

The voice of Southbank

# SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

■ **Food and wine? How divine!**

See page 4

■ **Footpath blocked, but no help**

See page 5



■ **North Wharf plan assessed**

See page 6

■ **Classes ideal for city living**

See page 9



## Have your say on planning matters

*Southbank residents will have an unprecedented chance to have their voices heard on planning issues within the capital city zone next month, with the announcement of the Metropolitan Planning Strategy – Free Community Forum.*

The forum has been organised by the Southbank Residents Group (SRG), in conjunction with the Docklands Community Association and the Eastenders.

The forum will focus on the Department of Planning and Community Development's (DPCD) document *Melbourne, Let's Talk About the Future*.

The forum will be held on Tuesday, March 19, and will run for an hour and half from 6pm. It will include a presentation from the DPCD and a question and answer session.

SRG president Michael Smolders said he was excited about the forum and was encouraging all residents to come along.

"People who have engaged with myself and Barry (SRG vice-president Barry Janes) since we've been on the SRG, one thing has always been consistent, and people are incredibly passionate about what Melbourne should be, and what Melbourne should look like and what our livability standards should be," Mr Smolders said.

"This is an opportunity for people to come in and take a look at the macro view and shape and provide some feedback on what you think of it," he added.

Mr Smolders explained the forum was organised to encourage members of the community who were interested in planning issues, but may not have known the correct avenues to express their opinions.

"The Minister late last year launched the Metropolitan Planning Strategy. And it's out for consultation, but I have to say, what surprised us as a collection of residents groups was the lack of promotion that's been around it, to get the community feedback."

"People are tired of not having their voice heard. Now that we have a new council on board, we know there are councilors who sympathise to that cause and they're trying to find ways of increasing the volume of the legitimate voice of residents," he said.

The DPCD's presentation will focus on the nine key principles in the discussion paper. They are:

- Social and economic participation;
- A globally connected and competitive city;
- Strong communities;
- Environmental resilience;
- Melbourne's distinctiveness;
- Leadership and partnership;
- Regional cities and a polycentric city model;
- Living and working locally – a "20 minute" city; and
- Infrastructure investment supporting the growth of the city.

*Continued on page 2*



## Love is in the (freezing) air

*Valentines all over Southbank were spoilt last month, including a lucky few, who celebrated the occasion with a trip to the ice bar at Chill On Ice Bar and Lounge. The unique experience meant giving a lover a rose was a bit trickier than it may have otherwise been, but the ice didn't seem to be a metaphor for the love in the room.*

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Deadline for the March edition is 15/3/13.

## Have your say on planning matters

*Continued from page 1*

“What we’ve asked specifically of the DPCD for the forum is for them to certainly talk about these key principles but talk about them in the context and the potential impact on a capital city zone,” Mr Smolders said.

Mr Smolders was hoping the community would not only get behind the forum, but would enter it with a positive attitude as well.

“People could view it in a cynical sense and say ‘What’s the point? Because the State Government will do what they want anyway.’ But for me, I think we’ve got to go into it with a very positive attitude and say ‘We have an opportunity here to legitimately be heard, because the info will be captured and documented and put into public submissions,’” Mr Smolders said.

“If we miss this opportunity the State will say ‘well, you had your chance, we heard nothing from you, so we’ll go along and do whatever we want.’”

Mr Smolders said that, with the level of development in Southbank, the reality was everyone in the area will be affected and should therefore want to have their say.

“What we’re finding with the increase of development that’s going on here in Southbank, is that more and more people want to engage, because they’re all understanding it’s going to have an impact on them.”



## Dragon boats do battle

*As part of the Lunar New Year celebrations last month the annual Chinese New Year Dragon boat regatta was held on the Yarra. On a warm Sunday teams from across Victoria competed, with great spirit being shown throughout the day.*

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# Another month, another approval

**Another high-rise tower was approved last month and it may be the most ambitious design of any tower currently standing or in the pipeline in Southbank.**

Clarke St apartment tower was designed by BKK Architects and has a distinct twist design, to help make the most of the thin slice of land it will be built on.

It is a visually stunning tower that is sure to add to the skyline of the city.

BKK Architects director, Simon Knott said the building would bring much to the Southbank community, beyond the new residents.

“The building operates on three levels. It’s Iconic. Iconic in the way it can be seen from many points in South Melbourne and along Southbank. Also in its location and appearance. It’s located next to a bend in the Westgate Freeway and the design means it looks like it’s animated as you drive around the bend,” Mr Knott said.

“The second point is that there is no podium parking, which brings more amenities to the ground floor, with plans for cafes and the like at street level.”

The final point was the apartments themselves, with Mr Knott saying: “The third level is the amenities to the occupants of the apartments. All bedrooms have natural light and great views and they are all generously proportioned.”

The Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy, said the new proposal had taken into account the previous concerns for the project.

“Increased setbacks were requested to take into account the amenity of the neighbouring building, which was allowed to be built right up to its boundary,” Minister Guy said.

“The development will bring a unique design including strong activity at ground level, with shop and cafe space included in the design.”

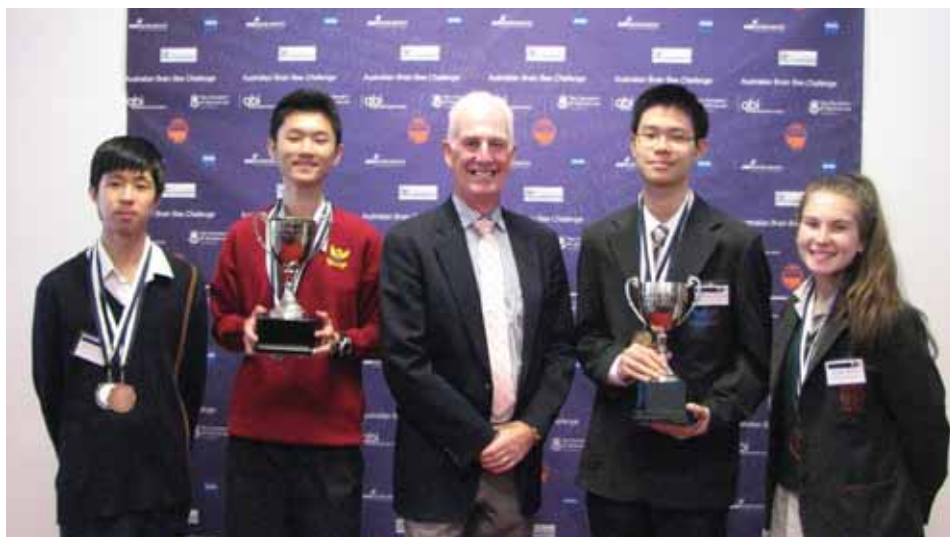
Minister Guy also pointed out the positives of the tower during the construction stage.

“The \$100 million investment will create an estimated 200 construction jobs,” he said.

While the State Government is positive about the new structure, the City of Melbourne appears to be against the tower. Planning committee chairman Ken Ong said his team hadn’t fully assessed the approval yet so it was inappropriate to comment, but the council had previously expressed its opposition the original tower planned for the site, which was 52 metres lower than the approved version.

To add to the displeasure, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle used his *Herald Sun* column last month to vent the council’s frustration with the decision.

“Recently City of Melbourne and Department of Planning had a disagreement about what is clever development: a proposed project in Clarke St, Southbank,” the Lord Mayor wrote.



Minister for Education Martin Dixon presents the winners with their trophies.

## Best and brightest arrive

**The average IQ of Southbank rose last month when the finals of the Australian Brain Bee Challenge (BCC) were held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC).**

To make us mortals feel even worse, the contestants were high school students from all over Australia.

The competition tests knowledge of important facts, intelligence, memory, emotions, sensations, movement, stress, aging, sleep, Alzheimer’s disease and stroke.

The winner was announced by Minister for

Education Martin Dixon. *Southbank Local News* wonders if seeing these intellects here in Southbank will encourage him to build our school sooner rather than later.

The winner was Jackson Huang from Queensland. The locals had something to cheer about with the announcement of the runner up, Zeldia Perri, from MacRobertson’s High School, here in Melbourne.

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# Food and wine? How divine!

*The Melbourne Food and Wine Festival (MFWF) is upon us and once again Southbank takes centre stage, with some of the best events of the festival and the location of the festival hub.*

The Urban Coffee Farm and Brew Bar is described as the “meeting point for the festival” and will be located at Queensbridge Square. The pop-up cafe will run for all 17 days of the festival.

The space will be designed to celebrate Melbourne’s love of coffee and will be open daily from 8am.

Festival CEO, Natalie O’Brien said Queensbridge Square made an ideal centre piece for the festival.

“We’re particularly excited about the Urban Coffee Farm and Brew Bar at Queensbridge Square which follows on from the success of the Greenhouse by Joost at last year’s festival,” Ms O’Brien said.

“Queensbridge Square is the perfect location for this exciting project,” she added.

It’s not the only place in Southbank you can immerse yourself in the festival though, with plenty of events happening throughout.

Southgate will again host tasting plates throughout the centre at the various restaurants and eateries within it.

“Celebrate a world of flavour” will be held on the first weekend of the festival. The tasting plates are just the start, with vouchers available to those who purchase a plate, roving entertainment and cooking demonstrations.

Southgate events and marketing manager, Kerrie Allen, said the event was a great way to show off the best of Southgate.

“This is a showcase of all that Southgate has to offer. Enjoy a weekend of delicious food

and shopping, then relax by the riverside and enjoy a full line up of live entertainment on the promenade,” Ms Allen said.

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) will also be providing an opportunity to celebrate the festival’s theme of earth when its event *From Farm to Fork* is held on Wednesday, March 13.

The event includes a tour and taste of the MCEC kitchen, plus you’ll get to meet MCEC executive chef Tony Panetta.

Mr Panetta said the event was a great chance to get a peek inside a world-class kitchen and to see how all the food is brought together.

“Our chefs are excited to cook this one-

off menu designed to showcase two of our producers from the Yarra Valley and Macedon Ranges, and give Melburnians a unique dining experience in one of the city’s most stunning locations,” Mr Panetta added.

Not to be outdone, Crown will also be heavily involved in the festival, with a number of activities to look forward to.

Focusing on the middle weekend of the festival (March 9-11) the centre piece of Crown’s festival activities will be a live site on the promenade. The site will be offering tastes from some of the venue’s chefs.

Restaurants involved include Nobu, The Atlantic and The Merrywell. The live site will be open from noon and close at 9pm on Saturday and Sunday, and 6pm on Monday.



## Boyd to turn green

*The section of land between the Boyd school building and Kingsway will soon be an apartment tower but, until then, developer The Mackie Group has decided to turn it into a grassy haven for visitors to the community centre.*

The space has been unusable until this month when a portable class room was removed and the ground cleared of rubbish. The land is currently being levelled and grass will be seeded once that is complete.

Mackie Group CEO, Ralph Mackie, said he was pleased to be able to provide the temporary space, until the construction on the tower began.

“One thing that Southbank needs is some green grassed areas,” said Mr Mackie.

“It’s so dark around at night time, I could imagine Darth Vader lives around here. Hopefully the grass will lighten it up a bit.”

Community animator at Boyd, Natalie Warren, said the site was a great chance to create some desperately-needed green space here in Southbank, before the tower and eventual garden space was built on the Boyd site.

“There are so few grassed areas in Southbank that any piece of grassy land will be used and I am guessing it is right next to KereKere so cafe users will hang out there with their lunch and coffees,” Ms Warren said.

“I would hope that we could somehow do something creative with the cyclone fence on the outside boundary, perhaps a temporary community art project on the fence that will provide some screen from the traffic.”



## Important anniversary celebrated at Fed Square

*To mark the fifth anniversary of the national apology to the stolen generation, Federation Square held a commemorative celebration last month, celebrating the day and its historical relevance to Australia’s first people.*

Program manager at Federation Square, Matt Jones, said it was a special day for everyone who came along.

“There was an audience of hundreds standing in the square watching Kutcha

Edwards singing on stage. As if on cue, two cockies flew over and landed on the roof of the Transport Hotel. As Kutcha sang, the birds squawked,” Mr Jones said.

“This then motivated the indigenous elder

sitting next to me to sing back to the cockies. The tears he had been shedding turned to delight. It was a lovely symmetry of nature and culture.”

“These moments are what Fed Square is for me and the role it plays for Melbourne.”

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# Huge crowds ring in Lunar New Year

*It was almost impossible to navigate your way along Crown Promenade during the Chinese New Year celebrations last month.*

A bazaar, set up all weekend from February 8-10, featured cultural foods, plants, tea and arts, to name a few.

To add to the entertainment, the main stage had performances as varied as dragon dancing to orchestral arrangements.

The weekend began the Year of the Snake on the Chinese calendar.



## Night turns white

*White Night Melbourne is set to keep us all awake this month.*

Many Southbank institutions take part in the festival, keeping their doors open (and lights on) all night on Saturday, February 23.

The Arts Centre, Malthouse Theatre and the National Gallery of Victoria are just some of the venues taking part in the festival.

The night will certainly give locals and visitors a completely different experience of Melbourne.

For more information on the evening, head to the website [www.whitenightmelbourne.com.au](http://www.whitenightmelbourne.com.au)



*This is the 'open' end of the footpath which the council says is still completely accessible to pedestrians.*

# Footpath blocked, but no help for businesses

*Queensbridge St businesses are bracing themselves for three years with restricted pedestrian access.*

The City of Melbourne has closed the footpath to through traffic and is completely blocked at one end.

The footpath, running opposite to Crown Casino, is closed as construction continues on the Prima Pearl apartment towers on the corner of Queensbridge and Power streets.

It is completely blocked at the Power St end, while the Queensbridge Square end has signs erected saying it is closed, and only open to local traffic.

Businesses along this strip include Mobi Structure furniture, Carrick Institute and Evolve Real Estate. Evolve Real Estate principal, Gary Cakir, said he hadn't received any information about the permanent blockage and certainly hadn't had any solutions offered from the council for the disruption to his business.

"After the footpath had been blocked for

a couple of weeks I got curious as to how long it will be. I had to find out from some of the construction workers that it'll be permanently blocked during business hours until 2015," Mr Cakir said.

He said he'd realised business was being affected when promotional brochures were not being taken from a basket on the footpath.

"We usually fill up the pamphlets and property guides every day or two. Once the footpath was closed, it was more like once every two weeks," Mr Cakir said.

"Obviously I'm not against the construction of new towers, it's great for our business long-term but surely, when it affects other businesses, the council has a responsibility to help in some way. It doesn't mean we want compensation, but maybe an advertising sign at the footpath-closed signs, letting people know businesses are still operating down here."

There has also been a permanent rail put in front of Evolve, which Mr Cakir said was blocking advertising signage he had erected for passing traffic, and diminishing the façade of the shopfront.

"If we had of been notified, we wouldn't have

had those signs put it there. I'm just thankful our business doesn't solely rely on foot traffic. If we were a retail shop for example, I'd suspect we'd have to close the doors."

A City of Melbourne spokesperson admitted the council had a responsibility to surrounding stakeholders during the construction of Prima Pearl.

"It is the council's role to assess the construction management plan and manage the construction process balancing the reasonable needs of all stakeholders," the spokesperson said.

"It is generally not necessary to close a footpath for long periods as part of a major development. However this site presents a number of challenges such as being located at the intersection of two major roads and the proximity and number of overhead power cables that are unable to be easily relocated."

The council spokesperson also pointed out that: "Pedestrian access remains available to all businesses in the area."

"The arrangement has minimised any potential disruption of vehicle traffic along Queensbridge St and into Power St."

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## Southbank directory hits the streets

*The first ever Southbank Directory was printed and distributed last month by 'Southbank Local News.'*

The directory is a user-friendly guide to every business within the 3006 postcode and is a must-have for locals, workers and visitors.

Southbank Local News editor Sean Rogasch said he was thrilled to be able to produce the directory and looked forward to it being the first of many.

"The final product has proven the work worthwhile. The directory comprehensively covers the entire suburb and is an excellent reference to have by the phone," Mr Rogasch said.

"Whether you want to order dinner, book a music lesson or buy an apartment, the Southbank Directory has you covered."

## Unwanted campers

*Camping by the river is an Australian tradition, but it's not one that you would usually associate with the city.*

That's why the City of Melbourne has moved swiftly to denounce the practice which it says has been happening along Boathouse Drive and Alexandra Drive in the Alexandra Gardens.

The council says a number of vehicles have been parking overnight at the sites and it reminds everyone that there is a \$250 fine for camping in a public place.

Adding to the confusion, the council says there has been a number of websites advertising Boathouse Drive as a recommended location when staying in Melbourne.

In a press release and spokesperson from the council said it wanted people to visit Melbourne, but they need to respect local laws.

"The City of Melbourne has been issuing warnings to people in this area each day. We have also started to issue notices to comply and are asking people to move on," the spokesperson said.



## North Wharf plan assessed

By Bethany Williams

*Heritage Victoria is assessing the historical considerations of the planned redevelopment of the heritage-listed Shed 5 and crane at North Wharf.*

Asset 1 WTC wants to partially demolish Shed 5 to make way for a 13-storey office.

The developer has proposed to turn the rest of the shed into a retail arts precinct and create a public park to its east.

According to Heritage Victoria, Berth 5, where the shed and crane are located, is significant because it remains virtually unchanged since it fell into disuse after the closure of the river below the Charles Grimes Bridge in 1975.

A permit application for the redevelopment of the site was submitted to Heritage Victoria last year and was advertised for public comment in December.

The permit application was readvertised for comment in January after further information was added to the application.

Heritage Victoria is responsible for approving heritage permits required for the redevelopment to commence.

Berth 5 is located next to the historical Mission to Seafarers building, increasing the heritage considerations relevant to the development.

In a submission to Heritage Victoria, the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) expressed concerns about the development with regard to the mission building.

Key concerns included the visibility of the mission building from the planned park and South Wharf and safe public access to the building.

"The Mission to Seafarers Victoria is working collaboratively with Asset 1 and Heritage Victoria at this time to ensure that historical considerations regarding the Shed 5 redevelopment protect the heritage interests of the Mission to Seafarers building complex," MtSV CEO Andrea Fleming said.

Asset 1 WTC chief operating officer Gavin Boyd said the company had been in consultation with the mission since the conception of the redevelopment.

Mr Boyd agreed that the vision of the mission building from the park was a key issue.

He said the building was designed to frame the mission so that the view was not blocked.

Mr Boyd said the issue of safe public access to the building was still being worked through.

The City of Melbourne has also submitted feedback to Heritage Victoria regarding the redevelopment.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said City of Melbourne was supportive of the proposal to reinvestigate and utilise Shed 5.

"Currently the shed is derelict, but its development as a functional space will help to activate the area. In addition the preservation of the crane will further contribute to a contemporary interpretation of maritime heritage," the spokesperson said.

According to the spokesperson, the City of Melbourne had expressed some concerns regarding details of the proposed alterations to the northern and western facades of the shed.

The public consultation period for the permit application closed on February 6.

However, Heritage Council of Victoria spokesperson Pauline Hitchins said as long as the application had not been finalised comments received would be considered.

Comments on the permit application must be submitted in writing to **heritage.permits@dpcd.vic.gov.au** or Heritage Victoria, GPO Box 2392, Melbourne, VIC 3000.

## New exhibition a timely reminder

*The Victoria Police Museum at WTC Wharf has a timely reminder of the dangers of bushfires for everyone with its new exhibition, 'Things of Fire and Ash: Remembering Black Saturday.'*

The exhibition celebrates the strength and resilience of young people affected by the 2009 bushfires, through photographs taken by photographer Lilli Waters.

The exhibition also includes personal stories from those affected.

Victoria Police Museum curator Kate Spinks she had wanted this exhibition because she was so impressed by the reaction of young people to the devastation they faced.

"I was really inspired by how these young people have all come together as a group to support each other and help each other heal from the trauma their community experienced as a result of the bushfires," Ms Spinks said.

"It got me thinking about how our museum could provide a space for them to tell their unique story and share their experiences with the wider Melbourne community about Black Saturday and its impact."



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# MCEC opens the doors to the locals

*In what is a unique occurrence at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), the centre will be hosting it's own event, Open Space, on Thursday, February 28.*

As MCEC Chief Executive Peter King explained to *Southbank Local News*, the event is the perfect way to show the venue off to the locals, who work and live so close to the centre, but may not actually know what goes on inside.

"Engaging with the local community is a high priority for us. I'm very keen for Melburnians to really embrace MCEC as their home to learn, share, connect and be entertained," Mr King said.

"Our business creates jobs and has enormous economic value for the state and it's also a space that brings the Melbourne community together for concerts, meetings and exhibitions."

Open Space will feature a presentation by Simon Hammond, a world-leading expert on brand excellence and customer engagement. Simon will also host the free public plenary session which includes an impressive panel of experts, including Mr King himself, AusBiotech COO Glenn Cross and AFL CEO Andrew Demetriou.

"We have a great line up of influential business leaders at our plenary session, and this public event is all free!" Mr King said.

To entice locals further there will also be a hawker-style food market offering tastes of MCEC's produce and a range of its Victorian suppliers.

Mr King said in addition to these exciting activities, it's a great chance for locals to get to know MCEC a little better.

"It's a great opportunity to walk through MCEC, enjoy a free taste of Victoria and learn about the value MCEC brings to Melbourne through hosting business events - you'll be surprised!" Mr King exclaimed.

"We're really excited to show off our amazing spaces, technology, award-winning catering, architecture, as well as highlighting the Victorian producers that we use."

Open Space is a free event, but you will need a ticket to enter. For more information and to book visit the website [www.openspace.mcec.com.au](http://www.openspace.mcec.com.au)



MCEC CEO Peter King is excited to show off the centre to locals.

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- Aus Biotech Chief Operations Officer, Glenn Cross
- AFL Chief Executive, Andrew Demetriou
- VECCI Chief Executive, Mark Stone
- Cisco Asia Pacific Area Vice President, Les Williamson
- MCEC Chief Executive, Peter King

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An abundance of natural light filled, spacious proportions and great views of the bay.

Comprises a stunning kitchen and open plan living area overlooking the bay. Two bedrooms with BIR's, Master with walk through to bathroom.

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# Men's shed opens, near Southbank

*Southbank handy men and women may not yet have their own space to work but in the mean time there has been a "Men's shed" open in neighbouring South Melbourne, and it is encouraging Southbank residents to use the facility.*

The shed is tucked behind the St Luke's church on Dorcas St.

Peter Harkin has been at the forefront of the fight for a Southbank men's shed and has joined the committee of the Port Phillip Men's Shed. He said it was a good start for Southbank residents.

"It's a relief after our two years of hard work on a Southbank men's shed, to have something open up in our area. I'm hoping many other Southbank residents to come and have a look. It's a good start," Mr Harkin said.

Port Phillip Men's shed president Peter Simmons said the response for a shed in the area has been overwhelming.

"When I first had the idea I just put a few boards out about a meeting and we got 50 people coming along who were interested,"

Mr Simmons said.

The groups membership officer, Steve Ingrouille said until Southbank has a shed of its own, its residents were more than welcome to cross the border.

"We are absolutely encouraging Southbank residents to come down. It's a great space and it's not just a shed, it's a social group. It's a great way to get to know others from the area," Mr Ingrouille said.

"There are some great jobs on offer at the moment, so the shed will not only be a place to partake in your hobby, there will be a real sense of achievement from the work as well."

For more information you can head to the website [www.ppmensshed.org](http://www.ppmensshed.org) or email Steve about becoming a member [membership@ppmensshed.org](mailto:membership@ppmensshed.org)



Peter Simmons and Peter Harkin enjoying the newly opened Port Phillip Men's shed.



## Classes ideal for city living

*Have you got a great story about living in Southbank you want to let the world know about? Pump Theatre may have the perfect opportunity for you.*

The amateur theatre company is providing acting classes for adults at Boyd and Pump director Josephine Daly says she doesn't want these to be run of the mill, ordinary classes.

"I was really attracted to the idea of holding a course here in Southbank, because I can only imagine some of the stories of people who live in these high-rise towers," Ms Daly said.

"What do they do? Where do they come from? Do they ever get lonely? What is it like to live up high? These are some of the

questions I really want the classes to explore. I want local residents to own the content they produce at these classes."

The idea for these workshops came from a website called Place Stories ([www.placestories.com](http://www.placestories.com)), which was developed during the National Cultural Policy Forum.

For more details you can head to the website [www.pumptheatre.com.au](http://www.pumptheatre.com.au) or email Josephine [info@pumptheatre.com.au](mailto:info@pumptheatre.com.au)

The classes are on at Boyd, 207 City Rd, Southbank at 7.30pm on Tuesdays.

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# Bridge builds connections

*Work has started on the Jim Stynes Bridge that will connect the Northbank precinct to Docklands.*

The \$18 million bridge, named in honour of the late Jim Stynes, will provide a pedestrian and cycling link between Docklands and Northbank.

The bridge will extend beneath the Charles Grimes Bridge and is designed to appear as though it is floating on the river.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy said the bridge would create a link in cycling and pedestrian infrastructure between the CBD and Docklands.

"The Jim Stynes Bridge will significantly enhance the quality of public space, improve

access and create better connections to this important part of Melbourne," Mr Guy said.

Mr Guy also announced the official opening of the McCrae St extension and footpath, delivered by Places Victoria and the Kangan institute.

According to a Places Victoria spokesperson, the one-way street is likely to open to traffic in mid February after VicRoads installs a new controller at the Harbour Esplanade intersection.

The McCrae St extension will connect with the Jim Stynes Bridge once completed.



## Sustainable living encouraged along the river

*Sustainable living is becoming more and more popular and locals had a great chance to learn more about it last month, during the Sustainable Living Festival at Federation Square and Birrarung Marr.*

The festival featured pop-up tents of gardening experts, lifestyle and dietary ideas plus waste disposal ideas, all designed to help everyday people live more sustainably.

There were also great tips on sustainable living for apartment dwellers.

The festival attracted big crowds throughout February and runs up until February 24, so you still have the chance to get along and have a look.

For more details, head to the website [www.festival.slf.org.au](http://www.festival.slf.org.au)

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## METROPOLITAN PLANNING STRATEGY

free community forum

The Victorian Government is preparing a new Metropolitan Planning Strategy (MPS) and is seeking community input. The purpose of the MPS is to provide a blueprint to guide Melbourne's future over the next 30 to 40 years. In October 2012 the Minister for Planning released a Discussion Paper for comment: Melbourne, let's talk about the future. A free community forum organised by local resident groups and presented by the Department of Planning and Community Development, will discuss the ideas raised in the Paper including potential issues and ideas for the CBD and immediate surrounds. The forum will also include a question and answer session.

Come along to the forum to hear more about the MPS and to have your say. RSVP by email to [secretary@srgi3006.org.au](mailto:secretary@srgi3006.org.au)

**Date:** Tuesday 19 March. 6pm-7.30pm.  
**Venue:** Yarra Room, Level 2, Melbourne Town Hall, Swanston Street, Melbourne.

Supported by CITY OF MELBOURNE

For further information about the MPS, visit [planmelbourne.vic.gov.au](http://planmelbourne.vic.gov.au)  
Organised by: Southbank Residents Group, Docklands Community Association, Eastenders.

February 2013

# THE ARTS PRECINCT



## MUSIC FESTIVAL ON VACANT BLOCK

**A vacant block behind the Melbourne Recital Centre (MRC) was transformed into the stage for the perfect summer music festival last month, as the MRC hosted The Garden Party.**

The Garden Party ran on weekends during January and February and featured artists including The Bamboos, Bertie Blackman and Oh Mercy.

The spectacular set-up may have looked hidden away but Garden Party director of programming and presenter services Kirsten Siddle said the public had really embraced the festival.

"The Garden Party was a huge success. We are so pleased by the response by punters and artists alike. Everybody has had a great time and it really has been just perfect. We could not have hoped for a better result," Ms Siddle said.

"Melburnians have sought out our quirky little pop-up outdoor festival and have loved the fact that it is hidden away behind the Melbourne Recital Centre."

Ms Siddle also noted the popularity of the acts that performed at the festival.

"We've had a huge amount of great feedback on the program line-up as people who were coming for a band they know discovered a new band or two in the process. Many people have attended not knowing any of the acts and have loved it just as much."

Ms Siddle said the festival as a whole had been one

great highlight, but of particular interest was the first night.

"I have to say that opening night was a great highlight for me. The fact that everything came together so beautifully and we had the whole site on their feet dancing and having a good time with Axolotl, Brous and The Bamboos. I walked around all night with this ridiculous grin on my face!"

Ms Siddle said she was hopeful the party would continue next year and that: "We're currently wondering what our mascot, The Party Gnome might look like in a safari suit."

# SOUTH WHARF TURNS ARTISTIC

**The South Wharf promenade is an idyllic location during the summer months and the ambience was added to last month with a number of Melbourne artists taking up residence.**



The artists will themselves be an exhibition with window viewing of them busily creating their future works.

Artists include Renee Cosgrave, Minna Gilligan, Andrzej Nowicki, Nicholas Ryrie,

Raphael Rizzo and Rhys Mitchell.

The artists are on display now and will be until March 1. There will be an event to celebrate the artwork produced during the month of creation.

# GRANTS FOR SOUTHBANK INSTITUTIONS

**Another round of arts grants from Premier and Minister for the Arts Ted Baillieu has seen three important Southbank institutes receive money to help support their work.**

Platform Youth Theatre, Auspicious Arts Project and Australian Book Review all received grants when the latest round was announced last month.

Platform Youth Theatre received \$12,000 for its latest project, a theatre work about the experiences of a young man with cerebral palsy.

Auspicious Arts Project was granted \$30,000 for its programs of dance, performance, music and cabaret, involving over 50 artists.

The Australian Book Review collects \$10,000 for the commissioning of new writing including reviews, essays, fiction and poetry which will be published in print and online.

Mr Baillieu said the grants were important support to artistic ventures of all kinds.

“These grants through the Victorian Government’s Arts Development program, support projects across all art forms and assist artists to develop their professional skills, build networks and bring their ideas to fruition,” Mr Baillieu said.

“The arts are an intrinsic part of life in Victoria, and by supporting new ideas and ensuring new voices can be heard, we are not just supporting artists, but the broader community as well.”

## DHAFER YOUSSEF QUARTET

Vocalist and oud virtuoso Youssef and his ensemble perform music that merges ancient Middle Eastern traditions with contemporary European-style jazz.

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# AUSTRALIAN WORLD ORCHESTRA COMES TO TOWN

**Budding musicians have a unique opportunity coming up when the Australian World Orchestra (AWO) holds its Masterclass Program here in Southbank.**

The masterclass will be hosted by world-renowned double-bassist Tim Dunin on February 21. There will be a variety of instruments taught, including the double-bass, oboe and harp.

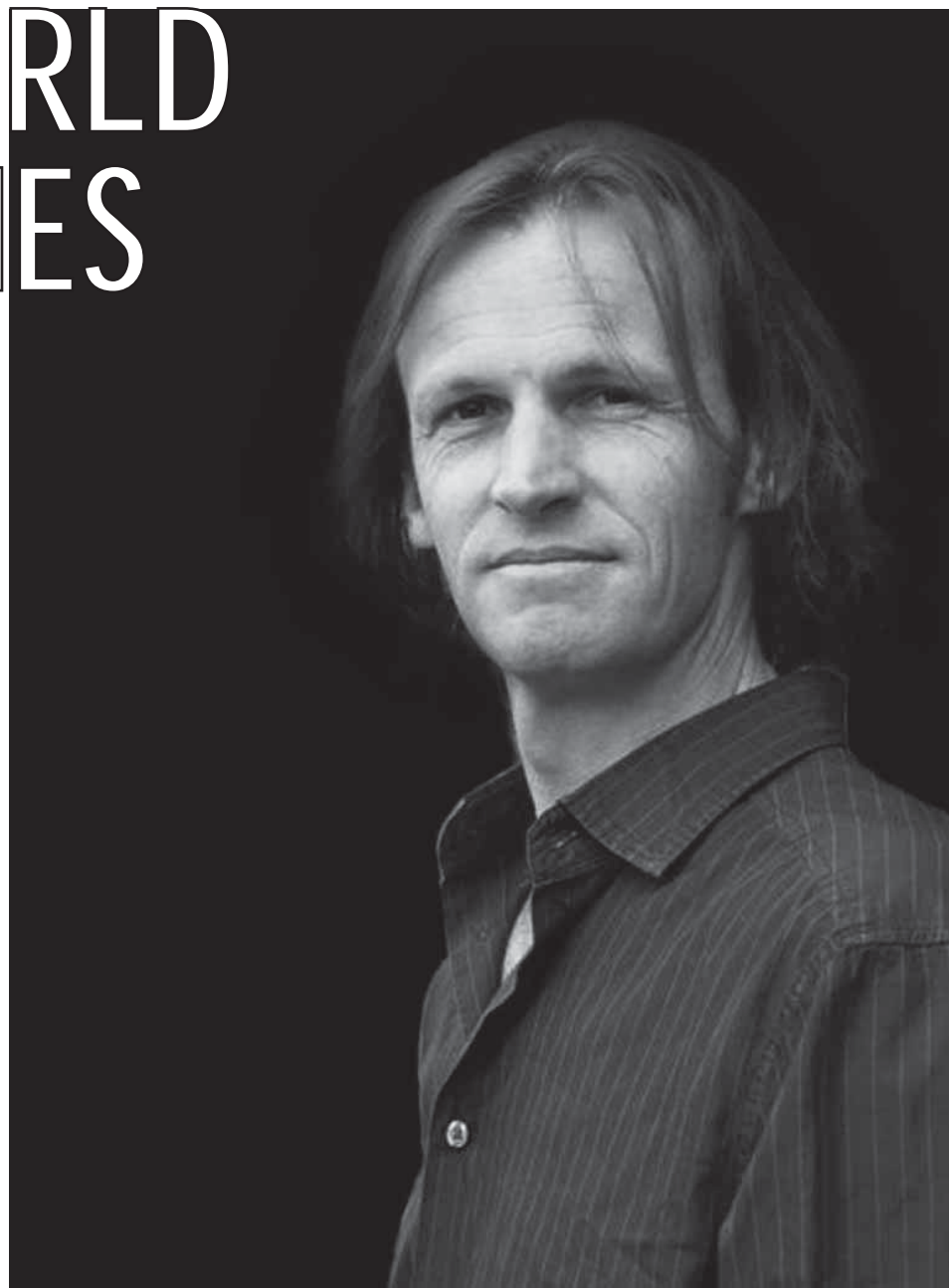
The masterclass will be at Hamer Hall Riverside Mezzanine.

AWO artistic director, Alexander Briger, said the program was a great chance for AWO musicians to give back to the community

and country where they learned their craft.

“The members of the AWO recognise that the education they received in Australia was the springboard to their success and they are pleased to have the opportunity to give back to the community through the AWO’s education programme,” Mr Briger said.

The masterclass is also open to the public to watch and enjoy.



## MELBOURNE RECITAL CENTRE SERIES

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## EVENTS

**HALF THE SKY****March 7***Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street*

The International Women's Development Agency presents Half the Sky, a musical evening of celebration and affirmation. IWDA is the only Australian development organisation entirely focused on women's rights and gender equality.

[www.iwda.org.au](http://www.iwda.org.au)**SKELETON – LARISSA MCGOWAN****March 14 -23***Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street*

A set of characters discover the hidden stories of pop-cultural icons from the high heel to the BMX bike. Bodies and objects collide via a sinister vanishing screen. Dance Massive is an initiative of Arts House, Malthouse Theatre and Dancehouse with Ausdance Victoria and support of the Australian Government.

[www.dancemassive.com.au](http://www.dancemassive.com.au)**ENSEMBLE OFFSPRING – LIGETI MORPHED****February 25***Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street*

What happens when you tackle the vast textures of György Ligeti's masterwork 'Atmospheres' with strings, percussion, electric guitar and turntables? Using the music of Ligeti as inspiration, the artists fuse the acoustic and electric worlds in a series of striking original works.

[www.ensembleoffspring.com](http://www.ensembleoffspring.com)**[GU:T] – SOO YEUN YU****March 21 - 22***Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street*

Through a Korean shamanistic ritual [Gu:t], Soo Yeun Yu and senior Torres Strait Island man Albert David venerate the living memory of two much-loved ancestors – their grandmothers. Gu:t is a meeting place to redefine landscape in a frame: life-death, yin-yang, two cultures, two extraordinary performers. [www.dancemassive.com.au](http://www.dancemassive.com.au)

**WHITE NIGHT MELBOURNE****February 23-24***Melbourne CBD*

White Night Melbourne is part of an internationally renowned phenomenon that began in Paris. It is the first event of its kind in Australia, with Melbourne joining 23 other global cities. Come and experience the best of Melbourne as the city is transformed into an all-night wonderland with over 80 free events.

[www.whitenightmelbourne.com.au](http://www.whitenightmelbourne.com.au)**SIDNEY MYER FREE CONCERTS****February 20-23 7.00pm***Arts Centre Melbourne, 100 St Kilda Road*

Full Moon Dances - Wednesday 20 February  
Mozart and Mahler - Saturday 23 February

[www.artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au)**OPERA ON A WHITE NIGHT****February 23***Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road*

Celebrate the inaugural White Night Melbourne with Opera on a White Night, a gala concert at Hamer Hall introducing Victorian Opera's new Artistic Director, Richard Mills, and featuring Australian greats Lisa Gasteen, Liane Keegan and José Carbó, joined by the Victorian Opera Chorus and Orchestra Victoria. [www.victorianopera.com.au/gala](http://www.victorianopera.com.au/gala)

**AUSTRALIAN BRANDENBURG ORCHESTRA****March 17-18***Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street*

In the early 18th century, two of the greatest castrati of the baroque period, Carestini and Farinelli, created wild scenes of rivalry in London. Handel and Porpora also duelled for supremacy, with two separate opera companies, Farinelli in one camp, Carestini in the other

[www.brandenburg.com.au](http://www.brandenburg.com.au)**247 DAYS****March 15 - 23***Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street*

In this world premiere, Chunky Move Artistic Director Anouk van Dijk collides what has already been with what could be, challenging us to examine the importance of the individual. 247 Days is an exploration of human dynamics within the context of a shifting landscape.

[www.malthousetheatre.com.au](http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au)**TAN DUN - MARTIAL ARTS TRILOGY****March 1 - 2***Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road*

In a rare Melbourne appearance, Academy Award-winning composer Tan Dun will conduct the MSO in his scores for three critically acclaimed martial arts films. Featuring music and scenes from Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Hero and The Banquet.

[www.mso.com.au](http://www.mso.com.au)**MSO – EARS WIDE OPEN 1****March 26***Melbourne Recital Centre, 31 Sturt Street*

Ears Wide Open is an interactive 80-minute journey into music, live on stage in the beautiful Melbourne Recital Centre – conducted and presented by Australia's most charismatic musical personality, Richard Gill.

[www.mso.com.au](http://www.mso.com.au)**DESIRE LINES****December 15 - March 3***Australian Centre For Contemporary Art Inc.*

A major survey exhibition that investigates the physical, conceptual and psychological tracks created by artists. Desire Lines refers to the wayward, improvised tracks created by walkers and others who defy the ways designed for them by urban regulators and councils.

[www.accaonline.org.au](http://www.accaonline.org.au)**HATE****February 20 - March 8***Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street*

A storm shakes the Gleason homestead, but it's the tempest inside that spells the family's end. Twenty-five years after its premiere, Stephen Sewell's portrait of a monstrous patriarch who would be the country's king remains startlingly relevant.

[www.malthousetheatre.com.au](http://www.malthousetheatre.com.au)**GERRY AND THE PACEMAKERS 50TH ANNIVERSARY FAREWELL TOUR****March 8***Crown, 8 Whiteman Street*

British pop icons Gerry and the Pacemakers will be on tour in 2013 with their 50th-anniversary farewell tour of Australia, You'll Never Walk Alone.

[www.gerryandthepacemakers.com.au](http://www.gerryandthepacemakers.com.au)**MSO SARAH CHANG AND TCHAIKOVSKY****March 23 - 25***Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road*

Superstar of the violin, Sarah Chang makes a rare Australian concert appearance in Samuel Barber's concerto. Tchaikovsky's colourful 1812 Overture and passionate Fifth Symphony open and close the program.

[www.mso.com.au](http://www.mso.com.au)**MSO MOZART'S REQUIEM****March 7 - 9***Hamer Hall, 100 St Kilda Road*

Young British conductor Edward Gardner leads the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, soloists and chorus in the masterwork Mozart did not live to complete – his intensely moving Requiem.

[www.mso.com.au](http://www.mso.com.au)

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# SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS GROUP WITH MICHAEL SMOLDERS

## Planning matters.

Are local councils really being provided with a greater say on planning within their boundary or is the Baillieu Government simply paying lip-service to councils and local residents?

Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy, has regularly stated that his proposed reforms to Victorian planning zones are designed to provide more certainty in planning and give back greater planning control to local councils. ("Vocal minority peddling porkies on planning zone changes," The Age, September 27, 2012)

While this sounds like a great outcome, is this the reality?

In Southbank this year we have seen a significant development on Clarke St approved by the Minister with no input from council. In fact, the council was only advised of the plans one day prior to planning approval being granted ("Doyle slams approval of mega-tower," The Age, February 14, 2013).

Of greater planning significance is Australia 108 on the corner of Southbank Blvd and City Rd. A revised proposal for Melbourne's

tallest tower soaring to 388m (a third taller than Eureka) has also not been referred to council by the Minister's department for consultation and feedback.

In this case, revised plans were submitted to the Department of Planning and Community Development in early December and two months on, still no formal notification to council (Future Melbourne Committee minutes, Meeting Number 5, Tuesday, 5 February, 2013). What is of greatest concern is that the developer is calling for an amendment to the Melbourne Planning Scheme – so surely the council should have a legitimate say on the planning proposal?

Of course it's not just Southbank facing ministerial interventions on a regular basis. You only need to Google "minister guy council planning" to find a list of other councils from the coast to the inner regional areas of Victoria that are experiencing the same revocation of their powers to determine what developments are in the best long term interests of their local zones.

So what about the Minister's promise of greater certainty in planning?

Well, one only has to look at the haphazard approval of high rise developments in Southbank to realise that a greater level of uncertainty exists. Most plans are for

developments of more than 25,000sqm, which means neighbouring body corporates are not notified of high rise projects being built next door, there is no right to formally object to planning proposals and there is no right of appeal to VCAT. The Minister is judge, jury and executioner.

When you consider that certainty is normally delivered by way of guidelines in relevant planning schemes and structure plans, why does the Minister continue to approve developments that exceed these guidelines in the extreme, by any average person's standards? Setbacks, tower separations, height recommendations are all set aside. Does this create any certainty at all for existing and prospective residents?

There has also been a case where the Minister sets a new "precedent" and within a matter of months breaks his own new standard – such as the approval of The Falls on Queensbridge St which has a tower separation from the neighbouring Prima Pearl, below what he advised was an acceptable minimum.

If the Minister can't apply his own planning guidelines with certainty, it's little wonder that I'm hearing a growing chorus of body corporates and residents voicing their negative opinions on the current planning

regime and the uncertainty it's creating.

I have only had one brief opportunity to meet with the Minister last September to discuss concerns on inadequate tower separations in Southbank. Since that meeting I have made three attempts to arrange a further discussion on holistic planning controls in Southbank – all of which have gone unanswered.

But if the council is no longer being involved on planning decisions affecting our suburb, I probably shouldn't be surprised that the residents group isn't either.

It's time for the Baillieu Government to get serious about real town planning. And it's high time that the Minister delivers on his words of providing greater certainty and giving back control in planning matters to local councils.

Anything less will be a 2014 election issue. That's something we can all be certain about.

Michael Smolders  
President  
Southbank Residents Group



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# STREET SMARTS

## Haig St

*Haig Street is named after the multi-talented Dr William Haig. He came to Victoria from London, via New York, in 1852 as the surgeon on board the ship Oreco.*

Oreco brought with it 200 passengers, all with the hopes of discovering gold in a gold rush happening in a land far away.

Emerald Hill (now South Melbourne) was just a tent village when Haig arrived, but he immediately set up as a medical practitioner in the area, as he was the only one residing in the district.

Not satisfied with being a town's practitioner, Haig went on to become part of the local committee, a

councillor, magistrate and the first health officer for the municipality.

Haig's reputation grew, as did his status, becoming the surgeon major at the Victorian Artillery and an honorary physician at the Alfred Hospital.

He's career peaked in 1885 when he became president of the Medical Society of Victoria.

Wow, they gave away street names for nothing in those days!



# ON THE BOX

with Korey Fernando

## Getting the audience on board

*These days, viewing audiences and the networks alike are a fickle bunch. No one has the patience to wait for a program to find its niche and over in the US, many new programs are axed shortly after debut.*

Back home, our local networks have an even tougher job, as often many of the programs they've paid for and advertised over the summer holidays are canned before they even air here. Fox 8's *The Mob Doctor* was cancelled after just three episodes in the US (it has yet to air here) and Ten's much-publicised *The Wedding Band* has been cancelled after just 10 episodes.

Due to it becoming more and more difficult for these new programs to debut strongly, networks rely on their show-runners to bring a ready-made fan-base. This growing trend is why we are seeing remakes of *Hawaii Five-O* and *Dallas*, as the networks try to win audiences over with nostalgia. Many film actors are now also appearing on television, and Nine's *The Following* starring Kevin Bacon has been widely anticipated as a sure-fire hit for this year.

The networks are also trying to coax audiences on board their new programs by taking much loved television actors from iconic roles, and merely trying to duplicate their previous successes.

*Go On* is a new "ensemble comedy" program from US network NBC that stars Matthew Perry (of *Friends*). It revolves around Perry's character Ryan King, a sports radio journalist whose wife dies suddenly. Following the new wave of comedy shows such as *Community*, *30 Rock* and *Parks and Recreation* that do

not follow the typical sitcom formula, *Go On* splits many of the gags and one-liners throughout its large cast.

Following King's journey to group therapy proves to be hilarious as a group of quirky, but endearing, characters emerge. Perry still holds his own as the lead and is clearly the star - as much of the humour of the program does come from his dry, sarcastic delivery. *Go On* finds balance between the funny and the serious, and the reality that Perry's King is still a grieving widower is a dark but touching truth.

One drawback from this impeccable example of a fresh summer comedy program is the sheer size of the cast (which sits at 12 main members). It is clearly Perry's program but some of the characters from the group therapy could have been rolled in to one for clarity. Yet another drawback are the blatant references to Perry's earlier work on *Friends* which, at times, detracts from the show's originality.

If the remaining three episodes of *Go On*'s season are not received well, the series may not find itself on Australian screens and it will be relegated to the tiny monitor in the rear of the-fat-guy-sitting-in-front-of-you's headrest on the flight back from your Asian holiday.

It is definitely worth a look.

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***Should children be left to make their own decisions about religion and spiritual values when they become adults?***

Of course, as children grow into adult-hood they will make their own choices on a whole range of values and interests. Yet, we know that the early years are likely to be a compass that sets the direction for a child's later life.

Generally, children learn from their parents the things their family considers to be

important; parents talk about the things important to them and choose to do them. Families also introduce to children a range of interests and activities so that children can see what's available, compare options and make informed choices later in life.

St Johns Church Southgate offers a children's ministry to provide practical support to children and families in developing children's understanding of religion and its role in everyday living.

Especially aimed at children aged 3-11 years, St Johns Children's Ministry program seeks to develop an appreciation of what it means to be in God's family - to practice, in the

company of other children, regular worship and prayer; to celebrate Christian festivals such as Advent and Christmas, Lent and Easter; and to learn about the life of Jesus.

Experienced educators conduct the children's ministry at St Johns, designing learning experiences that are child-friendly and enjoyable, involving the children in craft, games, puzzles, singing and story-time. The activities are well-planned and follow a structured program.

Typically called "Sunday School", sessions for children are held on Sundays during school terms at 10.30am. Sessions for the 3 to 4-year-olds and accompanying parents

or carers are around half-an-hour in length. Sessions for 5 to 11-year-olds are a little longer, around 45 minutes, and parents or carers are always welcome to observe or join in with the activities.

If you would like your child or grandchild to be introduced to Christian values and traditions, and given the opportunity to make an informed choice about religion, St Johns is happy to support you.

For a program outline and sample activity sheet, email [stjohnssouthgate@internode.on.net](mailto:stjohnssouthgate@internode.on.net) website: [www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au](http://www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au)



# SOUTHBANK ROTARY



## Want To Give Something Back in Southbank?

*Always wanted to give something back to your local community to make it a better place, but didn't know where to start?*

The Rotary Club of Southbank invites members of the public to join the club's community-minded individuals in a great initiative to improve the Southbank area and make it a better place to live, work and enjoy.

Rotarians & Friends @ Work is a nationwide initiative seeing Rotarians work together with people interested in helping their community, and offering them the opportunity to fix up, improve and beautify their local environments and community facilities. Rotarians & Friends @ Work is proudly supported by Bunnings Warehouse, Dulux, Selley's and Yates.

The Rotary Club of Southbank will be running a tree planting initiative at Westgate Park on Sunday, April 14 as part of Rotarians & Friends @ Work. The Club welcomes those who would like to not only talk about "what somebody should really do", but actually get in there and make it happen alongside others who take enjoyment in seeing their actions create a better world.

If you're that type of person, get in touch with Rotary Club of Southbank President Steven Aquilina via [president@rotary.to](mailto:president@rotary.to) to find out more.



## Welcome to St Johns Southgate

Children aged 3 to 11 are especially welcome to join our Sunday School sessions 10.30am every Sunday during school terms

**Regular Sunday Service Times**  
9am Traditional, Liturgical worship  
11am Informal, Liturgical worship

The chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection



# Letters to the Editor



Send your letters to [news@southbanklocalnews.com.au](mailto:news@southbanklocalnews.com.au)

## Council overlook residents

I'd like to voice my disappointment at City of Melbourne. It regards a public barbecue located near Queensbridge Square, which one can only assume is there to be used by residents and visitors to the area.

On numerous occasions during 2012, I had wanted to hold a barbecue at the spot with my friends, only to find it wasn't working. This happened one too many times and, back in December, I attempted to contact the council to bring the faulty barbecue to its attention.

I received a reply from the council stating:

"Sorry for the inconvenience, we have passed on your comments to the engineering service team to look into the issue."

So, I left it at that, on the assumption that the council would abide by its word and have the matter sorted. Over two months later however, I've discovered that nothing but an "out of order" sign has been left at the site.

Is this the council's idea of looking into the issue? I know it may only be a barbecue ... but it's far more than that. This is an issue of City of Melbourne's disregard for its residents and visitors - on two fronts.

Firstly, its inability to maintain public facilities adequately and, secondly, to listen and to act on residents' and the public's

feedback. The council's handling of this small matter, unfortunately sends a message about its broader attitude to providing adequate amenities for people to enjoy our fine city.

I think the Southbank promenade has great potential to be a fantastic place for people to socialise, have a barbecue, a picnic, bring their dog, bring their children, relax on the lawn, listen to buskers, watch street performers ... and not just drink and gorge themselves at the restaurants/bars in the area.

Julian Sheriff

# FACES OF SOUTHBANK



RENAE SCHMITT, 20  
@ Jay Jays

Renae said she was extremely happy with the great selection of bars and restaurants she passed on her way home from work. She also said she enjoyed patronising those bars with her work mates, who make coming to work a joy.



SARSHA DELAHOY-RISTROM, 24  
@ Superchef Warehouse

Sarsha pointed out that Southbank was such a nice area, it was impossible not to love it. According to Sarsha walking along the river, especially during the summer months was only topped by the wonderful array of restaurants in Southbank.



JESSE FAIRBAIRN, 23  
@ Superchef Warehouse

Jesse said walking along Southbank on a warm summer evening was fantastic, and was what made the place so special. He also said the bars were pretty good along here as well.



ADAM LIAN, 27  
@ Siren Shoes

For Adam, the fact that the customers at Siren Shoes were often on holidays meant they were in a good mood and made being at work a lot easier. For this reason, Adam said he loved working at South Wharf.



GEORGIE BARNETT, 24  
@ Seeds

Georgie said the cafes and bars along the riverfront at Southbank really came alive at night, and it was a great place to be. She also mentioned that the people were particularly friendly here as well.



LUKE GRBAC, 22  
@ Rip Curl

Luke reckons the people are always happy in Southbank. He said it was probably because of the atmosphere within it, and good bars that created a really vibrant nightlife.



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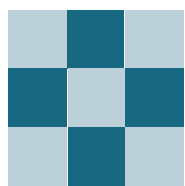
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# SOUTHBANK SUDOKU



A variation of Sudoku, but with the letters SOUTHANK replacing the numbers.

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line of the must contain the letters 'SOUTHANK' as must each 9-square box.

This Sudoku is extra difficult!

Good Luck!

	A							
					H	S		U
B					N	K		
				H		U		A
N			T		S			O
A		S		I				
		U	O					N
T		N	H					
							B	



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## Using up his nine lives

*Chow has used many of his lives already - and he's only two and a bit years old in human years!*

Chow now lives in Freshwater Place with his owner Paula, but the story of how he got here is an amazing one.

Originally he lived as an outdoor stray in Melbourne, being fed by some kind strangers from time to time. He was surrendered to Lort Smith Animal Hospital for medical treatment after he was seriously injured in a car accident.

Paula met Chow when she was asked to foster him following a tail amputation at Lort Smith. She noticed a strange limp, poor gait and a real weakness in his hind leg and so she recommended he was x-rayed at the hospital.

He was found to have a fractured pelvis and a dislocated hip and he needed full hip surgery. He came through his second operation in three months like the soldier that he is and Paula was asked to foster him

once again to rehabilitate him and complete a physio program with him. This involved mainly walking him on his back legs whilst holding him under his armpits (like you used to do with your dog when you were a child!).

After his accident, it was recommended that he not be allowed to climb trees and has to maintain a healthy weight in order to keep his hip strong. That's when Paula thought he'd love the idea of a high-rise apartment with a view! So she adopted him.

Paula says she's never looked back, and neither has Chow - he is well-adjusted, on a great diet thanks to Lort Smith and has his own spot at the window with a full view of the city.

Paula takes him away on weekends and Chow enjoys traveling in the car. She said if you spot them in Southbank - do come and say hello.



Molly receives a \$25 gift voucher from Port Melbourne Veterinary Clinic



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# MADE IN HEAVEN WITH ANGELINA MAY

## What are the working dynamics of your relationship?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your partner's birth date and time to [heaven@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:heaven@docklandsnews.com.au)

This month we have decided to take a look at Victoria Azarenka and her very vibrant supporter LMFAO's Redfoo. He has been a regular at Melbourne Park so we thought it best to find out why? Is it all the shrieking on the court?



**Victoria Azarenka**

July 31, 1989  
Sun in Leo  
North Node Aquarius

**Stefan Gordy (Redfoo)**

September 3, 1975  
Sun in Virgo  
North Node Scorpio

## Victoria

Victoria has her north node in Aquarius so is by nature a star. She is very comfortable in the limelight, finds it easy to excel and to shine in public. She has a regal mentality and feels superior to the rest of us. She does however need to learn (either the hard way or the easy way) to have a humanitarian focus. She quite likes the idea of being one of the masses and helping those in need, but finds it very difficult to be average.

In love and her personal life she plays by the same superior rules. If she is not adored and put on a pedestal she is not interested. She does not know how to have an equal relationship and will take many chances in her love life. She is romantic, appealing and special but can become a high maintenance prima donna.

In time, she will find her victories quite empty, if she doesn't learn to be humble and "normal". She has to learn how to make others feel and be special. My advice Victoria is to help your partner and others to shine and perhaps even donate some of your time to a charity of your choice. Perhaps even travel to Africa and help those less fortunate. It will be chicken soup for your soul.

## Stefan

Stefan's north node is in Scorpio. Stephan needs to learn to bond in a healthy non-possessive way. He has enjoyed a privileged lifestyle and is, in his own right, wealthy and successful.

Stefan is a focused goal-oriented guy. Excellence is his driving force and he is determined strong, very patient and capable. His challenge in this lifetime is to learn to take a more supportive role rather than to only consider the WII FM station (What's in it for me).

You can see already how these two have come together and how they are both on an emotional high. Each of them instinctively knows that they have something important to learn from the other.

Stefan is a creature of comfort and likes his carnal pleasures. In other words the basic senses such smell, taste, touch etc are central to his being, but will not satisfy him in this lifetime. He will need to start enjoying the ethereal senses - a more spiritual path and connection to those around him. He also needs to be more humanitarian.

It should be interesting to watch these two find their purpose.

## Together

Stefan's north node (gift) connects with Victoria's seventh house. This is the house of partnerships. Instantly both of them would have recognised this and, within a short period of time, Stefan would have declared "this is my girl". There is no question in his mind that she is THE ONE. Victoria would revel in all the love and attention, while quietly hoping this is really THE ONE.

## Outcome of relationship:

Wow the outcome for this relationship, if they both stay with it, is superb! All relationships are a gift, brought to us at the right time for the right reason to learn the right lessons. If only we could all enjoy the ride and learn what we need to, we would reach the desired outcome of the relationship with more joy and ease. With this particular couple, the outcome would be great respect, status, dignity and recognition for both of them as a couple. They would have a strong and deep bond that knows no bounds, sexual pleasure and a feeling that one plus one for them equals so much more than two. They will achieve things they never thought possible. Before we crack the champagne though, they still have to do some work to make it happen. If Victoria plays with his heart too easily and if he tries to hold on too tightly they may both decide that it's just too hard. Good luck to them both.

# riverside dining melbourne style.

WTC Wharf is Melbourne's first absolute wharf edge dining precinct, with world class restaurants, bars and a purpose built events centre.



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# Businesses in Southbank

SOUTHBANK-BASED BUSINESSES WISHING TO BE PROFILED IN THIS SECTION SHOULD EMAIL: [ADVERTISING@SOUTHBANKLOCALNEWS.COM.AU](mailto:ADVERTISING@SOUTHBANKLOCALNEWS.COM.AU)

## GOT A PET? IT'S A SURE BET YOU WILL NEED A VET

**Thousands of inner city apartment dwellers own a pet. But when little Fido or Fifi isn't feeling too flash, it can be difficult to access veterinary care.**

This is where a mobile vet may come to the rescue. Albert Park couple Chris Gleeson and Natasha Watts have started Bayside Mobile Vet, and are only too happy to happy to provide house calls.

"There is no vet in the CBD, Southbank or Docklands, and most vets in nearby suburbs don't like making house calls to here because of the lack of parking," Dr Gleeson said. "But we have a commercial van, so it's not a hassle for us."

"Of course, most inner city residents don't have a car, so it is not easy for them to transport their pet to a vet. And many pets, especially older dogs and cats, become extremely anxious when dragged into a clinic. By treating the pet at their own home, it is much less stressful for them."

"For example, I just now gave a little puppy his first vaccination and health check, in an apartment at Lacrosse, in Docklands' LaTrobe St."

Dr Gleeson and Dr Watts, who each graduated from Melbourne University with Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Bachelor of Science, have 20 years of veterinary

experience between them, including in the United Kingdom and at the Lort Smith Animal Hospital, in North Melbourne. Dr Gleeson has further studied in the fields of small animal dermatology (skin disease), ultrasonography, animal hydrotherapy and rehabilitation.

"We have access to a veterinary clinic, should a surgical procedure be necessary," Dr Gleeson said. "We also provide referrals and transport, should your pet need to see a specialist."

Dr Gleeson and Dr Watts have two young children, Toby, 3, and Sophie, 12 months, so they know how important your pet is to the family, especially children. "Owners with multiple pets or those with young children also value the convenience of having the vet visit your home," Dr Gleeson said. "There are many routine services that we can provide at your home including vaccinations, health checks, medical consultations and pre-surgical exams. "We are able to deliver flea and worming preventatives as well as food and medications if it is pre-arranged."

Sadly, sometimes euthanasia is required. "We understand that when the time comes it is more comfortable for you and your pet to be in a familiar surrounding when you have to say good-bye," Dr Gleeson said. "At BMV we are able to provide a service where you can say a final good-bye to your pet at your home. If you are unsure about whether the 'time has come' we may be able to give you some guidance with your decision-making process."



CAPTION: Bayside Mobile Vet's Dr Chris Gleeson couldn't do much for Docklands' iconic "Cow up a Tree", but he can certainly treat your pet in your own home.

"We are able to help organise burial or cremation for your pet if this is required."

For more details, visit

[www.baysidemobilevet.com.au](http://www.baysidemobilevet.com.au), or call **0488 061 444**. Mention this story to receive free worming treatment for your pet.

## NEW, FRESH AND DOWNSTAIRS



Downstairs manager Bradley Dawson (right) with Downstairs director Andrew Schepisi (left).

**"Fresh, seasonal and local produce" – that's Bradley Dawson's mantra for his latest foray into the culinary world as manager at Downstairs Bistro and Lounge.**

Downstairs, located on Sturt St, is far from a first time for Bradley, who has been in the hospitality industry from many years now. He started in hotels but when he settled back in Melbourne 12 years ago, he focused on restaurants.

Mr Dawson said it was exciting to be part of a brand-new restaurant like Downstairs.

"It's a fresh new project, something I could get involved with and put my thumbprint on. It's fun to work with a blank canvas – to look at what the market requires within the area and then create the product."

The location of Downstairs means it is somewhat of a one-off restaurant in the area and Mr Dawson certainly knows the benefits of this exclusivity.

"It's such an eclectic area. There is a lot of businesses in the area we can facilitate for breakfast and lunch, and then there are

11,000 residents in the 3006 postcode, who we are looking after for dinner services," Mr Dawson said.

"I think the area has really embraced the fact that there is something of this style and design they can walk to and from."

There isn't one way to describe the dining experience at Downstairs and that's just the way Bradley was hoping it would be.

"We really wanted to avoid pigeon-holing ourselves. I'd describe it as a modern bistro, wine bar."

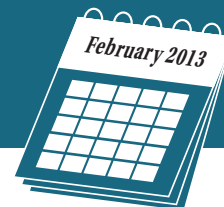
"These days it's all about fun dining. Giving guest more of an interactive experience is what people really enjoy at the moment. Share plates, people having a combination and going away with a variety of experience," Mr Dawson added.

He wants to ensure patrons will never become bored of their Downstairs experience.

"We do change the menu four or five times a year, and we do change ingredient components of dishes on a regular basis with the change of season."

Downstairs is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner seven days a week. For more information head to the website [www.downstairs.com.au](http://www.downstairs.com.au)

# SOUTHBANK COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### FASHION ILLUSTRATION CLASSES AT BOYD

*Boyd School Studio, Kavanagh & Balston St*

Learn the art of fashion illustration from one of the most experienced illustrators in the world, Louise Baker. Classes designed to prepare their portfolios for tertiary admission or for potential careers in the fashion industry. By appointment. Call Louise Baker **9826 9019**

### IMPROVE YOUR SUNDAY WELLBEING

**10am, Sunday**

*St Michael's, corner Collins and Russell St*

On foot or on wheels. On bike or on tram. On your own or en masse - hear Dr Francis Macnab talk about the wellbeing of a New Faith that has many Old Faith religions protesting on and on. [www.stmichaels.org.au](http://www.stmichaels.org.au)



### READING CIRCLE

**First Tuesday of the Month 5:45 - 6:45pm**

*Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road*

Come along to talk about books: those you love, those you want others to love, and those you still haven't discovered.

Phone: 9658 8300

[www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au](http://www.melbournelibraryservice.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](http://www.chunkymove.com)

### 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.pennykouloulas.com](http://www.pennykouloulas.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](http://www.theartscentre.com.au)

### 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](mailto:carolbergcb@gmail.com)**

### ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE MIDWEEK EVENTS

**Second Wednesday of the month**

*St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road*

Friendship group - Brief Chapel service at 12 noon, followed by lunch at 12.30pm in the Function room. Interesting speakers and a great chance to make new friends.

[www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au](http://www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au)



### FREE TAI CHI AT BOYD

**Every Friday, 8am - 9am**

*Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road*

Instructors are from Yulong Wu-Shu Tai Chi. Classes are suitable for all levels from beginner to advanced. Courtesy of the City of Melbourne. Contact: [www.yulong.com.au](http://www.yulong.com.au) [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boydcommunity](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boydcommunity)

### BREASTFEEDING EDUCATION BEFORE BIRTH

**Every Tuesday 6pm - 8.30pm**

*Mantra 31 City Road*

Enabling Women to make an informed decision about Breastfeeding. Presented by; Maureen Brook an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant.

[www.mybreastfeeding.net.au](http://www.mybreastfeeding.net.au)

### 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 10am - 12pm.

[www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au](http://www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au)

### SOUTHGATE CINEMA

**Every Tuesday and Wednesday night**

*3 Southgate Avenue*

Southgate hosts free films on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at Melbourne's only silent deckchair cinema. Patrons are provided with individual headphones and audio kits to watch films, or you can bring your own headphones.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

**Monday, Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30am**

*Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road*

Come and share the wonder of books with us! Enjoy approximately 40 - 50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities.

Phone: 9658 8300

[www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au](http://www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au)



### OPEN SPACE

**Thursday 28 February, 11.00am - 2.00pm**

*Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road*

As part of Business Events Week MCEC are opening up our doors to the public with a free event. Expect the unexpected.

[www.openspace.mcec.com.au](http://www.openspace.mcec.com.au)



### FAMILY FOODIE WEEKEND: GARDEN PIZZERIA

**2nd - 3rd March**

*Queensbridge Square*

Grab the family for free hands-on, patch-to-pizza fun. Pluck fresh tomatoes and basil from the veggie patch then mill flour for pizza dough to create your very own piece of pizza heaven.

### BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT CLINIC

**Every Tuesday, 1.30pm - 3.00pm**

*Boyd Community Hub, 207 City Road*

Providing breastfeeding counselling, support and advice, run by a Maternal and Child Health Nurse/ Lactation Consultant. If you need any assistance/support for you and your baby! MCH 9340 1444, or [mchbookings@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:mchbookings@melbourne.vic.gov.au)

### ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP

**Every Sunday**

*St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road*

9am - Traditional liturgical worship.  
11am - Informal liturgical worship.  
7pm - Informal contemporary worship.

[www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au](http://www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au)

### HOKUSETSU DINNER WITH CHEF NOBU

**Wednesday 6th March**

*Nobu, Ground level, Crown Melbourne*

The master chef himself, Nobu Matsuhisa, will plan this opulent eight-course omakase menu of his signature modern Japanese cuisine, paired with the unique Hokusetsu sake from the Japanese island of Sado.



### MR HIVE - FOOD FOR THE JURA

**Wednesday 13 March**

*Mr. Hive Kitchen and Bar, Crown Metropol*

Executive chef John Lawson will be inspired to match some great local produce with gems from Philippe Bornard's portfolio of biodynamic wines from the Jura region in eastern France.



# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

If you are interested in advertising your business here email [advertising@southbanklocalnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@southbanklocalnews.com.au) or phone 8689 7980.

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## CHURCH

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## PETCARE

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## RESTAURANTS, CAFES & BARS

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E: [dine@downstairs.net.au](mailto:dine@downstairs.net.au)  
W: [www.downstairs.net.au](http://www.downstairs.net.au)

## Last month's Sudoku solution

O	S	N	U	B	T	H	K	A
U	A	T	H	K	S	B	O	N
B	K	H	N	O	A	T	S	U
K	N	S	O	H	U	A	T	B
A	H	U	T	S	B	K	N	O
T	B	O	A	N	K	S	U	H
S	U	B	K	A	O	N	H	T
N	T	K	B	U	H	O	A	S
H	O	A	S	T	N	U	B	K

## COMMUNITY CLASSES

**Fashion Illustration**  
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[www.louisebakerartist.com.au](http://www.louisebakerartist.com.au)

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