

The voice of Southbank

# SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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## Southbank gets the thumbs up

Former United States President Bill Clinton was one of a number of distinguished international guests to visit Southbank for the 20th international AIDS conference in July. Read more on page 4.

## Fierce scrutiny for new tower

By Sean Car

*An amended application submitted to the planning minister for the 82-storey Queens Bridge Tower, between Freshwater Place and Prima Pearl, has been met with fierce scrutiny.*

Prima Pearl's joint developer Schiavello has re-submitted plans for the proposal at 1-23 Queens Bridge St, which would become Melbourne's third-tallest building.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy had approved Schiavello's application for a 71-storey development at 1-15 Queens Bridge St in 2012, but forced the developer to withdraw the proposal.

Freshwater Place residents had raised concerns because the building was only 10m away from their walls, while measuring more than 100m higher than recommended by planning guidelines.

Schiavello's latest application has the QBT 11-storeys higher and placed 12m away, with Freshwater Place Owners' Corporation member Michael Smolders demanding that the two buildings be separated by a minimum of 20m.

"At what point in time will the Government start enforcing its own planning guidelines?" he asked.

"The QBT proposal violates a number of planning guidelines and the Government must now take appropriate steps to ensure the developer amends their plans."

Mr Smolders said the application made a mockery of the planning process and called on the Government to start clamping down.

"It says a lot about the current state planning process when a developer submits an

incomplete application and expects it to be approved," he said.

"One of Melbourne's largest developments has no traffic impact analysis, no wind analysis, not even an outline on why they think they should be permitted to ignore planning guidelines."

The amended application also outlines plans for a sky bridge which, if approved, will create a walk way over Queens Bridge St, connecting the QBT to Crown Casino.

Albert Park MLA Martin Foley slammed the plan and called on the minister to scrap it.

"The proposed sky bridge is, in fact, a bridge too far," he said. "It needs to be ruled out."

"The QBT proposal needs to be re-submitted as a new application. It is now an application that covers three blocks, increased in height, bulk and use."

Mr Foley said the Government must stop treating Southbank as an endless construction site.

"It must not be subject to the ever-increasing height, scale and density that the Napthine government are committed to through their rubber stamp approach in Southbank."

Schiavello's Chairman Tony Schiavello, did not respond to Southbank Local News.

A spokesperson for Mr Guy refused to comment on the proposal, stating that the permit was currently under consideration."

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Deadline for edition 34 is September 12.

Cover photo: James Braund

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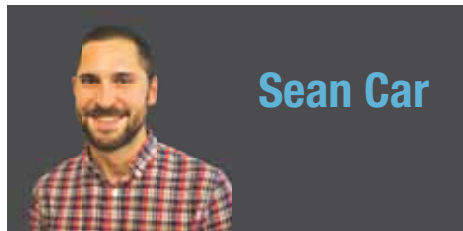
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Sean Car

***Hello and welcome to my first official edition as editor of the 'Southbank Local News'. It certainly is great to be here!***

Having previously interned for this very paper only last year during my final semester at university, I certainly know what a great area Southbank is.

While the experience of working at WIN News in Shepparton for the past 8 months as a news reporter was something I'll always cherish, the opportunity to return to Southbank was simply too good to pass up.

Away from news, I am also returning to pursue a masters degree in international development practice next year, having launched a not-for-profit in Malawi, Africa back in 2012 - Educaring Africa. This is a passion I hope to continue building along with journalism well into the future!

At 23, I feel pretty fortunate to have gained the experience I have and I look forward to using that to continue leveraging the voice of the Southbank community through this terrific newspaper.

Before I continue, I must quickly pass on my acknowledgements to those who have provided me with this fantastic opportunity to begin with.

First and foremost, to my predecessor Sean Rogasch, who has worked tirelessly over three years and 32 editions of the *Southbank Local News*, to get this paper to where it is.

I can't congratulate the man enough for what he has done for Southbank nor thank him

enough for his guidance in assisting me into what is a challenging but incredibly rewarding role.

Secondly, the team at *Southbank Local News*, headed by Shane Scanlan, must be acknowledged for the outstanding work they do and their support in getting me through my first edition. Cheers team!

So I think it's fair to say that edition 33 encapsulates what has been an incredibly action-packed month for Southbank and one I feel quite privileged to have been a part of.

While new high-rise development is always the main talk of the town, this month's discussion has been spearheaded by something far more significant for Southbank and the world!

During an incredible week in July, Southbank had the honour of hosting delegates and citizens from around the world for the 20<sup>th</sup> international AIDS conference and as always, Southbank delivered! (See our article on page 4.)

In addition, Southbank also hosted its first Farmers' Market at Boyd Community Hub, which saw an amazing turnout and gave me the slightest feeling of being in Shepparton again! (See our article on page 8.)

I must also thank Anton Pilli from Genesis Fitness in Southbank for his help in adding a health and wellbeing column to the newspaper. It is the first of many exciting new additions I hope to bring to this newspaper in the future.

I truly believe Southbank is the most vibrant and colorful place within the City of Melbourne and I hope this newspaper can continue adding to that. I'm always open to the thoughts and ideas of local residents so feel free to get in touch!

In the meantime, happy reading!

Sean Car.  
Editor.

# Trucks halted

***Traffic congestion and damage caused by high-trucks traveling through Southbank tunnels is set to improve.***

The Victorian Government and CityLink have announced upgrades to the over-height vehicle detection system.

Operating in the Burnley and Domain Tunnels, the upgraded system introduces tough new measures on drivers of over-height trucks in a bid to boost road safety and productivity.

The new system automatically reduces the speed limits on approach to the tunnel, while activating red lights and a boom gate at the entrance to effectively close the tunnel.

CityLink's road operations manager Peter Doran said the changes would enhance the already-extensive warning system that is currently in place.

"We've done a lot of work to make sure we only close tunnels where a truck is almost certain to cause damage."

"Once we've stopped and isolated the offending truck, we will allow other traffic through the tunnel in a controlled way, while we deal with the over-height truck by escorting it to the nearest freeway exit."

Minister for Public Transport and Roads Terry Mulder said the upgrades were well overdue.

"Trucks have caused damage to the Burnley and Domain tunnels 11 times in the last 12 months, closing lanes and bringing traffic to a crawl for hours at a time."

"We've been lucky no one has been seriously hurt, with over-height trucks creating an unsafe environment for other drivers, causing debris to rain down on other vehicles and littering the road with obstacles which can cause sudden breaking or swerving."

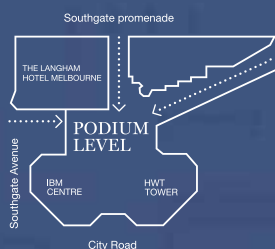
The new system is now in operation.

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# Action time on governance

*After decades aboard a bureaucratic merry-go-round, Melbourne's waterfront communities are changing tack in their quest for a new governance regime on the water.*

A waterfront forum at Federation Square on August 5 determined to seek and engage a respected "champion" with a passion for Melbourne who could open doors at the highest levels of State Government.

The Yarra River Business Association-sponsored (YRBA) forum was given a brief history since 1999 of numerous waterways reports, studies and committees, which had all recommended structural change to activate the sector, but had failed to stimulate any real outcomes.

And while the sector is unanimous in its desire for change, it says the State Government minister responsible for the waterways, Ryan Smith, won't meet its representatives.

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)'s operations manager, Leighton Wood, told the forum the time had come to move beyond committees if anything was going to be achieved.

"We don't need another committee. You can form the 14th committee in 15 years and get nowhere," he said.

"You need an ear at Premier level and you need someone with real status around this city to take this on - someone with a passion and a sense of civic duty for enlivening the waterways. And they might not be a boat owner, they might not even care about the river, but they care about the city."

Examples of an appropriate "champion" included former Premier Jeff Kennett and Sir Rod Eddington.

The forum adopted Mr Wood's approach of finding a "champion", devising a strategy and, finally, developing a new umbrella organisation which could replace or enmesh with the current unmanageable mix of 17 authorities with jurisdiction over the waterways.

Forum guest speaker Gold Coast Waterways



Gold Coast Waterways Authority CEO Hal Morris

Authority CEO Hal Morris outlined a lean and effective model that is returning significant financial returns for the Sunshine State.

Mr Morris said Gold Coast waterways contributed \$4.5 billion to the local economy and was responsible for 2500 direct jobs.

In contrast, the forum heard from Melbourne Passenger Boating Association president Jeff Gordon who outlined an "undernourished" industry with limited patronage and massive excess capacity.

Mr Gordon said Melbourne's 26 "heritage-style" boat had a capacity to carry nearly a million passengers per year if they each did only one cruise per day, but were currently only attracting around 265,000 passengers per year.

"An industry exists in Melbourne, but unfortunately due to lack of recognition as to what the industry could deliver for the city, it has been largely ignored and, like a tree planted with so much potential, has been left to wither by the authorities," Mr Gordon said.

"We feel the City of Melbourne is sympathetic to the industry. However other state authorities have little desire to liaise with the industry. We have been trying unsuccessfully since July 2012, to meet with Ryan Smith, re berthing and other issues."

Mr Morris said his slim-lined authority with the status of a government department was achieving great outcomes for the Gold Coast waterways.

He said his authority had just 23 staff and a board of seven, with only a single board member being a public servant.

"It (his board) is a group of seven senior people who know how to get things done in business. They are there because of their own experience and not because they are representing somebody."

"It's not a representational group. It's not even a democratic group. It's a group of leaders who know how to get things done," he said.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher told the forum that he and Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry CEO Mark Stone would be meeting the Premier to discuss the issue in September.

He said: "We are well aware that tackling it at committee level doesn't work."

Mr Bracher encouraged the forum to come to a unified position and speak as one voice.

City of Melbourne waterways manager Doug Jarvis told the forum: "You can't bring a private sector operator to the table unless everyone is speaking with one voice. You can't do that at the moment and that's just one example of why you need to fix this governance issue."

Mr Wood said: "Leadership needs to come from the Premier. And you need to use whatever political strength you have to make that happen."



## City Rd to soar

*Another skyscraper could soon be added to Southbank's skyline, with plans for an 82-storey City Rd high-rise submitted for approval.*

If given the green light, the new tower at 334 City Rd would soar 270m above the West Gate Freeway and nearby Clarendon St.

A development company connected to owner of Tasman Market Fresh Meats, Giuseppe Catalfamo, has submitted the proposal to the planning department.

Designed by Hayball Architects, the \$200 million super structure will contain more than 500 apartments, up to 200 hotel-rooms, 150 car spaces and a ground floor retail space.

With a permit currently under consideration, a spokesperson from Planning Minister Matthew Guy's office issued a statement welcoming the proposal.

"This proposal is typical of the exciting and innovative designs being proposed for the Southbank area and show a real confidence in Melbourne's livability."

The proposal has been referred to the City of Melbourne for comment and is currently being assessed.

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Sir Bob Geldof

Picture: James Braund



Victorian Premier Denis Napthine

# Southbank lights up for AIDS 2014

*In what was otherwise a great cause for celebration, the launch of Melbourne's AIDS 2014 experience on Friday, July 18, was marred by a shocking tragedy.*

Less than a day out from the official opening of the 20th international AIDS conference, the world was brought to a stand still after 298 lives were lost on board flight MH-17.

The news was only made worse for organisers, with seven passengers said to have been traveling to Melbourne to take part.

Among those killed was leading Dutch researcher Joep Lange, former president of the International AIDS Society and director of the Amsterdam Institute for Global Health and Development.

Speaking at the launch of a special digital art installation at Southbank's Hamer Hall, Victorian Premier Denis Napthine was among a number of distinguished figures to pay tribute.

"This is a massive loss to our community

who work together across the world to tackle this terrible tragedy," he said.

"The lighting up of Hamer Hall celebrates the many great achievements that have been made by scientists, researchers, sociologists and advocates around the world."

Titled *Honouring the past, hope for the future: Toward an HIV Free Generation*, the light projection was the initiative of YEAH, an Australian Youth Health Organisation.

The group's CEO, Alisha Ross, said she hoped the display would help inspire greater action in tackling HIV/AIDS.

"I hope in some way, the public space we have created and dedicated to HIV awareness right here in the centre of our city will become a symbol for community solidarity and a positive memory of how we rallied together in this difficult time to rise

up and to make a difference."

Hundreds gathered as Hamer Hall and Princes Bridge was illuminated in typical AIDS red, with some laying flowers and lighting candles for the victims.

But indeed, rather than defuse efforts, the tragedy of MH-17 only caused participants to ramp them up.

Some 13,000 delegates and experts from more than 200 countries gathered at Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre from the July 21 to 25.

Among the high-profile advocates to visit Southbank included former US President Bill Clinton, Sir Bob Geldof and the head of UN AIDS Michael Sidibe.

Campaigners are more optimistic than ever following the event, with their latest target aiming to end the epidemic by 2030.

While there is still no cure for HIV infection, experts say a combination of available tools could be enough to stop the virus spreading.

Speaking at the closing, AIDS 2014 co-chair Prof. Francoise Barre-Sinoussi announced that more than 14 million patients worldwide now had access to antiretroviral treatment.

Now on track to reach the UN goal of 15 million by 2015, he called for the international community to step up the pace.

"We must further our collaboration with other major international health movements at every level of the response because our objective is to build a better future for all."

The next international AIDS conference will take place in Durban, South Africa in 2016.

For more information visit [www.AIDS2014.org](http://www.AIDS2014.org)




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# Residents slam market application

**A planning application to establish a new design and gourmet food market in Southbank was met with great hostility from residents at August's Future Melbourne Committee meeting.**

Residents of the Melburnian and the Sovereign apartment complexes lined up to express their anger at the prospect of having their Saturday's ruined by a weekly market at the forecourt of Australian Centre for Contemporary Arts (ACCA) on Grant St.

If given the green light, "The UpMarket" would operate from 9am until 4pm every Saturday and consist of 80 stallholders arriving from 7am and exiting at 6pm in a "bump-in, bump-out" system to set up and pack up shop.

Councillors were expected to approve a planning permit for the event, but instead voted to delay its decision in the wake of strong opposition.

Melburnian resident Ray Hill was first to question council officers' support for the proposal, arguing it included no amenity report on residential impact.

"By its size and presence, it will intrude upon the capacity of residents to enjoy the amenity of their surrounds and their homes," he said.

Fellow Melburnian resident Francis Galbally said the market had no place in the arts precinct, labeling the planning of traffic,

parking, emergency access to the Domain Tunnel and waste management as "a ridiculous joke".

"This is a flea market in what is supposed to be a cultural, educational and recreational area," he said.

"It's a joke, have a good long look at it, because the residents of Southbank aren't happy and if you approve it, the residents of Southbank won't be happy with you."

Sovereign resident Alan Ross directly addressed UpMarket's managing director Belinda Buckley during a heartfelt submission, questioning claims made that consultation had taken place with residents.

"Belinda I don't know who you've spoken to but I've certainly never been contacted by you."

With limited parking at both residential towers, Mr Ross said a permit approval would mean his grandchildren could no longer visit him on a Saturday.

Ms Buckley was quick to dismiss claims of a "flea-market" and assured council that a more comprehensive consultation and analysis process would be carried out.

She said it was essential for the design market to run every Saturday to be credible and that organisers had exhausted all options over a three-year process in trying to establish a home.

A final decision on the permit application was deferred to September's Future Melbourne Committee meeting.



Shadow Education Minister James Merlino and Albert Park MP Martin Foley at July's Education Forum

# Labor commits to Albert Park School

**Member for Albert Park Martin Foley and Shadow Education Minister James Merlino have restated their pledge to deliver South Melbourne Park Primary 'as soon as in government'.**

Addressing more than 50 local parents and residents at last month's education forum in South Melbourne, both ministers said the Albert Drive site remained the most viable option for a new primary school.

Labor's \$11.5 million dollar plan, to be delivered under the first term of a Daniel Andrews government, would provide a prep to year 6 school for 400 pupils by 2018, easing pressure on nearby schools.

The school would also incorporate a strong partnership with nearby Orchestra Australia in creating a strongly-focused music curriculum, modeled on Albert Park College's relationship with the Australian National Academy of Music.

Answering concerns raised from the floor regarding the risk of the school becoming music selective and drawing students from outside the area, both men indicated that it would not function as a select entry school, but rather as a local primary school with a music model.

The Shadow Education Minister also said Parks Victoria, which currently operates a depot on the proposed site, would be relocated if Labor was elected in November.

"This is a government site, nothing should be insurmountable," he said. "Labor will do what is needed to convert the site into a school."

Neither politician gave a firm commitment to honour the Coalition Government's proposed site at Ferrars St in Southbank, with the Napthine Government allocating \$5 million in the last budget for planning and land preparation.

Mr Foley stated that, while the site may still be needed in the future, developer contributions and uncertainty surrounding the Fisherman's Bend Strategic Plan remained stumbling blocks in establishing a school in the short term.

"The strategic plan for Fisherman's Bend provided no mandatory height restrictions."

"We've heard concerns from many parents about a vertical school for young children, who want open space for their kids to play and learn."

No new developments were provided at the meeting on a proposed high school, however both politicians hinted of some "really exciting announcements" to come soon.



An aerial view of the site proposed for the new UpMarket at the forecourt outside ACCA on Grant St, Southbank.



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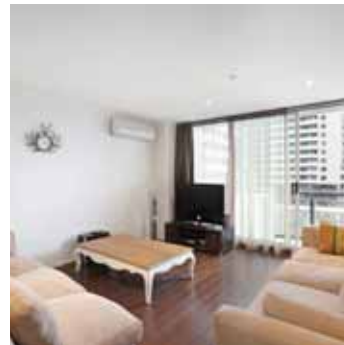
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Geoff Bannister from South Melbourne McDonald's promotes the restaurant's new delivery service.

## Maccas to deliver

**McDonald's will soon deliver directly to Southbank doorsteps.**

McDonald's South Melbourne outlet will be the first in Victoria to trial a new home delivery service from August 27.

The trial will initially hire four extra workers, who will deliver within an approximate 2.5km radius to Southbank, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, South Wharf, Docklands and the CBD.

McDonald's will look to extend the service to other Victorian outlets, once the trials have been completed.

A spokesperson for McDonald's said plans to trial the service had been in the pipeline now for some time, having already piloted the program in parts of New South Wales.

"Australians have enjoyed the convenience

of restaurant home delivery for decades and our customers have told us they like the idea of Maccas delivery."

"We're currently trialing it in Sydney in three restaurants and will extend that to another four restaurants by the end of the month."

Customers will have to place a minimum \$25 order through the Menulog website as well as \$4.95 delivery fee, with food delivered in special new heat-bags.

The service will operate Sunday to Thursday from 5pm to 11pm, and Friday and Saturday from 5pm to 10am the next morning.

What do you think about McDonald's home delivery? Have your say at

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

## Arts spice up summer

**The Arts Precinct will burst into life this summer with the new five-week 'SummerSalt' festival kicking off on January 16.**

Members of Melbourne's arts consortium have combined for the very first time in a bid to establish an entirely outdoor event, which will offer a mixture of free and low-cost arts activities and shows.

The initiative has been made possible by a significant funding contribution from the Victorian Coalition Government, with the remainder of required funding being made up by corporate and philanthropic support.

The Melbourne Recital Centre hosted a corporate partners program in July, with organisers calling on members of the arts and business community to sponsor the event.

Speaking at the presentation, the festival's director Kirsten Siddle said the vision was

to transform the concept of the renowned Sturt St Garden Party into a precinct-wide experience.

"The garden party completely changed the feeling and atmosphere of that part of the precinct," she said.

"We want to broaden that same vision and enliven Southbank's streets and completely amplify the precinct during summer."

Visitors to SummerSalt festival will weave their way through Melbourne's Arts Precinct, taking in music, art installations, massed dance, circus and puppetry classes, as well as theatre, aerial dance and circus performances.

The annual event is expected to attract more than 150,000 local, national and international visitors to Southbank and provide a \$5 million boost to the Victorian economy.

The festival will also coincide with major sporting events including the Australian Tennis Open, the Cricket World Cup and the Asian Cup Soccer Tournament.

## Film-maker calls on local support

**While a passionate enthusiast for fine wines, the pursuit of an authentic drop at Southbank's Wine House has always played second fiddle for film writer and director Grant Scicluna.**

For almost seven years, Grant has been crafting a strong passion for wine in Southbank, while working tirelessly behind the scenes towards his dream of producing the perfect movie.

"Wine House is my second passion because I've always loved wine as much as I've loved film-making," he said. "I just thought the wine-world was really fantastic."

"The family that own this business have been fantastic and supportive in allowing me to drop down days if I'm working on a script and pick up more days if I need to, disappear for six weeks if I need to go and shoot a film."

While he's well aware of the difficult nature of his industry, Grant's journey in film has had its fair share of highlights.

On top of writing and directing several of his own short films, the 33-year-old has also been involved in major international films, including *Mao's Last Dancer* and *Atonement*.

Having earned a strong following for his multi-award winning 2012 short film, *The Wilding*, which earned international acclaim, he is now working on his biggest project yet in hope of realizing that dream.

Alongside long-time producer Jannine Barnes, the pair are currently working on their first Australian feature film, *Down*

*River*, which tells the story of an 18-year-old, who sets out to find the missing body of a young boy - the boy he was imprisoned for killing.

The project has been funded in part by Screen Australia and the Melbourne International Film Festival's Premiere Fund, along with the pair's own personal contribution.

However, as Grant explained, they are now launching a campaign calling on local support to help fill a \$40,000 financing gap, in order for the film to go ahead.

"A huge proportion of the budget just disappears on insurance, so hard cash that you can spend on cameras, on actors, sets, etc is really quite small," he said.

"\$40,000 to us is huge, because that to us is real money that we can put towards making a quality film, so it's really important that we are able to get it."

Grant said he hoped the opportunity to support an important local film would be enough to help the community rally behind the project, before their August 31 fundraising deadline.

The Crowd Fund system provides donors with special rewards for their support, including credits in the film and tickets to the premiere.

Readers can support the *Down River* feature film at [www.pozible.com/project/184042](http://www.pozible.com/project/184042)



The Wine House's Grant Scicluna is busy working on his latest and biggest film to date - *Down River*.



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# Southbank's first farmers' market takes off

*The Boyd Community Hub burst into life on Saturday, August 2, as more than 3000 visitors converged on Southbank for the suburb's first ever Farmers' Market.*

Stallholders from around regional Victoria were duly rewarded for braving the morning chill, with bigger than expected crowds flocking to Southbank.

Organic produce, handcrafted ciders, hot gourmet pies and freshly-squeezed juices were just some of the delicious goods for sale, as Southbank was introduced to some of the finer points of rural living.

Visitors were also treated to a range of artworks, handmade garments and live music, helping provide residents with a soothing country atmosphere.

Melbourne Farmers' Market director Miranda Sharp said she was delighted by the response.

"We felt very welcomed by the Southbank community and many people commented on what a great asset the market was going to be for the area," she said.

"People talked about the importance of having a local meeting place and soul in a new community and that gives us great satisfaction."

"That Melbourne weather forecasts are no reason to not come to a farmers market!"

The day also featured a number of other activities, including the launch of a new hatha-yoga class, now running every Saturday at Boyd Community Hub in conjunction with the market.

While organisers are yet to secure a permanent location for the market, with the permit at Boyd set to expire in January 2015, Ms Sharp said she was confident that, with local support, they wouldn't have a problem.

"We need to find a permanent home in the Southbank area but we are confident that, supported by local residents and working with the City of Melbourne, we will find somewhere from January onwards," she said.

The next Southbank Farmers Market will be held at Boyd Community Hub (207 City Rd) on Saturday, September 6.



Everything on offer at Southbank farmers market from fresh fruit and vegies (above), to live music and yoga (below).

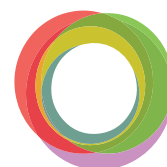


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# Prima Pearl soars into Southbank's skyline

By Sean Car

*Southbank's newest high-rise is building closer to completion by the day, and to gain an insight into how work is progressing, members of PDG's development team took Southbank Local News behind the golden facade for a sneak preview.*

"The brief was to create an icon, create a landmark for Melbourne," said PDG's senior associate Roberto Dreolini.

"Basically we thought up this whole curtain-walled facade, which is challenging. One - for what it is, unlike any other building around, and two - for the shape."

As the Prima Pearl tops out at level 72 to officially become Melbourne's second-tallest residential tower, it is that attention to detail and a determination to push barriers that is already making it stand out in the city's skies.

The golden facade exterior is the definitive symbol of this ambition, with each of the 8500 panels having been custom designed and numbered to fit into a specific location.

"When you start at level 10 it is a concave facade and then after level 35 it actually starts to go out every level by about 80mm,"



PDG Senior Associate Roberto Dreolini escorts members of the media inside level 9 of the Prima Pearl.

Mr Dreolini explained.

"So it begins to transition from a concave shape to a convex, which is very easy to think about but very difficult to build because every single panel is different," he said,

Project manager Nathan Minicozzi said the secret behind the 256-metre tower's oval-shaped facade was its ability to reduce wind pressures and reflectivity, helped by a custom-designed, double-glazed glass.

"It's got great thermal and acoustic properties," he said. "We had a requirement within our acoustic report to achieve and we actually bettered it."

"We actually went to a couple of different towers around the city and tested what they classed as a 45-decibel to a 40-decibel and saw the difference."

"There was just such a process that we went through to make sure that the glass was just as good as we could get it. It was a journey but it paid off."

Developed by Brookfield, with construction led by PDG and Schiavello, the \$300 million Prima Pearl required up to 550 workers on site at the peak of its construction.

With stage one of a three-stage construction process now complete, those numbers are slowly dropping as developers look towards a completion of stage two by November and full completion by February 2015.

As construction moves ahead of schedule with a number of residents having already moved in, developers say work is only expected to accelerate from here on in.

As Mr Minicozzi explained, managing such

large numbers to achieve the desired level of detail in both construction and design, has been a challenge, but a challenge executed seamlessly.

"Out of 661 apartments, at least 40 to 50 per cent are customised, whether it be floating timber flooring, whether it be a brand-new kitchen design, we open it up to any client that sits down and we tailor it," he said.

"It's challenging from the construction side because you're not just replicating apartments as you go up, we've got schedules and we've just got to be on-the-ball and make sure everything gets done."

In somewhat of a contrast to its golden facade, the interior layout within Prima Pearl expresses a feeling of modesty and clarity that one might relate to the comfortable atmosphere of the average family home.

The shared residential space on level 9 features an extensive range of leisure and entertainment facilities, inclusive of a kitchen, lounge, commercial-standard gym, cinema, virtual golf range and an external barbecue area.

Mr Dreolini said he hoped the building would set new standards for high-rise development in Australia.

"We had to create something outstanding for the city and the clients, to make them feel like they are living in the best place in Australia," he said.

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# AUSTRALIAN ACTORS RETURN TO MTC STAGE



**Melbourne Theatre Company has welcomed Sigrid Thornton and William McInnes back to the stage for Lucy Prebble's newest play 'The Effect.'**

The play will run at Southbank Theatre's The Summer stage and reunites Thornton and McInnes for the first time since popular TV Drama *Sea Change*.

Australian actors dominate the play with Nathaniel Dean and Zahra Newman joining Thornton and McInnes in this love story with a difference.

*The Effect* follows the story of Connie, a young psychology student and Tristan, a dreamer from the wrong side of the tracks who meet as test volunteers in an anti-depressant drug trial.

Proclaimed as one of the most exciting talents in the country, director Leticia Caceres said the script was engaging and devoid of a dull moment.

"Moving at breakneck pace, this play has such an extraordinary visceral power, after reading it I felt out of breath," Ms Caceres said.

She said the exciting opportunity to work with such a talented array of Australian actors was too good to pass up.

"I'm ecstatic about collaborating with four extraordinary actors and an incredible creative team to bring this work to life and create a truly moving night at the theatre," she said.

Lucy Prebble, who is one of Britain's most celebrated young writers, won Best New Play at the Critic's Circle Awards in 2013.

*The Effect* will open from August 16 and run until September 20 with opening night on Thursday, August 21.

# KEEPING IT REAL

**American singer-songwriter and four time Grammy Award winner Joe Henry is touring Australia and will play at the Melbourne Recital Centre.**

Henry will play on the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall stage on Friday, September 12 touring his new album *Invisible Hour*. Henry has called *Invisible Hour* his favourite album so far. "I feel with this album I have reached a balance between an expanded poetic ambition and emotional clarity," he said.

Joe Henry's songs incorporate a variety of styles including rock, jazz, soul, blues and folk among others. In this album, he leans towards folk and soul.

When questioned, Henry had trouble picking a favourite song on the album, and nominated two instead. "Either *Slide* because I love the mystery it contains or *Sign* because I love the way the narrative unspools," he said.

Over the course of his career Joe Henry has collaborated with a number of other American songwriters including Don Cherry, Victoria Williams, Gary Louris and many others. On the current album there are guest appearances by Lisa Hannigan and The Milk Carton Kids.

There are also many who Henry would

like to work with in the future. "Sonny Rollins, Bill Withers, Prince, Merle Haggard to name a few," he said.

Henry, who is also a producer, is gearing up for the release of *Look Again to the Wind: Cash's Bitter Tears Revisited*. The album, which is a tribute to Johnny Cash's *Bitter Tears* means a lot to Henry.

"Johnny was my first musical hero. I feel I owe the man a debt and helping to realise an album he felt had never really been heard is meaningful to me," he said.

Henry has been in the industry for more than 20 years and says the industry has kept him real.

"The key for me has been to just try and be authentic and faithful to what is uniquely mine to offer and not to look to a changing industry for validation or permission," he said.

His tour will include songs off his new album as well as a few songs from the past that are rarely played anymore.

During his time in Australia, Henry will be supported by Heath Cullen, an Australian singer-songwriter.



## DEBUSSY & BEETHOVEN

Nicolas Hodges | PIANO

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**PATYEGARANG**

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



**GEOFFREY SABA**

Sep 8

Salon

London-based Australian pianist Geoffrey Saba explores the influence of Near and Far Eastern music on composers from across the world in this colourful and virtuosic program.

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



**THE RIDERS**

Sep 23 - Oct 4

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

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



**ADAM SIMMONS & ALESSANDRA GROSSI**

Sep 5

Salon

Australia's Adam Simmons is known for music that is grounded in jazz with contemporary pop influences, while Italian Alessandra Garosi has classical roots but also has a lifelong interest in folk music, rock and border-line music.

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



**THE SUBLIME**

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# FACES OF SOUTHBANK



**MARY CLOUVAS, 32,**  
*Works at Melbourne River Cruises*

Without hesitation Mary says she would end all war. Mary believes that life would be a lot easier if people were not nasty and recalls an old boss who used to say that it takes more muscles to frown than smile.



**STEVEN CHAPARRO, 21**  
*Visiting after a job interview*

Steven believes everyone deserves a place to sleep and food to eat, and would prefer a world where everyone had a home. Steven feels the need to help people after surviving leukaemia as a child.



**UMI OTOMO, 26**  
*Visiting from Japan*

According to Umi, now-a-days life is too busy, and she would prefer a world without the internet. Umi is from Tokyo and says that it is hard because things are constantly changing and would rather go back to old fashioned ways.



**LEONARD GIBBS, 63**  
*Visiting the National Gallery of Victoria*

Leonard believes the world would be better if there was peace and happiness for all. To do this, Leonard says, all squabbles around the world need to stop so ensure innocent people do not become collateral damage like the MH17 victims.



**RILEY MAGALOTTI, 66**  
*Works at Driver bus line*

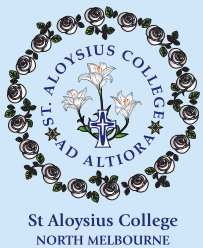
In line with Riley's motto to "live in peace", he would stop the bombing. Riley believes that we are all humans, and there is no need for the slaughter that has been happening all over the world.



**HELENA BALAZS, 31**  
*Works at Melbourne Symphony Orchestra*

Upon reflection, Helena says she would remove Hitler from history. Helena's grandfather survived the Auschwitz concentration camp and came to Australia. Helena remembers that he faced every challenge with a smile.

If you could change one thing about the world what would it be?



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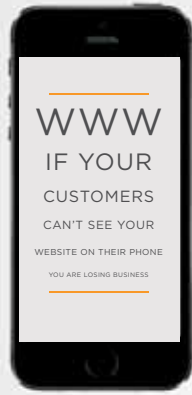


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## OWNERS with Tom Bacon CORPORATION LAW

# The trials and tribulations of committee members

*Being a chairperson, secretary or committee member of an owners' corporation (OC) can sometimes be a thankless task.*

After a long day at work, and after attending to domestic duties at large, these voluntary members must then meet at unsociable hours to discuss and manage the affairs of the residential buildings they live in, and to ultimately make binding decisions with important repercussions for all residents.

The functions and duties of committee members are contained within the Owners Corporation Act 2006, and include core concepts such as maintaining and repairing common property, keeping the building insured, ensuring that the rules of the owners' corporation are enforced, and ensuring that the Owners Corporation has sufficient funds in its accounts to pay its bills.

Stepping outside those core functions and duties are permissible, as most owners' corporations will allow the committee to be delegated all functions and powers of the OC at the annual general meeting.

However, committee members ought to be extra careful when stepping outside the bounds of their core functions and duties.

A code of conduct applies to committee members under the Owners Corporation Act 2006, requiring members to act honestly and in good faith in performing their functions, and to exercise due care, skill and diligence in every decision they make, or do not make as the case may be.

The insurance industry offers protection and cover for committee members that make bad

decisions, however only if it can be proven that the committee made the bad decision in reasonable belief that the decision was in the best interests of the owners' corporation.

Committee members should not feel comforted by the protection offered by insurers. Any lot owner may file proceedings in VCAT if they believe that a decision made by a committee was made in bad faith and without due care.

The key lesson for all committees when considering potentially contentious issues are to seek advice early and often, from their owners' corporation managers and from appropriately-qualified and insured service providers.

Whether it be legal advice, engineering advice or from financial services professionals, reliance on that advice from others would help to shield committees from shouldering the entire blame for contentious issues gone wrong.

Moreover, if individual committee members feel uncomfortable or pressured about a certain proposed course of action, they should seek the decision be deferred so that appropriate advice can be sought.

In strata land, there are no prizes for making hasty decisions.

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.  
[tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au](mailto:tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au)



## ON THE BOX with Korey Fernando

# Fancy new facilities, same old 'Prisoner'

Presently in the entertainment industry, the reboot is largely commonplace. However 'Wentworth' is one program that didn't need a dark and gritty reimagining, as 'Prisoner', the show that it was born from, was very progressively dealing with the same issues back in the late '70s.

I wasn't really sure what to think when I sat down to watch *Wentworth*. As someone who was born after the original program had already been taken off screens, I watched it fully aware that it was a "reimagining" but largely ignorant to any references to the original. For those of you in the same boat, I'd encourage you to stay ignorant to the previous show (if possible) before attempting this one due to potential spoilers.

*Wentworth* is a great show with a fantastic cast. As with many local productions, you can usually play a game of - "hey it's that guy from that show I used to watch" and there are many standout performances in the cast.

One of the things I really appreciate about *Wentworth* is that, in changing the title of the program for the reboot, the focus itself doesn't land solely on the inmates but explores the lives of the prison guards and administration as well.

The characters and overarching storyline also stop to deliver occasional fan service to the original, but these are dealt with very subtly. The sets have all been purpose-built in Melbourne and are all of a really high production value, which only serves to present *Wentworth* as both a believable setting and more of a fleshed-out world for the characters to live in.



The cast of TV prison series 'Wentworth'.

I think it's important to draw comparisons with another contemporary about a women's prison, *Orange is the new Black*. I must say, of the two, I actually preferred *Wentworth*. There's something a little more endearing to me about the themes of the show, paired with the fact that it's a straight drama and not comedy set in a women's prison.

While both are obviously sensationalised for entertainment purposes, and both feature some fairly uncomplicated character archetypes, yet *Wentworth* resonated a little more with me. I did also find the characters to be much more complex in *Wentworth* and the absence of humour made it feel like a deeper experience.

My biggest gripe with *Wentworth* is that it isn't on free-to-air television. The free-to-air landscape could definitely benefit from a show of *Wentworth's* calibre and there is definitely room for a drama that takes itself seriously - the last thing we need is another dewy-eyed relationship melodrama about a bunch of well-to-do's and their social entanglements.

*Wentworth* can be seen on Foxtel's Soho network and is definitely worth a look.

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with Pastor Ian Vainikka

# The beauty remains; the pain passes

*Although he was nearly 28 years younger than his counterpart, the two great artists were dear friends and frequent companions. When the older artist was confined to his home during the last decade of his life, the younger visited him daily.*

The older artist, almost paralysed by arthritis, continued to paint in spite of his infirmities. One day as the younger artist friend watched the elder painter working in his studio, fighting torturous pain with each brush stroke, he blurted out: "Why do you continue to paint when you are in such agony?"

His answer was simple: "The beauty remains; the pain passes." And so, almost to his dying day, he continued to put paint to canvas. One of his most famous paintings, was completed just two years before his death; 14 years after this disabling disease struck him.

Life regularly brings along times when pain, suffering and sorrow fill our hearts and minds. Loneliness, illness, our children or friends' struggles and a plethora of other problems weigh us down. In times like these, our heavenly father wants to comfort and encourage us; ultimately the pain will pass, but the beauty of Christ's cross will remain forever.

In Roman times, the cross was a symbol of death. It stood for the abrupt, violent end of a human being. The man, who took the cross and started down the road, had already said

goodbye to his friends – to his family. He wasn't coming back.

But God, in his son, Jesus Christ, transformed the cross from a symbol of death and hopelessness, into a symbol of beauty – hope and victory. St Paul writes to the Corinthians: "For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God" (1 Cor.1:18).

The sight of Jesus on the cross, disclosed God as one who suffers with humanity. There is no suffering closer to God than the suffering

of the man Jesus. Thus, the human suffering of Jesus is really God's own suffering. But God helps us in our suffering through the cross, keeping us through his word at the cross of Christ, so that we are comforted in our struggles.

So, let us remember: Ultimately our pain, whether physical or emotional, will pass, if not here on earth, then at least in eternity. But the life giving hope, the "beauty" of Christ's cross, will remain forever as our true hope and salvation.

*Pastor Ian*



**SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS  
GROUP WITH TONY PENNA**

*Well, where do I start as there is so much to talk about yet so little space.*

It really has been an enormous month yet it seems like it was only yesterday that I was writing my last column. I am only going to be able to touch on very little here with the happenings of the last four weeks, so please like us on Facebook (SouthbankResidentsGroup) to keep abreast of what your community organisation has been up to. Even better, become a member and ask your tower/complex to become a member.

A few editions ago, I passionately wrote about the lack of internal design with a number of the developments of late.

It seems my timing with this criticism couldn't have been better as just last month the Planning Minister, Matthew Guy, has announced he will shortly be releasing the

Government's "design standards" to combat this.

This plan was drafted by the state architect and was based on the NSW plan (apparently NSW has got this right).

This announcement coincided with the City of Melbourne's (CoM) draft housing strategy which focused primarily on an affordable housing target for 2018 but also on design standards.

On a whole, the council's strategy was a very good report and welcomed by SRG which we conveyed to the council in our submission amongst other points for it not to overlook.

The closing of community submissions came a few days after an at-capacity forum on this issue held by the Future Melbourne

Network (not to be confused with the Future Melbourne Committee at council).

There were great speakers on this topic (of which the state architect was one) and some very relevant questions from the audience. Council recently rejected a planning application with the Lord Mayor commenting on the "flexi rooms" (as described by the developer) as: "A room that doesn't have direct or indirect access to daylight, ventilation or outlook is not a room, it's a cupboard." So let's hope this is the start to ensuring better design standards are on their way.

The inaugural Southbank Farmers' Market was a great success. The local community certainly welcomed me with engaging discourse on our community.

The lack of public open space kept getting a mention, so last month I confronted the Lord Mayor at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting asking when the remaining Boyd development site will commence since one third of the remaining block is to be developed into public open space and is currently two years overdue.

According to the Lord Mayor, construction is to commence in February 2015.

I will have further clarifying questions for him on this subject.

Don't be shy and come and say hi at the next Southbank Farmers' Market on February 6.

*Tony Penna  
President*

## Join us at St Johns Church Southgate



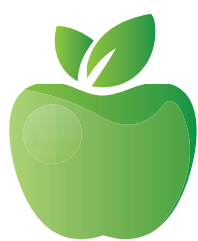
**St Johns  
Southgate**

Sunday 31st August  
9am Bach Cantata Service  
Tritt auf die Glaubensbahn (BWV 152)  
for 2 soloists, viola d'amore, oboe, recorder,  
viola da gamba and continuo  
St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra  
directed by Graham Lieschke

Every Sunday  
9am Traditional worship with communion  
11am Informal worship with communion  
6pm Sunday Night at St Johns  
Informal contemporary worship  
hosted by Lutheran Students and Friends

11am Sunday School (during school terms)

The chapel is open daily  
for private prayer and reflection



# Exercising to create physical change

*I meet many people every day and discuss with them their goals for health and fitness - it's always about change.*

## HEALTH & WELLBEING



By Anton Pilli  
Genesis Southbank

The desire to change body composition, or the desire to change (improve) fitness levels or to achieve things they have never achieved or have not for some years.

These are simple or normal goals that people set, but what isn't so simple for many people is understanding what is needed to actually change our physical being.

Common motivations are:

- The pursuit to burn calories (that of which is actually more easily offset through adjustments to calorie consumption);
- Improve our functional capacity; or
- Reshape or resize our existing musculature.

In reference to the first point, our mainly-obese society is slowly learning that movement of any kind will aid the pursuit to rid ourselves of excess calories stored as fat, though when it comes to the last points, the average punter generally misunderstands that simply by moving we cannot create change - we have to force change.

The human body is an extremely adaptive tool. If you ask it to wake at a certain hour each day, it will re-program itself to wake at

that hour. If you move to an unusual climate that is at first uncomfortable, within a couple weeks your body will adapt to it.

It's similar in exercise. If new environments are stressed upon the body, it will adapt or change or grow. However, if nothing new is imposed, or no new limits are attempted, nothing will change as there is no need for the body to adapt.

The above is a general perspective that is relevant to both the experienced or even elite exerciser, along with an absolute first timer. For each individual, regardless of experience or lack thereof, new territory must be explored.

Greater speeds, heavier weights, further distances, need to be attempted for us to force our bodies to adapt and change. If we don't, if we stay within only what we are capable of then nothing will change as there is no need for the body to do so.

Therefore, with this thought in mind, training intensity, whatever the training mode, is one of the most important things to consider in your training plan.

Beginners note, this message is in no way suggesting that you too need to work as hard

as the gym junkie running next to you on the treadmill.

It simply states that you need to extend yourself beyond normal activities. i.e. if you previously spent the day entirely chained to your desk, your relevant training intensity to create initial change won't be much more than a brisk walk or lifting a 5kg weight from the ground to above your head.

If you're starting from the beginning, the process is quite simple really. It only gets really tough at the other end of the spectrum when your capabilities or limits extend much further.

If you're unsure of how to create change for your level of fitness, get help from an exercise professional ASAP. If nothing else though, just try every now and then to go that little bit faster, lift that little bit heavier or move in another different way.

Just don't keep functioning to the same limits and expect change.

Keep training. Keep improving.

Anton Pilli can be contacted at Genesis Fitness on 9690 2626 or [anton.pilli@genesisfitness.com.au](mailto:anton.pilli@genesisfitness.com.au)

## 1 Riverside Quay

Heritage-listed sites in Southbank

### SACRED SITES



*The Jones Bond Store was a large complex of store buildings in the heart of Southbank.*

Construction on the buildings began in 1888 by architects Taylor and Lloyd.

It is one of the largest 19<sup>th</sup> century store complexes in Victoria and one of the few remaining sites from Southbank's early industrial past.

The Jones Bond Store is an example of how

warehouses and shipping facilities were a lot closer to the city centre in the 1900's and how the area was constantly busy with shipping activity.

The style, considered Victorian period and the character of the building, reflects Melbourne's importance as a port city during the post gold rush years.



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# Beverley adds heart to councillor team

*Coming up to the half-way point of her term as a Melbourne city councillor, Beverley Pinder-Mortimer is starting to get the hang of how the town hall operates.*

Perhaps the most unlikely politician of the city's 11 councillors, the charming career public relations consultant is the first to admit she had little clue about what she was getting herself into.

"I am so much not a politician and I really knew very little of how local government works," she said.

But despite these challenges, Cr Pinder-Mortimer is thriving in the role and is loving every minute of it.

The current team of councillors is a well-balanced group of disparate individuals with a broad range of capacities, interests and intellects.

Cr Pinder-Mortimer says she contributes a "soft-centre" and a "warm heart" to this balance and, in return, is well supported by her colleagues.

"All of my colleagues are so good to me. I am learning so much about life and, in particular, people," she said.

Despite being elected to office in late 2012 on the "Team Doyle" juggernaut which stopped just one seat short of an absolute majority, Cr Pinder-Mortimer says there are really no factions within the council.

"We seem to share a common vision on many issues, but when it comes to making decisions, everyone's view is important and respected. We each have one vote and you'll find that on many occasions this council will reach a unanimous decision," she said.

She said she had reached a point in her life when she wanted to start giving back to the community when the Lord Mayor, Cr Robert Doyle, first approached her to run for office.

"I didn't need much convincing. I was very



honoured and said yes there and then," she said.

"For me, this is very much about community. I am such a passionate Melburnian that the opportunity to serve as a councillor is priceless."

As the council's marketing portfolio chair, Cr Pinder-Mortimer has been given the chance to indulge her passion for promotions, tourism, events and retail.

She said her other major interest within council was in helping the less fortunate members of the community.

"I guess this matches with who I am - first and foremost a compassionate person who believes in humanity, humility and hard work with a focus on family and community," she said.

While she says council life is tough, she doesn't consider it a sacrifice in any way.

"I am learning so much and getting so much back through the role, that I certainly don't begrudge the extra 35 or 40 hours a week devoted to the job," she said.

Cr Pinder-Mortimer "fell into" the public relations industry after winning in 1978 the beauty pageant Miss Universe Australia.

She says she learned from the best and has been in business for herself for nearly 30 years.

As the only girl and middle child of an immigrant family, she arrived in Australia from her native Sri Lanka as a highly-motivated teenager.

"I remember arriving on the tarmac at Essendon Airport and seeing that great big sky and all that space and saying to myself - 'Yes, I've arrived,'" she said.

Growing up in and around St Kilda (with a brief stint in the outer suburbs), Cr Pinder-Mortimer is still in love with Melbourne and St Kilda Rd.

She is realistic about how much a city councillor can actually achieve and likes to talk about "advocacy" rather than "change".

She said it has been an eye-opening experience to see the way councillors and council staff work together to make things happen. "Getting the balance right in terms of my role and council officers is a challenge and I'm always learning," she said.

"There is no shortage of advice on our responsibilities, particularly statutory obligations and those relating to conflict of interest."

"I'm learning as I go but I really would prefer to just pitch in and get things done," she said. "Politics is part of the landscape here but I'm a straight-shooter and am more interested in getting the job done."

No doubt Cr Pinder-Mortimer will be more effective if she is returned for a second term. At this stage she says she has no aspirations in this regard but, looking at how much fun she is having, don't be surprised to see this most unlikely of politicians lining up again in 2016.



Profile by Shane Scanlan

## SOUTHBANK SUDOKU

A variation of Sudoku, with the letters SOUTHBANK replacing the numbers.

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

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line of the must contain the letters 'SOUTHBANK' as must each 9-square box. This Sudoku is extra difficult! Good Luck!

Last month's Sudoku solution

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

## STREET SMARTS



### Moray Street

*The Kingdom of Moray was a lordship in high medieval Scotland that was destroyed in 1130 by King David I.*

The medieval lordship was centred on lower Spey valley and Inverness as well as northern parts of the Great Glen.

The title of Earl of Moray has been created several times in the history of Scotland. It was

first bestowed on Thomas Randolph in 1314.

It has also been given to James Stewart the son of King James IV. However as he did not have any children the title died along with him.

Following Stewart, the title was handed to George Gordon 4th Earl of Huntly. Gordon then fell out of royal favour and in 1462 he was killed and his title was relinquished.

The last known Earl of Moray was another James Stewart, the illegitimate son of King James V, in 1562.



# Businesses in Southbank

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

## PLANNING FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS AT TAX TIME

*The end of the financial year is the traditional trigger for getting your tax in order but according to Tommy Huynh, Head of Financial Planning at This Is My Plan (formerly Tax Aid) in Docklands, it's also the perfect time to set the groundwork for financial success in the year ahead.*

"For many people, doing the paperwork for their annual tax return is the only time they spend looking at their financial position," Mr Huynh says. "But it's also a golden opportunity to look at the bigger financial picture and think about your individual goals."

The team of qualified tax and finance professionals at This is My Plan work with a diverse range of clients, including families, small business owners and individuals to provide practical advice and clear answers to every tax or finance question.

"Many people feel overwhelmed or anxious about discussing tax and financial issues," Mr Huynh says. "But there's no such thing as a silly question. We're here to provide real-world advice to clients that helps them make informed decisions."

Mr Huynh says the tax team at This Is My Plan are also experts at property taxation and self-managed super funds - areas that can be

complicated and daunting for investors but needn't be with the right professional advice.

Nicholas Psychogios, Head of Finance at This Is My Plan agrees that this is the best time to examine your whole financial position. "Whether you have loans for your home or investment properties or even your share portfolio, it's important to take time to re-evaluate your finance solutions regularly," he says.

"Things in finance are ever changing and staying on the same loan long term can mean you're missing out on some of the benefits that other lenders might be providing now."

With 20 years of industry experience, Mr Psychogios believes the best finance professionals use a partnership approach with their clients, providing advice that has their clients' best interests at heart.

"Make sure your advisors really listen and



The team from This is My Plan want to help you set the groundwork for financial success.

understand your goals," he says. "An advisor from an established firm like This Is My Plan isn't limited by certain financial providers or products which means they're free to make the best recommendations for your individual circumstances. At the end of the

day it's all about building YOUR wealth."

This Is My Plan is located at 744 Bourke Street, Docklands. For an appointment call 9600 1100 or book online at [www.thisismyplan.com.au](http://www.thisismyplan.com.au)

## A PASSION FOR PROPERTY

*Jonathon Bird's passion for property goes far beyond his role at RT Edgar Real Estate.*

Located in neighboring Albert Park and conducting a large proportion of his work in Southbank, Jonathon Bird has been plying his trade in the area for well over a decade now.

Over that time, he says his passion in real estate long ago reached a point of feeling like an everyday career.

"Up early and finishing late seven days a week, the enjoyment of my role long ago reached the stage where it no longer felt like work," he said. "It's simply something I just love doing."

It's that extra degree of passion and integrity that has served Jon so well for so many years within the local market.

His love for his role is reflected by an exceptional track record, having previously run his own real estate agency and been the recipient of several awards for outstanding service.

According to his colleagues at RT Edgar, Jon's career history can be measured literally by hundreds of property transactions, many of which have delivered his clients outcomes far above their expectations.



RT Edgar real estate agent Jonathon Bird.

He said the manner in which he achieves results is as important as the results themselves.

"I have always found creating communicative, long-standing working relationships and building an honest rapport is the best way of winning confidence," he said.

In real estate, having a clear understanding

of the critical nature of time on all property transactions and the importance of closing a deal for clients is key.

According to Jon, this can still be achieved while providing vendors with a low stress process and producing strong sales outcomes within the required timeframe.

"My key focus is on professionalism,

providing frank and fearless advice and on the fact that the final price is the ultimate benchmark," he said.

"This allows me to maintain a high level of energy and engagement with all my clients."

Jonathon Bird is based at RT Edgar, 133 Victoria Avenue, Albert Park.

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

# WHAT'S ON

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | **AUG** | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC



### CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASSES

Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays at 111 Sturt Street. Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength.  
[www.chunkymove.com](http://www.chunkymove.com)



### SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 6

**SOUTHBANK FARMERS MARKET**  
On the first Saturday of every month, the Southbank Farmers Market will be setting up the stalls at Boyd Community Hub. Buy direct from the farmers, enjoy some live music and experience a little bit of country right here in the city.

### MONDAYS & SATURDAYS

#### YOGA WITH ALISON @ BOYD

Looking to improve both your physical and mental well-being? Instructor Alison Corsie hosts classes at Boyd every Monday at 6:15pm and Saturdays at 9am.  
[alison@inner-rhythms.com.au](mailto:alison@inner-rhythms.com.au)

### WEDNESDAYS

#### BOOT CAMP @ BOYD

If you're looking for a great way to start the day, come along to Boot Camp at Boyd. Active Melbourne Instructors will take you through a series of fun and challenging exercises. Starts at 6.45 am.



### TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

#### MELBOURNE NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS

This night photography class runs in Melbourne's city centre and has all the night photography tips you'll ever need. At 3 Southbank Promenade.  
[www.pennykouloulas.com](http://www.pennykouloulas.com)

#### INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB

Meeting on selected dates and various locations, IMLAC takes in the city's parks, its culture, fabulous eating options as well as festivals, galleries and concerts.  
Visit our website [www.life.org.au/imlac](http://www.life.org.au/imlac) or call Carolyn on 9696 1090 for more.



### TUESDAYS

#### SOUTHBANK ROTARY

Rotary Club of Southbank Inc meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year at Various locations. Visitors are always welcome.  
[www.southbank.org.au](http://www.southbank.org.au)



### SUNDAYS

#### ARTS CENTRE SUNDAY MARKET

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



### SUNDAYS

#### ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE SUNDAY WORSHIP

9am - Traditional liturgical worship.  
11am - Informal liturgical worship.  
6pm - Informal contemporary worship.  
[www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au](http://www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au)

### SUNDAY AUGUST 31

#### A WALK IN THE PARK @ FED SQUARE

Thousands of Melbournians will get moving at Parkinson's Victoria's A Walk in the Park at Federation Square on Sunday August 31, 2014

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

### FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH, 10AM

#### MELBOURNE SUNRISE CLUB

Meeting first Thursday of each month at The Library at the Dock, Victoria Harbour. Probus is a social club for men and women over 50. Keep your mind active and meet new friends while enjoying a range of activities.  
Joan on [rksalesaustptyltd@bigpond.com](mailto:rksalesaustptyltd@bigpond.com)



### AUGUST 3 - SEPTEMBER 7

#### FASHION WEEK @ SOUTHGATE

Melbourne Spring Fashion Week arrives at Southgate across a range of free exhibitions and displays dedicated to Melbourne's iconic and emerging designers.

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



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PROPRIETOR: AZMAN HARON

**STH MELBOURNE**  
PH: 9699 2042  
310-314 CLARENDON STREET  
MON-FRI: 8AM - 9PM  
SAT: 9AM - 6PM SUN: 9AM - 5PM  
PUBLIC HOLIDAY: 10AM - 5PM  
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