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

The way you wear it.

Cara Lees

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

I'm wearing black ankle boots that I bought in Germany and black tights. I bought this mustard skirt from a store in Chapel St and the black shirt is second-hand. The bag is from General Pants.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

My style is lazy and comfortable.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK?

I'm just doing some shopping.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I live in Elwood.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

My bag.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

You have to be comfortable with what you are wearing.

Stephanie Rosata

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

I am wearing Mossman green pants with a white Finders Keepers tank top.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Quirky. I'm not afraid of a bit of colour.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK?

I work at Mossman at South Wharf.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Greenvale.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

I love all different styles of dresses.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Accessories definitely make an outfit.



Hats a flutter

By Nicola St John

If ever there was a time to step out of the house with something resembling a bird's nest in your hair, this is it!

Apart from the odd bad hair day, church outing or royal wedding, never has it been more appropriate to assemble feathers, flowers, straw and other miscellaneous peacocking elements atop your head. Spring racing season is here and, in fact, it's almost required dressing.

Helping you out this season, we asked established Melbourne millinery designer Louise MacDonald to share her tips on what to do up-top.

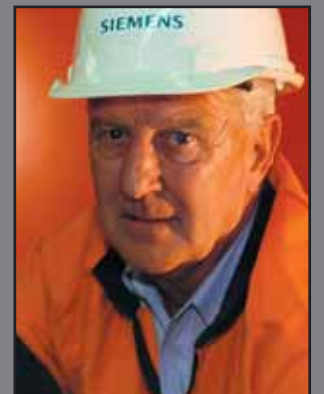
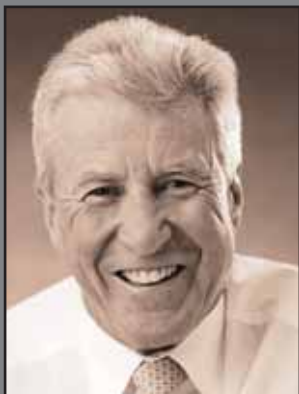
What are the major trends in millinery design this spring racing season? Strong bright clashing colours. Be bold!

Is the reign of the fascinator over and will we see a return to classic hats? People are choosing headpieces that are small to medium-sized and that are well made, rather than fluff glued on a headband or a single flower!

What are clients looking for this season? Bright colours. Small but solid pieces that perch forward on the head. Pieces that frame the face and flatter their proportions. There have been very few requests for a big brim.

Does this season's colour-blocking trend extend to hats and accessories? Absolutely. If you are unsure, stick to one colour family such as fuchsia, red and orange.

When choosing accessories for the races are there any important rules to remember? It's not a casual event. Put some thought into it. Accessories can help make different elements of the outfit work.



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IT'S ALL ABOUT FRESHNESS

It's all about the freshness, says Groceries Express supermarket owner Steve Dellidis.

"One of my business partners was driving through Southbank and saw it as a fresh, new precinct in need of fresh produce," Mr Dellidis said.

So, in January, Groceries Express was set up on busy City Rd, behind the Crown Casino complex and not far from Southgate.

"Our speciality is freshness," Mr Dellidis said.

"Our fruit is fresh every day. The same with our vegetables and our meat."

"As well as liquor and all the regular goods,

we have gluten-free produce, organic produce and specialty products that residents will not find in other supermarkets around here."

Mr Dellidis said it was important to connect with the local community, and "be a part of the community".

"We have 12 staff and all are locals," he said.

"Southbank is beautiful."

"I like the friendliness of the people, and the range of different people you meet here."

Mr Dellidis said environmental aspects of Southbank were a big plus for attracting businesses and residents.

"The Yarra River, the green spaces - it's all good," he said.



Offering a wide range of fresh produce is important for Groceries Express owner-manager Steve Dellidis and sales assistant Kendra Dias.

Mr Dellidis said it was his first supermarket, and that he and his business partners were looking at opening more.

"We are open from 7am until 11pm, every day of the year," he said.

"So we are always here for you."

Groceries Express is at 180 City Rd, Southbank. Call 9686 1561 or visit www.groceriesexpress.com.au

FACES OF SOUTHBANK



SUZY GARCIA, 23
Retail assistant, Mary Martin Bookshop

Suzy has been working in Southbank for three years. For Suzy, one of the best parts of her job is the interaction she has with her customers, particularly with the frequent visitors. Suzy thinks Southbank is still an emerging area but said there were lots of things happening to attract visitors. She enjoys the view of the river and said Southbank was a nice area for families to explore.



JONATHAN DUGDALE, 37
Owner, News at Freshwater

Jonathan loves the river view in Southbank. He has worked in the area for six years and said it had a relaxed atmosphere but there was always a buzz of activity. Jonathan liked the fact that Southbank was so close to the CBD but was not right in the middle of all the hustle and bustle.



JAKE HOSKIN, 19
Sales assistant, Jeanswest

Jake enjoys sitting by the river on his lunch break. He has been working in Southbank for a month-and-a-half and said he really enjoyed the river view. Jake likes chatting with his customers as many of them were tourists and it was interesting to find out where they were from and why they were visiting Southbank.



LIZ PAIDOUSSIS, 43
Team leader, Matchbox

According to Liz, Southbank is a great place to work. "I love the energy of the people in the area," she said. Liz has worked in Southbank for almost two years. Apart from work, she also spends a lot of her spare time enjoying all that Southbank has to offer. Liz enjoys shopping, meeting friends for drinks at the Hilton South Wharf, going for walks and visiting the casino. Liz said that all of this was so easy because everything was so close.



ERIN ROBERTS, 21
Sales assistant, Factorie

You can find everything you need in one place at Southbank, Erin said. Having worked in the area for two years, she has enjoyed the food, entertainment and shopping that was readily available. Erin said she had met lots of different people while working in Southbank and had made some great friends



LEO HELFRICH, 52
Sales assistant, Super Chef Warehouse

Leo walks to and from work via the river. He thinks he is quite lucky as not many people get to enjoy such a lovely view during their daily commute. Leo likes Southbank's central location and said that there was always plenty of activity in the area. Leo has worked in Southbank for four months and has found that a wide variety of people visit. On any given day, Leo might speak to international tourists, interstate tourists, visitors from regional Victoria and locals.

SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR



EUREKA CLIMB

13 November, 7am start
Eureka Tower, 7 Riverside Quay
 Run or walk your way up the Eureka Tower and raise money for disadvantaged young people at home and abroad, alongside charity partners Whitelion and Interplast Australia and New Zealand. Visit: eurekaclimb.com.au



MELBOURNE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA – RHAPSODY IN BLUE

5 November - 6 November
State Theatre, 100 St Kilda Road
 In this program, full of Gershwin's "Fascinating Rhythms," triple-threat British maestro Bramwell Tovey conducts, compères and, in Rhapsody in Blue, appears as piano soloist. www.mso.com.au

MELBOURNE SYMPHONY PERCUSSION AND FRIENDS

25 October
Melbourne Recital Centre 31 Sturt Street
 At the final Coffee Concert for 2011, Musica Viva turns the tables and presents the Melbourne Symphony Percussion and friends front and centre-stage. Visit www.musicaviva.com.au

IT MATTERS 2011

9 November- 10 November, 9am - 5pm
Crown Conference Centre
 IT Matters provides businesses with a one stop shop for leading edge thinking, product solutions and ideas in the corporate and SME business sectors today. For more info: www.australianbusinessforum.com.au

MOSTLY MOZART #4

Thursday 3 November, 10.30am
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 The final Mostly Mozart program of the year features a work that pays tribute to the master himself. For more information visit melbournerecital.com.au

POLLY WOODSIDE'S FAMILY DAY

Sunday 6 November 2011 - 10am to 4pm
Polly Woodside, 2A Clarendon Street
 Ahoy me hearties, prepare for the perfect day of high-seas adventure at the Polly Woodside Annual Family Day and 126th Birthday. Shiver me timbers... for more info: www.pollywoodside.com.au



MUSIC DELI

Saturday 5 November, 6pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 ABC Radio National's Music Deli, Multicultural Arts Victoria and Melbourne Recital Centre present The Woohoo Revue and J-Azmaris. For more information visit melbournerecital.com.au

CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES

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

SALAR AGHILI AND THE RAZO NIAZ ENSEMBLE

Thursday 10 November
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 An unforgettable introduction to Persian music, Salar Aghili's passionate and silky voice will evoke the music, literature and culture of ancient Persia. Visit www.salaraghiliaustralia.com

THE CHENNAI TAPES

Wednesday 26 October, 7.30pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 Four legends of South Indian music – Guru Kaaraikkudi Mani, V. Suresh, B. V. Balasai and U. P. Raju – join forces with Australian Art Orchestra greats in this groundbreaking work. Visit melbournerecital.com.au



FREE TAI CHI IN SOUTHBANK

Every Friday 8am - 9am
Queensbridge Square
 Because of the lack of open and recreations space on Southbank, the Melbourne City Council has funded weekly Tai Chi classes on Southbank. The instructor, provided by Tai Chi Australia structures a class that is suitable for beginners and all ages.

AUSTRALASIAN WORLD MUSIC EXPO

17 November - 20 November
Victorian Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
 This November, the fourth annual Australasian World Music Expo (AWME) is set to infuse the city with the finest indigenous, roots and world music from around the globe. For more information visit: www.awme.com.au

MELBOURNE MUSIC WEEK

18 November - 26 November
The Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
 Melbourne Music Week (MMW) was established in 2010 by the City of Melbourne to celebrate and support our city's thriving independent music scene. For more information visit: www.melbmusic.com

ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET

Sunday, 10am-4pm
Arts Centre 100 St Kilda Road
 Meet over 80 of Victoria's finest artisans first hand. Discover how these unique artworks are made, chat directly about the products, inspirations and techniques. For more information: www.theartscentre.com.au

MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6pm-8pm
3 Southbank Promenade
 This night photography class runs in Melbourne's city centre and has all the night photography tips you'll ever need. For more info: www.pennykouloulas.com

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NGV, 180 St Kilda Road
 In an era of chaos came an explosion of creativity – experimental, provocative and utterly compelling. Germany in the early twentieth century was a country in turmoil.

WAY TO BLUE: THE SONGS OF NICK DRAKE

Tuesday 15 November, 8pm
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 Undoubtedly one of the most influential English singer-songwriters of the last 50 years, Nick Drake found little mainstream success during his lifetime yet his music touched the hearts of millions of people. For info: www.melbournerecital.com.au

LITTLE MATCH GIRL

Friday 11 November - 4 December
The Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street
 Melbourne's favourite cabaret mistress, Meow Meow (Vamp, pictured right), returns to Malthouse Theatre with a Christmas story the likes of which you've never heard. Visit: www.malthousetheatre.com.au



SONGMAKERS AUSTRALIA - THE MELBOURNE CONNECTION

Tuesday 22 November
Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street
 Innovative new ensemble Songmakers Australia present a novel and unconventional approach to traditional recitals through the dynamic interplay of song and chamber music.

DAMIEN LEITH A TRIBUTE TO ROY ORBISON

4 November
The Palms at Crown
 To celebrate the release of Damien Leith's acclaimed fifth studio album 'ROY - A tribute to Roy Orbison', Damien sets off on a national theatre tour. For more information visit: www.crowncasino.com.au

THE STORY OF MARY MACLANE BY HERSELF

25 November - 11 December
The Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street
 Following the extraordinary success of The Hayloft Project's 'Thyestes' in 2010, the Company in Residence Program resurrects a most singular figure from the past. For more info: www.malthousetheatre.com.au

CAFÉ REBETIKA!

3 November - 13 November
Victorian Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road
 Following a sold out season at the Sydney Opera House, Café Rebetika! returns to the Arts Centre. Café Rebetika! is an epic story of the heart in a time of economic hardship and turmoil. Contact: www.theartscentre.com.au

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Sundays, 11.00am - 5.00pm
Australian Ballet School, 2 Kavanagh St
 This course develops acting skills for stage and screen, giving access to specialist tuition in a variety of acting styles. It offers opportunities to work with other talented young people in an ensemble. Contact: www.nida.edu.au

FOUR FACES OF ISRAEL

29 October - 1st November
Malthouse Theatre
 Helen Gottstein returns to Melbourne to present an insider's perspective on a complicated, little country. Four Faces of Israel is a highly interactive, original piece on modern day Israel. www.malthousetheatre.com.au

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FOR SALE



299/100 Kavanagh Street, **SOUTHBANK**
TOP FLOOR PARADISE, PRICED TO SELL!!!

3 2 2

Offering enchanting views with a Southern aspect, encapsulating Albert Park Lake, Port Phillip Bay, and both to the West & South of Melbourne, is this wonderful penthouse style apartment.

FOR SALE



SOLD
MORE WANTED

1001/8 Kavanagh Street, **DOCKLANDS**
MORE AND CONVENIENT!

1 1

Located on the 10th floor of Mirvac's Tower 5 building is this delightful 2-bedroom apartment with expansive bay views. You will be amazed at what this apartment has to offer.

FOR SALE



1001/8 Kavanagh Street, **SOUTHBANK**
THE NEW STANDARD OF LUXURY

2 2 1

Situated in the ever-popular Arts Centre Precinct is this delightful 110m² residence, offering a standard of living that is second to none. An endless list of features await you.

FOR SALE

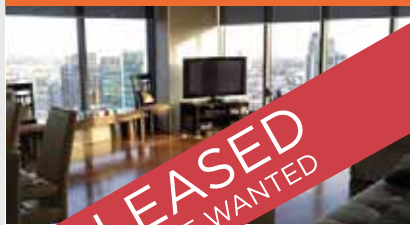


3310/1 Freshwater Place, **SOUTHBANK**
IDEAL INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

1 1

On the 33rd Floor in one of the city's best residential developments, Freshwater Place, is this 1 Bedroom apartment with vast views of Port Phillip Bay and to the West & North-West of Melbourne.

FOR LEASE



LEASED
MORE WANTED

1001/8 Kavanagh Street, **SOUTHBANK**

3 2

Located in arguably one of Melbourne's iconic, and leading apartment developments is this spacious two-bedroom apartment, with all the extras.

FOR LEASE



2506/83 Queensbridge Street, **SOUTHBANK**
\$1,200 per week

3 2 2

This fully furnished 3 bedroom penthouse offers two levels of comfortable living. Kitchen with gas appliances and granite bench tops and security intercom system.

OFF THE PLAN

Docklands - Apartments - 1 BR - 3 BR
\$410k - \$1.1m - Ready End 2013

Southbank - Apartments - 1 BR - 2 BR
\$375k - 750k - Ready May 2013

South Melbourne - Apartments - 1 BR - 2 BR + Study - \$405k - \$842k - Ready Mid 2013

North Melbourne - Apartments - 1 BR - 2 BR
\$392k - \$574k - Ready October 2012

Prahran - Apartments - 1 BR - 3 BR
\$365k - \$865k - Ready Early 2013

Malvern - Apartments - 1 BR - 3 BR
\$415k - \$1.1m - Ready September 2012

Elwood - Apartments - 1 BR - 3 BR
\$517k - \$950k - Ready July 2012

Footscray - Apartments - 1 BR - 2 BR
\$301k - \$476k - Ready Soon

West Footscray - Apartments - 1 BR - 2 BR
\$295k - \$489k - Ready May 2013

Travancore - 1 BR - 2 BR
\$495k - \$625k - Ready End 2012

WANTED TO BUY

APARTMENTS

4 3 2 Southbank
3 2 2 Under \$900,000
2 2 2 Under \$700,000
1 2 1 \$500,000

COMING SOON

Freshwater Place - \$640,000
1 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

Freshwater Place - \$2.5m
3 Bed 3 Bath 3 Car

Triptych - Kavanagh Street - \$780,000
2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

Triptych - Kavanagh Street (2 level) - \$1.45m
2 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car

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