The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK LEWS

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Whatever you do, don't look down!

Dane Butler describes his team's job as "a unique challenge". Talk about an understatement!

Mr Butler and his team are in charge of cleaning the facade of one of the world's tallest residential buildings - Eureka Tower.

Briteway Window Services has been cleaning windows for 30 years and has been entrusted with the job of cleaning the tower since it was built.

According to Mr Butler, it is experience that counts to ensure the job is done properly.

"Our guys have site-specific knowledge. You need to know the ins and outs of the building to clean it to the best possible standard," Mr Butler explained.

The obvious need to be fearless also comes into the equation.

"There's no doubt you have to have the right personality. You have to be comfortable in that situation on a daily basis," he said.

The distinctive design and height have made Eureka an icon of the Melbourne skyline, but it certainly makes the job of cleaning the entirety of its exterior an all-year-round job.

"We're cleaning every day we possibly can. It is pretty much a continuous all-year-round job," Mr Butler said.

Being onsite for most of the year is the only scheduling prediction Briteway can make.

Weather is the key variable affecting the schedule.

"Wind is the big one. It is a much different climate up there than it is on ground floor or even level 65," Mr Butler said.

"A calm day isn't necessarily a Eureka calm day," he said.





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SOUTHBANK LOCALIEWS

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Southbank Local News

Vacancy rates increase

Office space vacancy rates have slightly increased in Southbank.

According to the Property Council of Australia (PCA), in the six months to January 2012 the area's office vacancy went from 5.7 per cent to 6.4 per cent.

The PCA said there was no new space on the horizon for Southbank and the increased vacancies were a result of net absorption rate of -3356 square metres.

It seems Southbank is the anomaly in Melbourne as the news was positive for St Kilda Rd, which had a decrease in office vacancies in the six-month period. Its 13.4 per cent vacancy rate came down to 10.8 per cent.

The PCA said the St Kilda Rd changes were due to net absorption and withdrawals, and that there was very little space in the pipeline for the St Kilda Rd market.

Overall the Melbourne CBD also decreased its vacancy rates, down from 5.8 per cent to 5.3 per cent. That is the lowest level since July 2009.

Of Melbourne's overall office market the PCA's Victorian executive director Jennifer Cunich said: "The Property Council's Office Market Report has demonstrated that Melbourne's office market has remained competitive and strong in the second half of 2011."



Talent shines at Signal 37

Youth program Signal 37 concluded with a spectacular event in late January, showcasing the talents of many of its young participants.

The final exhibition on January 21, in front of an enthusiastic crowd, kicked off with a flash mob dance routine and included more dance, music, film, photography and art.

The program ran throughout January and included artistic courses to encourage young Melburnians to learn new skills and improve existing ones.

It was obvious to all on the night that both the talent and confidence of those who took part in the course had grown immensely over the duration of Signal 37.

Signal Studios operates programs throughout the year, for more information head to its website www.melbourne.vic.gov. au/signal/Pages/Signal.aspx





Questions over Queensbridge

Residents are fired up over plans to build Melbourne's second highest building at the site of the Queensbridge Hotel.

The Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) is considering the building proposal from Schiavello Pty Ltd, which includes a 71-storey tower measuring 275 metres.

With a gross floor area of 107,127 square metres, the proposal was sent directly to the DPCD and not the City of Melbourne as it deals with any plan bigger than 25,000 square metres.

The residents of Freshwater Place say the building would completely block the western side of their building, and it's not the views they are concerned about losing, rather, sunlight.

The Freshwater residents claim the building will be just eight metres from their building,

a distance that is both impractical and against area guidelines.

They have been incensed enough to create a websiten in an attempt to have a voice in the planning of the surrounding areas of their building.

Queensbridgeoverload.com.au explains the residents' position, but Freshwater Place Owners Corporation chair Peter Renner says: "The site is for people in the community who want to understand the facts, not for opinions."

He said they were simply giving a view about the appropriate development of Southbank which, according to Mr Renner, should include a mixture of high-rise, medium-level and low-rise buildings.

Mr Renner explained that he and fellow residents were not against development of the area and had nothing against this particular building.

"It's a great design. The building itself is impressive, it's just completely inappropriate for here. The plan looks great. It's just in the wrong place," he said.

Mr Renner also raised the residents' concerns about traffic in the area. He said new residents to these buildings might have to enter their homes via Flinders St and the CBD, an impractical idea.

Mr Renner said the residents were unsure about the planning of Southbank's future.

"I believe the developers are cherry picking their opportunities on the basis that there is no overall plan," he said.

It's obvious the current residents are also concerned about the infrastructure in place to accommodate the increased number of residents that naturally comes with projects such as this.

"Where's the bank? Where's the school? Where's the post office?" Mr Renner asks.

Schiavello declined to comment.

Green makeover for Sandridge Bridge

A key gateway to Southbank has been earmarked by the City of Melbourne as possibly becoming "Melbourne's most internationally iconic landmark in the city".

The Sandridge Bridge connects Northbank and Southbank and leads into Queensbridge square. It is currently used as a pedestrian and bicycle path – but a significant section of it is unused and the council wants to capitalise on it.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle has unveiled the \$6 million concept, which will utilise the unused section of the bridge, and create a park oasis for all to enjoy.

He also pointed out that it was the unused section that the council wanted to upgrade.

"What we'd be doing here is take an unused part of the existing bridge and turn it into a place for people to relax, read a book in the shade of tree and you could even go and have a coffee or a snack in what will be a remarkable sustainable green building with a view like no other," Cr Doyle said.

The council is hoping to fund the project through the Australian Government's Liveable City's Program Fund, and applied for funding support during December.

The proposal takes environmentally friendly projects to the extreme, featuring trees lining the bridge, sustainable water storage and a

zero-carbon building with an eco café inside and vegetation on the roof.

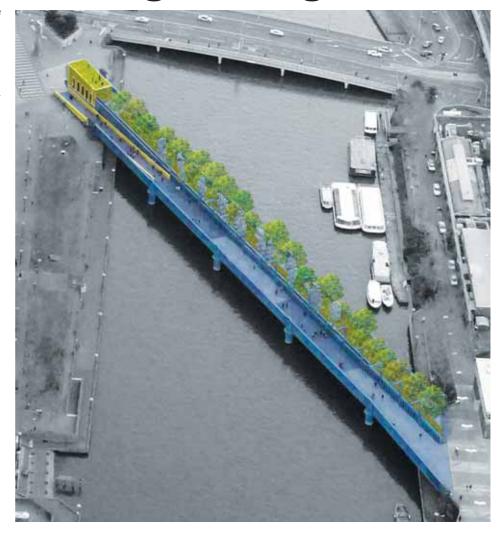
"It would create a unique public place like no other in Melbourne and bolster an important connection between our city's north and south banks over the Yarra," Cr Doyle said.

The Lord Mayor boasted that these sort of initiatives are what makes Melbourne the city that it is, saying: "This is what makes Melbourne one of the best cities in the world, we are always looking to enhance these unused spaces in our city to bring them back to life, that is why Melbourne is so liveable."

He also said the project was keeping in line with other plans the council has set for the future.

"This project compliments all of our sustainability programs and will again build on the number of capital works projects undertaken by the city that champion green and sustainable design in Melbourne," Cr Doyle said.

"This project would embrace our Urban Forest and Open Space Strategies and our Southbank Structure plan whilst complement and respect the design and heritage significance of the bridge."







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Celebrating the year of the dragon

Southbank flexed its event hosting muscle during January as the Chinese community welcomed in the new year of the Dragon.

The festival ran from January 27-29 and created an electric atmosphere along the casino promenade.

The promenade featured a bustling street market, multiple stages with entertainment running over the entire weekend and even an hour and a half worth of karaoke (although this reporter could only handle about three minutes before moving on).

The night sky lit up all three nights with spectacular fireworks on display, launched from the middle of the Yarra River. The noise created from the echoing buildings was something to behold.

The year of the dragon is highly significant among the Chinese community, as it is the only mythical zodiac creature.

2012 is the year of the water dragon, which is said to have a calming effect on the Dragon's fearless temperament.





Southbank jobs boost

Southbank Tram Depot is set for a multi-million dollar upgrade, to ensure the tram network is prepared for 50 new low-floor trams that have been ordered by the State Government.

In a boost for the local economy, the upgrade will create 50 construction jobs, and another 15 Yarra Trams staff will need to be employed full-time for maintenance and engineering of the new trams.

The \$24.4 million upgrade is set to target the expansion and improvement of the workshop area, installation of an underfloor wheel lathe used to carry out wheel maintenance and the installation of an additional maintenance pit.

It's not just the maintenance of the trams that will be looked after with a 60,000 litre underground water tank also being installed, to capture stormwater. The water will then be used in a new tram wash facility.

The new trams are to be built in Dandenong, and the Premier Ted Baillieu says they will be better than existing trams.

"The new trams will each be able to carry more than 200 passengers and will improve accessibility for passengers," Mr Baillieu said.

"The new trams will have a low floor to provide easier access at tram stops, slipresistant floors and air-conditioning to improve passenger comfort and safety."

The Minister for Transport Terry Mulder says it is important that the government invest and maintain Melbourne's tram network, to ensure it remains a world leader.

"Melbourne's tram network is the world's largest, with about 182 million passenger trips now made on our trams each year.

"We are committed to upgrading both the network and trams to improve accessibility," Mr Mulder said.

"The Coalition Government is focused on getting the basics of our public transport network right, which is why we're investing \$800 million in tram network improvements."

The upgrade of the site is to be completed by Leighton Contractors and with work already underway Mr Mulder said the depot works should be completed by the time the first of the new low-floor trams are added to the network late next year.





March Survey Who's our best street performer?

Southbank promenade is a paradise for buskers and street performers. Highly talented individuals such as the young man pictured here entertain us and help make Southbank an interesting and exciting venue for visitors both day and night.

It is why we want to find Southbank's favourite busker. Who is the performer you think is the most talented, entertaining or simply fun?

Answer the survey question on our website – **www.southbanklocalnews. com.au** and tell us who is your pick of the street performers and why.

Have your say online at www.southbanklocalsnews.com.au

Council warned off wards

The Victorian Electoral Committee (VEC) has rejected the push for the return of a wards system for the City of Melbourne, after it released a preliminary report to the council for their future electoral structure.

Despite talk of a return to the system that would see Southbank gain specific councillors looking after our area, the VEC has suggested its preference is to maintain the current zoning, with additional councillors for the entire area.

The plan sees the undivided municipality represented by nine councillors plus the Lord Mayor and a Deputy Lord Mayor, two more than the current seven councillors and the two leaders.

The recommendation goes against the public submissions received by the VEC, with 17 submissions preferring a return to a wards system, against 4 who preferred the current boundaries

Only one submission said the current number of councillors was satisfactory, with 16 wanting more and four not commenting either way.

One of the submissions against wards was from the Lord Mayor, Cr Robert Doyle, who, according to the report said: "a move to wards would not reflect the business structure of the municipality, nor the fact that almost 77 per cent of the rate base comes from the business community."

The VEC agrees, with its report stating of its preferred unsubdivided option: "It takes into account the importance of the Melbourne City Council's capital city functions, which are best suited to an unsubdivided structure, and is also able to absorb Melbourne's uneven growth patterns."

"Unlike other Victorian councils, Melbourne

City Council has a statewide, a national and even an international dimension."

Southbank Residents Group has stated its desire for a return to a subdivided council, saying it would be best for the interests of the local residents.

In its submission to the review former president Joe Bagnara said: "Under the current system residents and small businesses lack the proper representation when it comes to addressing local issues leaving resident associations to fill this gap by acting as de facto ward councillors."

"There is some concern about the risk that the reversion to a ward system poses to the key role of the council in developing and implementing strategy to further Melbourne."

"However, it is important that councillors keep a balance between their strategic role in the advancement of the capital city and serving its community," the submission said.

The submission also stated the SRG's support for an increased number of councillors.

The VEC will receive submissions on the preliminary report until Feburary 23. Those who make submissions will have the opportunity to speak at a public hearing, set to be held at Melbourne Town Hall at 5pm on February 29.





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By appointment

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Located on the 21st floor is, this great quality huge 1 bedroom 1 Bathroom 1 Car Space superb condition apartment. Includes Modern kitchen fittings, stainless steel Miele appliances including cook-top, oven, range-hood and dishwasher. This near new apartment has a generous size bedroom with BIRs. Included also, video intercom and resort style facilities. VUE GRANDE Southbank is situated within walking distance to Melbourne CBD, Southbank Promenade and restaurants Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964



Southbank 1203/109 Clarendon Street EXCELLENT AND AFFORDABLE equipped gym and spa pool.

2 🛌 1 들 1 🍙

Private Sale \$450,000 InspectBy appointment Near new city pad within walking distance to Crown casino and Southbank promenade. Functional floor plan includes fitted kitchen with stainless steel appliances, and ample cupboard space. Good size bedroom with two way ensuite and a second room which could be used as a large study or optional second bedroom. Secure under cover car park and the use of a fully

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Melbourne 3602/288 Spencer Street NO.1 FOR LOCATION & VIEWS

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Inspect

Private Sale \$570,000 By appointment



Lina D' Ambrosio 0430 929 851



Southbank 2408/180 City Road

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Private Sale \$599,000 By appointment

This spectacular and luxurious two bedroom apartment is now available in the prestigious Southbank One building. Located on the 24th floor, this apartment features breathtaking views overlooking the Yarra River, CBD and Port Phillip Bay. Featuring a master bedroom with en suite and generous sized second bedroom with built-in-robes, this apartment is perfect for anyone who wants to take full advantage of the city's lively culture while living in a spacious and quiet apartment.

Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964



Southbank 187/88 Southbank Boulevard, Southbank

3 BEDROOM WITH A VIEW

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Private Sale \$638,000 By appointment Fantastic fully refurbished, three bedroom apartment located on the 18th floor with great views, offers the discerning buyer the comforts of three large bedrooms, light filled open plan living leading to a good size balcony with great views. Features include secure under cover car park, secure entry, heating and cooling, resort style facilities including indoor heated pool. spa, sauna, gym, tennis court, and BBQ area. The building is located in the heart of Southbank close to world class cafes and restaurants. Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964



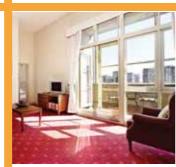
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Eureka! Lara lands dream job

Lara Thew Lancashire has worked for Eureka concierge for four years, but now she is leaving for motherhood.

If Lara's husband is reading this, calm down, not that kind of motherhood!

They may seem poles apart, but to Lara the combination of Eureka head concierge and a career in musical theatre have been running in tandem.

That is until Lara landed a role in the upcoming theatre production of *Motherhood* which is set to travel around Australia. Lara said it was an offer too good to refuse.

Having loved her time at Eureka since the beginning of 2008, Lara knew it would be hard to say goodbye, but was very thankful for the support she has received from her now former employer.

"When an amazing opportunity comes up like this, to know Eureka would be fully supportive and understanding was a great relief," Ms Thew Lancashire said.

It was this support that has made her time at Eureka such a joy. Lara has always loved acting and performing, and it was important that her "day job" employer was understanding of this.

"Eureka knew all along that performing was my first love and passion. If the right job and the right role came along, I'd have to say goodbye," Ms Thew Lancashire explained.

"I know lots of other actor friends working three different jobs on minimum wages and

really struggling. I was so lucky to have a job with such great flexibility and I also loved my work at Eureka."

Although Lara is understandably excited about the new role, she leaves Eureka with a heavy heart. In her four years at the concierge she has enjoyed working in an environment where she has personal interaction with so many people, be it residents, visitors or colleagues.

"I knew it was going to be hard to leave. I can't believe how quickly four years has gone by, and all the people I worked with have become good friends, even some of the residents I consider friends," she said.

"I will miss the personal interaction. There are some lovely families and young couples I will definitely miss."

Despite this affinity with her day job, Lara was always hoping the bright lights of show businesses would come calling. She said Eureka have always been supportive of her career, as she completed shows co currently with work.

Now that she has landed the breakout role Lara can't wait to get her teeth into touring.

"It's a really funny show. I love doing comedy and this show is a laugh a minute!"

Motherhood kicks off its nation wide tour in Wollongong and comes to Melbourne in August.





'Saints' donate blood

A group of 60 "saints" from the Church of God visited the Red Cross Blood Centre in Soutbank on Australia Day to donate blood.

The church group is based in Pascoe Vale, but made a day of it in Southbank, culminating in the donation of blood.

Hilda Dursun from the church group said the blood drive was all about helping people.

"This event is to save lives of those who are dying due to the shortage of blood supplies," Ms Dursun said.

The Church wants to encourage all people to donate blood and save lives.

Ms Dursun said the "saints" were donating as part of the celebration of the 94th anniversary of the birth of Ahnsahnghong, who they believe is the second coming of christ.



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Grand preview in Queensbridge Square

Dust off those earplugs. The Melbourne Grand Prix is just around the corner and Queensbridge Square was the site of a preview for the big race, with a display being set up last month.

In an attempt to get people excited about the race organisers provided passers-by with interactive activities and general information about the event, held at Albert Park annually.

The display was centred around a giant helmet and once it had your attention also

featured a mini-race track with an electronic mini-formula one car, two formula one cars on display and an information tent.

For all the rev-heads who are hanging out for the big race, the sound of screeching motorcars will run from March 15 – 18.







Squaring off the square

It may be well established as a meeting place for Melburnians and visitors, but according the architect Marcus O'Reilly Queensbridge Square still has plenty of development left.

Mr O'Reilly should know, he's the designer behind both the vent on the Queensbridge Rd side of the square and the centrepiece red stage and stairs.

He believes the trees surrounding both of his items are the final piece of the puzzle for the public space.

"A city square isn't just a whole lot of open space, it has to be defined," Mr O'Reilly said, adding: "We generated the wall to close the square and to block off the car park behind it."

"The road had to be neutralised, so the vent was built and the trees help to hide the road."

As the trees on either side grow so to will the distinct boundary of the square.

The vent, a huge fan surrounded by the O'Reilly designed wooden creation pays homage to the areas railway history.

"The structure is an abstract reminder of the railway line that passed through, the vent uses wood that resembles the sleepers from a track," Mr O'Reilly pointed out.

Five years after his two structures were put in place, Mr O'Reilly is thrilled by the response to them, especially the red stairs being used as a meeting place for all of Melbourne.

"The council were looking for what would be a nice mix. Somewhere for people to have a small scale get together, or a gathering point - any city needs those sorts of spaces."

"It is amazing. A lot of people come in to Melbourne and their friends here say, let's meet at the red stairs. It's easily identifiable by the colour and shape."

Mr O'Reilly is also proud of the quality materials used during the creation of his structures. He knows they have to still be in top condition when the trees are fully grown and the square is at its peak.

"The timber we used will last for a very long time, with just a few coats of paint to keep it maintained."

Perhaps the biggest compliment for Mr O'Reilly is the respect Melburnians seem to have for his creations, saying: "Neither have hardly had any graffiti, which I see as a real thumbs up to the work."





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The Wharf Cellars







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Mad Duck Cafe's menu offers luscious food made from fresh ingredients and includes vegetarian and gluten-free items. The cafe is open for breakfast and lunch seven days. You have to try some of the cafe's popular dishes like feta and avocado toast, homemade gourmet meat pies or big breakfast.

Mad Duck Cafe takes pride in its coffee and only uses organic and fair-trade coffee beans. For the serious coffee drinkers, this cafe is worth a visit.

The cafe offers a range of organic products including bread, herbal teas, and fruit and vegetables juices

Mad Duck Cafe also provides catering around the local area. The catering menu brings to your event the fresh and sumptuous food the cafe offers.

The outdoor dining area is enhanced by the magnificent backdrop of the Yarra's Edge Marina. With a seating capacity of 40 inside and 30 outside, the cafe can be hired privately for dinner functions, corporate events or private parties.

For this month, Mad Duck is offering Saturday breakfast for two for just \$35 - including the popular big breakfast and orange juice for two. For more information, visit www.madduckcafe.com. Bookings essential and you need to mention this promo.

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.

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MELBOURNE FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL

Our magnificent weekend

What better way for the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival (MFWF) to celebrate its 20th year than with a magical weekend of events all along the city's most famous river.

The Riverside Opening Weekend will run on March 3-4 and is sure to confirm that our patch of Melbourne is a culinary leader of not only in this state, but of the country and of the world.

In total there are more than 30 events in just one action-packed weekend, running along the river from Federation Square all the way down to NewQuay in Docklands.

All events running over the opening weekend are listed in the following pages.

With so much on, all tastes are catered for, and with all the weekends' events listed within these pages - there is no excuse not to get down and enjoy the festivities.

The hardest decision for all those food and wine lovers is where to start?

Perhaps the best place is the Festival Hub, which will be conveniently located at Queensbridge Square.

The Hub will act as a home base for the festival, with art displays, lunchtime live cooking demonstrations and the MFWF Greenhouse by Joost.

The Greenhouse is new to the festival and is the brainchild of Joost Bakker. The Greenhouse's vision is to create a restaurant that is entirely waste-free and recyclable, with the aim of proving the possibility of a

world without waste.

From there it is an easy stroll to any of the events and happenings on the south side of the river. Federation Square Favourites is a free event, as is the entertainment at Southgate and its tasting plates are sure to lure you.

There is another free event out the front of Crown and from there you'll be able to see the fun happening at WTC Wharf. But how will you get to it? The easiest way will be by the MFWF free river shuttle service.

Once there you can enjoy any number of activities within one of Melbourne's newest locations. Then jump back onto the shuttle to get to another, South Wharf.

South Wharf promenade is running four events over the weekend, to ensure you will be entertained and, more importantly, full.

Thankfully the river shuttle doesn't stop there, with further stops in Docklands at Yarra's Edge and NewQuay.

Both of these precincts of Docklands are offering food and activities from their range of restaurants, which again is sure to please all palets.

It could fill you just reading about it, but the best part of our weekend is once it's all over the rest of the festival begins!



Images in this supplement courtesy of Melbourne Food and Wine Festival

The benefits of the weekend

The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival's riverside opening weekend spectacular presents a marvellous opportunity for all business in the Southbank area and should see a significant boost to our local economy.

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) is encouraging all businesses in the area to be prepared - even if food and wine isn't your field.

YRBA spokesperson Tim Bracher is excited about the prospect of the weekend and the prospects it will bring.

We will be awash with people who have money and a love of the 'good life," Mr Bracher said.

He suggested that: "The short term gain is the influx of 350,000 people, who are prequalified as patrons who love food, wine and mingling with others."

Mr Bracher was quick to point out that the advantages were longer and greater than simply the feature weekend.

"Longer term, it's a huge opportunity to reinforce the precinct's reputation for dining."

"Since the establishment of Southgate 20 years ago, the competition among

Melbourne's dining areas has become fierce, so the presence of the Food and Wine Festival here for the next five years is an acknowledgement that this precinct still has an enviable reputation for food, ambience and great views."

Despite the obvious bonuses for the hospitality industry, it is important that other sectors use the momentum from the huge influx of possible patrons.

Mr Bracher said the YRBA was absolutely encouraging all businesses to take advantage of this unique opportunity, saying: "Even if you are not in the hospitality business, you will still be a major contributor to the atmosphere of the weekend and part of the festival vibe."

"If you are not directly involved, make a special effort to present your business with style and panache."

After talking to local businesses from the YRBA, Mr Bracher said the mood was a little cautious, but certainly optimistic about the festival's impact.

"It's the first time, so there is an air of 'what's it going to be like, but the quality of festival management over the past 20 years tells us that it is going to be a great branding exercise for the precinct," Mr Bracher said.

"This is a world-class event Melhourne is so lucky to have it and we are very proud to host its 20th birthday celebrations."

The YRBA is itself hosting an event over the opening weekend, and Mr Bracher said its progressive lunch, hosted between three restaurants, which will be accessed via the river, was looking good.

"We expect to fill the vessel on both days as our event is a great opportunity to combine Melbourne's Waterfront scenery with great food, at a very affordable price."





RIVERSIDE OPENING WEEKEND



Events at NewQuay

NewQuay



OUTBACK JACKS

THE OUTBACK COMES TO DOCKLANDS AT OUTBACK JACKS, WHICH BOASTS THE LARGEST SELECTION OF STEAKS IN THE WORLD. CHOOSE YOUR OWN DIAMOND CUT STEAK AND WATCH THE CHEF GRILL IT IN THE OPEN KITCHEN.

When 3 - 4 March, 11.30am til late

Where: 12-16 Newquay Promenade,

NewQuay, Docklands
Cost: From \$24.95



WATERSIDE ORIENTAL BISTRO

TRY CANTONESE SNACKS AND TASTING PLATES FROM A TABLE IN FRONT OF THE RESTAURANT AS OWNERS JULIE AND FRANK CHAN SERVE UP THAT FAMOUS HONG KONG HOSPITALITY WITH A SMILE.

When 3 - 4 March, Morning until late

Where: Shop 5, 10 NewQuay Promenade, Docklands

Cost: From \$5



DOCK 31

THE EMPHASIS IS ON FRESHNESS AT DOCK 31, WITH A NEW MENU, CHEF AND MANAGEMENT. DINE AL FRESCO IN THE COOLING BREEZE, OR IN THE MODERN DECOR INSIDE. DINNER-FOR-2 SPECIAL IS HALF A LOBSTER, A 220-GRAM SCOTCH FILLET, MASH POTATO AND SUMMER SALAD, FOR \$70.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 70 NewQuay Promenade; Ph 9670 5550; www.dock31.com.au



MAN MO

SET BEHIND GLASS ON THE
RESTAURANT'S REAR WALL ARE
TWO PURE GOLD LEAF FIGURES OF
THE CHINESE GODS MAN CHEUNG
(LITERATURE) AND KWAN YU (WAR) ...
MAN MO IS A TEMPLE TO MALAYSIAN
INFLUENCED CHINESE CUISINE.

Where: 42 Newquay Promenade, Ph 9642 1997; www.manmo.com.au



MISCHA'S PIZZA, PASTA & SALAD

MISCHA'S IS ALL ABOUT FRIENDS, FUNKY FOOD AND FUN. TASTE TEST SOME OF MISCHA'S PIZZA FAVOURITES, WITH PIZZA SLICES FOR ONLY \$5.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 62 NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9606 0008; www.mischas.com.au



MECCA BAH

MECCA BAH IS A MIDDLE EASTERN
AND MOROCCAN MAGIC CARPET RIDE
FOR THE SENSES. DISCOVER CHEF'S
SECRET "SPECIAL OF THE DAY" TO
CELEBRATE THE MELBOURNE FOOD &
WINE FESTIVAL.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 55A NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9642 1300; **www.meccabah.com.au**



GRILL 66 STEAKHOUSE

REKINDLE YOUR ROMANTIC FLAME
WITH FLAME GRILLED STEAKS WHILE
GAZING ON THE WATERFRONT
THROUGH FLOOR-TO-CEILING
WINDOWS. WATCH ON THE BIG SCREEN
AS CHEF PREPARES A MELBOURNE
FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL "SPECIAL OF
THE DAY".

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 66 New Quay Promenade, Ph 9640 0808 www.grill66.com.au



LIVEBAIT

RELAX ON THE BALCONY
OVERHANGING THE WATER, AND
SIP A CHILLED WHITE WINE AS CHEF
MAKES YOUR MELBOURNE FOOD &
WINE FESTIVAL "SPECIAL OF THE DAY"
WITH A MEDITERRANEAN AND SOUTH
AMERICAN INFLUENCE.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 55B NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9642 1500; **www.livebait.com.au**



STAFF WILL BE WALKING THE PROMENADE, WITH SAMPLE DISHES FOR \$5. LIKE WHAT YOU TASTE? THEN POP IN AND TRY THE EXTENSIVE SHARED PLATES. OSCARS TABLE IS ALL ABOUT SHARING FOOD IN A RELAXED DINING ENVIRONMENT.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 50 NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9642 4242; www.oscarstable.com.au



NEWQUAY INTERNATIONAL BUFFET

TAKE A CULINARY JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE HUGE VARIETY DISHES, LAID OUT BUFFET STYLE & COOKING STATION. SAVE SPACE FOR DESSERT – THERE ARE 30 TO SAMPLE! LUNCH COSTS \$36, DINNER \$63.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 4-6 NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9670 3889;

www.newquaybuffet.com.au



BHOJ

THE NAME TRANSLATES INTO "INDIAN FEAST", SO FEAST YOUR EYES — AND TASTE BUDS — ON THE SUCCULENT TANDOORI MEATS AND CURRIES OF CHEF RAJESH MEHIA, STARTING WITH HIS VEGETARIAN BAGHARE BAINGAN AT \$15.20

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 54 NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9600 0884, **www.bhoj.com.au**



BERTH

BERTH YOUR WEARY FEET AWHILE, ENJOY A VINO WITH A GENEROUS ANTIPASTO PLATE FOR TWO (\$24) WHILE TAKING IN THE SPECTACULAR VIEW FROM GROUND LEVEL OR THE UPPER DECK. OPEN FROM 9AM.

When 3 - 4 March

Where: 45 NewQuay Promenade, Ph 9670 0199; **www.berth.com.au**





MARCH 3-4



Local events



MAPPING VICTORIA'S HUNGER

DID YOU KNOW 400,000 VICTORIANS STRUGGLE TO PUT A MEAL ON THE TABLE EVERY YEAR? COME DOWN TO BATMAN PARK TO VIEW THE GIANT MAP OF VICTORIA WHICH HIGHLIGHTS THE LEVELS OF HUNGER ACROSS THE STATE.

When: 3 - 4 March, 10:00AM - 4:00PM

Where: Batman Park, Batman Park,

Melbourne

Cost: Free Must bring a can of food







FESTIVAL FREE RIVER SHUTTLE SERVICE

HOP ON, HOP OFF THE FREE RIVER SHUTTLE SERVICE TO GET TO EACH OF THE RIVERSIDE OPENING WEEKEND EVENTS - FOR TWO DAYS ONLY!

When: 3 - 4 March, 10:00AM - 5:00PM

Where: On the banks of the Yarra River. Pick up and drop off points from Fed Square to Waterfront City Marina.

Cost: Free upon presentation of your Riverside Passport



SEAFOOD AND SAILORS

MELBOURNE LANDMARK, THE HISTORIC MISSION TO SEAFARERS, HAS BEEN WELCOMING SAILORS TO THE PORT OF MELBOURNE FOR ALMOST A CENTURY.

When: 4 March, 10:00AM - 6:00PM

Where: Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders Street, Docklands

Cost: Prices from \$10.00



SOUTHGATE TASTING PLATES

SAMPLE A DELICIOUS RANGE OF TASTING PLATES FROM SOUTHGATE'S RESTAURANTS, AND GO IN THE DRAW TO WIN A MAJOR CINEMA PRIZE.

When: 3 - 4 March, 11:00AM - 10:00PM

Where: Southgate, on the banks of the Yarra River, Southbank

Cost: Free -\$15:

celebratesouthgate.com.au



LA TRADICION ESPANOLA

EXPLORE THE TASTE COMPARISONS OF SPANISH AND AUSTRALIAN WINES MADE FROM THE SPANISH TEMPRANILLO GRAPE VARIETY. EACH TASTING IS MATCHED WITH TAPAS FROM OUR FAMOUS MENU TO COMPLEMENT YOUR WINE

When 3 - 4 March

Where: Bohemian, 35 Dukes Walk South Wharf, ph 9008 8955



PIES BEERS AND BRAWN

JOIN BEER AND BRAWN, AN INTERACTIVE MASTER CLASS WHERE PARTICIPANTS WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO CREATE THEIR OWN COMMON MAN SIGNATURE DISH - THE HEARTY MEAT

When 3 - 4 March

Where: Common Man, 39 Dukes Walk South Wharf, ph 9696 3774



LITTLE PIGGY GOES TO MARKET

ENJOY A FOUR-COURSE FEAST OF FREE-RANGE BERKSHIRE PORK AS THE EXPERTS FROM TOOBORAC'S MCIVOR FARM FOODS JOIN MEAT MARKET SOUTH WHARF TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT OLD BREED PORK

When 3 - 4 March

Where: Meat Market, 53 South Wharf Promenade, Ph 9008 8953;

meatmarketsouthwharf.com.au



ALONG CAME A CIDER

EXPERIENCE THE WONDERFUL FLAVOURS FORM THE FERMENTED FORBIDDEN FRUIT AND THE VERACIOUS PEAR VARIETIES WHILE BASKING IN A LUXURY WATERFRONT LOCATION OF SHOWTIME EVENTS CENTRE

When 3 - 4 March

Where: Showtime Events Centre, 61 South Wharf Promenade, Ph 9696 3867; www.showtimeevents.com.au

NAUTICAL PROGRESSIVE DINING

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00PM - 8:00PM Where: Victorian Yacht Charters, on the Yarra River, Southbank Cost: Prices from \$180.00

BLACK VELVET

When: 3 March, 6:00PM - 8:00PM Where: Left Bank Melbourne, 1 Southbank Blvd, Southbank

Cost: \$130.00 champagne, stout and canapés

A TASTE OF MORNINGTON IN MELBOURNE

When: 3 March, 12:00PM - 4:00PM Where: River's Edge Events, World Trade Centre, Docklands

Cost: \$135.00 four courses with wine

YARRA RIVER PROGRESSIVE LUNCHEON **CRUISE**

When: 3 - 4 March, 1:00PM - 5:00PM Where: WTC Wharf, World Trade Centre, Docklands

Cost: \$98.00 per head

VEGETABLE PUPPET WORKSHOP

When: 4 March, 11:00AM - 12:00PM and 4 March, 12:30PM - 1:30PM Where: The Arts Centre, Famous

Spiegeltent, Melbourne Cost: \$18.00 per child

FOOD TRUCKS UNITE

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00PM - 9:00PM Where: Signal Youth Space, Flinders Walk, Melbourne

Cost: Prices from \$10.00

PIRATE DAY

When: 4 March, 11:00AM - 4:00PM

Where: South Wharf, 20 Convention Centre Place, Melbourne

Cost:\$15.00 Adult, \$12.00 Concession, \$8.00 per Child, \$42.00 Family Ticket

BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S

When: 3 March, 10:30AM - 12:30PM

Where: Showtime Events Centre, 61 South Wharf Promenade, South Wharf

Cost: \$150.00 five course brunch accompanied by French champagne

HIGH TEA IN THE SKY

When: 3, 4 March, 2:00PM - 4:00PM Where: Eureka 89, Level 89, Eureka Tower, Southbank

Cost: \$85.00

BARBIE SCHOOL BY THE YARRA

When: 4, 11 March, 1:00PM - 3:00PM

Where: The Wharf Hotel, World Trade Centre, Docklands

Cost: \$135.00 three-course seafood

BBQ and all beverages

SEAFOOD, BOATS & BBQ

When: 3 March, 11:00AM - 2:00PM

Where: The Wharf Hotel, World Trade

Centre, Docklands

Cost: \$125.00 cooking demo, boat ride, lunch with matched beverage

STRANDED

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00AM - 12:00AM

Where: Ponyfish Island, Southgate Pedestrian Bridge, Melbourne

Cost: Prices from \$12.00



MELBOURNE FOOD AND WINE FESTIVAL



FOODIE FILMS

When: 2 - 9 March, 1:30PM - 12:00AM Where: Federation Square, Cnr **Swanston and Flinders Streets**

Cost: Free

FARMERS' DELIGHTS & CITY NIGHTS

When: 3 March, 7:30PM - 9:30PM Where: Eureka 89, Level 89, Eureka Tower, Southbank

Cost: \$95.00

YEAR OF THE FARMER

When: 3 - 4 March, 9:00AM - 5:00PM Where: Batman Park, Batman Park, Melbourne

Cost: Free

YARRA'S EDGE DOCKLAND SEAFOOD **BBQ FEST**

When: 3 - 4 March, 11:00AM - 6:00PM Where: NewQuay & Waterfront, Docklands Drive, Docklands

Cost: Free

GREENHOUSE BY JOOST

When: 2 - 21 March, 8:00AM - 10:00PM Where: Greenhouse by Joost, Queensbridge Square, Southbank Cost: Prices from \$15.00 Breakfast, lunch and dinner menu available

SWEET FESTIVITIES

When: 3 March, 10:00AM - 9:00PM and 4 March, 10:00AM - 6:00PM Where: Crown Riverside, Yarra Promenade, Southbank

Cost: Free

FANCY FISH

When: 3 March, 12:00PM - 8:00PM and 4 March, 12:00PM - 3:00PM

Where: South Wharf Boardwalk, South Wharf, South Wharf

Cost: Free

URBAN PICNIC

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00PM - 6:00PM Where: World Trade Centre Pier, World Trade Centre, Docklands Cost: \$10.00 per picnic voucher

MASTERCLASS IN PORTRAIT

When: 2 - 21 March, 8:00PM - 10:00PM Where: MasterClass in Portrait, Queensbridge Square, Southbank Cost: Free

THE LUDLOW BUTCHERS STALL & GRILL

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00AM - 12:00AM Where: Southgate, On the banks of the Yarra River, Southbank

Cost: Prices from \$6.00

FED SQUARE FAVOURITES

When: 3 - 4 March, 10:00AM - 6:00PM Where: Federation Square, Cnr Swanston and Flinders Streets, Melbourne

Cost: Free

DOCKLANDS GOURMET SAILS

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00PM - 10.00PM Where: The Banks of the Yarra Cost: \$99.00 includes Cruise, Glass of Champagne & Canapes

RARE SPIRITS & VINTAGE COCKTAILS

When: 4, 11, 17, 18 March, 12:00PM -11:45PM

Where: Byblos Bar and Restaurant, World Trade Centre, Docklands Cost: \$55.00 cocktails and tasting notes

A SPANISH TWIST

Paella & Grill items

When: 3 - 4 March, 12:00AM - 12:00AM Where: South Wharf, 20 Convention Centre Place, Melbourne Cost: \$5.00 Frozen Sangria, \$10.00

FAMILY FOODIE WEEKEND AT ARTPLAY

When: 3, 4 March, 11:00AM - 4:00PM Where: Artplay, Art Play building, Melbourne

Cost: Free

FESTIVAL INFORMATION HUB

When: 2 - 21 March, 8:00AM - 10.00PM Where: The Festival Information Hub, 3 Freshwater Place, Southbank

Cost: Free







Join us for the Yarra River Launch Weekend on the Progressive Gourmet Luncheon Cruise

1 - 5pm Saturday 3 March and Sunday 4 March

What better way to enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes of Melbourne's premier food and wine event than by enjoying a four hour guided cruise of the river, with canapés and bubbly, then calling-in to enjoy signature dishes, complemented by a glass of fine wine, at Southgate's Scusami (entrée), Pier 35 (main) and Byblos at WTC North Wharf (dessert and coffee). Normally priced at \$170 - festival weekend special price of \$98 per head.

Phone 8610 2600 to reserve your place for this special festival cruise.

Sponsored by the Yarra River Business Association, Melbourne River Cruises, and associated restaurants







Southbank Directory au

What to do

Where to stay

Where to Eat/Drink

Beauty, Health & Fitness

Southbank Services Where to Shop

Food...Wine...Festival!

What three things does Melbourne do super splendidly? Food, wine and yes festivals.

It's totally like the festival capital don't ya know! For 20 days in March the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival will celebrate its 20th birthday.

With almost 300 events happening across Melbourne there will be plenty to get involved with. The Hub in Queensbridge Square will feature lunchtime live-cooking demonstrations on the main stage with some of Melbourne's top chefs giving you the low-down on how to chef-up the ultimate Barbie. Yummo!

One new exciting addition to the festival for 2012 is the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival Greenhouse by Joost. A living, breathing greenhouse will rise up from the banks of the Yarra. Welcome to the future – it tastes delightful, two, four, six, eight, bog in don't wait!

WHAT: Melbourne Food and Wine Festival

WHERE: Queensbridge Square, Southbank

WHEN: Friday, March 2 to Wednesday, March 21

WEB: www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au

Did you say, Bon Iver?

You probably won't hear or see them on the commercial channels here in Oz but wow, has Bon Iver made an impression on the world.

With four Grammy nominations in the US from their last album, *For Emma, Forever Ago*, the nine-piece band hit number four in Australia with its latest album and has just sold out three nights each at the Tivoli Theatre in Queensland and a smallish venue called the Sydney Opera House.

The creation of *Bon Iver* the self-titled new album was a three-year process led by front man Justin Vernon. Recorded at a remodeled veterinarian's clinic in Falls Creek, Wisconsin with too many magical musicians on the album to name, it was given 9.5 out of 10 by *Pitchfork*, not bad.

Good news is, you can catch Justin and the gang that is Bon Iver at "The Bowl" here in Melbourne and the outdoor venue should match their signature sound.

WHAT: Bon Iver Live in Concert

WHERE: Sidney Myer Music Bowl

WHEN: Thursday, March 8

WEB: www.boniver.org



Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

Show us the money

The Baillieu Government has to snap out of its investment holiday it has been on for 15 months.

Booming communities like Southbank cannot be allowed to grow without the social and community investment they need to make them a place with a heart.

That's why the former Labor Government was committed to the building of a new primary school in the Port Melbourne/Southbank catchment. There are real options out there for a new school.

They need hard work and investment to turn them into schools. They do not need more consultant reports. The Southbank families facing being "zoned out" of a booming Port Melbourne Primary and unable to get entry into South Yarra, Albert Park or Middle Park Primaries need a new school now. Not more fine words.

The same can be said for the mysterious

new Southbank police station that the Melbourne City Council is convinced is coming – and hence its dropping of its commitment to a "police pod" in Southbank.

The pity is that there has not been one dollar allocated in the last budget or the next three years forward projections for such a police station. The promised new police headquarters in Docklands, due post-2016 at the earliest, will be further away than the Flinders St HQ and not much use to the community safety needs of Southbank.

Our children's education and our community safety demands that Mr Baillieu funds these two important projects in the 2012 State Budget. To not do so will be to continue to ignore the growing community of Southbank by the Baillieu Government.

Martin Foley MP State Member for Albert Park



Tel: 9670 6930 | Booking Hotline: 0439753928 www.toursontrike.com.au | Trike HQ: 756a Bourke St Docklands





Nicola

LOCATION?

NGV

WEARS?

A floral Topshop shift dress, military style khaki jacket by Cue and YMC ankle boots.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

No black when sunny! I love wearing bright prints and fun accessories when the weather is great.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **SOUTHBANK?**

The gallery.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Melbourne.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING**

The boots I'm wearing, they're from a London-based designer.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Attitude more than anything and confidence. If you think you look good you feel good.

LOCATION?

Arts Centre

WEARS?

Hat from Henry Bucks, mum's shoes, a vintage top, a vintage a-line tangerine skirt from a market and my nana's pendant necklace.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Old-fashioned with a modern twist.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK?

I'm off to the arts centre.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Brunswick

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING**

A classic, tweed crop jacket.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Your own individual interpretation of a classic style.

Briana

LOCATION?

Southgate

WEARS?

Top from Fat, vest from Topshop and a Sportsgirl skirt.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Either very feminine or very edgy, I like matchy-matchy.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **SOUTHBANK?**

Ice cream!

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Essendon

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING**

My gold Ellery jacket.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

A good statement piece.

90s redux

Like all forms of popular culture, fashion has a rather unoriginal propensity to recycle trends from eras gone-by, with vintage styles from every decade making a comeback every few years or so.

The latest old-school fad to pop up is in fact only about 20 years old, with the best and worst of the early 90s finding its way into magazines and stores everywhere. Grunge is back in all its greasy-haired, carefree, glory, although some would argue it never left.

Whether you were an infant, teenager or baby boomer, we all remember the 90s in one way or another, sartorially or not.

Your mind may be conjuring up images of butterfly hairclips, tazos and bedroom walls adorned with Hanson posters but leave these flashbacks where they belong, in 1995.

Look to the early grunge of 1993 using Kurt Cobain, the Cranberries and Winona Ryder in Reality Bites as your inspiration.

Australian street fashion mainstays Ksubi is forever spearheading the grunge trend, with its latest collection WAR - full of tartan flannel shirts, dirty khaki and the omnipresent, supremely-distressed denim.

With the label opening its second Melbourne store on Chapel St late last year, expect an influx of studded vests and printed denim to hit the streets with gusto.

An easy way to delve into the trend is to sport a solid pair of black leather boots, the more distressed the better. For those not willing to sacrifice cleanliness and style for grunge's sake, a tough black platform boot with a heal will suffice nicely. Even Spice Girlsinfluenced platform sneakers are making a mini-return with girls all over Melbourne sporting Converse's take on the trend.

Take your tough-as-nails boots, your favorite pair of denim cut-offs, a T-shirt of your most adored 90s band and throw on a worn-in flannel shirt and you're ready for a night out in one of Melbourne's throwback underground pubs.







Big losers and kitchen rulers

We're only one month into the new year and the cracks are already starting to show in the networks' programming schedules - with the first casualty of the year coming from the Nine Network.

Excess Baggage barely lasted three weeks on Channel Nine before being relegated to one of its digital-only stations, 'GO!' this month. The digital stations have almost become a dark corner of airspace where failed programs go to live out their seasons in relative obscurity.

Despite Excess Baggage playing out like a blatant rip-off of The Biggest Loser (now in its seventh season on Network Ten) the program took eight regular Australians and paired them with eight relatively well-known

people – the word celebrity need not apply here – and let them loose in the outback in order to solve their problems.

Its biggest weakness was that it didn't emulate the parts that actually made *The Biggest Loser* work. It wasn't the feel-good tale of the underdog that we wanted to see, and was more concerned with showcasing the antics of series pest Darryn Lyons than it was sending the messages of self-empowerment.

That said, if you're already a fan in spite of these things be sure to watch out for one unlucky "celebrity" who has another health scare (hint: it's Britney's ex-husband). The transformations on the final show should also prove more interesting than the actual show itself and host Kate Cebrano is said to be dropping a surprise of her own.

It is a rare thing of late to see a new program on commercial television actually flourish and capture an audience. That said, when this unlikely event does occur, you can expect a raft of imposters flooding the market on the other networks trying to recreate some of the "magic" usually unsuccessfully (see above).

In order to do so, production companies borrow ideas from one another and change just enough to keep the case out of the legal system. This can sometimes bear positive results. Unlike *Masterchef, My Kitchen Rules* offers something its predecessor lacks (and no, I'm not referring to a certain French

Channel 7's foray into the wonderful world of competitive tv-cooking has found the missing ingredient: it has venom.

For the most part, the contestants are blatantly honest with one-another to the point where meal time comes dangerously close to an all out melee and, as a result, it makes for entertaining television. Be sure to see how its second round unfolds, with a new doctor and lawyer team set to polarise viewers with their incredibly toxic feedback.

Bear in mind – the mixed messages from your television about losing weight and then putting it back on with your new recipes will only last a few more weeks.





RARS ST, SOUTH MELBOURNE VIC 3205

Princess is a model pooch

Sometimes Pet's Corner is an unbearable chore for pets who don't want to sit still, let alone smile or at the very least look in the general direction of the camera.

For Princess however, it was more like child's play.

Princess's owner Colin has been a prop builder for the Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) for almost 40 years and for the past year Princess has been coming into Southbank with her owner, and loves getting her photo taken with all the actors and crew members of shows.

Colin says the tradition of getting photos with all the stars from the theatre company started with a previous pet, but Princess has been more than happy to take over the reins.

She also is an extremely obedient dog, thanks to Colin volunteering at the Altona Civic Obedience Dog Club.

Princess is at obedience level six and even

has the skills to show other dogs at lower levels how to partake in what they are learning.

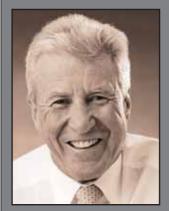
Colin says her agility and general obedience are her strengths, but the class work she does is what really impresses onlookers. roam and visit all of her friends at the MTC.

Colin says it is not uncommon for someone to come and say hi to Princess, without him having any idea who it is.

No doubt Princess has become a bit of an icon at MTC and with her model good looks, the photo sessions don't look like they'll end any time soon.



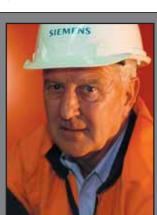
She is an extremely friendly dog and for a lot of the day is off her lead, meaning she can











david b simmonds photographer

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SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS GROUP WITH JOE BAGNARA

We need a school

The October 2011 Southbank Local News article on local MP Martin Foley's recent address to the SRG on primary education for Southbank should have had the alarm bells ringing for concerned residents.

It identified the current and future lack of educational planning and the potential compromise of our children's learning.

I am certain you will agree that education is the most important thing we can give our children to ensure that they are literate,

for without a good primary education few opportunities will be available to them in later life.

Primary education is the "key-stone" to their future development and is not to be trifled with or diluted by any government or bureaucrat. Our Government, by law, has decreed that all children aged 6 to 17 must attend a school and to this end the Government is committed to providing education to all.

Incredibly it seems to have slipped their mind when it comes to Southbank. Our glossy Southbank Structure Plan 2010 – a 30-year vision of Southbank hardly gives it a mention. Not good enough.

If you can take notice of the predicted residential population growth to 74,000 by 2040 – currently 11,500 and growing at least 3,000 per year – you would expect our Minister of Education and his army of bureaucrats to have plans in place to provide at least a primary school in the area. Not so.

You are presently required to transport your children to some other "only by motor car" region such as Port Melbourne. Of course our intelligentsia at the Department of Education could have addressed this issue by retaining the Boyd Girls School site instead of disposing of it as excess to their requirements.

I kid you not, they were ready to sell it for

private development. We were fortunate that the SRG convinced the City of Melbourne to purchase the site for community use and development – but that's another story.

It still could have possibilities but I don't expect the level of lateral thinking needed is forthcoming. We urgently need a primary school in Southbank. Not tomorrow, or next month, or next year, but now.

Our children's education is not to be trifled with. If the present or past governments can find in excess of \$400 million for a sporting stadium so 30-or-so highly-paid sportsmen and their army of workers can indulge in a commercial activity surely they can find \$10 or \$20 million to build and operate a school for the future development of the children, present and future, at Southbank.

We are sick to death with surveys, consultations, focus groups and the other entire wasteful obstructionist delaying tactics and I challenge the Minister of Education to instruct his army of bureaucrats and their helpers to take immediate steps to provide us with a school. No excuses. No "spin doctoring". Just doing your job.

WHAT MAKES DINING IN SOUTHBANK GREAT?



DJON ALEXANDER, 22

Djon loves that everything is just so close by in Southbank. He said that this was especially the case being based out of Southgate. He said all you have to do is look around, there are restaurants as far as the eye can see!



MARK DYBNER, 58

Director at Marks service denot

Mark is continually impressed by the top quality food within Southbank. He said we had a variety others would love and, to top it off, the atmosphere and views were spectacular. "What could be better than sitting down to a good meal admiring the Yarra River?" Mark proposed.



CHANELLE BOBB, 19

Chanelle enjoys almost all of the food here in Southbank. She said in the Southgate complex alone there was a huge range. She thinks that competition is good for La Camera, because it makes them strive to be the best in town.



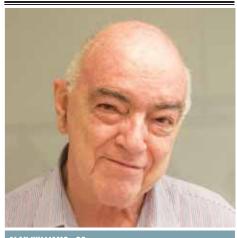
JUSEPHINE GRECK, ZU

Josephine's favourite restaurant is the World restaurant, but said it was not the only place she enjoyed in Southbank. She believes our food is so authentic and you can basically eat something from every corner of the planet.



TAYLOR-PAIGE WILKIE, 20

Taylor-Paige doesn't have to go far to find her favourite restaurant in town. "Everything is so accessible down here, and La Camera is my favourite restaurant so it's convenient working so close to it!" Taylor-Paige said.



ALAN WILLIAMS, 60+
Management at Boas

Alan says it's a combination of the variety and environment (being so close to the river) that makes Southbank dining special. He said he had found a hidden secret in the bar menu at L'osteria, believing it is the best value in the whole of Melbourne!





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Designing a special place

Whenever architect David Cole is in Southgate, whatever else he is doing, there is one place he almost always visits - St Johns.

Mr Cole's connection to the place is special. He was the man who designed it two decades ago.

On the fourth Sunday of next month St Johns Southgate celebrates the 20th anniversary of its dedication on March 22, 1992. In keeping with the very purpose of the church, the festivities will be a community affair.

Mr Cole describes the Southgate project, with St Johns very much at its heart, as "one of the most special commissions" he and his company, now known as The Buchan Group, have had.

"(St Johns) was a critical part of creating a mixed use development – a truly mixed use development with such an interesting diversity of uses that a church brought. But most of all what I recall from that time was the abiding commitment of St Johns to maintain its urban mission in that place and it's gone from strength to strength over those

20 years in delivering that urban mission for the Lutheran Church and the community."

Mr Cole says the St Johns congregation had a very clear idea of what it wanted.

The congregation was replacing church buildings that had stood for more than 60 years a little to the west along City Rd of the present location that had to give way in the construction of Southgate, a project that triggered the redevelopment of the entire Southbank precinct.

James Bittner, a member of the congregation who had a key role in building the new church, recalls how people were saddened by the move but grasped firmly the opportunities it presented.

"Our guiding principle was to honour the legacy of the 60 church members who, in the mid-1920s had the vision and faith to purchase land at 50 City Rd and to build the original St Johns church," Mr Bittner

said. "It was exciting for us to continue and expand on that vision of mission to the city of Melhourne."

What the people of St Johns got was a striking building and facilities that still paid regard to traditional ecclesiastical architecture and, symbolically, contained key elements of the old St Johns, including a small chapel furnished with artefacts from the previous church.

A new centre-piece was the wonderful Knud Smenge pipe organ, built in Australia in a German baroque style perfectly suited to the glorious music of JS Bach.

So how does St Johns work today, in the midst of the bustling Southbank community?

"St Johns has something to offer almost every demographic group in the inner city," says St Johns chair Patricia Buchanan.

"We welcome a regular playgroup on Tuesday mornings, a friendship group for all ages meets monthly and there are opportunities for international and other students to meet, eat and socialise. As well as worship services, enhanced by a world-class music program, children look forward to the Sunday school and hospitality is extended through morning teas and lunches every Sunday.

"St Johns hosts weddings and classical concert performances in the nave, meetings and seminars in the boardroom or the multipurpose function room as well as more informal gatherings in the lounge. It is also our privilege to offer our church for funeral and memorial services."

"St Johns has become a community hub," she says. David Cole agrees.

"I always pop quietly into St Johns whenever I am in Southgate. I am a regular anonymous visitor and it still feels a wonderful building and feels like it was designed and delivered fit for its purpose as a worship space and as a centre for St Johns urban mission and also for various other uses it has in opening its doors to the wider community."

St Johns is celebrating its anniversary on March 25 in a service conducted by Pastor Ian Vainikka, featuring wonderful music and followed by a hearty lunch. You are very welcome to attend.

For further details contact St Johns Southgate on 9682 4995.

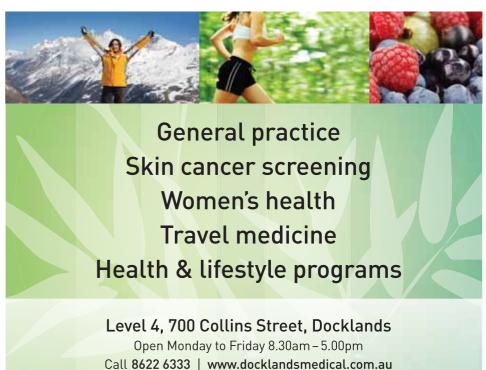






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Businesses in Southbank

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AZIZA MEANS INDIA'S FINEST

The word "aziza" has several meanings.

In Arabic, it is "cherished", in Egyptian it is "precious", in some African dialects it means "respected", and in India it refers to a "good friend".

They all aptly describe the staff and the remarkable Indian furnishings on sale at Aziza Designs, in South Melbourne.

Business partners Jo and Gil Tucker (of Cop Shop fame!) and Lulu Extonpery describe their products, as "a textural feast of opulent, hand-picked furniture with symbolic elements".

Antique timber doors, marble wall pieces and ornaments, intricate timber chests and jewellery boxes, brass pots and fixtures, the list goes on - and all are hand crafted.

Most are sourced from Rajasthan, in northwest India, where Ms Extonpery lived for eight years until recently returning to Melbourne. Another partner, Salim, heads their production team there.

"Lulu has the expertise to source the special, individual pieces, and to develop relationships with the individual crafts people," Mrs Tucker said.

"We support the grassroots, crafts people and artisans.

Ms Extonpery added: "As well as goods perfect for apartment living, we cater

to interior designers and architectural designers, and we are able to custom make any stone or marble product."

"We have beautiful, hand-carved granite leaves about two metres high, which are ideal for a garden, a foyer or a hotel

Mrs Tucker said: "Our incoming shipment includes textiles and jewellery."

A beautifully-carved wall, with a door and windows is from early 18th century Rajasthan. Signed, limited-edition prints by noted Melbourne artist John Baird would be at home on any Southbank apartment wall.

Mrs Tucker points out intricately-latticed jaali (windows) dating back to the Mogul Empire (1400s-1800s). Antique rosewood and teak doors, with brass and iron fixtures, are circa 18th century southern India.

Large antique brass cooking pots, called uruli, "would be perfect for floating candles, or as a fire pot on an apartment balcony," Mrs Tucker says.

"We have collectible antiques called monstas, that were once in a Portuguese Catholic church in southern India."

The store also has contemporary furnishings, such as decorative, metal hanging-lights and industrial-type, iron furniture.

Aziza Designs is at 282 Coventry St, South Melbourne, ph 9699 4664, www. azizadesigns.com.au



COMMUNITY COMES FIRST AT LA CAMERA



Paul and Renee at La Camera

There is no problem with the acoustics at La Camera restaurant, nestled near Hamer Hall at Southgate.

Manager Paul Scidone and his assistant, Renee, host an Acoustic Community Night on Monday, February 27, which Mr Scidone describes as "a perfect meet-and-greet night for local residents".

"The first time we held it we had 20 people," he says. "It has grown to be a huge night."

"La Camera has a keen sense of community spirit. Our Monday Community Nights keep us well connected with local residents."

La Camera has a Community Night every Monday, with a special theme on the last Monday of each month.

March 26 is Opera Challenge, "which is the most popular", Renee said.

The other community nights are April 30 Jazz and Shiraz; May 28 Pianist ("He has the reputation for being a fabulous entertainer and it is our fifth birthday," Renee said); July 30 Classical String Trio; August 27 Acoustic Night; September 24 Jazz and Shiraz; October 29 Opera Challenge; November 26 End of Year Party.

Southgate residents and La Camera members receive a 25 per cent discount on their food bill up to \$75 on every Monday night except Opera Challenge. Membership is available at La Camera's website, www. lacamerasouthgate.com.

"We give our members a monthly special, and we'll double the offer for anyone who joins us on Facebook in February.

"We have over 12,000 members on our website, who see our regular newsletter.

The major sponsors of the community nights are Central Equity, Angoves Wines and Coca Cola, and MICM provides prizes. This

month's sponsor is Southgate Pharmacy.

Mr Scidone says La Camera is well positioned, on the mid-level above Southgate Food Court.

"Southgate has gone through the hardest part with all the renovations and once Hamer Hall reopens in July, it will be a fantastic place again," he said.

"The location is second to none. There are now new shops as well as the popular restaurants."

"La Camera has been here for 10 years and is one of Melbourne's most popular

"La Camera is Italian for 'the room' and we want to be your home away from home, always friendly and with great value meals."

"Try our Full Monty brekky - it's with everything, for just \$8.90. We also have a lunch special: \$12 for pasta or risotto with a glass of wine."

"Our most popular item is the Roman-style pizzas, which are thin crusted but very large."

Pop into La Camera this month to receive a VIP card. Phone 9699 3600, www.

lacamerasouthgate.com



RED

March 22 - May 5

Melbourne Theatre Company, 140 Southbank Boulevard

This Tony Award winning play makes its way to Melbourne from the West End and Broadway, telling the story of tormented abstract expressionist Mark Rothko. info@mtc.com.au

SOUTHGATE'S SILENT DECK CHAIR CINEMA

December 14 - February 29

Southgate is hosting free films on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Melbourne's only silent deck chair cinema.

www.celebratesouthgate.com.au

TRIBES

February 4 - March 14

Melbourne Theatre Company, 140 Southbank Boulevard

This sharp-jabbing UK hit comedy by Nina Raine makes its Australian debut at the MTC's Sumner Theatre. Around this family's table, conversation is a struggle for attention. info@mtc.com.au

I PACKED THE POSTCARD IN MY SUITCASE

December 21 - March 4

Australian Centre For Contemporary Art Inc., 113 Sturt Street

Prepare for a summer of bliss. Leading Swiss artist Pipilotti Rist floods ACCA's walls and ceilings with her trippy, psychedelic video projections. www.accaonline.org.au

THE WILD DUCK

February 17 - March 17

Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street

A bittersweet portrait of family dysfunction, deception and denial, 'The Wild Duck' resounds for a new age. Are there some truths it's better not to know? Contact: www. malthousetheatre.com.au

Southgate, 3 Southgate Avenue, Southbank

NATIONAL PLAY FESTIVAL 2012

February 22 - 25

The Malthouse, 113 Sturt Street

The National Play Festival is coming to Melbourne and celebrating new Australian plays with a stellar line-up of performances, talks and readings at the Malthouse.

www.nationalplayfestival.org.au

THE SEED

February 17 - April 4

Fairfax Studio, 100 St Kilda Road Australian writer, Kate Mulvany, draws on her own family history in this witty examination of how tightly ties can bind.

info@mtc.com.au

MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays and 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.pennykoukoulas.com

ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET

Sundays, 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

CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES

Mondays to Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm, Saturdays 10am-1.15pm

111 Sturt Street

Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength. For more info: www.chunkymove.com



NATIONAL BALLET OF CHINA'S THE PEONY PAVILION

March 15 - 18

State Theatre, 100 St Kilda Road

The Peony Pavilion by the National Ballet of China is a deeply romantic tale of the power of love over death that dates back to the Ming Dynasty.

www.theartscentre.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.

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS March 17 - 57

Playhouse, 100 St Kilda Road

At the core of Stravinsky's great opera, The Rake's Progress, is a battle between good and evil. The opera depicts the tumultuous journey of Tom Rakewell from man to monster. www.theartscentre.com.au

MSO - SHOSTAKOVICH QUINTET March 25, 11am - 1 pm

Iwaki Auditorium, 120-130 Southbank Boulevard

The New York Times describes Bun-Ching Lam's music as alluringly exotic. Her 'Like Water', featuring Robert Cossom on vibraphone, is the haunting centrepiece to this Chamber Series program. mso.com.au

MSO - WIND POWER March 25, 11am - 1 pm

Iwaki Auditorium, 120-130 Southbank **Boulevard**

This exciting program of wind music spanning three centuries begins with the colourful bagatelles for flute, oboe, clarinet, horn, and bassoon by Hungarian György Ligeti. www.mso.com.au

TAFELMUSIK - THE GALILEO PROJECT March 3 - 6

Melbourne Recital Centre 31 Sturt Street Canadian ensemble Tafelmusik will take you on an epic space odyssey, performing exquisite period music from memory before stunning images from the Hubble deep space telescope.

www.musicaviva.com.au

KIMMO POHJONEN March 8, 8pm

Melbourne Recital Centre 31 Sturt Street Finland's answer to Bjork, Pohjonen is nothing less than a jaw-dropping, brilliant accordianist and performer.

melbournerecital.com.au

DIEGO GUERRERO March 10, 7.30pm

Melbourne Recital Centre 31 Sturt Street Singer, guitarist and producer Diego Guerrero looks beyond convention and history to fuse the passionate music of Afro-Cuban rhythms and the added spice of contemporary jazz.

melbournerecital.com.au

TANGO AT MIDNIGHT March 11, 9pm

World Restaurant & Bar, Shop 4, Building 2 Riverside Quay

Venture out for a late night fiesta on the Yarra with empanadas, assado meats, locro and wines from Argentina to Australia. And tango, of course.

www.worldrestaurantbar.com.au

SORRY SEEMS TO BE THE HARDEST WORD March 21 - April 8

The Malthouse, 113 Sturt Street

Country music celebrity, US presidential candidate and now global icon for peace, Tina C is on an Australasian mission with 'Sorry Seems to be the Hardest Word'.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

February 15 - 19

Victorian Arts Centre 100 St Kilda Road Direct from Scotland, 'White' takes you into a beautifully strange world. Full of birdsong and birdhouses, it gleams, dazzles and shines in the night.

www.theartscentre.com.au



MSO - BEETHOVEN VIOLIN CONCERTO March 22 - 24

Melbourne Recital Centre 31 Sturt Street In this concert, Blacher guides the orchestra through a musical journey encompassing the grace of Haydn's early symphony, the intensity of Shostakovich and the poetry of Beethoven's glorious Violin Concerto. www.mso.com.au

SIBLINGS IN SYNC February 18 - April 13

Victorian Arts Centre 100 St Kilda Road IA music therapy workshop for young people with special needs and their siblings.Designed to promote shared abilities and co-operation through creative

music making. www.theartscentre.com.au

INSTANT ROCKSTAR February 18 - April 13

Victorian Arts Centre 100 St Kilda Road Instant Rockstar lets kids unleash their inner pop diva and guitar hero. Create a hit song using lots of cool music samples, and then use the track to make a music video.

www.theartscentre.com.au

MSO POPS - CHRIS BOTTI March 10 - 11

Victorian Arts Centre 100 St Kilda Road Chris Botti with the MSO is guaranteed sophisticated and seductive entertainment and a must for any true romantic. www.mso.com.au

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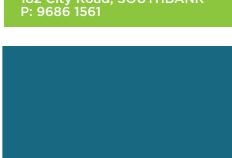
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4 🗀 3 🦣 2 🍙

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FOR SALE



1001/8 Kavanagh Street, SOUTHBANK

THE NEW STANDARD OF LUXUR

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 developments, Freshwater Place, is this 1 Bedroom apartment with vast views of Port Phillip Bay and to the West & North-West of Melbourne.

FOR SALE



2606/109 Clarendon Street, **SOUTHBANK** AN ATTRACTIVE HIGH-RISE APARTMENT

1 🛌 1 🖷

Located on the 26th Floor in one of Southbank's newest developments is this splendid apartment with exceptional views. Just a short stroll to many cafes, restaurants & shops.

FOR SALE



3302/200 Spencer Street, MELBOURNE ENJOY THE INNER-CITY LIFESTYLE

2 🗀 1 🏯

With a generous size of approximately 84sq with balcony, this property would be suited to investors, students, new families, and also purchasers wishing to enjoy a change in scenery.

FOR SALE



4509/1 Queensbridge Square, **SOUTHBANK** LUXURY LIVING AND STYLE!

1 🛌 1 🚎 1 🚖

This large 1 bedroom apartment with Study offers executive living at its finest with floor to ceiling views across the Yarra and Port Phillip Bay. Spacious open plan living and more

FOR SALE



1102/283 City Road, SOUTHBANK EXPANSIVE VIEWS, EXCELLENT LOCATION

Located in a very prominent position, with outstanding views of the City & Botanical Gardens is this splendid 2 Bedroom apartment with room to move. Brand new!

FOR SALE



22/10 Tennyson Street, **ST. KILDA** CLOSE TO THE HEART OF ST KILDA!

2 🛌 2 🅌 1 🍙

An ideal residence for the busy professional or a savvy investment for the future. Beautifully appointed modern apartment with timber flooring in the large open-plan lounge/dining area.

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2 **=** 2 **=** 2 **=** Under \$700,000

RENTALS

3302/200 Spencer Street - \$670 p/w 2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

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

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