

The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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Changes ahead for City Road

By Sean Rogasch

The City of Melbourne (CoM) is taking the first tentative steps towards a City Rd Masterplan, speaking to stake holders and the community, before developing a draft plan to formally present for consultation.

Boyd Community Hub will play host to CoM officers for a week in February to gauge the community's experiences of City Rd.

The ridiculously-named "City Road Participate Melbourne Engagement Portal" will run from Monday, February 24 through to Saturday, March 1. The officers will be there from 8.30am - 7pm on Monday-Thursday, 8.30am - 2pm on Friday and 10am - 2pm on Saturday.

The ideas presented in this community engagement will no doubt help guide the draft City Road Master Plan, which the council said it would release later this year.

2010's Southbank Structure Plan outlines the need to redevelop City Rd for both road users and the general Southbank community.

In the structure plan council identifies City Rd as "a street that caters predominantly for local traffic movements" and, as such, it wants to make it more pedestrian and cyclist friendly.

It has long been acknowledged by locals that no matter where the traffic on City Rd comes from, it acts more as a freeway than a local thoroughfare and is, for the most part, unsuitable for cyclists and pedestrians.

A CoM spokesperson said the City Road Masterplan was about getting the balance of usage right.

"CoM is leading the development of a City Road Masterplan that aims to better balance the road's two key roles as both an important transport link and a people-friendly place," the spokesperson said.

No doubt this refers to increasing the people-friendly side of the equation. Clearly the CoM understand that Southbank's growing population will force the need of locals to be able to claim the street as their own.

"City Rd is one of our city's major arterial roads. Stretching 2 km, it is an important traffic link but also acts as the main street for the growing Southbank neighbourhood," the spokesperson said.

"With Southbank's residential population expected to reach an estimated 74,000 by 2040, a significant increase on the existing 10,500, there is increased need and opportunity to improve the road," the spokesperson added.

"Before we develop a draft masterplan, we will be speaking with the community and key stakeholders about what issues they face along City Rd and what opportunities they see to improve their experience."

CoM will develop the masterplan in conjunction with VicRoads, with whom it shares responsibility for City Rd.

The draft is expected by mid-2014.

As well as the consultation at Boyd Community Hub, you can find out more and have your say online at www.participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au

What changes to City Rd would you like to see? How can the road be made more user friendly?

Let us know via our Facebook page (Southbank Local News) or on Twitter (@SOUTHBANK_News) or emails us (news@southbanklocalnews.com.au).



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Life begins at 50 for IMLAC members

As more people move into Southbank after downsizing from the family home, activities and groups for the more mature among us are becoming popular within the inner city.

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news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

Deadline for the March edition is Mar 13.

Inner Melbourne Life Activities Club (IMLAC) is one such group and its number of Southbank residents is increasing quickly. IMLAC provides activities and social gatherings of all kinds, for a membership that is generally over 50.

IMLAC president John Smith said about 15 per cent of the group now resided in Southbank, and that the area was a fruitful one for many activities the group organised. He said the arts precinct, plus the vibrant bars and restaurants provided fantastic meeting places for events and the variety was exactly what the group was about.

"It's all about what the members want to do. You might only have three or four people in any given activity, but if you're happy with that, then it will work," John explained.

IMLAC event organiser Carolyn said the group was all about making new friends and,

most importantly, feeling comfortable in the city.

"It's not a dating group, it's purely for socialising!" Carolyn said.

"When I moved to the city I figured I'd better meet some people and IMLAC provided the perfect opportunity. As time went by I realised a lot of other people were in the same boat."

Southbank Local News also met with some locals who have joined IMLAC, including the Life Activities Clubs Victoria's (IMLAC's parent organisation) president Lindsay Doig. Lindsay said he was a great example of how IMLAC offered you as much or as little participation as you'd like.

"There are almost no limits to the activities we do. People decide what to do and as long as you've got a couple who are interested

then away you go," Lindsay said.

"As for participation, you can simply attend events, organise one yourself, help run the club, or as I have, help the organisation."

Another Southbank local, Heather, explained that there were plenty of people in Southbank yet to discover IMLAC, saying: "There are so many older people here in Southbank who don't know about us."

Ann moved to Southbank from Canberra and said getting to and from the activities helped her learn to get around on public transport, plus the group was pivotal in getting to know people here.

"If I didn't join, I might have had to move back to Canberra!"

If you'd like to find out more about IMLAC go to its website www.life.org.au/imlac



IMLAC members (from left to right) Carolyn, Lindsay, Heather, Ann and president John, enjoying a catch up at Jarrah Bar in the heart of Southbank.

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Love in the air

Love was certainly in the air on Valentine's day in Southbank. There were plenty of couples adding to the already packed love-locks on the bridge and the Heart Foundation also had a display in Queensbridge Square, where loved-up couples could express their feelings.

The display allowed couples to "lock in" their love on giant hearts. Among the many visitors during the day was arguably Australia's greatest ever soccer export Harry Kewell, who declared his love for wife Sheree.

This lovely couple (pictured left) locked their special message and love on the heart displays.

Fed Square Men's Shed gets funding

The long haul for men's shed advocates has reached its conclusion with funding for a Melbourne men's shed at Federation Square announced last month.

The site, on the ground floor of the Fed Square car park, is likely to be as close to a Southbank Men's Shed as locals can hope for, as the City of Melbourne is touting the shed as serving residents of the CBD, Southbank and Docklands.

The City of Melbourne will spend \$160,000 over the next five years on the project, \$45,000 fitting out the space, while the rest will contribute to rent over the first five years.

The State Government has also provided \$60,000 as part of its investment into new men's sheds across Victoria. Minister for

Community Services Mary Wooldridge used the announcement at the Melbourne site to declare the statewide spending.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the shed was a vital piece of community infrastructure as more and more people called the inner-city home.

"This is an important project for our city community. Having a men's shed at Federation Square, with easy access to public transport, is vital to ensuring inner-city men also have the opportunity to get their hands dirty," Cr Doyle said.

Cr Beverly Pinder-Mortimer said the shed was open to all and pointed out the benefits of such a facility to unemployed and socially disadvantaged people and people with a disability.

"The men's shed is an important champion of men's health and welfare and we are delighted to support the CBD initiative," Cr Pinder-Mortimer said.

Minister Wooldridge said the sheds were a fantastic community builder.

"Men's sheds provide men with opportunities to develop and use new skills,

establish social networks and give back to their local community," Ms Wooldridge said.

"The establishment of a men's shed in the heart of Melbourne is significant first for the precinct," she added.

Ms Wooldridge explained that inner-city living lent itself to communal sheds such as this.

"It is particularly relevant for men who are retired, have downsized from suburban areas and no longer have access to a backyard shed, and often have no local community connections."

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We love getting on our bike

It seems professionals are not the only cyclists enjoying a ride along Southbank, as the Queensbridge bike share station is one of the most popular in Melbourne.

The Melbourne Bike Share Scheme experienced high usage during December, with December 29 breaking the record for most trips during a single day.

The station at Federation Square experienced the highest use, with Queensbridge Square the second most used.

Public Transport Minister Terry Mulder said the signs were very positive that the Bike Share Scheme was on the rise.

“This increase highlights the importance of the scheme to the general public. We have a great opportunity here to promote cycling as a viable and sustainable transport alternative,” Mr Mulder explained.

“These results really show us, that we are still learning about what Melburnians and tourists really want out of the Melbourne Bike Share, and how small changes can make it successful and meet the needs of all users,” he added.



Drag(on) boat racing at WTC

A good crowd gathered at WTC Wharf for the annual Chinese New Year Dragon Boat race during February.

Centre of the food and wine festival

Southbank will again be central to the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival thanks to ‘The Immersery: Festival Kitchen, Bar and Raingarden’ in Queensbridge Square acting as a major focal point for the festival.

This year the kitchen will be an open air dining area, raised above Southbank Boulevard and running parallel with the river.

A selection of top chefs provide the menu over the two weeks of the festival while, at night, the space will transform into a riverside bar.

As was the case last year, Hassell designed the festival’s Queensbridge Square location.

Southgate will also play a big part in the festival, holding the Southgate Fiesta on March 1 and showing foodie films at Southgate Cinema on selected dates.

Southgate Fiesta will include live music on the promenade and an opportunity to taste some of Southgate’s finest food and wines from its collection of restaurants.

Other Southbank locations holding events are Ludlow Bar, Left Bank, Ponyfish Island, NGV, Langham, Arts Centre Melbourne, Crown and South Wharf.

The festival runs from February 28 – March 16.

For more details on the Southbank events head to the website www.melbournefoodandwine.com.au



A digital impression of The Immersery Festival Kitchen, Bar and Raingarden, which will run parallel with the river, above Southbank Boulevard.

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Renewed push for station upgrade

While the Flinders St design competition received plenty of publicity last year, the lack of intended action has led the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) to increase it's lobbying to have the Elizabeth St underpass upgraded.

The underpass, a key gateway into Southbank from Flinders St, is in desperate need for attention and the YRBA has presented a concept to both Transport Minister Terry Mulder and Lord Mayor Robert Doyle.

The concept includes an art installation across the back wall, which currently features heritage listed but broken, dirty and generally run-down tiles. The YRBA is not suggesting replacing the tiles, but covering them with art displays.

The YRBA commissioned graphic designers who used a mural from the Arts Centre as an example of just what could be achieved in the space.

The YRBA says it has been lobbying for an upgrade to this passage for several years, but has never had any support at a bureaucratic level.

YRBA president John Ahern said the government was kidding no-one into thinking it had the funds to pay for the revamp from competitions such as the one held last year.

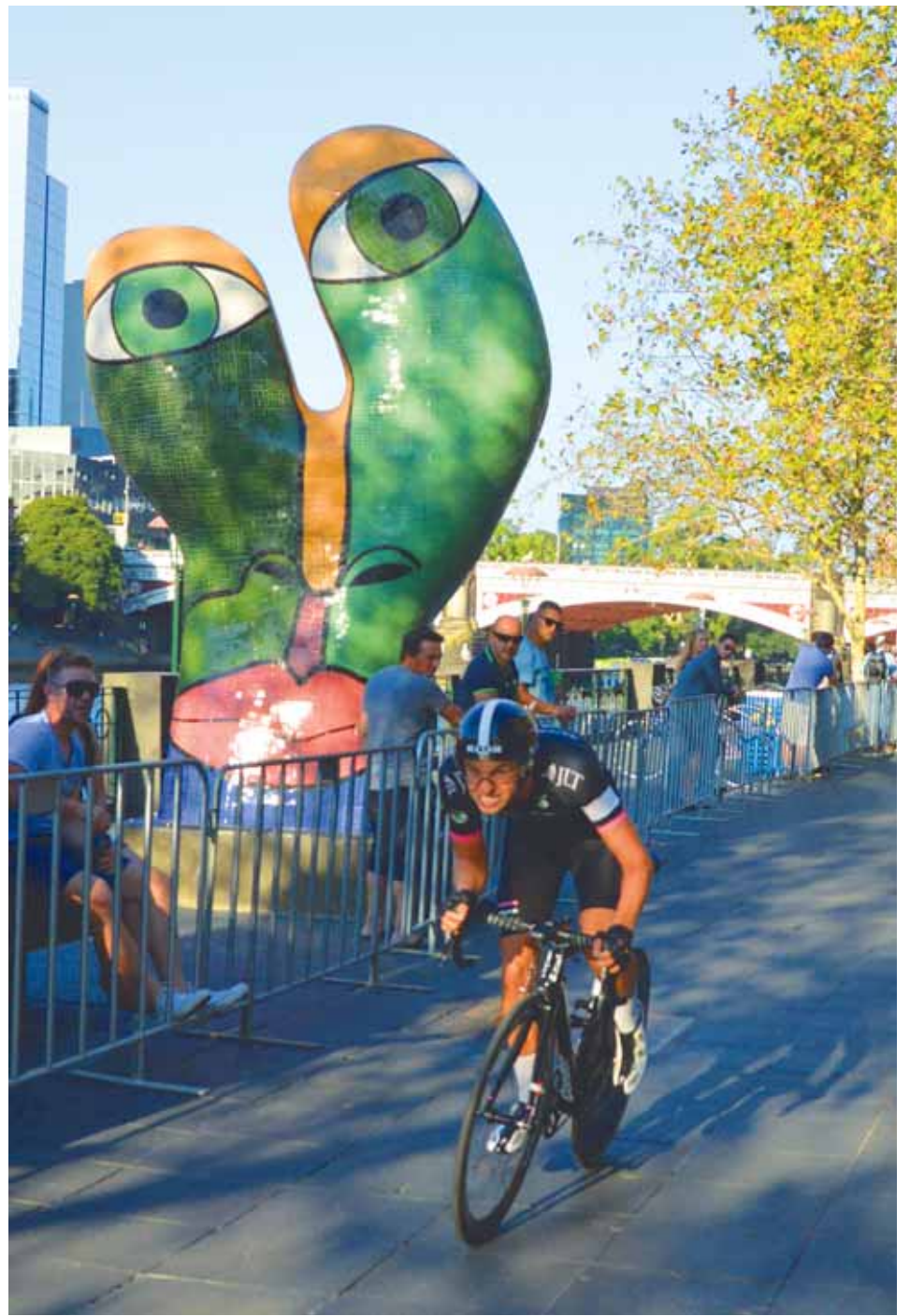
"Everyone knows the Government doesn't have the money to do anything about the transformation of the station, and future governments are unlikely to either," Mr Ahern explained.

He said the YRBA really wanted to create a user-friendly entrance into the important tourism section of Melbourne, between Southgate and Queensbridge Square.

"We are saying that the underpass is an eyesore and is an intimidating space for workers and visitors, especially after hours," Mr Ahern said.

"It's a brilliant, do-able, relatively low cost concept that would make the current dank space the talking point of the city for locals and visitors," he added.

Minister Terry Mulder failed to respond to Southbank Local News' request for comment, while Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said it was a state matter and, as such, would not comment until a decision was made at state level.



Ophelia keeps an eye on Great Britain rider Tom Moses as he completes the tour's prologue.

Tour begins riverside

A flood of lycra converged on Southbank last month as the Jayco Herald Sun tour, Victoria's premier cycling event, hit town.

For the first time the race started in the middle of Melbourne, with a 2.5 km time trial prologue. The prologue began in Birrarung Marr, travelled across Princes Bridge, and then raced along Southbank Promenade to the finish line in Queensbridge Square.

Jack Bauer won the prologue stage with a time of three minutes. The race then toured regional Victoria, travelling to Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo before finishing at the scenic Arthurs Seat on the Mornington Peninsula. The overall winner of the tour was Simon Clarke.

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Resident hailed as top public speaker

Glenn Capelli is a man of the world, travelling all over the planet on the professional speaker circuit.



Mr Capelli has been a professional speaker for years and last year was recognised as the National Speakers Association Australia's (NSAA) Keynote Speaker of the Year.

The 2014 awards were held on February 14-17 at Crown Casino, but Mr Capelli officially holds his title until April.

"It's nifty to get recognised. I started my business in 1987, so hopefully it shows I've been getting better every year. It's one of the things I teach people, so I need to be doing it myself," Mr Capelli said.

He also explained that through the awards and the NSAA he really enjoyed mentoring younger speakers.

"We don't need another Anthony Robbins in the world, one might be enough. We don't want another Glenn Capelli either, it's about every person being the best them that they can be, with their unique stories."

He hails from a teaching background but told *Southbank Local News* that he was

sick of having to teach to a curriculum and wanted more freedom.

"I'm a teacher by trade, but now I get to write my own curriculum. When I started I was teaching history, economics and English and in many ways I'm still teaching these things,"

Despite his wide and varied travels, Mr Capelli considers himself lucky to call Southbank home.

"Whether presenting in Beijing, Prague, Los Angeles, Rio, Bangkok or Bendigo, it is wonderful to return to my Freshwater Place abode on Southbank."

"I moved here from Kalgoorlie, so Melbourne's a bit different, but it's such an innovative city. You can go down to Boyd Community Hub, just how fantastic is that set up!"

Mr Capelli's enthusiasm for public speaking is very obvious and he said he was looking forward to many years ahead in the field.

"I still feel like as if I'm just beginning."

Tourism leader to speak at quarterly networking lunch

The Yarra River Business Association and Southbank Local News' quarterly business lunch will return in February and will feature one of Australia's leading tourism officials.

Felicia Mariani, who was recently appointed as director of marketing for Tourism Victoria, will speak to local businesses about the changing needs of the area's visitors.

Ms Mariani's impressive CV includes stints as head of the Australian Tourism Export Council and the CEO of Tourism Tasmania.

The event will be at The Wharf Hotel at North Wharf on Friday, February 21.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said he hoped the lunch would attract a mix of local business owners, local workers and local residents.

"We see the lunches as a way of helping to narrow the gap between the precinct's workers and residents," Mr Bracher said.

Both the YRBA and the SLN will be hoping to replicate the success of last December's networking event, which attracted over 70 locals.

Tickets are still available and are \$66 per person. This includes a two-course meal, plus drinks.

For more information head to www.yarrariver.info/event/yarra-river-quarterly-business-luncheon



Guests enjoy the first networking luncheon last December. No doubt the event in February will be just as popular.



Marking Moomba memories

Having found a home in Southbank in recent years, Melbourne's iconic Moomba festival will turn 60 this year and the City of Melbourne (CoM) has plans for a unique celebration.

The council wants to hear from anyone who has experienced the festival over the past 60 years, offering the chance to take part in the festival's centerpiece, the parade.

CoM will collect all entries on social media site Tumblr on a page called People of Moomba. The best 30 entries will be asked to be part of People of Moomba floats.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the city wanted to pay homage to the people who have enjoyed the past six decades of Labour Day weekend fun.

"Moomba is Melbourne, and we are very

proud that our iconic festival is celebrating its 60th anniversary. The City of Melbourne believes there's no better way to celebrate than by honouring the people who have enjoyed and participated in Moomba for six decades," Cr Doyle said.

If you have a special memory of the parade, the birdman rally or the water skiing you can enter the competition at www.peopleofmoomba.tumblr.com or write to the council.

For more information head to www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/moomba



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Our night to turn white

White Night Melbourne will return this year with even more events and excitement to be created at Southbank venues.

The evening will see Melbourne split into regions. Southbank locations fall into "The Vortex" and "Tattooed City".

"The Vortex" covers events at Southgate Cinema, Signal and along the Yarra, including an exciting light installation on the bridge over to Southgate. "Tattooed City" runs along the Southbank side of St Kilda Rd, encompassing the National Gallery of Victoria, Arts Centre Melbourne and testing grounds.



Bringing in the Chinese New Year

The Crown Promenade was again Melbourne's centre of attention for the Chinese New Year celebrations with a carnival, market and concert performances, attracting a huge crowd.

The loss of the planned 100 metre dragon on Sandridge bridge to Docklands (you'd think the council would want people to see it!) didn't dampen the party which took place over three days on January 31-February 1.

Signing Southgate

Southgate has moved into the new year by unveiling new electronic directories to help guide shoppers around the centre.

The new guides are touch-screen and include electronic advertising opportunities for the Southgate traders.

Southgate's Marina Levitsky said the new signs were able to convey both basic information about the centre while also covering the surrounding area.

"The new information kiosks were installed to provide easy to use 24-hour information for visitors searching for Southgate restaurants and stores, as well as basic customer service information like parking and parent change rooms," Ms Levitsky explained.

"Customers can also access up-to-date information about what's on at Southgate, as well as important events and shows in Melbourne and the surrounding arts precinct," she added.

"They have been received very well. Early data has shown high levels of usage in the first month of operation."



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The Yarra River Precinct Customer Service Awards is a consumer awards program that enables you to nominate a business and/or an individual in the local retail, accommodation or hospitality sector who has impressed you with their commitment to service.

Nominated businesses or individuals need to be located or working in the area along the Yarra River between Punt Road and Bolte Bridges, including Southbank and on the north bank to the southern edge of Flinders Street.

The nomination also puts you in the draw for some great prizes.

Your name _____

Your address _____

Your email (or tel. no) _____

I wish to nominate the following person and/or business for consideration in the Yarra River Customer Service Awards

1. Individual nominee _____

The business they work for _____

2. Business nomination _____
(note: feel free to nominate an individual and a business)

Cut out this form and post to:

Yarra River Business Association
Reply Paid 88876
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February 2014

THE ARTS PRECINCT



SPECTACULAR SECRET SYMPHONY

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra took its unique Secret Symphony program to Melbourne Aquarium last month.

The Secret Symphony perform around Melbourne and locations are given on MSO's various social media pages 24 hours before the event, but the musical program is a closely guarded secret until the performance begins.

EVENTS



GLEN HANSARD

March 14

Melbourne Recital Centre

Academy Award-winning troubadour Glen Hansard returns for a rare and intimate career-spanning solo performance for one-night only.

www.melbournerecital.com.au



COCK

February 7 - March 22

Fairfax Studio

Earning rave reviews from its New York and London seasons, Olivier Award-winning playwright Mike Bartlett's razor-sharp play dissects one man's emotional indecision in our commitment-phobic age.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au



A JOURNEY THROUGH JAZZ

March 8 - March 9

Hamer Hall

Take a hip trip through the history of jazz in the company of Australia's master of the jazz trumpet, James Morrison.

www.mso.com.au



THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR

February 28 - March 23

Merlyn Theatre

A chaotic comedy of errors that deconstructs Gogol's original, The Government Inspector will have you questioning where reality ends and theatricality begins.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

UNREEL

February 24 - 7

The Coopers Malthouse

UNREEL uses both classic and contemporary examples of film as stimulus to expand students' knowledge of the medium by turning passive viewing to physical action!

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

THE LORD OF THE RINGS

February 28 - March 2

Hamer Hall, Arts Centre Melbourne

Howard Shore's Academy Award-winning score performed live to the epic motion picture by the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, National Boys Choir of Australia and soloists.

www.mso.com.au

JAMS FOR JUNIORS

March 15 and July 26

Deakin Edge, Fed Square

A musical adventure for young minds and bodies! Our Jams for Juniors offer a 30-minute musical adventure for children aged 0-5 years and their parents.

www.mso.com.au

ST DAVID'S DAY CELTIC CONCERT

February 28

Elisabeth Murdoch Hall

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www.melbournerecital.com.au

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT MELBOURNE NOW

February 28 - March 28

NGV International, 180 St Kilda Rd

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www.ngv.vic.gov.au

MELBOURNE NOW DESIGN RESIDENCY

February 27 - March 2

NGV International

The Bolwell EDGE Caravan Studio plays host to Melbourne designers as a design studio each week over the duration of Melbourne Now. The EDGE is the designer's studio from Thursday through to Sunday 10am-2pm.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au

STOMPIN' AT THE TRAM

March 1 - March 2

Tram Bar, Arts Centre Melbourne

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www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

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January 25 - March 8

Southbank Theatre, The Sumner

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

RECITAL CENTRE



The Melbourne Recital Centre (MRC) celebrated its fifth birthday last month, with a giant party and show.

Over 5000 visitors and musicians visited over the birthday weekend.

MRC's CEO Mary Vallentine said the huge crowd had made it a very special celebration.

"We were overwhelmed by the participation of the Melbourne musical community – both professional and amateur – who performed throughout the day," Ms Vallentine said.

"These festivities are only the beginning of what will be a huge year of incredible programming at the Melbourne Recital Centre."

GRASS ROOTS

ARTS



While there are many high-profile art and theatre performances in Southbank each month, *Southbank Local News* accepted an invitation to a slightly more low-key show at Trading Spaces by theatre group PUMP theatre.

The group, ran by Josephine Daly, has been holding workshops and activities at Boyd Community Hub over the last year and confirmed its connection to Southbank by performing at the rejuvenated space on City Rd.

NGV OPENING UP



The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) is creating weekly events in an attempt to encourage new visitors through the doors.

During January and February Summer Sundays have been attracting great crowds to the NGV lawn and the party atmosphere will ramp up with the launch of Friday Nights at *Melbourne Now*, from February 28.

NGV Director Tony Ellwood said the Friday night sessions were extremely popular last

year, and were a great fit for the *Melbourne Now* exhibition.

"Following 2013's sell-out Friday night sessions, the series will return to the NGV with a home-grown focus to celebrate *Melbourne Now*," Mr Ellwood said.

"The *Melbourne Now* gallery spaces across NGV International and The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia will be activated, matching the stellar line up in the Great Hall with special 'pop-up' talks and performances."

Acts will include World's End Press (pictured),

Brighter Later and Big Scary. The evenings are free but capacity is limited so make sure you get in early!

For more details head to the NGV website www.ngv.vic.gov.au



OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

Stoking the embers of a smoking debate

Smoking cigarettes in common property areas and on the balconies of units is a hotly-contested issue that divides any residential building.

The overwhelming medical evidence today concludes that not only is smoking severely injurious to personal health, but also “smoke drift” or passive smoking can sometimes be just as injurious to health as it is to the person inhaling the cigarette themselves.

Residents shouldn’t have to put up with smoke drift and cigarette butts coming from other balconies in their buildings. If the

odour and smoke is offensive, then it can be declared to be a nuisance, and can be banned via an order from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

The key to remember here is that the activity complained about must be objectively unreasonable, not subjectively unreasonable, meaning that an ordinary person would need to find the smoking to constitute a nuisance.

Similarly, if the problem is spread throughout a building and on many levels, then an owners corporation may pass

an additional rule to restrict smoking on common property, and to restrict smoking on balconies where that may cause nuisance to other residents. The additional rule would need to be passed by a special resolution at a general meeting of the owners corporation. Even if the special resolution does not pass, a lot owner or group of residents may appeal the decision to VCAT to have the rule passed and registered in any event.

On a policy front, the smoking of cigarettes shall continue to be marginalised by lawmakers in the years to come, to the extent

where smoking cigarettes may even be banned in apartment buildings altogether.

It is only a matter of time until new developments will have compulsory rules registered to ban smoking in all areas of the building. But will Victoria be the first state in Australia to pass laws to essentially make new buildings “smoke-free”? I would think so.

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.
tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au



ON THE BOX

with Korey Fernando

Get the Blacklist on your list . . .

In an effort to escape the new seasons of the same old reality formats that litter the programming guide, and artfully dodging the new wave of “great Aussie dramas” that are almost always based on morbid true events – I seem to have found a gem.

The Blacklist is both engaging and formulaic. Above all else though, it is a wonderfully-acted drama with a great cast. A truly thrilling crime show, *The Blacklist* revolves around a rookie federal agent who on her first day of service is requested personally to be the liaison to one of the world’s most dangerous men. The dangerous man in question, Raymond “Red” Reddington is played masterfully by veteran actor James

Spader. Red’s interest in the young agent begins a glimpse into the series’ themes of ambiguous intentions, deception and secrecy.

The interesting thing about *The Blacklist* is that it isn’t really covering any new ground. The stakes are always high and there’s always next week’s baddie to nab. This seems to be something of a trend: the brilliant genius consultant assisting the police to solve crimes is the plot of virtually every half-baked Sherlock Holmes-exploiting producer in television. One thing that breaks the mould here though is Spader’s Red, who is a truly unpredictable character and whose motivations are never fully understood. One moment he is seen as saving the day,

another endangering the entire agency in order to secure personal gain.

Of late, serialised dramas are pitched as vehicle programs, usually anchored behind the weight of one central star. The thing that sets *The Blacklist* apart from programs like *Hannibal*, *The Mentalist* or *Criminal Minds* – is that none of these shows feature James Spader. There is a reason that he has won multiple Emmy awards for his work in the past and he truly drives the pace of the show with his performance.

The cast as a whole is solid and features a good balance of seasoned TV veterans and newcomers, but the focus is never far off Spader, who portrays Reddington as a

dangerous and deceptive entity with the charm and charisma that one would expect to find in a criminal sociopath.

The Blacklist definitely fills into that “morish” category of television that can be savoured weekly in a ritualistic fashion, or just as easily all devoured in the one hit. Having just been extended to a second season of 22 episodes, the ratings and networks would tend to agree with me on this one, it’s definitely worth a look.

The Blacklist’s first season can be seen on Channel 7 on Wednesdays at 8.45pm.



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southgate

Food and Wine Festival returns to Southgate

Southgate Fiesta

Saturday 1 March

Food and wine tastings on the promenade

 facebook.com/southgatemelbourne

 instagram.com/southgatemelbourne

To celebrate the opening weekend of Melbourne's iconic Food and Wine Festival, Southgate will be hosting the Southgate Fiesta, a unique feast of restaurant tasting plates and wine tasting on Southgate's promenade.

From 12noon, sample a Southgate Tasting Plate dish for only \$15 inspired by the festival theme of water, and receive a complimentary wine tasting

voucher. Dishes include Waterfront's four tastes of the sea, 'Acqua Pazza' (meaning crazy water) from Tutto Bene, a charcuterie tasting plate from Pure South, and a fire and ice combination from Chill On Ice Lounge and Ski Lodge. Patrons can choose a tasting plate from up to nine of Southgate's restaurants throughout the afternoon before heading out to the promenade wine tasting area.



Up to 12 boutique wineries from across Australia will be participating in the Fiesta, offering tastings on a range of wine varietals. Meet the winemakers and discover a new favourite while you take in the riverside views. Once you have finished in the tasting area you can further enhance your appreciation for wine at our free wine education sessions held on the upper level at Southgate.

Finish the night off with relaxing evening at Southgate Cinema and enjoy free food themed screenings, providing a magnificent and festive backdrop to celebrate the best of Melbourne's food and wine.

For restaurant booking information and more details on these events visit celebratesouthgate.com.au



PJ O'BRIEN'S IRISH PUB

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9686 5011 | www.pjobriens.com.au

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with Pastor Ian Vainikka

Season of lent - is it only about self-denial?

In about two weeks the season of Lent is upon us. It is kicked off by Ash Wednesday, when we are reminded of the fragility of life through the rite of Imposition of the Ashes. This ancient rite is a powerful reminder that we all live by God's grace.

Lent is traditionally a time of self-denial. Many Christians, especially in the past, gave up the things they desired, which helped them to focus on what was truly important. I don't believe, however, that Lent is only about self-denial.

The movie *Chocolat* is about single mother Vianne Rocher and her daughter Anouk, who moved to a town steeped in Christian tradition to open a chocolate shop. Unfortunately it was Lent when they opened

so no one was eating chocolate! The town was also advised not to go into the chocolate shop, especially since the Rochers weren't Christians.

An all-out battle of the wits ensued when a group of nomads entered into town looking for work. And lo and behold, these people were shunned by everyone except the Rochers. Hence this story about a chocolate shop is really a story about whom we include and exclude from our table - those who are

acceptable to us and those who are not.

Jesus had to deal with the same problems. He was often criticised for the company he kept. His was a table that was always open and he had a way of making people feel whole.

The crux of the movie can be found in the young priest's sermon on Easter.

"We can't go around measuring our goodness by what we don't do, by what we deny ourselves, by what we resist and whom

we exclude. We've got to measure goodness by what we embrace, by what we create and whom we include."

I believe this is a good Lenten challenge to all of us. While self-denial has spiritual value, it's also good to consider this Lent what positive things we can embrace which we haven't embraced before and how we can be more inclusive in our relationships with others.



Well here we are, well into 2014 and with a big year ahead. The Southbank Residents Group committee certainly hopes all our community had a safe and relaxing break.

Firstly I would like to congratulate our vice-president Dharmendra (Dave) Poobalasingam and his wife on the birth of their first child, Thien Dharmendra. Welcome to fatherhood Dave!

It's hard to believe it was two months ago that I was penning the previous column. There have been some great events around our neighbourhood during this time with the most recent being the wonderful expose of stalls along the Yarra foreshore to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Once again, the Chinese community have really pulled together and put on a great event, right on our doorstep. I acknowledge the diverse array of cultures within Southbank, and with the Asian community being most prominent it did not surprise me that us residents couldn't help but be immersed in their New Year celebrations - the Year of the Horse, Gong Xi Fa Cai! The committee will continue to engage with the Asian community to further build on mutually beneficial outcomes.

The 2014 state election is fast approaching. An election is when we as a community have the best chance to be heard because the politicians are listening (well most likely to listen).

We, the committee, are in the process of

forming our strategy for the coming year in light of this election. It is important we have a clear and defined agenda as we enter the campaign stage of the election, however any agenda only has the best chance of success when there are numbers backing it up.

I would therefore like to ask the community that if you (or your building) is not a member, or have allowed your membership to lapse, of Southbank Residents Group, and you believe a community voice is important, then I encourage you to become a member or to speak with your building committee and ask them to subscribe the building.

The more members we have, the louder our voice and the more the politicians are likely to listen. Membership details can be found

on our website www.southbanksresidents.com.au. I also encourage the community to like our Facebook page to keep abreast of what is happening in the local community.

Lastly I would like to send out a thank you to Grill'd at Southgate for their support of SRG through their community donation. As their motto states "Local Matters" and we certainly agree with this.

I encourage our residents to offer reciprocal support Grill'd should they be in the Southgate vicinity and might be a bit peckish. I must admit, their burgers are great!

Tony Penna
President
Southbank Residents Group

Welcome to St Johns Church Southgate
A place for worship, prayer and community located on the upper level of Southgate

Sunday Service Times
9am Traditional worship with communion
11am Informal worship with communion
6pm Sunday Night at St Johns
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10:30am Sunday School

The chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection

St Johns
Southgate

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FACES OF SOUTHBANK



LAURA WOOD, 24
Waitress @ Degani

Laura said the whole Southbank area was a giant cultural experience and she loved the atmosphere down here. She thinks that's helped by the friendly nature of most of the people who work and live here.



PASTOR IAN VAINIKKA, 51
Pastor @ St Johns Southgate

Pastor Ian said he absolutely loves living here in Southbank. Ian has been the pastor at St Johns since 2009 and he said he was perfectly positioned in Southbank to walk to work and also enjoy his passions outside of work, including music and the arts.



ANDREW CROMPTON, 33
Owner @ Broad Bean Organic Grocer

Andrew opened the doors to Broad Bean in early February, but having lived in Southbank for three years he knows the area well. He said Southbank had a great community feel, which he experienced, as people were thrilled with their new opportunity to shop at a local grocer.



TAZ LEE, 25
Barrister @ 5 Solars

Taz said Southbank was a really clean area and one of its major features was the amazing architecture on display around every corner. "I admire the designs of all the new buildings. They're always beautiful,"



LINO DEFINO, 46
Owner @ Saporito

Lino said he was pleasantly surprised Southbank was such quiet area, given its close proximity to the CBD. "It's nice to be away from the hustle and bustle of the city!" Lino said. He also enjoys serving the always-friendly residents of the area.



ANGE LANG, 30
Attendant @ MSO Box Office

Not surprisingly, Ange loved the vibrant arts precinct her office is in the middle of here in Southbank. She was quick to point out that the MSO was a highlight of the artistic area!

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Get ready for festival season

The frenzy of school holidays at Southbank has passed, and now we look forward to the key festivals of late February and early March: White Night (February 22/23), Melbourne Food and Wine Festival (March 1-16), Moomba (March 8-10).

New Years Eve was a logistical triumph this year - thousands of people moving through our precinct comfortably and without incident. Congratulations to the City of Melbourne and Victoria Police. While our traders lament the fact that the fireworks are no longer fired from the river, the spread of pyrotechnics fired from rooftops throughout the CBD certainly makes for a safer event.

Southgate and the Yarra River Business Association has teamed-up this year to fund a very special installation on the Yarra footbridge for White Night. "The Vortex" will be a pulsating tunnel of light that responds to the number of people passing within it. It will only be there for one night, so make sure you catch it.

On a more regular basis is the introduction of free film nights on Thursdays during February and March at Point Park at Yarra's Edge. A free ferry will depart Federation Square at 6.30pm and the first 100 people to get there can claim a free beer bag for the session. For more information head to www.destinationdocklands.com.au/movies-under-the-stars-at-yarras-edge/ Please also remember that at dusk every Tuesday on the mid-level of Southgate you can enjoy a free feature film while sitting in deck chairs. Recent releases, classics and art house films are screened. Bookings are essential so head to www.celebratesouthgate.com.au/

[experience/southgate-cinema/](http://www.experience/southgate-cinema/) to find out more.

Southgate's La Camera restaurant has just released its 2014 program of community nights. Hats-off to the people at La Camera, because they have been running these feature nights on the last Monday of every month for seven years, to help build the community spirit of Southbank. Monday, February 24 is their Opera Challenge evening, when singers from the Australian Opera, Opera Victoria and local singers take to the competition floor. The community nights are always popular and you need to book ahead. Also remember that every Monday night at La Camera, Southbank residents receive 25 per cent off their food bill, to a maximum of \$75.

A new initiative of the Yarra River Business Association is an event seeding fund, which can provide up to \$5000 to assist an organisation establish new community events in our precinct. The events need to take place for at least one day or night and have the potential to attract new customers to the precinct (ie not just provide something for local residents to do). Enquiries can be made to exoff@yarrariver.info

One final reminder - the first Yarra River Business Association quarterly luncheon for 2014 is Friday, 21 February, 12noon-2pm, The Wharf Hotel, WTC Wharf. Two courses plus drinks for \$66. The guest speaker is one of Australia's leading tourism marketers. Book at www.yarrariver.info/event/yarra-river-quarterly-business-luncheon/ exoff@yarrariver.info

SOUTHBANK SUDOKU

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

A variation of Sudoku, with the letters **SOUTH BANK** replacing the numbers.

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

This Sudoku is extra difficult! Good Luck!

Last month's Sudoku solution

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

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Businesses in Southbank

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TONY'S A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES

With 30 years experience in the industry, Tony Carnovale knows a good pair of glasses when he sees them. As the owner and operator of Eyes on Southgate, on Southgate's podium level, he is perfectly placed to look after anyone needing glasses, or even just an eye health check.

As with many of the outlets on the podium level, Tony prides his business on its customer service.

"Because Eyes on Southgate is an owner-operated, independent practice, customers will receive exceptional old fashion service," Tony told *Southbank Local News*.

The other major point of difference at Eyes on Southgate is exactly that, a point of difference.

"We have a great variety of great looking eyewear, from cool retro shapes to hand-painted, multi-coloured frames," Tony explained.

"You won't leave here looking like everyone else."

Tony explained that he was personally a huge fan of colour and frames that stood out as individual.

"I'm so glad to see the return of the larger colourful frames. Life's too short to wear daggy eyewear."

Tony has been operating at Eyes on Southgate for nine years now and he said over those years he's really enjoyed working in the area.

"Southgate was the ideal location to start this business because of the diversity of people in the area. There's locals, heaps of tourists and every day workers, particularly the ones who walk passed every day to get to the HWT and IBM towers," Tony said.

He also explained many of the benefits available to customers, saying: "All eye examinations at Eyes on Southgate are bulk-billed to Medicare and all health insurance members with optical extras can benefit from our all-year-round offers."

Offers include Ray-ban sunglasses from \$99, two pair spectacle deals and nine months supply of contact lenses from \$40.

There are plenty more great deals in store, so next time you need to update your glasses, or simply want an eye check up, make sure you head in and see Tony and his team at Eyes on Southgate.



Heritage-listed sites in Southbank

SACRED SITES



The Costume Shop

In the shadows of the high-rise apartment buildings down the southern end of City Road is a stunning building that is now home to a costume shop.

The shop facade, at 235-239 City Rd was built in 1903 and is heritage listed because of its classical revival architectural style.

The building started its life in the same way many did in the South Melbourne region in those days, as a pub and hotel.

The site had a pub on it from as early as 1869, but Emily and James Rubina erected the current building. When it was built, it was considered a feature of the south bank of the Yarra River.

It operated as a hotel until 1926, when it was de-licensed because the Licences Reduction Board felt not every building in South Melbourne needed to be a pub. Bloody bureaucrats!



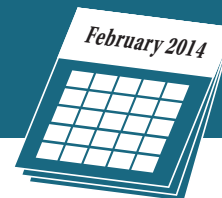
STREET SMARTS

Blakeney Place

Mystery surrounds the origin of Blakeney Place's name.

Frankly, no one seems quite sure where the name came from. Given the street was named in 1895 it seems the most likely source was Thomas Blakeney, who lived in Dorcas St during the 1860s and 70s. The reason no one wants to say it is definitely named after him is that there is no evidence to show he achieved anything worthy of the honour! There are also several places in England called Blakeney, so it is plausible that the name was brought over from there. Perhaps *Southbank Local News* should ask Federation Square's CEO Bill Blakeney if he has any idea where the origins of the street's name.

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**

THE FRENCH WORKSHOP

Every Wednesday 6.30pm - 7.30pm

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Discover the beautiful sound of French with Lucie, a native speaker! Our beginner group sessions are friendly and open to everyone and all material is provided. **thefrenchworkshop@gmail.com**
www.facebook.com/thefrenchworkshop



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



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**

MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm-8pm

3 Southbank Promenade

This night photography class runs in Melbourne's city centre and has all the night photography tips you'll ever need. For more info: **www.pennykoukoulas.com**

ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET

Sundays, 10am-4pm

Arts Centre, 100 St Kilda Road

Meet over 80 of Victoria's finest artisans first hand. Discover how these unique artworks are made, chat directly about the products, inspirations and techniques. For more information:

www.theartscentre.com.au

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

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



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**
www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boydcommunity

WHITE NIGHT MELBOURNE

Saturday March 22 - Sunday March 23

Various locations

The city comes alive for the all night event. Music, light displays and activities attracted hundreds of thousands of people last year and will again this year.

www.whitenightmelbourne.com.au

INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB

Selected dates throughout the month

Various locations

Most of our activities take place in the inner suburbs or in the CBD. We take in the city's parks, its culture, fabulous eating options as well as the festivals, galleries and concerts.

www.life.org.au/imlac

CHRISTMAS BUOYED @ BOYD

Thursday, December 12

Boyd Community Centre, 207 City Road

Santa will arrive on a big red fire truck at 4.30pm, then The Mudcakes and Fairy Caitlin will delight the young... and young at heart.

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/boyd

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



SOUTHBANK ROTARY

Every Tuesday, 6.30pm

Blue Train Southgate, but subject to change

Rotary Club of Southbank Inc meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year in the Southbank area. Visitors are always welcome.

www.southbank.org.au

YOGA WITH PEI

6.30 pm Tuesdays & 9.00am Saturdays

Mums and bubs class at 9 & 10am on Wednesdays

Assembly Hall at Boyd, 207 City Road

Join us and explore strength, flexibility, balance and relaxation through Yoga. BYO Yoga mat and blanket/bath towel. \$10 per session, every 5th session free.

peipei@yogawithpei.com



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**

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP

Every Sunday

St Johns Southgate, 20 City Road

9am - Traditional liturgical worship.

11am - Informal liturgical worship.

6pm - Informal contemporary worship.

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

10.30am Thursdays

Assembly Hall 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 with your three to five year olds.

library@melbourne.vic.gov.au

FIRST FRIDAY DANCE CLUB

First Friday of every month at 6pm

Red Stairs @ Queensbridge Square

Come along and test your dancing shoes each month with different genres of dance, but always high levels of fun.

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/whatson

STOMPERS

10.30am Tuesdays

Southbank Library at Boyd, 207 City Road

Stompers is Melbourne Library Service's new weekly program for toddlers aged 18 months to 3 years. Come along for a half-hour of stories, songs, rhymes, music and most of all, FUN!


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- Have previous management experience.
- Have cash handling experience
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Please send applications with resumes made attention to:

The Manager.
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Having worked in the local real estate industry for over 6 years, Cindy, who is fluent in English and Mandarin, has developed a deep understanding of Melbourne's real estate market and knowledge of the area. This is of enormous value when choosing an agent to buy or sell your property. Her career began in the Melbourne suburbs where she thrived on working with vendors and buyers from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. With enormous experience in business development, sale & marketing and customer service, as well as her extensive database of local and overseas (particularly Chinese)

buyers, Cindy is able to provide vendors with valuable additional exposure for their property and assist in achieving the best possible price in the shortest possible time. Cindy's outstanding negotiation skills are paramount to ensuring premium prices for her clients, and her consistent achievements are evident in the fact that she attracts the loyalty of her clients, with regular repeat business and referrals. Due to Cindy's ability to deliver on her promises and to provide honest, upfront and valuable advice, close to 70 per cent of her listings come from repeat business or referrals, and her excellent track record is testament of

her outstanding negotiating skills. Cindy is committed to always providing results and service that exceeds the expectations of her clients. Cindy passionately believes in real estate, which she considers much more than just a job. By keeping clients up-to-date with buyer feedback and straightforward advice through every step of the sale process, Cindy ensures an enjoyable experience of what could otherwise be a stressful time. Cindy's enthusiasm and fresh approach to the sale process is an asset to anyone looking at listing or buying real estate in Southbank, Docklands and CBD area.

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