The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK LACKETS

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Sounds like relief at last

By Sean Rogasch

After a frustrating wait, Southbank residents will finally get some relief from truck engine-break-noise as they enter the Burnley Tunnel, with VicRoads confirming the installation of a static noise camera.

The Southbank Local News reported last year that testing had taken place, and the camera was due to be installed early this year. VicRoads' vehicle management and safety director Don Hogben said it encountered unexpected delays when dealing with tunnel operators CityLink.

"We've been through the design phase and then the testing phase and they both went to plan. Where we hit a snag was actually deploying it with CityLink," Mr Hogben said.

"I think there were some 'i's to be dotted and 't's to be crossed in those discussions which we weren't aware of until we were ready to install it. That was obviously a source of frustration for the residents and it was a source of frustration for us too," Mr Hogben added.

The delay and lack of information frustrated residents like David Jones, who has been at the forefront of the engine-break-noise issue since he contacted Mr Hogben about the problems in 2009.

"In 2011 VicRoads promised to install a fixed camera at the Burnley Tunnel entrance by January, 2012," Mr Jones said.

"Three months after the camera was supposed to be installed, VicRoads was not able to offer any new information, nor a revised installation date, and it seemed that the Burnley Tunnel camera project had come to a halt. It was felt that residents' concerns on this particular issue were not a priority for VicRoads," Mr Jones said.

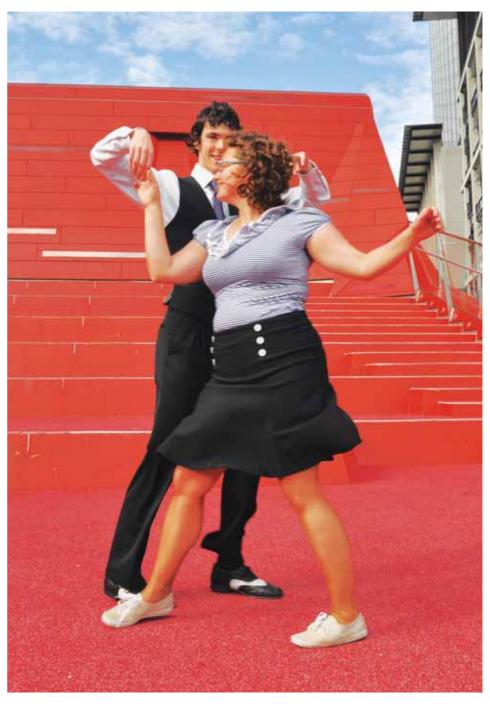
He went on to explain that those feelings had well and truly subsided once it became apparent the camera had been cleared and was not far away from being installed.

"We're relieved something is happening at last and it looks like the camera is not too far away. Relief is the word. Now that we know action is being taken, the frustration has gone," Mr Jones concluded.

Mr Hogben could not confirm a date for the installation but said clearance had been given from CityLink to go ahead, so it was just a matter of sorting out the logistics of the installation.

"The technology has been put together and we've tested it and the money is still there to install. It was just getting the approval from CityLink. Now that we have that, we just need to find a suitable time to install it," Mr Hogben explained.

"Because of OH & S, the tunnel will have to be closed for us to install the camera, so we haven't set a date yet."



A different kind of square dancing

Find out what swing dance group Swing Patrol were doing in Queensbridge Square last month on page 9.

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Deadline for the July edition is June 7.

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Have your say on planning

Not many suburbs in Melbourne are more affected by future visions and planning than Southbank.

It makes sense then that anyone who lives, works or even visits Southbank should be able to have their say on the future planning of the city.

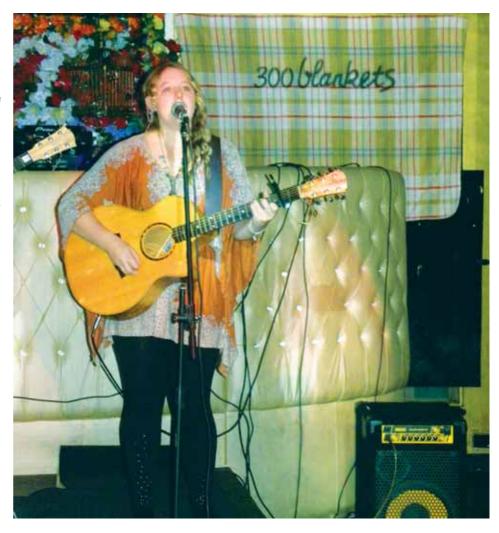
The Minister for Planning Matthew Guy has launched the new website www. planmelbourne.vic.gov.au which encourages everyone to give their own ideas towards the development of our city and our state.

Minister Guy said he was looking forward to hearing new ideas and he knew it was important to cast the net wide to find them.

"We need to build on the best of past planning strategies and bring fresh thinking to our consideration of projected growth and change and to how we address the challenges in front of us," Mr Guy said.

"We are working with local councils, industry and peak bodies to provide input to the development of a discussion paper," he added.

For more information or to contribute, head to the website or for the more technologically advanced you can also contribute on Twitter using the username **@planmelbourne** or the hashtag **#planmelbourne**.



Blankets at Fabrique

Southbank bar Fabrique was the destination for the first ever 300 blankets fundraiser in May, a new charity group set up to raise funds and awareness about homelessness.

The fundraising night featured a long list of entertainment, including Atkingson Jones (pictured) as well as raffles and an art auction.



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Living below the line

Australia has long been considered "the lucky country" and with good reason. Southbank resident Hugo Lamb is part of a group trying to highlight just how lucky we are.

He is the Victorian state director for youth group The Oaktree foundation, and during May the group had its major fundraiser – Living Below the Line.

The challenge was to live off \$2 per day for a week during May, which represents an example of the extreme poverty many people around the world are forced to endure in their daily lives.

As with most good ideas, Hugo said Living Below the Line was the brainwave of a group of mates having a few beers. The foundation needed more money to provide education around Australia and lobby governments.

"We wanted to get governments to be accountable on the issue of extreme poverty. The fundraiser gives us a range of possibilities."

He also pointed out that specifically this year's Living Below the Line campaign would help the group's education push into Papua New Guinea.

"The money from Living Below the Line goes to the support of education in Papua New Guinea. We've been developing a primary school in PNG since 2006 and are now are aiming at a secondary school."

Hugo was one of the 7500 registered participants for the challenge and said it was a great struggle, but an equally rewarding experience.

"I knew the week was going to be tough, but I certainly didn't expect myself to be so tired, to have such enduring headaches, to be so snappy at my friends and family, and to be so incapable of thinking clearly or logically," Hugo said.

"For me, it made me appreciate so much more how good life is in Australia. While I was able to feed myself pretty well on soup, rice and bread, it was torturous to see what others could eat and what they were all eating around me," he added.

Hugo also said there was still a chance for people to get involved and partake in living below the line themselves.

"I would love to share this experience with as many people as possible as I found it to be exciting, engaging and - at the end invigorating."

To find out more go to the website ${\bf www.}$ livebelowtheline.com/au

Everything going green

The City of Melbourne in partnership with three other councils and the University of Melbourne have launched a program encouraging businesses to turn walls, facades and even roofs of their buildings into green habitats.

In similar style to the Fyto green gardens on some buildings already in Southbank, the Growing Green Guide for Melbourne is an industry "how to guide" letting businesses of all sizes know how they can green up their outside office space.

Councillor Cathy Oke was thrilled with the idea and couldn't wait to see more green around the city.

"Green roofs, walls and facades are an increasingly common sight on buildings in

major cities around the world. They are now considered an essential part of urban design to provide more vegetation and green spaces in dense urban environments," Cr Oke said.

John Rayner from the University of Melbourne said: "Green roofs and walls contribute significant environmental and amenity benifits to cities. They can reduce urban heat loadings and stormwater run-off, increase the energy efficiency and liveability of buildings, provide a range of habitat outcomes and even produce food."

Budget's poor deal for Southbank

City of Melbourne ratepayers will enjoy a rate freeze after the 2012-2013 council draft budget was released in May, but the move has been met with skepticism, with some suggesting it has been motivated by the fact it is a council election year.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle argued that council rate increases have been decreasing steadily under the current council, which has been working towards the zero per cent increase.

"Our sensible approach to managing our finances combined with a concerted effort to keep rates down has seen us continually deliver what the community needs now and what it will need in the future," Cr Doyle said.

On the topic of it being a coincidence with the election year, Cr Doyle said that was an overly cynical view and, although he accepted some would take that position, he stressed the council hadn't considered it.

While the budget delivers a record \$117 million investment in infrastructure and \$364 million on community services, Southbank has been largely overlooked.

The major investment in Southbank is as part of the \$5.6 million being spent on improving and creating bike paths throughout the city. Bike paths around Southbank include southbound on St Kilda Rd, along Cecil St between Whiteman and Clarendon streets

and to and from North Wharf.

The Lord Mayor said it was important to keep the city well connected, and to give people a safe alternative form of transport.

"A city needs to be connected in many ways in order to function well. It's about helping people get where they need to go easily and safely and making sure they feel part of the city when they get there," Cr Doyle said.

Greens councillor Cathy Oke was also excited about the investment, saying: "This \$5.6 million will help us establish a superior, connected cycling network for Melbourne that will enable cyclists to travel from one end of the city to the other and beyond on clear, delineated bike paths."

There is also a \$40.80 million investment in arts and culture, with part of that money going into the arts precinct in Southbank.

The draft budget is open for public consultation now until Friday, June 8. A final version will be considered by council on June 28





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Search for the men's shed site

Despite a cancelled meeting last month Southbank's men's shed is again on the agenda, after local resident Peter Harkin researched and put forward possible sites for the shed.

His major discovery was a distinct lack of suitable sites in Southbank specifically, so Mr Harkin has suggested the possibility of a South Melbourne site, and a joint approach between the City of Melbourne and the Port Phillip Council.

Mr Harkin said there was simply a lack of vacant sites of an appropriate size in Southbank for a project such as the shed.

"I've walked around the area and it is very hard to find any suitable space within the boundaries of Southbank, but if you look to the other side of Kings Way, as I have, there are a number of potential sites," Mr Harkin said.

He also pointed out the positives of a joint venture, saying: "If we look at a joint venture between the City of Melbourne and the Port Phillip Council, it will increase our chances of funding and spread the facilities with a wider range of people."

One major challenge the shed faces is funding and costs, and Mr Harkin suggested the councils may have to think outside the square to be able to pay for this type of facility.

"It appears as though wherever we find as a location is going to be expensive. I'd like to think the council would get other groups involved and create a multi-purpose area, which would justify the cost," Mr Harkin said.



Peter Harkin at one of several potential shed sites he has researched.

Queensbridge Tower approved

After much conjecture, the Queensbridge Tower was approved last month by Planning Minister Matthew Guy.

The approval means Southbank will be home to both Melbourne's tallest and second tallest buildings.

The \$275 million project will rise above the former site of the Queensbridge Hotel at 1-15 Queensbridge St and was proposed by Schiavello.

As previously reported in the Southbank Local News, residents in neighbouring Freshwater Place have actively campaigned against the approval of the building on this site, and the minister has placed a number of conditions on the site in an attempt to extend the olive branch.

Mr Guy said the approval showed that Southbank was a natural extension of the Melbourne CBD, suggesting: "The tower will be a stunning addition to Melbourne's skyline, with an innovative design to reflect its location at a key gateway linking Southbank and the CBD."

He also outlined the economic benefits of the project, pointing out that it will create 800 jobs, of which 650 are in construction.

"A project of this scale cements Victoria as the premier investment location in Australia," Mr Guy said.



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Our orchestra is almost home

Many have been affected by the two-year upgrade of Hamer Hall at the Arts Centre, but none more so than one of its major tenants, The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra (MSO).

The orchestra is counting down the days until July 26, when the hall is officially reopened.

The orchestra has traditionally used Hamer Hall for the majority of its performances and as a rehearsal area – given its office is just around the corner on Sturt St.

Acting MSO managing director Wayne Box

told the *Southbank Local News* everyone in the organisation was thrilled the wait was almost over.

"There is loads of excitement around the return to Hamer Hall for us, particularly from the musicians, but also administration staff and, of courses, our audiences," Mr Box said.

He also explained that the MSO fully understood that the short-term pain felt was going to be worth it with the new hall set to be a world-class performance venue.

The project was undertaken to open up the Arts Centre to the waterfront, but for the orchestra the best improvements are on the inside.

"Acoustics and front-of-house facilities are the big improvements," Mr Box explained. Musician and orchestra member Roger Young said these advancements made returning to the hall exciting for all musicians who are lucky enough to perform there.

"I'm really looking forward to hearing what the band sounds like while on the stage. The acoustics have been improved for band members to enable us to hear the rest of the band much better, which will be exciting," Mr Young said.

"I've been playing at Hamer Hall for 10 years, and I hope to be playing in it for at least another 10 after the reopening!"

Financially the break from its main performance space could have crippled the MSO, but thankfully the potential problem was covered by Hamer Hall closure business

interruption funding which has helped underpin the last two years.

Mr Box explained that the break was not all bad news.

"The closure has been a blessing and hindrance at the same time," he said.

"We've spent more time at the Melbourne Convention Centre, which has a huge capacity. We now feel confident with using Plenary Hall as an alternative if we ever need to," Mr Box said.

The orchestra is as busy as ever, but will no doubt have one eye cast on its spectacular return to Hamer Hall shows including Mahler's Third, Beethoven and Wagner and a mystery program.



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Warm autumn networking nights





Top: Fiona Hoppe and Sarah Russo from Servcorp. Bottom: Ambulance Victoria's Neil Akers and wife Anne.

As the weather cooled down across Southbank, the opportunities for networking warmed up, with two spectacular events backto-back giving Southbank businesses a great chance to meet peers.

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) held its autumn networking event at the Mission to Seafarers in Docklands during May

Despite a slightly smaller than expected turn out, the attendees were treated to a guided tour of the heritage-listed building, samples of three curries, a few drinks and entertainment from former Sports front-man Steven Cummings.

In between there were plenty of opportunities to network, meet and get reacquainted with members of the YRBA as well as many of the executive committee.

The YRBA's executive officer Tim Bracher said the event was a great opportunity for

members and showcased the commitment of members.

"Despite the early arrival of winter and a heavy downpour during the day, a solid group of members enjoyed the unique location and the great atmosphere of the mission building," Mr Bracher said.

"The association is trialling a more social approach to its networking functions and our winter members' event will be a progressive dinner, sampling some of our great Southbank restaurants," he added.

Just a day earlier, another group of networkers gathered in the lofty heights of Eureka 89, the function room above (yes, above) Eureka Skydeck.

The Eureka lift refuses to travel all the way up to 89 but this didn't stop this group from enjoying the views and canapes whilst exchanging contacts.

Comment on this story online: www.southbanklocalnews.com.au



Steven Cummings had the crowd captivated.



Steve Margetts, Andrew Bird and Paul Sullivan at the Mission to Seafarers.



Madeline Maher, Grace Chan and David Handley enjoyed the networking opportunities.



Holly Rickard, Tara Byrne and Cerrin Hansen enjoy wine and cocktails with a magnificent view at Eureka 89.



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State budget 'fails Southbank'

Labor and Albert Park MP Martin Foley has savaged the Baillieu Government's May budget, saying it had failed Southbank.

"This budget provides no action on the key issues facing the Southbank community," Mr Foley said.

A claim refuted by Treasurer Kim Wells, who suggested the budget had put money aside for Southbank and inner city Melbourne, but had no help from the Federal Government.

"Victoria is reliant on Commonwealth funding for vital projects like Melbourne Metro which would be of huge benefit to Southbank residents and businesses. The Coalition Government has set aside \$50 million for the project in this year's budget but without Commonwealth money we cannot get this project off the drawing board," Mr Wells said.

He also pointed out the investment being made for the arts, saying: "In this year's budget the Coalition Government has allocated \$3.7 million for critical works at the Arts Centre, a further \$7.3 million for Hamer Hall and an additional \$4 million for the orchestra pit at the State Theatre."

"This year's budget also continues the investment the Coalition Government is making in the redevelopment of the

Southbank cultural precinct," he added.

Mr Foley argued the budget had failed to deliver any resolution for the ever-pressing education issues arising in Southbank.

"The budget does nothing to assist our schools or early childcare services under pressure: There is no funding for a further primary school in Southbank or South Melbourne," Mr Foley said.

"The very real prospect of Southbank – having already been cut out of Albert Park College's zone for 2013 – being zoned out from a primary school in the near future."

Mr Wells pointed out that Southbank businesses have been helped: "Southbank businesses will also benefit from the Coalition Government's efforts to reduce business costs by slashing the cost of workplace insurance premiums," Mr Wells said.

Mr Foley concluded that while the state was happy to take money from Southbank, it wasn't looking after the community there.

"Ripping millions out of the services Southbank needs and ignoring the community needs has failed Southbank."



Running the tan for mum

Runners took part in the Mother's Day classic at the tan track last month. The fun run, on Mother's day, helps raise awareness and funding for breast cancer research.

Keeping track of times was much easier, with the brand new electronic clocks installed at the track in April.

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Dancing in the square

Southbank locals and visitors have now got the chance to get their groove on every Friday night after the City of Melbourne introduced First Friday Dance Club.

The first Friday in May saw dancers Marybeth and Chris from Swing Patrol conduct a swing-dancing class for the gathered dancers of all abilities.

The upcoming months will see a diverse range of classes including Bollywood,

ballroom, disco and Ukrainian folk dancing already booked in.

The classes run for an hour, but the fun doesn't stop there, because at the conclusion of the class, dancers are invited to have a free dance, ensuring the party continues long into the evening.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle encouraged everyone to come down for a boogie, saying the idea was born out of Chinese cities and towns, which have similar public dances.

"This is a fun and creative way to activate the city and encourage a sense of community. The classes are for everyone. You don't need to have any dance experience and they are free," Cr Doyle said.

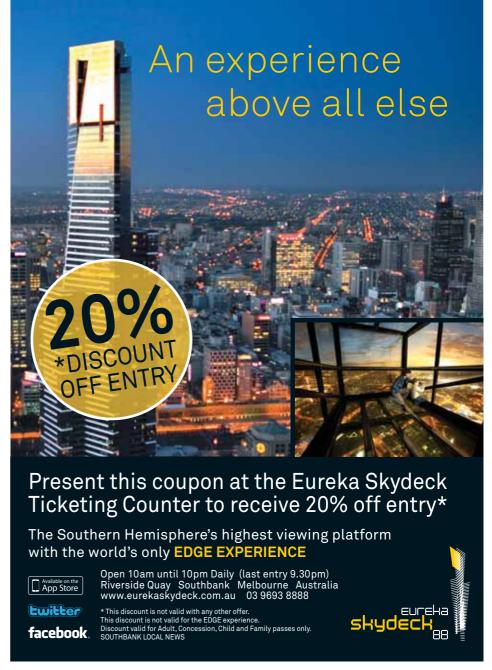
Coach group cuppa

The Coach Group in 51-55 City Rd is holding an "Australia's biggest morning tea" and has inviting its entire building to get involved in the fundraiser.

Pictured are coach group staff Maria Djordjevic, Renee Edwards and Markus Muller who are all eagerly awaiting May 24 when they hold the event. Australia's biggest morning tea raises funds and awareness for the cancer council. For more information head to the website **www. biggestmorningtea.com.au**













Southbank 32/79 Whiteman Street SPACIOUS WITH TERRACE

1 🛌 1 들 1 🍙

Private Sale \$430,000 Inspect

By appointment

This immaculate apartment comp bamboo timber flooring and is conveniently located within easy reach of the nearby CBD. Southbank Promenade and cosmopolitan South Melbourne, ensuring its suitability for investors and owner-occupiers alike. Features include: Secure car space, reverse-cycle heating/ cooling in living area, laundry facilities in bathroom (drver included), tram stop on the doorstep, impressive building facilities include a heated indoor swimming pool, tennis court, gym, BBO terrace. Richard Mindraoui 0437 250 964



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Private Sale \$410,000 Inspect By appointment

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

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 equipped gym and spa pool.

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2 🛌 1 들 1 🍙

Private Sale \$570,000 By appointment Inspect

This luxurious & spacious near new two bedroom apartment located on the top floor in the newly completed Atlantis building comes fully furnished and presents the latest in inner city living. The unit features a modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances and ample cupboard space that opens to a dining/living area which leads to a balcony with spectacular bay and Dockland views. This apartment is great for an investment or perfect for someone just starting out in Melbourne.

Lina D' Ambrosio 0430 929 851



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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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What's five cents worth?

It seems five cent pieces are heading the way of the one and two-cent pieces. Even parking and train ticket machines are refusing the coins with the echidna on them.

Luckily there is one useful way to use them.

YGAP is a group of young people who are trying to change the world. Their latest fundraising idea is the collection of five cent pieces and fundraising manager Kylie Wallace explained just how much money all of those useless coins are worth.

"There is \$150m worth of five cent pieces in circulation and what are they doing? They are completely redundant, except now everyone has a use for those annoying little five cent pieces!" Ms Wallace said.

There is a "Mega Vessel" set up which is moved around Melbourne and was at Federation Square when Southbank Local News found it. But that is not the only way you can get involved.

"It's a great idea to get offices within Southbank involved. Any office can order a flat-pack online, and keep the collection in the lunch room," Ms Wallace suggested.

"We wanted a fun, quirky campaign to get people involved with."

If you like more information or to donate online head to the website www.ygap.com. au/initiatives/5cent



A maze in a square

Queensbridge Square has a knack for attracting wonderfully obscure events and it happened again last month when a mysterious green maze popped up for two days.

The maze was a public relations stunt for Singapore tourism and, using the tagline "Get lost and find the real Singapore" wanted to show Melbourne a taste of the country and encourage people to head away from traditional tourist locations to discover that Singapore has more to offer than airconditioned shopping malls.

The maze included food, floral displays and Singapore artworks. The highlight was a giant mural on the side of the maze being painted by local artist Jessica Singh.



Substation explosion

You may have felt a small tremor last month after an underground substation electrical cable exploded in Southbank on May 1.

Power was cut to more than 300 apartments serviced by the cable and a number of windows and cars in the immediate area

Spokesperson from CityPower Drew Douglas said thankfully the incident was not too severe and the cause was the failure of the cable.

"It blew out a few windows, which we obviously replaced, but thankfully it was nothing too major," Mr Douglas said, adding: "It was maintained within the fence-line of the building."

Did you hear or feel the explosion? Let us know by commenting on this story on our website.



MADE IN HEAVEN



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Andrea

December 27

November 23

Sun in Sagittarius MC - Scorpio Pluto in Virgo

North Node in Scorpio

Ascendant in Virgo

Heather

Andrea

Heather's North Node connects to your 10th house. This means that Heather will assist you in becoming the CEO of your life. Taking charge and manifesting your business goals is her primary objective.

She does not like it when you use emotions to escape troublesome situations, nor does she like it when you make excuses for not completing tasks. When a north node enters your life and connects to any planet in the 10th house or in your MC it means they are here to inspire you to make your goals

Unconsciously and without trying, they naturally bring you the right words, or the right assistance to help take charge of your life and fulfill your purpose in life.

To get the best from this relationship Andrea needs to come from a position of authority. The words we use to propose things to others are so important. A person who supports your 10th house does not want to hear about your emotions but if you come to them with a clear plan and state your goals and expectations from a position of power they will automatically assist and support you in any way they can. That is the special gift.

Heather

Andrea's North Node connects to your 1st house and therefore she naturally enhances your sense of self and your identity in the world. Just by her presence in your life she will strengthen your awareness of your own identity and have your sense of "I" validated. She sees who you are and admires your specialness.

You do not need to do anything. Andrea will sing your praises and promote you wherever and whenever she can. A person who comes along and connects to your 1st house is bringing you the gift of establishing a base of healthy self-sufficiency in your life. They help you to become more independent with your other relationships as well.

The words we use to propose things to others are important and to get the best from this relationship it is best to come from a position of "I" rather than "we". If you say we should do this or we should do that, Andrea will not hear you. If you say "I need you to do this" or "I need that" Andrea will jump straight in and support and assist you in achieving your goals. Your sense of self is strengthened and Andrea also feels good. Courage and leadership are the gifts you receive.

Outcome of relationship:

Both of you have a very helpful, strong connection that will assist each of you to achieve your own individual goals in a non-competitive and supportive environment.

You will both grow stronger through your working together. Heather will help Andrea strengthen her courage in taking control of her life (in particular her work) and Andrea will ensure that Heather will come to know her own uniqueness like never before.

Featured terminology:

MC for Andrea is in Scorpio in 10th house = Life purpose at work or career.

North Node for Heather is in Scorpio = Supporting others for greater success.

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World Trade Centre Corner Flinders and Spencer St wtcwharf.com.au

















Duelling dramas at the Arts Centre

The Arts Centre is in dramatic full swing with two controversial shows opening on the same night. Whilst the drama is usually reserved for the stage, MTC's The Heretic and Red Stitch Theatre's Laramie Project - 10 Years Later on have both generated controversy off stage.

The Heretic

Firstly, The Heretic (about climate change debate) is presented by The Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC) which, at its season launch, the programming team (Robyn Nevin, Pamela Rabe and Aidan Fennessy) said: "Theatre is the great temporal art form, experienced by the audience from moment to moment, and it's the moment that stays with each of us."

Of course not all plays will have the same effect on individuals but it did get me thinking about the divisive nature of The Heretic in regard to the ephemeral nature of theatre which prompted this year's MTC's theme "Don't Miss The Moment."

The Heretic is a provocative and stimulating black comedy written by English playwright Richard Bean and directed by Matt Scholten.

It approaches climate change through its lead character Dr Diane Cassell (Noni Hazlehurst) who is the lead academic in earth sciences and, although far from being a climate change sceptic, she is nevertheless a serious scientist who likes the facts to speak for themselves.

She has spent years in the Maldives measuring sea levels and when her data contradicts a key doctrine on global warming theory the head of the earth and science faculty, Kevin Maloney, puts the pressure on Diane to conform.

But as the issue starts to become not only political but personal, Diane's life really heats up. "None of us denied the blistering wit in The Heretic.

Richard Bean has written some of the best sequences I've ever read. And as it deals with

climate change, the piece examines a subject which will be part of the political agenda in Australia for decades to come. The subject felt pertinent and right.

However, the play is contentious because, as the title says, it's about a heretic in the climate change church," said Aidan Fennessy.

Cast: Lyall Brooks, Shaun Goss, Noni Hazlehurst, Andrew McFarlane, Anna Samson, Katy Warner Creatives: Director - Matt Scholten, set designer - Shaun Gurton; costume designer - Esther Marie Hayes; lighting designer - Lisa Mibus; composer/sound designer - Jethro Woodward; and assistant director - Katy

The MTC Theatre, Sumner May 12, - June 23 www.mtc.com.au

Warner.

The Laramie Project

After a sold-out season in 2011, Red Stitch Actors Theatre revisits The Laramie Project -Ten Years Later at the Arts Centre. Returning to the shocking hate crime that led to the creation of one of the most performed scripts across the world, The Laramie Project - Ten Years Later is a play that investigates the ripple effect of a single, senseless murder and exposes how we tell our own history.

In 1998, a young gay student, Matthew Shepard, was brutally bashed and left to die, tied to a fence on the outskirts of Laramie, Wyoming. One month after Shepard's murder, members of the Tectonic Theater Project arrived in Laramie and set about conducting a series of interviews that formed the basis of The Laramie Project (1999).

In 2008, the creators returned to Laramie to see how the town had changed since Shepard's death. Originally intended as a short epilogue, this entirely-new play includes interviews with Shepard's mother, his killers and follow-up interviews with many Laramie residents from the original work. It unmasks a community wrestling with stigma, denial and social change and offers some compelling insights into our own construction of history.

The Laramie Project - Ten Years Later is the stand-alone sequel to one of the most performed plays of the last decade and a leading example of verbatim or documentary-style theatre.

Cast: Ella Caldwell, Brett Ludeman, Paul Ashcroft, Terry Camilleri, Hester Van der Vyver, Rosie Traynor, Kate Cole, Chris Connelly and Roderick Cairns.

Creatives: Written by Moisés Kaufman and members of the Tectonic Theater Project; and directed by Gary Abrahams.

Arts Centre, Fairfax Studio May 16 - 19 and May 24 - 26







If you're a business located on, near or with an interest in the Lower Yarra River (Punt Road to Charles Grimes bridges), you should belong to the Yarra River Business Association – the City of Melbourne's endorsed business precinct for this side of the river.

It's run by local business people for the benefit of all businesses. Membership at \$170 p.a. connects you right into the issues and opportunities of the precinct, great networking events with our 140 members, and an opportunity to influence the development of the area. What's more, you'll also get an illustrated business entry on the official website www.yarrariver.info

Call 9787 0962 for a membership kit.





Yarra's Edge - a Mirvac masterpiece

This is waterfront living, with the local community-neighbourhood feel of a village combined with all the advantages of a modern metropolis offered by Melbourne.

Yarra's Edge has a northerly aspect, taking full advantage of the Sun's warming rays as the winter chill approaches.

On your doorstep, find premium dining, friendly cafes, world-class spa treatments, apartment cleaning services and all the

resources of a leading real estate agency - plus much more.

Developed by Mirvac, Yarra's Edge is growing, and will grow on you.

Hire a bike and take a leisurely ride alongside the marina, or duck over to the nearby DFO retail mecca.

The precinct has convenient access to Etihad Stadium, and the West Gate Freeway.

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.

Take advantage of the sunny north facing bank of the Yarra - it is there for you.

Apartments now selling: varrapoint.com Luxury homes now selling: mirvacriver.com

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62 River Esplanade, Docklands. Phone **0396451199** or NewQuay **0390911400** www.lucasre.com.au

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

70 Lorimer St, Docklands. P: 9646 2400 www.kinya.com.au

YARRA'S EDGE





Exercise is only part of the story

Everyday more people are including exercise in their daily routines as a means to tackle obesity and an unhealthy lifestyle. But still we remain the biggest we have ever been.

Why is this so?

Exercise is only one ingredient in the recipe to achieving the perfect body. Nutrition and timing are the keys to creating the body you want.

Simplified, nutrition is broken into three categories of macro-nutrients: the body's most preferred energy source, "carbohydrates"; the building blocks of the body, "protein"; and the essential "fats" which play a vital role in hormone synthesis and which, in turn, regulate body function.

The topic which creates the most discussion and confusion would have to be carbohydrates. Carbohydrates are broken down into two types - low energy and high energy.

Low energy carbs are unrefined plant foods such as fruits, vegetables and legumes. These foods help promote metabolism, more energy and muscle recovery. High energy carbohydrates are processed plant foods such as bread, breakfast cereals and pasta.

These foods present a lot of energy very quickly and must be consumed immediately after training for optimal results, not just weight loss.

Most people don't understand this and hold the view that cutting carbohydrates will help them lose weight and change their body shape. Instead, you must increase low-energy carbohydrates due to the increase in your metabolism. This is what creates the noticeable change when you look in the mirror.

The second macro-nutrient, protein, is crucial for recovery, stabilising blood-sugar levels and better fat loss, by making you feel fuller for longer. It has all the essential amino acids (building blocks) and is low in fat (less than 10 grams of fat per 100 grams of protein). Sources are meat, fish, high-quality whey protein, low-fat yoghurt and eggs.

Essential fats help with the chronic inflammation which is one of the main problems leading to weight gain,

depression, cardiovascular disease, mental illness and diabetes.

The role of essential fats (omega 3 - or good fat), is it helps the regulation of certain white blood cells, smoothes muscle contraction, assists the immune system, cardiovascular system and nervous systems. Sources are fish oil, flaxseed oil and flax-meal (linseed meal).

Consistently combining all of the three macro-nutrients along with a structured, resistance-training program that includes high-intensity cardiovascular activity creates the results needed for permanent body

And most of all, lead a happy, healthy lifestyle.

A full list of carbohydrates, proteins and essential fats can be obtained by emailing me at info@jordanchenery.com - twitter -@jordy_chenery



It's on for young and old

You could say it is on for young and old at St Johns!

With a playgroup for infants, meals for students and convivial and informative gatherings for retired people, just about everyone in the Southbank community is covered.

Downsizers abound in Southbank because of its services, proximity to city shopping, the arts precinct and Melbourne's great sports stadiums. They are all welcome to add the city church of St Johns as a place to visit regularly.

Friends Together, who specialize in conviviality, meet on the second Wednesday of every month for a meal, a chat and to hear of the exploits of the many and varied people who call St John's their home as well as invited guest speakers.

Among the line-up in the past have been a retired senior policeman, a cancer researcher who also happens to be a Bach expert, a representative of the Bible Society who spoke about the society's mission programs and someone from Lutheran World Service, which, as the name suggests, does great work around the world. An officer from the Australian Quarantine Service was also a hit with tales of the sorts of weird and not-so wonderful things that almost get into the country.

The general focus is on food - the stuff you eat, food for the brain and a little something for the soul, too. That was especially the case this month when a large group gathered for a special meal to celebrate ... well, being retired.

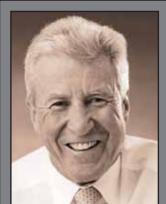
Friends engender reactions such as this from a Southbank resident:

"When I came to live in Southbank I loved its vibrancy and the throngs of workers

and visitors - but I didn't know anyone in the crowd. At St Johns I found like-minded people and genuine friendship. St Johns is my Southbank family."

Proximity is not a requirement. Many people come to St Johns from far afield to attend Sunday services, for great music and a whole host of other activities. But if you do live nearby and you are looking for something to do on a Wednesday once a month, please drop in.

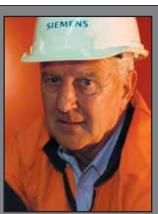
If you are not sure of the timing, you can always call in at the friendly office at St Johns, 20 City Road, to check, or telephone on **9682 4995**.











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Don't take my picture

Shauneen learnt something about her beloved dog last month. Bosch is completely camera shy. You'll probably notice from the photo that Bosch was livid about getting his photo taken, and was squirming and looking in any direction other than at the camera.

Funnily he wasn't shy when the camera was put away, actually attempting to answer some of Southbank Local News's questions, but unfortunately a translator wasn't on hand.

Shauneen said normally Bosch was a very personal dog and always affectionate.

"He just loves people, but he's also a cool cat. He doesn't pester you when you're not paying attention," Shauneen said.

Shauneen says Bosch means "little German sparkler" and she chose it because of his German breed and his energetic nature.

Luckily Bosch has adapted well to apartment living, and knows that at home it is better to be calm and relaxed and to save his energy for outside.

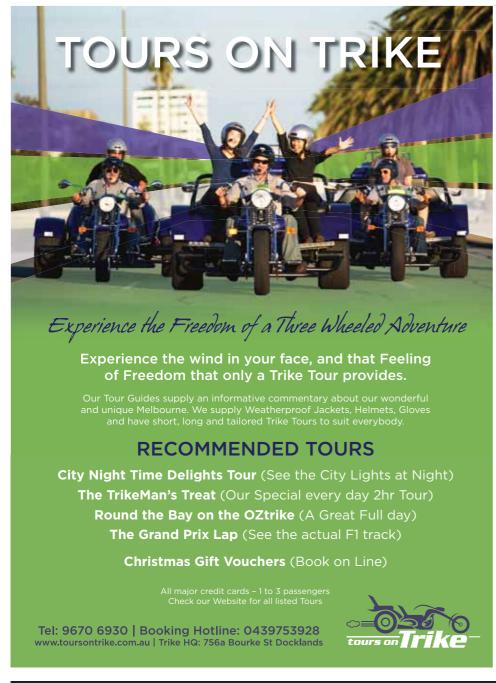
"He is extremely energetic out of the apartment, but a couch potato when at home. In fact, he enjoys watching the tennis on TV - mainly for the ball!" Shauneen observed. She also told us that he gets plenty of chances to actually play with a ball, as he is let outside at least four times a day.

"Sometimes just for a toilet break, but often for long walks or even just a trip around the block like this morning," Shauneen said.

The five-year-old has recently been in for a haircut to impress his friend Toby, who he will be staying with this month.

No doubt Bosch will be hoping Toby doesn't own a camera.











Bethany

LOCATION?

Southgate

WEARS?

Sportsgirl top, Asos jeans, vintage shoes & glasses stolen from her sister.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Practical, structured with a quirky twist.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **SOUTHBANK?**

A stroll along the Yarra.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

St Kilda.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

A good pair of coloured jeans.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Injecting some subtle colour in and steering clear from all black.

LOCATION?

Southgate

WEARS?

All Topshop- I work there!

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Fashion forward.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO SOUTHBANK?

Shopping!

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? Bayswater.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

A gold sequin jacket.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Adding your own personal twist to classic items.

Steph

LOCATION?

VCA

Top and pants from Asos, vintage vest.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Edgy, I like wearing all black.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **SOUTHBANK?**

Seeing my mates!

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Beaumaris.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

Anything black and leather.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Not trying too hard.

Trends set at fashion week

By Samantha Goss

One of the biggest events on the Australian fashion calendar kicked off last month with Sydney's Mercedes Benz Fashion Week.

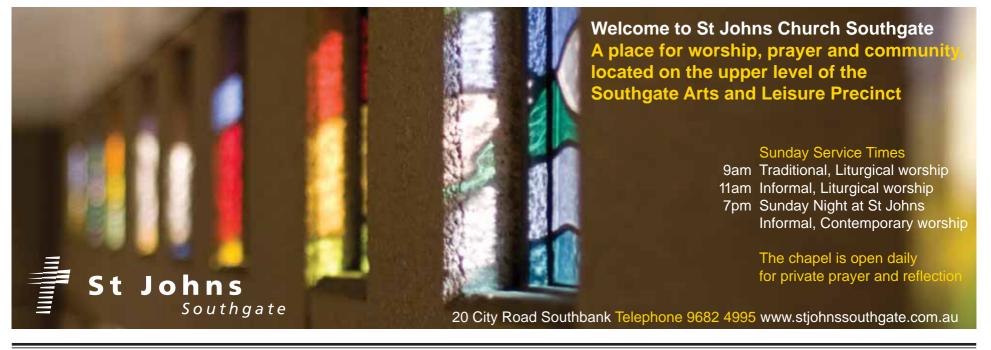
Risk taking designer duo Romance Was Born opened the week with designers Anna Plunkett and Luke Sales sending models down the runway with bright red mullets and superhero stripes. Their collection, a collaboration with comics giant Marvel, whilst may not the most wearable for the everyday, was an inspired display of graphic prints and exciting colour like most of their collections to date.

Fashion Week was perhaps missing the allure of big guns and Sydney Fashion Week favourites Josh Goot and Dion Lee, however, patrons were not left without strong collections to fill the void. Once again Perth designer Kym Ellery wowed audiences with her exquisite tailoring and edgy silhouettes sending models down the runway with structured animal ear headbands adding to the whimsical nature of the show.

International celebrity Whitney Port of 'The Hills' and 'The City' fame made her Sydney Fashion Week debut with her brand 'Whitney Eve.' If you've watched 'The City' which documents the conception, preparation and debut of her womenswear collection, you will be thrilled to notice a more structured and thought out collection debuted in Australia than previous ones cementing Port firmly as a designer to watch.

Also in town was Swedish blogging phenomenon Elin Kling to promote her new womenswear label 'Nowhere' to many an adoring fan. The petit blonde bloggerturned-designer debuted her affordable collection with My Catwalk in both Sydney and Melbourne, and with on trend edgy every day pieces and price points less than \$150, the line looks certain to be a hit with those wanting to inject some fashion forward pieces into their everyday wardrobe.

Up coming trends for the Australian market appear to be a constant stream of graphic prints, shown at Magdalena Velevskva, tough embellishments like the ones at Aje and floral pant suits, not only seen at Zimmerman, but by virtually every guest in attendance at one of the shows. So get your clashing floral prints mixing to be one step ahead of the fashion curve.



You may have heard of the Southbank Structure Plan 2010 and Amendment C171.

This Planning Scheme Amendment C171 applies to all land in Southbank, including South Wharf and if you remove all the rhetoric it is designed to alter the current building regulations so that the Government can squeeze 74,000 residents into our area by the year 2040. That's a population density greater than Hong Kong!

As part of the "spin-doctoring" our elected representatives and their minders have set up a panel to receive submissions as part of the so-called community consultation. This panel is due to release its report sometime this month.

Some 224 submissions were presented to this committee objecting, in part, to the plan

and included a detailed report from us – the Southbank Residents Group.

Most of the issues were centred on tower and podium heights, building separation and offsets, plot ratios, setback of buildings, interaction between frontages and streets reduction of building separations and allowing huge towers along our main streets.

All very well and democratic but how much influence will the concerns of our residents be in the final decision making? Let me suggest none.

How many government consultations have you attended and actually had a positive input? Again I suggest none.

In most, if not all, cases the bureaucrats have already signed off the project and the so-called community consultation becomes an information session.

Amendment C171 will no doubt be promulgated unchanged regardless of the concerns of 224 residents who have taken the time and effort to present a submission.

We have pleaded for over 15 years to have some structural plan mandated for Southbank but with little success. So we are left with issues such as the approval of the ridiculous Queensbridge Hotel development.

No matter what, our elected representatives will continue to ignore us the electors and kneel to the wishes of the developers. Our

only answer is the ballot box and the time has come to replace logic and common sense with political methods which would include supporting candidates at all level of government who are in harmony with the needs of the people and the environment.

Let's put our politicians on notice we want a say in what happens to our Southbank community and demand a genuine consultation process be it C-171 or any other major project.





The Voice' is a scream

If you'd asked me a few months ago, if a new reality singing show would gather enough momentum to dominate the TV ratings and capture the attention of the nation, I'd probably have said: "What?"

The Voice has been a highly successful format the world over – and, after originating in the Netherlands in 2010 (who knew they had pop music there?), it has also been very successful in the UK and the US.

Despite being a sure ratings success for the Nine Network, it's definitely worth asking: in a world where reality singing programs are in abundance, what makes The Voice any different?

Well, let me tell you. There are plenty of differences, because The Voice is unlike any other singing competition you've ever experienced. Sort of.

The Voice doesn't have judges. They're called

coaches instead. This may be a simple case of semantics, but the initial approach to the contestants themselves is more of a nurturing one as opposed to the norm which is mainly critical. So don't expect a venomous tirade from a diva-like personality, because The Voice is more about helping the contestants reach their potential.

The Voice has spinning chairs for its coaches. They spin around if a coach likes you. So basically, The Voice is built around the ideal that no matter what you look like, because the "coaches" can't see you perform initially they're not judging you on your appearance. A noble ideal, however the contestants heading into the Live Battle Rounds still

happen to be averaging above the usual 65 per cent attractiveness-benchmark set by X Factor and Australian Idol.

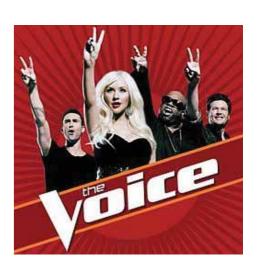
Another clear distinction is that the coaching team of Delta Goodrem, Joel Madden, Keith Urban and Seal are all still relevant in the music industry – as opposed to being burntout has-beens, or people that aren't actually recording artists (a certain Sandilands springs to mind). The Voice has a coaching team that still experiences the dizzying heights of a pop-star status.

Despite these differences, the outcome of The Voice is still being dictated by the Australian public (and by the Australian public, I mean 13-year-old girls on prepaid mobiles). This is on par with similar TV-talent shows like Australian Idol, X Factor or Australia's Got Talent – that latter of which has famously anointed a blond-haired Bieber look-a-like and some sort of half-human, half-android.

As the Live Battle Rounds unfold, the

number of contestants will typically dwindle, until a winner is announced. Until then, expect more perfect harmonies, expect more genuine advice and nurturing and expect more pearls of wisdom from Seal – a figure almost too cool for the format itself.

The Voice is definitely worth a look – if you aren't already watching





...for all your pet care needs



SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR



ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE FRIENDS Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road Meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Interesting speakers; make new

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL

June 1 - July 10

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street The 2012 Melbourne International Jazz Festival will inspire all to celebrate life as it should be - immersed in music.

www.melbournejazz.com

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY SCHOOL Every Sunday, 10.30am - 11.15am

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road Children 3-11 years welcome. Not available during school holidays. St Johns also runs a playgroup every Tuesday from

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

VISIBLE MUSIC

June 21, 7.00pm

friends. All welcome.

Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street

Laneway Funk, led by Jason Heerah (Electric Empire) perform their unique blend of soul, funk and reggae. In this special collaboration, they welcome emerging artist Bitsat Seyoum.

www.multiculturalarts.com.au

FIRST FRIDAY DANCE CLUB

Street Southbank

May 4 - December 7, 6.00pm - 8.00pm Queensbridge Square, 1A Queens Bridge

Starting on Friday 4 May, the first Friday of every month will see Queensbridge Square transformed into a place for people to come together to dance.

MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB First Thursday of the month, 10.00am

Wharf Hotel, Siddeley St

Probus clubs cater for the needs of men and women over 50. Keep your mind active and meet new friends while enjoying a range of activities.

9600 1628 or carolbergcb@gmail.com

MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm-8pm

3 Southbank Promenade

10am - 12pm.

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



THE HERETIC

May 12 - June 26

Melbourne Theatre Company, 140 Southbank Boulevard

Noni Hazlehurst stars in the Australian premiere of this hit UK black comedy by Richard Bean - a play that will have you debating the issue of climate change all the way home. www.mtc.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.

RASTA THOMAS' ROCK THE BALLET May 30 - June 3

State Theatre, 100 St Kilda Road

'Rasta Thomas' Rock the Ballet' returns with its fusion of classic Ballet technique combined with the excitement of musical theatre, hip hop, martial arts, tap, contemporary, gymnastics and more.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

STARCHASER

Fairfax Studio, 100 St Kilda Road Starchaser is a family friendly voyage into an original, colourful universe of characters, places and creatures that could have leapt from the pages of a J.M. Barrie

www.theartscentre.com.au

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE-COMMUNITY

Every Sunday in April

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road 9am Sunday-Traditional, liturgical worship; 11am Sunday-Informal, liturgical worship; 7pm Sunday-Informal, contemporary worship; 12.10 pm -Wednesday - 20-min informal service.

TERRAIN

June 26 - July 7

Playhouse

100 St Kilda Road

Internationally acclaimed Bangarra Dance Theatre comes to Melbourne with a new work 'TERRAIN' by celebrated Aboriginal choreographer Frances Rings.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

THE GOLDEN DRAGON

June 20 - July 7

Melbourne Theatre Company, 140 Southbank Boulevard

In acclaimed German playwright Roland Schimmelpfennig's 'The Golden Dragon,' men are played by women, women by men, young characters by old actors and old characters by young actors.

ON THE PRODUCTION OF MONSTERS

May 23 - June 9

Melbourne Theatre Company, 140 Southbank Boulevard

'On the Production of Monsters' displays all the biting wit and caustic humour for which Melbourne playwright Robert Reid's work is best known.

www.mtc.com.au

RAW 2012 CD TOUR June 30

Crown Entertainment Complex 8 Whiteman Street

With five super-charged installments under its belt, the Raw series has built a solid reputation for delivering when it comes to the latest club bangers and dance radio crossover smashes.

TOSCA - A DRAMA BY PUCCINI

May 25 - June 2

Malthouse - The Merlyn Theatre, 113 Sturt

Tosca is a nail-biting thriller, tragic love story, and betraval all rolled into one and blends real events and fictional characters in an edge-of-the-seat melodrama. www.malthousetheatre.com.au

NATIONAL INTEREST

June 6 - July 7

Fairfax Studio, 100 St Kilda Road The fate of the Balibo Five shocked a nation in 1975 and the issues still reverberate today. This drama personalises the headlines with a story of an ordinary family haunted by history.

www.mtc.com.au



CELTIC DIVAS

June 29

The Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street Celtic Divas presents a glittering array of artists to perform a beautiful set of songs that emerge from the timeless and windswept landscapes of an ancient world that still lives in the modern imagination.

www.celticdivastour.com



May 29 - June 10

The Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street Throughout history the circus in all its forms has returned obsessively, incessantly, to the strangest and most

mystifying animal of all - the human.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

INSTANT ROCKSTAR Febuary 18 - June 16

Victorian Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road Be the rockstar and director in this fun and easy music video workshop. Instant Rockstar lets kids unleash their inner pop diva and guitar hero. Create a hit song and then use the track to make a music video. www.theartscentre.com.au

Businesses in Southbank

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THE EVOLUTION OF EVOLVE

With the approval of developments a regular occurrence in Southbank, the real estate market is as competitive as ever.

Evolve Real Estate is one agency which has established itself on the ground in Southbank, with its central Queensbridge St location and knowledge of the area.

Evolve knows exactly what the rapid growth means to the real estate market in the area and is here to help others understand.

Principal Gary Cakir says the development equates to exciting times for the region, for various reasons.

"The growth demonstrates a clear vision by planning departments to create an urban atmosphere similar to many high-density suburbs overseas. The developments stimulate our economy, create jobs, and also help to develop a hive of activity within the region, something which I think is lacking in parts of Southbank," Mr Cakir said.

He said that in real estate terms it meant that capital growth was slightly slower (because supply is always there), but the positives far outweighed the negatives, adding: "Being a boutique building is advantageous."

"I would advise people who are entering the market to research the building, it's history and if neighbouring sites have the possibility of blocking their view," Mr Cakir says.

And it is Evolve's extensive local knowledge that has helped position it as the perfect real estate to deal with.

"We cater for a whole range of property services, from off the plan sales, where we have access to nearly every new residential development in Melbourne, along with established apartments and suburban property, property management, conveyancing, financial services and overseas transactions," Mr Cakir said.

"We are a one-stop real estate office, so anyone looking to purchase property in Southbank and Melbourne won't need to look further," Mr Cakir said.

Mr Cakir believes in Southbank and that its current growth makes it a great place to be.

"What is exciting about Southbank is the amount of quality new developments on offer. Many of these will prove to be very significant in terms of shaping the cityscape of Melbourne."

If you have any real estate-related questions or want to know more about Evolve, give the office a call on 9690 8800 or check out its website www.evolverealestate.com.au



YRBA IS FOR ALL BUSINESS



Tim Bracher with YRBA president John Ahern and committee member Bill Horman

The Yarra River Business
Association (YRBA) is the one
thing all Southbank based
businesses should have in
common. The group is set up to
assist with the marketing of the
area and is a great opportunity
to get any business put onto the
local and national map.

The group executive officer Tim Bracher has been with the association since its inception in 1998. He agrees that the YRBA really is opening to all.

"We say that any person or business with an interest in, on, or concerning the river and its banks will find benefit in being part of the association," Mr Bracher said.

Mr Bracher also said that the group had a "fairly loose jurisdiction because fixed boundaries are quite artificial when you're involved in the work we do."

"We have a relationship with the Southbank Residents Association and we align with much of what that group is trying to achieve for their community. We also have an affinity with the Yarra River Keepers Association, because they are the watchdog of river health, which is the lifeblood of our tourism product," Mr Bracher explained.

The group helps local businesses in many ways, from basic marketing to a deeper understanding about the issues facing the precinct.

"The benefits are not just tangible things, such as featuring in our very popular website www.yarrariver.info or in the Discover Melbourne's Waterfront brochure, but also in being plugged into the issues and opportunities of the precinct," Mr Bracher said.

The association recently released an "Issues and opportunity" paper, available to members.

"Our executive committee has regular lunches with stakeholders important to the river and last year at lunches with Minister Asher and Lord Mayor Doyle it became apparent that we needed to better articulate the problems we are facing in the precinct," Mr Bracher said.

"We have already had break-throughs on some issues and the paper will heavily inform the preparation of the Association's business Plan for 2013-2016," he added.

The YRBA already has 140 members and if you'd like your business to add to this already strong association check out the website www.yarrariver.info for more.



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TAKE A TASTE TOUR OF SPAIN AT SOUTH WHARF

In the Spanish city of Segovia, just north of Madrid, stands an ancient Roman aqueduct bridge.

Built late in the 1st Century, it is still a formidable sight, a must-see tourist destination and a tangible link between Spain's past and present.

Past-meets-present is also a good description of the menu devised by Josep Espuga, the Spanish head chef at The Bohemian Bar & Restaurant in Southbank's South Wharf.

With tapas and shared plates in vogue seemingly everywhere, Josep says his offerings capture both contemporary and traditional flavours of Spain.

"I want everyone who visits The Bohemian to experience the roots of Spanish food," Josep

"Shared plates and tapas are popular now, but it is important to also taste the traditional dishes too."

Josep is a native of Barcelona, capital of the Catalan region, and is dishing up favourites from all areas of the Iberian Peninsula.

"From the Basque country, I have pa amb tomaquet (toasted bread with garlic, tomato and extra virgin olive oil, \$4) which is a traditional tapas," he said.

"From Seville, we have pringa de cordero

(slow cooked lamb in a toasted muffin with fig salad, \$9.50). It is typical to Seville, but not well known here.

"One of our mains is cochinillo (\$28.50), which is typical of Madrid and Segovia where they are masters of cooking suckling pig. In Segovia, the chef cooks the whole suckling pig and slices it in front of the people, like a show. He uses a small blade, not a knife, because it is so tender."

"At the Bohemian, we take off the skin and cook it separately until it is crisp like bacon. We slowly cook the whole pig for 14 hours, take out the bones and then insert the flesh back into the crispy skin and serve it with carrot ice-cream and seasoned vegetables such as beetroot. Yes carrot ice-cream! The pig is a heavy flavour, so the ice-cream gives balance."

Josep has put his own stamp on the ubiquitous potato bravas tapas.

"Everyone is familiar with patatas bravas - it is fried potato with spices and sauces," he said.

"It is good with beer or wine. But my bravas has what I call a cleaner taste."

Forget the usual potato cubes smothered in sauce, Josep emerges from the kitchen with a serve of four potato cylinders sitting upright on a rustic slab of wood. Each cylinder has been hollowed and stuffed with spicy, diced tomato, and topped with a dollop of aioli and a sprinkle of chopped parsley.

"We have tortillo (\$6.50), in keeping with



Chef Josep Espuga serves his bravas with glasses of sangria to Natalie Dolman and Melanie Carter, who visited The Bohemian during a "grub crawl" of Southbank's South Wharf precinct.

traditional dishes," he said.

"But our lomo de cordero crujiente (\$34) is special. We buy a whole lamb saddle, take off the loin, then we smoke the flap and hang it to dry in the cool-room so it is like bacon. This is sliced and wrapped around the lamb loin, keeping it moist. It is served with sliced

pumpkin, dates and almonds."

Perfect with a glass of red - there are 40 varieties of Spanish wine to choose from.

The Bohemian is at 35 Dukes Walk, South Wharf, outside the DFO. Call 9682 0566 or visit www.thebohemian.com.au

LIFE IN THE FUN LANE AT KINGPIN BOWLING

Question: What is a fun, healthy, safe sport that you can enjoy all year round, from the depths of winter to the heat of summer? Answer: Indoor bowling.

The music's hot, the cocktails are chilled, and the lanes are full of laughter every day of the year at Kingpin Bowling, in Southbank.

Finding the correct bowling shoe size is a simple step ... onto a mat of foot sizes at the foot of the serving counter.

We have every shoe size from toddler to size 15," says venue manager Ed Mountford.

"We cater for everyone. Parents can relax at the bar with a drink while the kids are playing bowls, or the latest arcade and video

"Families, school groups, office parties - we will look after everyone."

Ed has a library of more than 1,000 music videos that play on 20 huge screens, as bowlers swing into party mode. Imagine, bowling a strike as Survivor belts out "Eye of the Tiger" ...

A recently installed photo system offers

snapshots of you and your mates as you hurl that bowl with deadly accuracy at the ten pins (or side gutter).

The M9 Bar, which looks down over the complex, is available for exclusive functions.

"It's popular with teams and clubs, birthdays, end-of-financial year functions, hens and bucks nights, and so on," says Ed.

Kingpin offers school holiday packages and regular discounts, such as \$10 bowling from 9pm to 2am every Tuesday.

"We also have combination packages, for bowls, the 40-person indoor laser skirmish and the Galactic Circus games arcade," says

"We have the largest indoor interactive games centre in Australia."

Overseeing the games section is Dennie Renessis, who admits he has one of the most enviable jobs going.

"When I was a little kid I dreamt of working at Timezone," he says.

"I started here when I was 19, and now I'm 30 - and I've no intention of leaving!"

Dennie says the games are continually being updated and cost from 20 cents to \$5 to play.

One of the favourites is the first-person shooter Mega Buck Hunter, but the most impressive is the FS 2000 "Cybercoaster",



where two people are strapped into an enclosed pod that lifts up and twists, spins and somersaults.

"They cost about \$250,000 each and the first one was so popular, we had to get a second one," Dennie says.

Most in demand are the games with prizes such as electric scooters and home theatre packages. Others offer tickets which are redeemed for prizes ranging from a bouncy ball to the latest Xbox unit and microwave

"And yes, you CAN win on those claw skill games - I have to refill the toys twice every week," says Dennie with a smile.

Kingpin Bowling is open from 10am until late, every day of the year, on the ground floor of the Crown Entertainment Complex, 8 Whiteman St, Southbank. Call 13 2695 or visit www.kingpinbowling.com.au



BEC RUDSTEIN, 26

Bec works full-time at Melbourne Public Bar and really enjoys her job at South Wharf. "I love interacting with customers, as well as having lunch from our great chefs," Bec said. "Southbank itself is also really cool, and I'm always finding new, hip places to go. It's really diverse, with lots of tourists, locals and shoppers."



EAMON WALMSLEY, 31

Eamon moved to Australia 29 years ago, when his mother and father came Down Under from Northern Ireland for work. Living in South Yarra, he works full-time at Meat Market in South Wharf, and is excited to be involved in a new restaurant. "Everything is new and exciting, and everything that we are doing, we are doing for the first time," Eamon said.



GEORGINA CUTTS, 20 Erance

Georgina is studying business management at Victoria University, and is supporting her studies with a part-time job at the Boatbuilders' Yard. "It's a really friendly atmosphere here," Georgina said. "It's also a great location to come to work, right by the river. It's especially nice at night-time, when you can see the city lit up across the river. It looks beautiful."



DAVE CARROLL, 30

Dave has been venue manager at Common Man bar since it opened last December. "It's got a great casual and relaxed atmosphere," Dave said. "It feels like we're the 'local' of the area, and I really enjoy getting to know all of the customers." Dave, who lives in St Kilda, also appreciates what Southbank has to offer. "I think it's great that the history of the sheds are being preserved here on South Wharf whilst the space is being opened up for new bars and restaurants. We have river-view dining that is much less hectic than in the city."

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AUDREY HERVE, 28

Audrey had always wanted to visit Australia, so when her fiancée moved out here for work late last year, she couldn't resist the opportunity to come and try out the Aussie lifestyle for herself. Audrey has worked at the Sharing House since it opened just over a month ago. "The atmosphere here and the environment for dining is really nice," Audrey said. "I love working by the river too, and it's a great view to have whilst you are doing your job."



JOSEP ESPUGA, 30

Josep has been head chef at Bohemian Spanish Bar and Restaurant since it opened in South Wharf two months ago. His background has taken him from Barcelona via New York City to Melbourne. Josep was chosen from 260 chefs over a two-month application process. "I applied for this position whilst I was still in New York, as they were looking for a Spanish chef," Josep said. "I love being able to cook traditional Spanish recipes that I have been making all of my life, teaching customers about my culture. Southbank is great – I love the views of the city and being able to walk along the river."

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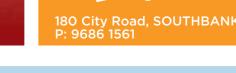
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Contact Shen Li 0430 431 186 - Price: \$600.000 - \$630.000



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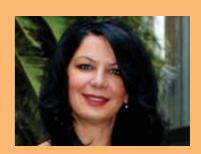
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