

The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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Lord Mayor slams 'terrible proposal'

By Sean Car

City of Melbourne councillors have unanimously voted against a proposal for a 57-storey tower at 334-344 City Rd in Southbank.

The planning referral went before council at the first Future Melbourne Committee meeting of 2015 on February 3, with Lord Mayor Robert Doyle condemning what he called a "terrible proposal".

The city's planning officers highlighted a number of key objections to the tower in its planning report, stating that the building's height would "overwhelm and the dominate" its surrounds.

At 190-metres, officers stated that the proposal failed to adhere to local urban design policy, which provides a 100-metre discretionary height control and 10-metre setbacks from all boundaries.

Cr Doyle slammed the proposal for ignoring the guidelines set out in the planning scheme.

"This is a terrible proposal," he said. "You have a 100-metre discretionary height that seems to me to be an appropriate height for this area."

"For something to be proposed that is nearly double that height just thumbs its nose at every planning stricture that we have."

While the final decision will ultimately rest with new Planning Minister Richard Wynne, it looms as an early test for the new Andrews government to end, what it labeled in opposition, its predecessors "rubber-stamp" policy for Southbank.

Mr Wynne will return to work this month

after suffering a heart attack in December.

Cr Stephen Mayne said he hoped the change in government would see a change in what he described as the "anything goes" approach of former planning minister Matthew Guy.

"I think that sort of attitude has partly led to where we are - where an expectation was created, where many of the discretionary height limits were sort of written in pencil, which could be easily rubbed out," he said

"I certainly hope that with new applications such as these, a message will be sent very quickly and that is that the anything-goes approach that we've seen in recent times is over and it will be a more considered regime going forward."

The developer responsible for the proposal, Calgem, bought the City Rd site in 1999 for \$4.5 million and only last year applied to build an 80-storey tower on the site.

Calgem Pty Ltd could not be contacted by *Southbank Local News*.

If approved, the tower would incorporate more than 400 apartments and see the existing Eve nightclub and Urban Central backpackers demolished.

As well as height and setback concerns, planning officers raised issues in its report relating to the tower's articulation as well as wind and traffic impacts.

Continued on page 4.



Summersalt comes alive

Summersalt Festival is in the heart of its gigantic five-week program and there are many more exciting events to come. Read more in the Arts Precinct on page 11.

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Police seek violent robbers

By Chloe Strahan

Police are investigating two assault-and-robberies in Southbank and South Melbourne on December 29.

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Det Sen Constable Brooke Manley said the two assaults were believed to have been committed by the same offenders.

The first incident occurred around 3.50am in Southbank along the Yarra River, just underneath Princes Bridge.

20-year-old William from St Kilda is visiting Australia, and was riding his bike home from work east along the river.

William was then stopped by two males on bikes, who violently punched and beat him while he was on the ground. The two males proceeded to steal William's mobile phone, and left him with a chipped tooth and a black eye.

"I was on the ground. Once I tried to stand up but they punched me down again, I could do nothing," William explained.

Both offenders then rode their bikes west to South Melbourne, where they approached two males in Market St.

A 24-year-old man from West Footscray and 23-year-old man from Sunshine were

walking to their car when the two offenders demanded their property.

When the victims did not oblige, one offender began to punch a victim in the face, leaving him with cuts, swelling and broken glasses.

The second victim ran towards Clarendon St and caught the attention of a passing taxi driver, which caused the offenders to flee the area.

"The other two victims were terrified for their lives. They thought that they were done," said Det Sen Constable Manley. "Who would have known what would happen next if the taxi driver hadn't intervened?"

The offenders are both caucasian, in their early 20s and approximately 176cm tall.

One offender had blonde hair, wearing a blue striped shirt and jeans. The second offender had brown hair, and wore tanned pants with a maroon hoodie and white and black T-shirt.

Det Sen Constable Manley explained that

CCTV footage of the rampage was "extremely violent".

"This obviously holds concerns for Victoria Police when we have victims that are attacked just going about their daily business. William should have been able to leave his place of work and travel home safely," Det Sen Constable Manley said.

Although William had a week off work following the assault, and still needs dentistry work to fix his tooth, he is positive that the assault won't tarnish his experiences in Australia.

"In any country you can have incidences like this, it is not happening in Australia specifically," he said. "I want to enjoy my time here, I don't want to be scared about something else."

Police have obtained a face image from the men in South Melbourne, and are using CCTV footage to further identify the two offenders.

Det Sen Constable Manley is urging anyone with information to call Crime Stoppers.



Investigators have released an image of a man, CCTV footage and images of two men they believe may be able to assist with their enquiries.

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The Southbank Farmers Market will not operate in 2015.

Market shuts up shop

The Southbank Farmers Market will not operate in 2015, with organisers optimistic of a return to Southbank next year.

Having held a six-month permit on the site behind the Boyd Community Hub, the Melbourne Farmers Market (MFM) made the decision to quit after only five months.

The group made its decision after considering the residential development on the site, which is due to start this year.

The site's developer Mackie and the City of Melbourne had assisted the organisation with its attempts to find alternative space for the market in Southbank.

However, MFM director Miranda Sharp said the costs associated with undertaking the many changes required simply didn't make the market viable.

"We always knew it was a temporary arrangement," she said. "We've been talking to Boyd for over two years and trying to work around the building development on site and in the end we just decided we should give it a whirl."

"There were fantastic indications of it being a success but the development is still very much on the cards and the need to change the site made it too costly for us to continue to run for the time being."

Having established itself at the Boyd Community Hub last year, the community's response to the market's first installment

in August indicated it would be a huge success, with over 2000 attending.

However, a combination of unfortunate weather and timing saw numbers significantly decline at the market's subsequent installments which, according to Ms Sharp, didn't help its case to continue.

"We're a not-for-profit organisation of a tiny nature trying to do some pretty ambitious things," she said.

"Our primary focus is to ensure that Victorian agriculture has a spotlight in city communities but we need to be convinced of that in order to come back and it needs to be viable for all concerned."

Ms Sharp said MFM would re-visit plans for the market and keep discussions open once the building works were near completion and the site, which will also include a new park, had settled.

She said that while the group was disappointed to be putting the market on hold it was still committed to working with the Southbank community and continued to address the issues raised in the 2012 Melbourne food policy framework.

"The stallholders were really blown away with the response that the community showed and we really regret that we couldn't continue longer," she said.

"I think the decision to wait until there is certainty of the site and the area that would be available in future is the sensible one and certainly the only one we can afford for the time being."

High hopes for 'other' east-west link

Proponents of the Melbourne B1 Veloway are confident that the new State Government will accept their novel idea to separate cyclists from CBD motorists and pedestrians.

If accepted and finally built, the Veloway cycle path would be "clipped" to the outside of the 1.7km railway viaduct, passing over Banana Alley and six intersections, between Flinders St and Southern Cross stations.

The consortium behind the novel idea has taken to calling the Veloway "the other east-west link" and is hopeful of a better reception from the new Labor government than the original east-west road link.

"At this stage, all we are seeking from government is a commitment to fund a fuller feasibility study which we believe will prove the business case and show a net state benefit for the state and for all Melburnians," said consortium spokesperson Grant O'Donnell.

Mr O'Donnell, a director of Melbourne Life-form Development, said the Veloway would provide an important link connecting Melbourne's bicycle networks from Cremorne, Richmond in the east to Docklands in the west.

"As a congested city, we have to make life

easier for motorists, taxis, delivery drivers and of course for cyclists. The current thinking which seems to begin and end with bike lanes and painting lines on roads is demonstrably not good enough," Mr O'Donnell said.

"We believe this public infrastructure proposal will firmly establish Melbourne as a transport innovator in delivering improved cycle safety through much needed separation of cars from bikes and also from pedestrians along the busy Northbank and Southbank precincts as well as being an appealing amenity for ride to work commuters and visitors to Melbourne."

"Cycling to work has more than doubled in the last 10 years and a stated aim of all governments has been to provide vehicle-free paths and facilities as an extremely effective way for improving their safety."

In welcoming the proposal, Yarra River Business Association executive officer Tim Bracher said the Veloway would help address a number of issues.

"The Veloway project ticks so many boxes for Melbourne that it's hard to understand why it's not getting much traction at town hall and Spring St," he said.

"It would help address the cycle safety problem on Southbank, reduce traffic congestion and pollution, encourage exercising, speed-up travel time between Docklands and Southbank, and it would be a fantastic tourist attraction as well."



An artist's impression of the proposed B1 Veloway.



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Thank you Natalie

It is with a heavy heart that after two and a half years, community animator at the Boyd Community Hub Natalie Warren says farewell to Southbank.

Since opening its doors in 2012, the Boyd Community Hub has been vital in helping Southbank establish a much-needed sense of community.

From the very beginning of the hub's establishment, Southbank has known only one community animator, who has been integral in fostering that spirit and the heart and soul of Boyd.

As she moves on to her next challenge at the Kathleen Symes Community Centre in Carlton with great excitement, Ms Warren said she would always be proud of what she had achieved in Southbank.

"For me it's been quite a fantastic journey because there was no community infrastructure in Southbank before this building opened so it's been wonderful to see how this community has come together," she said.

"What has been the really pleasing thing for me has been that people look to us as the civic heart of the suburb."

"I guess I feel I'm handing it over in a really good place and I guess, as with most projects, the ideal is to make things sustainable – that they're ongoing."

As the true cornerstone of the community, the City Rd community centre continues to provide a warm and welcoming environment for residents, business people and visitors of Southbank to gather and connect.

With Southbank being the only Australian suburb with an almost entirely vertical style of living, Natalie said the biggest challenge had been "trying to get people out of their buildings".

However, with the City of Melbourne responding to statistics highlighting a growing presence of young people and families in Southbank, Natalie said it quickly became clear that the facility was something



Natalie Warren has said farewell to the Boyd Community Hub after two and a half years as community animator.

the whole community had been crying out for.

"When we actually opened our doors people were just so pleased to have it open," she said.

"You have young people and backpackers that are sitting here, older people, there's business people having their meetings and right beside them there's a young parent or a parent with grandparents."

"We've had great stories of connection where some people have lived in the same building and had never met each other but they meet here at a new mum's group. If nothing else we've provided that."

With the exception of the Southbank Residents Group and Southbank Rotary, Natalie said she was also proud of Boyd's role in helping establish a range of new community groups.

And while she leaves Boyd with many fond memories she said the thing she'll miss the most is working with children and families

and the wonderful team at Boyd and the City of Melbourne.

From its establishment in 1874 through to its transformation into JH Boyd Girls School in 1979, she said everyone involved in establishing the hub was proud to continue the building's rich legacy.

"I hope I've been able to embed that sense of the narrative of the building about the journey that the building has been on," she said.

"We feel like we've contributed to that next chapter of that story and I think the City of Melbourne has done a great job in fitting out the building to make it work for that next chapter."

"I think there is a great level of pride and satisfaction in how we've been able to serve this community."

Southbank Local News thanks Natalie for her service to Southbank and her long support of the local newspaper. We wish her all the best in her new role in Carlton.

Lord Mayor slams 'terrible proposal'

Continued from page 1.

Stephen Ballengee, a committee-member of Clarendon Towers, told councillors the building would directly impact the amenity of residents in the immediate precinct.

"The general scale and bulk of the building at 57 floors dwarfs any of the other existing buildings. It's just out of all proportion with the character of other buildings in our immediate precinct," Mr Ballengee said.

"The height and the setback is grossly out of compliance with the applicable design and development overlay."

Southbank Residents Group president Tony Penna also spoke against the proposal, demanding that a full traffic analysis be carried out before any development was approved in whatever capacity.

"I essentially concur with everything Steven has said, Southbank Residents Group cannot support this application and I also concur with the council officers recommendations," he said.

"We're not opposing the development of the site but merely that it needs to be done in accordance with the guidelines."

Melbourne City councillors were also expected to object to a 50-storey tower at 54-68 Kavanagh St in Southbank, however the matter was deferred because the developer allegedly wasn't notified that the referral was being heard.


City of Melbourne councillors are expected to be unable to make a decision on this application because a majority of them received campaign funding from the developer Central Equity before the 2012 election.



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New City of Melbourne CEO Ben Rimmer is seen as a "young gun" in government administration.

From busking to the city's top job

New Melbourne council CEO Ben Rimmer is returning to the city which gave him a start in life – as a young busker playing violin for extra cash.

The former busking-licence-holder started work in the city's top job on February 9.

Mr Rimmer replaces Kathy Alexander who resigned last year after seven years in the role.

Despite not having worked in local government before, councillors perceived Mr Rimmer as the stand-out candidate and are excited to have secured his services.

At just 42, Mr Rimmer is seen as a "young gun" and a rising star in the public policy realm.

Selecting the chief executive officer (CEO) is the only hands-on role that councillors are allowed in the running of the council. Councillors can issue policy directives, but it is up to the CEO to appoint staff and run the council's day-to-day operations.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle described Mr Rimmer as one of the nation's "finest thinkers in public policy".

"I am confident that Ben will be a CEO of vision, intellect and hard work. He is an inspirational leader and we are delighted to welcome him home to Melbourne," Cr Doyle said.

It is understood that Mr Rimmer wanted to return to Melbourne, where he spent his formative years in the northern suburbs of the municipality.

Mr Rimmer has worked for Boston Consulting Group but has spent most of his career in the Victorian and federal public service, most recently in Canberra as associate secretary, service delivery transformation, Department of Human Services.

Mr Rimmer has been overseeing an ambitious cost-cutting exercise involving the amalgamation and digitisation of federal welfare delivery services.

As a young man, Mr Rimmer played in the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and once played at Carnegie Hall in New York with the Australian Youth Orchestra.

He was Victoria's 1997 Rhodes Scholar, completing an MBA at Oxford University.

Last year he was the recipient of the Sir James Wolfensohn Public Service Scholarship, studying at the John F Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in the USA.

TPG temporarily halts fibre rollout

TPG has been forced to halt its Fibre-to-the-Basement (FTTB) campaign after the federal government introduced new regulations last month.

But the company says it would recommence its campaign this month.

However, at the time of printing TPG's website indicated the FTTB campaign was yet to restart.

TPG-owned company Pipe Networks had been attempting to install FTTB connections to 500,000 apartments in high-density areas throughout Australia, including Southbank and Docklands, in direct competition with the NBN.

But in early January, TPG posted a notice on its website stating it had been advised of a regulation that precluded it from selling FTTB products unless it had taken "certain steps".

"There has been insufficient time to complete those steps before January 1 so until we complete the required changes we are required to remove our FTTP products from sale," the statement said.

On December 14 Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull released a statement outlining a "Carrier Licence Conditions Declaration", which requires affected carriers to offer wholesale services on a non-discriminatory basis and to separate their wholesale and retail businesses.

As of January 1, carriers were required to offer wholesale services on a non-discriminatory basis and as of July 1 will need to have separate wholesale and retail companies with separate director, management, staff and operational support systems.

According to the statement, the wholesale company will be required to supply services to other service providers on the same terms it supplies them to its own retail companies.

TPG spokesperson Tony Moffatt said: "We aim to return to selling services on the FTTB network by the end of January."

When TPG started its FTTB campaign, both owners' corporations and NBN Co raised concerns that buildings which signed up to TPG's network would be restricted to using TPG as its sole provider.

TPG was technically allowed to compete with the NBN Co because its fibre network was already in the ground before 2011.

Networks that were capable of supplying high-speed broadband services to small businesses or residential customers before January 1, 2011 were not caught by level playing field provisions as long as they did not extend their existing network footprint by more than a kilometre.

Jane Kinsey, national development manager for local provider Harbour ISP, said she was happy the Government had intervened, as its action had levelled the playing field.

"Under the NBN approach, all service providers have an equal opportunity to attract the business of individual apartment dwellers," she said. "The ability to choose is the most important thing."

The introduction of the new rules comes after the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission announced in September last year that it would not be taking action to block TPG's FTTB network rollout.

The commission ruled that TPG was technically allowed to compete with NBN Co in the race to connect FTTB within the apartment tower market because its fibre network was already in the ground before 2011, making use of a loophole in the Communications Act.

Following the ACCC's decision Mr Turnbull released a statement saying he proposed to consult the industry on the new telecommunications licence conditions.

Now that the new conditions have been introduced the ACCC will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the new rules.



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Rumble strips to slow speeding cyclists

The City of Melbourne will be installing eight sets of rumble strips along Southbank Promenade this month, in a bid to deter cyclists from speeding.



Some of the proposed locations along Southbank Promenade where rumble strips will be implemented.

Amid growing safety concerns, City of Melbourne spokeswoman Kate Millar said the rumble strips would be installed between Princes Bridge and Queensbridge St, to encourage cyclists to abide by the 10kmh speed limit.

“The installation of the rumble strips is in response to concerns raised by pedestrians, cyclists and traders along Southbank regarding the safety of the shared path,” she said.

VicRoads currently authorises speed limit signage along the shared path with Victoria Police being the enforcement agency.

A Victoria Police spokesperson said anyone riding dangerously would be stopped and penalties would be applied where appropriate.

Ms Millar said the City of Melbourne was also running a campaign in Southbank called Share Our Streets, to encourage

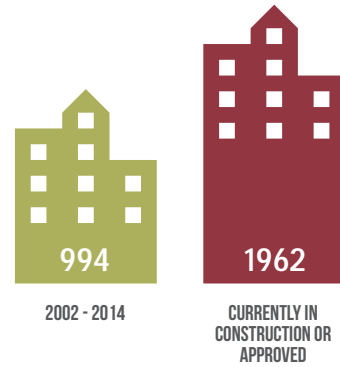
road users to exercise greater courtesy and awareness.

“Street teams will be popping up at busy locations across the city encouraging all road users to be alert, cross when green and look out for each other in a bid to reduce collisions and injuries,” she said.

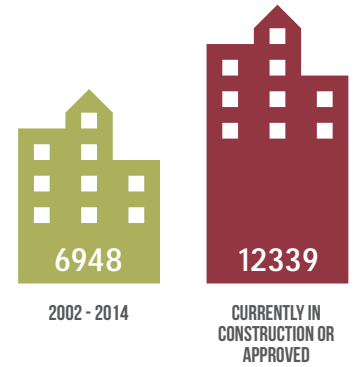
“We’re not asking a lot of people. Pay attention, look out for others and share the space available and make the city safer and more enjoyable for everyone.”

The program will run until April and will see street teams situated at Southbank Promenade, Harbour Esplanade and in Swanston and Elizabeth streets to raise awareness of shared spaces, pedestrian distraction and car-dooring.

FLOORS ADDED TO THE SOUTHBANK SKYLINE



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Boom time beginning

If you think Southbank is booming, then hang on to your hat, the party is only starting.

There is almost twice as much construction either underway or planned within Southbank than has taken place over the past 13 years.

The City of Melbourne’s recently-released Development Activity Monitor (DAM) shows that 6948 apartments have been built in Southbank since 2002 but that a further 12,339 are either under construction or are on the drawing board.

One of the metrics measured by the DAM is “floors above ground”. Since 2002, some 994 floors have been added to the

Southbank skyline. There are a further 1962 coming to a street near you.

However, it’s not the same story on the commercial front. Since 2002, some 131,405sqm of net lettable floor space has been added to the Southbank, with a further 57,593sqm on its way.

Retail is also not expanding as quickly as residential, where an extra 9209sqm is either underway or planned. This figure is significantly lower than the 76,176sqm of retail growth experienced in 2014.

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Australia 108 goes on sale locally

The wait for local buyers on the hunt for a slice of what will be Melbourne's tallest building is over, with Australia 108 apartments now on the market.

Singaporean developer World Class Land, a subsidiary of Aspial, put Australia 108's 1105 luxury apartments up for sale at the start of February, with price tags ranging between \$520,000 and \$25 million.

However, after sales began internationally in November not all properties are available on the local market, with more than 300 apartments having already been snapped up by a mix of Singaporean and foreign buyers.

At 319-metres and 100 habitable levels, the \$1 billion Australia 108 will become the southern hemisphere's tallest residential building when completed in 2019.

CBRE managing director Andrew Leoncelli said expressions of interest from potential buyers leading up to launch indicated that apartments at the 70 Southbank Boulevard address would sell quickly.

"We believe we will sell and sell very quickly," he said. "It's hard to predict how long, but they will sell fast!"

Former Liberal planning minister Matthew Guy approved a revamped design of Australia 108 in June last year, after the original design was found to be intruding into Essendon airport airspace.

While the building was referred to in some



An artist's impression of the "starburst" communal section of Australia 108, which will feature the two highest swimming pools in the southern hemisphere.

reports last year as "the building formerly known as Australia 108" because it no longer possessed 108 levels, Mr Leoncelli quashed any speculation of a name change.

"It will absolutely still be called Australia 108," he said. "It's a household name now - it's hard to get that level of market recognition with any other name."

Designed by Fender Katsalidis Architects, Australia 108 is broken into two distinct sections, with sky-rise apartments between level 11 and 68 ranging from \$520,000 through to \$900,000.

The "starburst" sections on levels 70 and 71 will feature 3000 sqm of communal space, which will include Australia's two highest

swimming pools.

From level 72, three-bedroom apartments start at \$1.6 million, while the cheapest penthouse is expected to fetch upwards of \$11 million.

The 100th level penthouse will be one of Melbourne's most expensive homes and is expected to sell for between \$20 million and \$25 million.

Aspial CEO Koh See Wung said Australia 108 would offer an unparalleled level of luxury to its residents.

"Australia 108 will go where no development has gone before," he said. "The closer you get to heaven in Australia 108, the more spectacular the living environment - and not just for the views."

"This is a project we believe is truly cloud-breaking in its luxury, design and amenity."

Construction of Australia 108 is estimated to be in excess of \$250 million over four and a half years and will employ nearly 3000 workers.

Construction is set to commence in mid-2015 and will be completed in three stages.



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Wind tunnel testing key to development

Wind engineers say developers need to give greater consideration to wind conditions and the comfort of ground-level pedestrians when designing new buildings.

While in some overseas jurisdictions, such as Canada and a host of European countries, developers are required to conduct pedestrian wind studies before building, that is not the case in Australia.

According to Global Wind Technology Services consultant Craig Skipsey, while there is strict safety criteria in place when it comes to the height of a development, rules governing ground level wind speeds were not being enforced.

“The safety criteria is pretty well-known and that’s the minimum – which is an average wind speed both mean and gust, so that’s pretty straight forward,” he said.

“There is a further set of criteria, which defines what the pedestrian area is being used for, and that is walking, standing and sitting.”

“Different wind engineers use variations of these criteria but generally they’re all on the same principle and that is what is the area going to be used for?”

When it comes to built-form, current safety standards render a building unsafe if any aspect of the development is susceptible to an average gust speed of more than 82 kmh (measured over three seconds) or 54 kmh over an hour.

According to Mr Skipsey, ground level wind speeds are an issue of comfort rather than safety and become a concern when developers incorporate space for retail or cafes.

Wind engineer and director of JDH Consulting Dr John Holmes said under the current system, developers could choose to ignore wind tunnel findings if the recommended changes weren’t financially viable.

“It may be the case that, even though wind tunnel tests were done, they didn’t really follow the results of the test,” he said.

“They accepted them and got the planning approval but didn’t implement what was recommended.”

However, Dr Holmes noted that in certain planning jurisdictions, such as Southbank

and Fishermans Bend, the requirements are more stringent.

“In Southbank and Fishermans Bend they’ve actually designated wind speeds in numerical units,” he said. “That is different to other parts of Melbourne, which tend to just have more general criteria.”

“But in this area, for the first time, they’ve actually designated certain comfort levels of wind speed that mustn’t occur more than a certain percentage of the time.”

The City of Melbourne’s design and development overlay policy states that developments in Southbank are expected to be acceptable for stationary long-term wind exposure “where the peak gust speed must not exceed 10 m/s.”

Dr Holmes said he believed such guidelines had been implemented by the City of Melbourne due to lessons learned from planning failures in Docklands.

“I think there has been a lot of problems in Docklands,” he said. “I think there have been cases where people have set up outdoor coffee shops and they can’t use them and the businesses are suffering as a result,” he said.

City of Melbourne spokeswoman Irene Vlahos said the controls were implemented as part of the Southbank Structure Plan.

“The control for Southbank was introduced with Amendment C171, which implemented the Southbank Structure Plan,” she said.

“The Fishermans Bend provisions were introduced by the Minister for Planning.”

“Introducing these provisions to other parts of the city would require further built form analysis and a specific planning scheme amendment.”

Wind tunnel testing typically models a development and its surrounding area in either 1:200 or 1:400 scales, in order to assess a building’s impact on adjacent air conditions.

Small sensors are scattered in various locations across the model area, which provides a range of statistical data that is subsequently correlated back to the meteorological data collected from



A recent wind tunnel test conducted at Monash University in Clayton for a Southbank development.

surrounding weather stations.

While all developments will go through wind tunnel testing, Mr Skipsey said explicit guidelines needed to be enforced to ensure developers undertook a wind analysis before the design phase.

“There is definitely value in getting wind advice early rather than creating a design and then dealing with wind as a problem to solve later,” he said.

Dr Holmes said the matter was a national

issue and that the Australasian Wind Engineering Society, were seeking more consistency on the criteria.

He said the group had put forward a proposal to the City of Melbourne to conduct a comprehensive temperature and wind-speed study.

If given the green light, it is hoped that findings from the study will assist Australian planning authorities to implement a blanket criteria for all developers to adhere to.



Kate is a master voice teacher, one of Australia's most noted choral experts and a renowned composer.

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Major Buxton art donation to VCA

In a significant act of arts philanthropy, property developer and art collector Michael Buxton has donated his private contemporary Australian art collection to the Victorian College of the Arts in Southbank.

Featuring more than 300 works by 53 of the country's most significant Australian contemporary artists, Mr Buxton announced the donation of his cherished collection in December.

The collection will be housed and showcased in a new purpose-built museum - The Michael Buxton Centre of Contemporary Art (MBCOCA), which will be located on the corner of Southbank Boulevard and Dodds St.

The donation also includes funds towards the construction and endowment of the museum and its operation over 20 years, with the centre expected to be officially unveiled in 2017.

Mr Buxton said he and his family had always dreamt the collection would serve as an educational resource to help foster an appreciation for contemporary Australian art.

"Donating the collection to an internationally-recognised institution will ensure its longevity for years to come and help facilitate the future advancement of visual arts in Australia," he said.

"It's pleasing to know the museum will form a part of the curriculum for a wide range of courses and play a central role in the

education of future generations of students."

The donation and formation of the museum in the centre of the Southbank precinct will enhance the university's curriculums across disciplines, fostering an innovative approach to student learning.

Featuring works from some of the country's most significant artists, including Howard Arkley, Ricky Swallow, Tracy Moffat, Patricia Piccinini, Emily Floyd and Bill Henson, Mr Buxton said the collection reflected a lifelong passion for collecting art.

"The first piece of art I bought was in 1974 - it was a work by Jeffery Smart called Sunday in Rome. I still have it," he said.

"As a property developer, I've always loved creating things and been fascinated with the creative process and collecting art is another expression of this creativity."

Upon accepting the donation, University of Melbourne vice-chancellor Prof Glyn Davis thanked Mr Buxton for helping forge a "wonderful partnership" with the university.

"We believe the impact of this gift will be profound, enhancing the Southbank precinct's position as the heart of Melbourne cultural life," he said.



Melbourne University Vice-Chancellor Prof Glyn Davis and Michael Buxton.

Come swing to the Sounds of Southgate

Voice teacher, choral director and composer Kate Sadler has brought her passion for music to Southbank.

The soon-to-be Southbank resident has recently launched a community choir, The Sounds of Southgate, at St John's Church.

Having worked in music theatre, television and cabaret and performed with most of Australia's opera companies, Ms Sadler is considered one of Australia's most renowned choral experts.

While she continues to enjoy operating a thriving voice studio in Northcote, working as a conductor and leading a number of vocal and choral workshops, she said she was excited to start a new chapter.

"It's the precursor to a big move in my life, I will be moving into Southbank next year," she said. "It's time for a change and I thought to myself well I've got this amazing situation now how can I make this possibly better?"

"I wanted to be more in the middle of where music is happening and being made in Melbourne with the College of the Arts, the State Theatre and the whole Arts Precinct is here."

While most would normally associate a church-based choir with a traditional themed sound, Kate's broad background across almost every genre means the Sounds of Southgate will be no ordinary choir.

"I hesitate to call it a choir because I think it brings a whole load of preconceived ideas about what a choir might be. So it's not called a choir but clearly it is a choir!" she said.

"My background is very broad and that's what I also bring to my choir so it could be anything."

Sounds of Southgate is open to anyone to join - no previous experience necessary.

With two 16-week seasons per year, the choir will finish each season with a concert called Southgate Sings, which will be held at the church.

Kate said she hoped the initiative would help grow a sense of community in Southbank and she encouraged everyone to come and give it a go.

"Southbank has a very wide demographic



Kate Sadler has launched a community choir at St Johns Church at Southgate.

Photo: Sue Webster

and that's why originally this is a non-auditioning choir I just want people to come in the door and then see what we can make of it," she said.

"This kind of architecture with the high-rise living can be soulless and cold and of course

music is such a wonderful way of bringing people together so it gives them a central purpose."

Sounds of Southgate is held every Tuesday at St Johns Church in Southgate from 6.15pm - 8.00 pm. www.thesadlerstudio.com

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THE ARTS PRECINCT

Summersalt – Exxopolis and Pixel Mountain

By Chloe Strahan



Inside the mothership of Exxopolis
Picture Sean Car

Summersalt Festival is in the heart of its gigantic five-week program, and there are many more exciting events to come in the lead up to White Night on February 21.

The program boasts a variety of dance, music, arts and film events, many of which involve participation from members of the public.

The Exxopolis luminarium in the ACCA forecourt was a huge success, completely selling out during its two-week exhibit over January.

The gigantic inflatable sculpture was designed by Alan Parkinson, who has created over 600 exhibitions since the 1980s.

The stunning structure stood at over 10 metres high, which is equivalent to a three-storey house. Visitors were invited to step inside the magical dome and were engulfed in the twisting tunnels, high ceilings and quiet corners of the luminarium.

Once inside, you are smacked with dazzling bright colours and subtle hues that are created by both natural light streaming

into the dome and specially-coloured PVC. Colours and moods of the dome's interior reflected the weather outside with the use of natural light.

The result? A jaw-dropping multi-sensory land that feels like stepping into another world. Accompanied by meditative melodies, visitors absolutely loved meandering through the dome and experiencing the magnificence of colour in Southbank's backyard.

The National Gallery of Victoria will be hosting "Summer Sundays" from 1-7pm every Sunday in February. Utilising the gorgeous NGV Garden, visitors will be able to relax in the sun whilst enjoying a range of groovy musicians. Still to headline Summer Sundays is Husky and Alpine amongst other bands and DJs.

There is also the chance to see Peter Hook, a founding member of iconic bands Joy Division and New Order on February 20, or dance to some Motown soul and sixties pop with Lake Street Dive on the 21st.

The ACCA Family Art Day is a great way to

involve your four-legged family members in the Summersalt fun. The ACCA forecourt will become an off-leash play environment for your dogs, while Melbourne artist Anastasia Klose will help the kids get inspired to create doggy outfits.

An event not to miss is Pixel Mountain, a breathtaking outdoor aerial dance performance held from February 18-21.

Drawing on contemporary dance, new circus and martial arts, performance group Stalker Theatre will excite audiences with adrenaline-fuelled aerial dances.

As the aerialists seem to effortlessly dangle and scale the building walls, real time 3D image and audio projections will respond to their every move, creating a delightful audio-visual treat.

This spectacular show should not be missed.

For more details on Pixel Mountain and view the full Summersalt program, visit www.summersaltfestival.com.au/events



PROFILE PICTURE

JORDAN MADGE

photography studies college



An image taken by Jordan as part of his Backwoods collection, which will appear at the Photobook Melbourne Festival.

By Chloe Strahan

Jordan Madge anxiously awaits the opening day to the Photobook Melbourne Festival, as he is the only student chosen to participate.

The 20-year-old is completing his final year of his bachelor of photography at Photography Studies College (PSC) in Southbank.

“My tutor Katrin Koenning (also featured in the festival) put my name forward and I got chosen to feature in the exhibition,” Jordan explained. “Being alongside Katrin is incredible because her work is amazing.”

Some 17 photographs of Jordan’s Backwoods collection will appear in the festival. The collection demonstrates Jordan’s love of telling a fictional story

through photo-journalism.

“It’s a look into the life of a hermit, with sparsely inhabited landscapes and where that hermit might have gone. It’s a fictional story following a character, looking through different bushland and looking for solitude and stillness.”

Majoring in photo-journalism, Jordan says he prefers to document his own fictional stories, and following them as if they were real.

“The work I did can be classed as photo-journalism and art at the same time because it is fiction-based. It’s sort of contemporary stuff that is a bit different.”

Spending most of his time in the city to hang out with friends or attend university at PSC, Jordan welcomes the days when he

can drive towards Healesville and explore towns along the way, all for the sake of photography.

“There’s lots of little towns and side streets. I went down some weird roads. It was good going on my own because I was following or re-tracing the steps of this fictional character who had been on his own for over 30 years,” he said.

Jordan believes that his love of photography began in 2011, remembering how his father’s camera had caught his eye.

“I really didn’t know much about photography and I thought it looked cool. Dad had some photos of his own on the wall that looked nice,” said Jordan.

“I asked for a camera for my birthday that year. I think that is when I began to enjoy

photography and it became the main path for me.”

Jordan was also lucky enough to attend the Obscura Festival in Malaysia in 2014 with a group of students.

“Taking the photography experience out of the context of uni was really nice, it was good to see things on an international scale,” he said.

Jordan explained that his influences were based on his everyday experiences, like-minded people and his peers.

“I get a lot of influences from my teachers here at PSC. They are where I think I want to be and are doing things that I am interested in. They are great motivators,” he said.

WWW.JORDANMADGE.COM

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Image by PSC student Artie Watson

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Sugar Mountain a sweet success

Review by Sean Car

AFTER A YEAR'S HIATUS FROM MELBOURNE'S MUSIC CALENDAR, SUGAR MOUNTAIN RETURNED ON THE AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND WITH A BANG.



King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard perform at the Dodds St main stage.



New York rap legend Nas performs at Sugar Mountain.

Having outgrown its previous home at the Forum Theatre, the Victorian College of the Arts in Southbank provided a scintillating platform for its comeback, subsequently delivering a one-of-a-kind experience for punters.

While the new venue would have provided some valuable lessons for festival organisers, who will no doubt need to tinker around the edges for future festivals, make no mistake that Sugar Mountain is here to stay.

The inspired mixture of outdoor and indoor spaces connected by the college's

maze-like landscape of hidden pathways catered perfectly to the festival's renowned emphasis on the visual arts.

While escaping the baking sun provided the main challenge for festival-goers, the delicious line-up of local and international artists appeared to be more than enough to distract fans from the heat.

As the headline name, New York rap legend Nas performed out of his skin for the worshipping audience, rolling out his 1994 classic album *Illmatic* before blowing fans away with a broad selection of his greatest hits.

While conversing with the crowd throughout his set and even pausing to sign one lucky fan's vinyl copy of *Illmatic*, the rapper also paid homage to the venue, telling fans it possessed the feeling of his home streets of New York City.

While Nas provided the sweetener, proceedings at the outdoor stage at Dodds St were kicked off in style by local act King Gizzard & The Lizard Wizard, Danish rockers Iceage and Japanese quartet Bo Ningen.

Despite Ariel Pink not quite managing to replicate his usual quirky feel in a live

setting, US cult-heroes Swans and DJ Dexter provided plenty of feel-good vibes leading into the headline act.

Meanwhile, the other outdoor stage at the car park saw UK retro-dance act the 2 Bears and Seattle DJ duo Odesza steal the show, while the indoor settings at the Boiler Room and The Theatre featured a solid range of musical and visual artists.

While it might take a few goes to truly find its feet, it's fair to say that Sugar Mountain has landed a fitting home in Southbank and is once again a staple on the calendar.

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THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Feb 12 - Feb 22 - Photography Studies College
Photography Studies College Melbourne will be hosting the series as part of the Photobook Melbourne Festival. The Library Collection features contemporary photographic publications from Photo Ireland and will be on display from 12-6pm every day during the festival.
www.psc.edu.au/blog



TCHAIKOVSKY

Feb 27 - Melbourne Town Hall
Don't miss the MSO's Tchaikovsky concert, a celebration of one of the most beloved composers of the Romantic age. To win a double pass, send your details to mso@mso.com.au with ROMANTIC in the subject line. Entries close 20 Feb.
www.mso.com.au



REMEMBER TOMORROW

Feb 26 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
The Australian String Quartet begins its 30th Anniversary year with homage to the past and a view to the future.
www.melbournerecital.com.au



JUMPY

Ends March 14 - Southbank Theatre
Jane Turner (Kath & Kim) comes to MTC, taking centre-stage in April De Angelis' West End hit, a hilarious domestic comedy of frazzled hopes and parental anxiety.
www.mtc.com.au

OTHELLO: THE REMIX

Feb 18 - Feb 22 - Playhouse
Chicago hip-hop sensation The Q Brothers take their inspiration from the original genius lyricist: Shakespeare. A fresh take on Shakespeare's tragedy, spun out and lyrically rewritten over original beats.
www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

CORPUS MEDICORUM

Feb 22 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
Come with Corpus Medicorum on the first of our Voyages into the Soul for 2015. They start with a voyage into fantasy with Humperdinck's Hansel and Gretel Overture, a panoply of hummable tunes taking you deeper and deeper into the enchanted forest.
www.melbournerecital.com.au

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Feb 10 - Feb 22 - Malthouse Forecourt
Flipping Australia's history on its head, the unstoppable diva Constantina Bush (Kamahi Djordon King, The Shadow King) blazes onto the stage as a forgotten queen from a distant land, taking no prisoners and claiming this terra nullius as her own.
www.malthousetheatre.com.au



CARNIVAL OF SOULS

March 20 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
Carnival of Souls begins with the vivacious Mary Henry improbably surviving a car wreck. She moves to a small town in Utah to begin a new job as a church organist, but then the nightmare begins...
www.melbournerecital.com.au



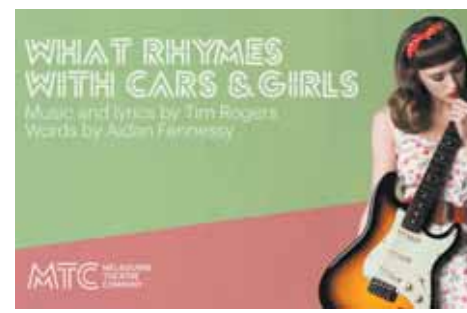
WOT? NO FISH!!

Feb 24 - March 8 - Malthouse Theatre
Wot? No Fish!! / turns the Solomons' strange and wonderful history into a humorous and heart-warming narrative for all ages.
www.malthousetheatre.com.au



MENAGERIE

Ends March 1 - ACCA main gallery
Menagerie explores the human tendency to anthropomorphise through animals and their behaviours as a process of metaphoric discovery of the self. Curated by ACCA artistic director Juliana Engberg, the exhibition features works by international and national artists.
www.accaonline.org.au



WHAT RHYMES WITH GIRLS & CARS

Feb 13 - March 28 - Fairfax Studio
What Rhymes with Cars and Girls is a raw, complex, urban romance, a balm for the hardest of hearts and solace for anyone who's ever been in love. Music and lyrics by Tim Rodgers
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Ken and the art of political independence

By Shane Scanlan

Cr Ken Ong is very much his own man.

He's a supremely self-confident and forthright maverick with a big, bass voice and an even bigger presence.

Unaligned with any other councillors, the self-made-man does things his own way and would prefer not to care what his colleagues think of him. But reality dictates that he needs majority support for his views - which is clearly a frustration for the Malaysian-born entrepreneur.

Now half-way through his second four-year term as a City of Melbourne councillor, Cr Ong says this time around has been tougher.

"We have developed along certain lines," he said. "There seems to be factions forming."

"I don't know whether this is because of how the election turned out with five for Team Doyle, effectively four from the left, myself - a Liberal but sitting in the middle - and then there's Stephen Mayne who loves to play his politics."

"So you end up with: the governing faction, the opposition faction and the balance of power. On one side you have a strong personality in the Lord Mayor and, on the other side, people whose sole objective is to fight the Lord Mayor. I can't understand that."

"For me, this has been difficult because this is not what I signed up for - spending half the time playing politics - and politics associated with certain egos," he said.

Cr Ong would prefer all councillors to vote on the merits of each argument and says party political affiliations should be left at the town hall door.

"I came into council with the mindset that this was just an extension of my community work. It's not a political thing. If you want it to be political, you should go to either the state or federal level," he said.

Interestingly, he says he was offered the

Liberal candidacy for the safe lower house seat of Mt Waverly in the lead up to the 2010 election but chose to finish what he started as a Melbourne councillor.

But it's hard to see how he would tolerate toeing the party line as a back-bencher. He says blind adherence to ideology is the cause of many of the world's problems.

"Here (at council) I am clear in my conscience that when I vote it is because I believe it is the right way to go - and not along party lines," he said.

"I have a clear view of what I want to achieve and I also have a clear conscience that I am not selling my soul. Maybe I'm not meant to be a party-political person."

Cr Ong says he'll remain a councillor for as long as he has goals to achieve. He says his involvement in council is an extension of his vast community and charitable involvements. He is particularly active within the Chinese community.

"I can always put my time into the philanthropic sector as well," he said. "Being a councillor is not the be-all and end-all. If I find there are one or two key areas that I want to do, I might come back and focus on those."

Cr Ong says he started developing self-confidence and leadership skills as a youth.

The ninth-born of a family of 13 children, he faced particular challenges after his father died when he was only 10-years-old.

"There is an ethic in my family that we have to work hard," he said.

In Cr Ong's case, hard work resulted in being selected for Malaysia's premier public school, the Victoria Institution.

He didn't become school captain, despite being destined for the role. Instead, he took the decision at the end of year 11, to travel to Australia for his final year of schooling.

"I said to my mum: 'give me an air ticket and enough money for a couple of months' rent and I will find my own way,'" he said.

Cr Ong found private board near Caulfield



High School (now Glen Eira College) and worked in restaurants and factories to fund his completion of high school as well as a double engineering degree in computer and electrical systems at Monash University.

He spent a brief period back in Malaysia upon graduating in 1983 before returning, marrying and starting a 19-year career in various roles with Ericsson. He moved from technical to business development roles within the company following completion of a part-time MBA in 1993.

In 2002 he left the electronics giant and concentrated on his own business interests - in childcare centres.

Now independently well-off, Cr Ong chooses to serve the community via his council and charitable involvements.

He attributes his abundant self-confidence to achievements as well as a capacity and interest in ongoing learning.

"About three or four years after my dad passed away I joined the army cadets (becoming drum major and warrant officer) and that helped a lot in terms of self-discipline and focus," he said.

COUNCILLOR PROFILE

In next month's Councillor Profile we look at: Cr Jackie Watts

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**SOUTHBANK
RESIDENTS GROUP
WITH TONY PENNA**

Back into the swing of things

Well, as usual, time did not stand still over the summer holiday break (but has there been a summer?) and then we are straight back into the swing of things with submissions being made at the first Future Melbourne Committee meeting last week against two more towers that are excessively over the discretionary height limit and lacked setbacks.

These will be a test for the new Planning Minister, Richard Wynne, for us to see where this new government stands on such developments – watch this space. Richard is returning to work after suffering a heart attack in the week after the election. We wish him the very best with his recovery.

One thing I particularly wanted to write about in one of my columns, but for most of last year wasn't able to get a chance owing to all the happenings in Southbank, is the need for a good, committed and dedicated committee of management to operate and maintain the towers in which we live or have invested.

I often hear of people complaining about what is not happening in their tower or what could/should have been done. I say to those people, and I encourage all property owners, to get involved with your building, attend an AGM and nominate for a committee position.

Have a say with the decisions that are made for your tower. So often towers have under-resourced committees through lack

of manpower and as a result, detail and attention is missed leaving a tower with a next-best solution.

Naturally, of course, if your committee has appointed a good building management company with a good manager assigned then they will pick up a good part of that slack and manage most of the doings.

Being on a committee often doesn't take a lot of effort or time. Most roles are generally decision-making and oversighting in nature.

Upon entering a building it is often obvious if the tower has a good and proactive committee or not. Be proud of your investment, and in many cases where you also reside, and become active and have a say!

On another note, it is with great sadness that Southbank has lost its monthly farmers market. From my observations and discussions with residents the market initiative was welcomed by many and just began to get a loyal following.

Maybe on completion of the building works the market will be able to return. At these I

enjoyed the many conversations I had with our residents and hearing their concerns with our neighbourhood.

This time of year there is lots of movement in and out of our neighbourhood from people finishing or just commencing their studies, or employment etc. If this is you, then I welcome you to Southbank.

May your experience be rewarding and everything you would hope it to be. If you see me around, please say hi or if you have any questions please make contact.

We would be most grateful if you would consider becoming a member. It is only \$10. Please visit our website southbankresidents.com.au and sign up there or to find our contact details. Oh and don't forget to like us on Facebook (**SouthbankResidents**).

If you haven't visited any of the SummerSalt events, I encourage you to take a look. We are so blessed to have such a festival in our backyard. Make the most of it.

Tony Penna - President



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OWNERS CORPORATION LAW *With Tom Bacon*

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

Working from home in high-rise

Australian employers are starting to offer their employees flexible working solutions to enhance productivity and sustain employee engagement by allowing them to work from a home office.

At the same time, due to technical innovations and a rapidly-changing marketplace, more and more tech-savvy entrepreneurs are starting businesses using no more than a mobile phone and a laptop and working out of their bedrooms.

Owners' corporations need to be aware that owners and residents will frequently engage in commerce from their residential units, and may conduct a full-time business activity from their homes.

From a legal perspective, the starting point is that any resident or owner who wishes to run a stand-alone business from their residential

unit should check with their local council to see if the building's planning permit and zoning allows for commercial activity.

Consideration also needs to be given to the issue of insurance – a public liability policy ought to be taken out in the name of the company, trading name or entity – to cover any damage caused to the building or to other owners or residents that may result from the business (for example - fire, flood and electrical shocks).

Most importantly, owners or residents need to carefully review the rules of the owners' corporation to check whether the owners'

corporation has any specific requirements or criteria to satisfy before starting the business activity.

Most owners' corporations will already have a registered rule that permits a home office activity to be carried on, so long as there is only one full-time employee working out of the lot.

Some types of businesses (such as beauty salons, remedial massage clinics, hairdressers and childcare centres) will have specific and additional council-imposed criteria to satisfy before they can operate.

As the world continues to change around us, owners' corporations need to be aware that rules should be flexible and sometimes need to change if they are out of date.

For instance, a rule that prohibits a non-residential use of a lot is open to challenge at VCAT and could be struck down for being unreasonable.

A regular review and audit of the registered rules of the owners' corporation should be completed every five years to take account of changes in the legislation and the common law decisions that come out of the tribunals and courts around Australia.



An artistic pup

Much like his owner, 3-year-old Benji possesses a high appreciation for the arts.

According to owner Louise Griffin, the pair visited Southbank to come and see the popular Jean Paul Gaultier exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria.

And while Benji was disappointed to discover that the NGV doesn't allow dogs inside its premises, Louise said he was content with soaking up the culture of Southbank's Arts Precinct.

"We've just been to see the Jean Paul Gaultier exhibition and he definitely wasn't happy to wait out the front," she said. "He's artistic like his mum."

While his official title is Benji, the Kavoodle (King Charles Cavalier cross Poodle) carries a number of nicknames including Foofy and Fluffy, which according to Louise is due his wonderful cuddly nature.

"He's very playful and very loving and cuddly. He's just an all round great guy," she said.

"He can be naughty but that's only when he wants to play but he's just an amazing dog, the best dog in the world I'd say."



Benji and owner Louise Griffin.

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**ST JOHNS
SOUTHGATE**
with Malcolm Schmidtke

Pass by St Johns any time soon and you are bound to feel the buzz – and hear the music – of big things happening.

The church at the heart of Southgate has a new pastor, Tom Hoffmann, and he begins his ministry this month.

Coinciding with his arrival is the build-up to another big year of music, featuring special performances and the renowned St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra.

On the face of it, Tom Hoffmann’s move from very rural Maitland on the Yorke Peninsula in South Australia to the very centre of Melbourne might seem almost too much of a wrench. But it is actually a return to the familiar.

Pastor Tom was vicar at St Johns for nine months across 2009 and 2010 under the tutelage of the man he replaces, Pastor Ian Vainikka. The two are close friends.

Wider Melbourne is also very familiar to him. Tom grew up and went to school in

the outer eastern suburbs. So, it should be no surprise that he is also smitten by AFL football: Melbourne footy club, no less. He, wife Kari, also from Melbourne, and their children, Eliza and Theodore, will have no trouble settling in.

Tom says he found the people of St Johns warm and welcoming five years ago and is excited by the challenge of leading them in reaching out to the people of Southbank and the wider community. He believes it is a task for which he is well equipped. Pastor Tom’s installation will occur at 2pm on the 15th of this month.

At the 9am service on the same day, St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra will perform its second cantata for the year.

The music program at St Johns led by Dr Graham Lieschke, which is a key part of the congregation’s engagement with the wider community, has a rich offering this year.

While Dr Lieschke’s main focus in 2015 is, as always, the Bach cantata program, in which the wonderful music of J.S. Bach is presented in the context of worship as intended by Bach, among the highlights this year will be a performance that includes no cantata.

On March 8, the prize-winning Ensemble Nobiles from Germany will sing a capella (unaccompanied) music for Lutheran worship in the 9am service at St Johns. This group of five young men are all former members of the famous Thomanerchor, the St Thomas Boys Choir of Leipzig.

This service will conclude with Georg Christoph Biller’s motet on Luther’s chorale prayer for peace ‘Verleih uns Frieden gnädiglich’, a performance of which Biller himself conducted at St Johns in 2006.

Thomaskantor Biller, who was the 16th successor of Bach in that position, recently announced his retirement.

Highlights of the Bach cantata program, which features St Johns growing collection of specialist baroque instruments, range from the intimate but intense BWV159 ‘Sehet, wir gehn hinauf gen Jerusalem’ (‘Behold, we go up to Jerusalem’) on February 15 at 9am to the powerful BWV193 ‘Ihr Tore zu Zion’ (‘The gates of Zion’) for Ascension Day vespers on Thursday May 14 at 7.30pm.

As well, on Trinity Sunday, May 31, at 9am, St Johns collaborates with students from the University of Melbourne’s Early Music



The Bach Orchestra performs at St. John’s Southgate.

Studio in the presentation of BWV71 ‘Gott ist mein König’ (‘God is my King’). The performance features a large orchestra, including recorders, three trumpets and timpani. This work is notable as the only cantata published in Bach’s lifetime.

It is a rich program for a challenging but exciting year at St Johns.

SOUTHBANK SUDOKU

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

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 medium!
Good Luck!

Last month’s Sudoku solution

K	E	D	I	H	U	O	S	T
S	O	H	D	T	K	U	I	E
I	U	T	E	S	O	D	K	H
H	S	O	K	D	E	I	T	U
T	K	I	O	U	H	E	D	S
U	D	E	S	I	T	K	H	O
D	H	S	U	E	I	T	O	K
O	T	U	H	K	D	S	E	I
E	I	K	T	O	S	H	U	D

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

On Sunday 15th February at 2pm we welcome our new pastor, Tom Hoffmann

Also on Sunday 15th February
9am Bach Cantata Service
Eucharist (Transfiguration)
Sehet, wir gehn hinauf gen Jerusalem (BWV 159)
for 4 soloists, chorus, strings, oboe 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

The chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection



Businesses in Southbank

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CELEBRATING ONE YEAR OF ORGANIC LIVING IN SOUTHBANK

Broad Bean Organic Grocer's Andrew Crompton said he and co-owner Paul Bullivant couldn't be happier with the Southbank community's response since opening their doors a year ago.

"Everything that has happened so far has really exceeded our expectations and we've been really delighted with the warm welcome we've had to Southbank," he said.

"As local residents we felt that there really was a hole to be filled in Southbank for good healthy organic food people have really embraced it."

From the very beginning, Andrew said he and Paul went into establishing the business with a great deal of conviction, as organic, wholesome and healthy living was something the pair were truly passionate about.

As well as groceries, Broad Bean offers everything organic from smoothies, cold-pressed juices and fresh meals; through to gluten-free or vegan-friendly raw treats and cruelty-free personal care and household products.

Andrew said if the first year had taught them anything, it was that shopping for quality organic groceries doesn't have to be a chore.

"What we've really learnt is that the desire is for everyday grocery lines," he said. "Not to be too much of a specialty shop but to be a shop where people can come in and visit and shop any day and everyday."

"We wanted it to be a really welcoming space where there's a bit of warmth amongst the concrete jungle, that doing a nightly shop is not something that you dread on the way home. It's actually something that you look forward to."

In response to growing demand from customers, Broad Bean Organic Grocer now also offers certified organic coffee.

Having done extensive research, the pair settled on a local roaster for their beans - Allpress Espresso in Collingwood.

Andrew said he and Paul had always enjoyed Allpress coffee without realising that it produced a certified organic blend.

"When we started researching who was the right coffee roaster to partner with we were absolutely thrilled that Allpress do a certified organic blend," he said.

"Melbourne is renowned for great coffee, so we wanted a great tasting coffee using beans that are freshly roasted but are also free from pesticides and artificial chemicals in every



The team at Broad Bean Organic Grocer celebrate one year in Southbank.

step of the process. The Allpress organic blend ticks all the boxes"

With the business continuing to go from strength to strength in Southbank, Andrew said he, Paul and the Broad Bean team were grateful for being part of such a wonderful community.

"The support has been tremendous and we are really humbled that people are continuing to support us and that we can be a part of a really thoughtful and aware community," he said.

Broad Bean Organic Grocer is open seven days a week at Shop 3, 26 Fanning St Southbank.

FITNESS WITH A DIFFERENCE

SNAP Fitness club manager David Bratton is excited to be bringing his passion for health and fitness to Southbank residents.



SNAP Fitness club manager David Bratton.

Originally from Brisbane, the 24-year-old said he moved from Sydney to Melbourne last year as he sensed there was a need to establish a club for people in Southbank.

"I've been with SNAP for about four years

now and have managed around 25 clubs across the country," he said. "I went down to Sydney and opened up eight clubs for another owner and then decided I wanted to open up my own club."

"I like Southbank because it's very dense and there are a lot of businesses around here. Along with it being the densest suburb in Victoria, I thought this was a good place to open up shop."

Mr Bratton said that, while it had been a bit of a journey setting up the business, which only opened its doors in November last year, his decision to establish a gym in Southbank was already paying dividends.

"The people in Southbank are very friendly and we've got a lot of people that always turn up as well so we don't really have that many members that just join and don't come," he said.

"We're always getting a lot of people coming. Sometimes we have 20 people in the gym at once. All of our personal trainers are always busy as well."

Upon walking into the Queensbridge St studio, it is hard not to be impressed by the state-of-the-art and spotless nature of the facilities and the equipment.

Mr Bratton said SNAP Fitness also offers the lowest rates of any gym in Southbank and surrounding areas as well as a no contract membership structure.

Mr Bratton said the clean, open and relaxed environment was already generating positive feedback from members.

"Being new and not having a lot of members from the start, all the members can get whatever piece of equipment they like," he said. "We've had some really good feedback about how clean the club is all the time."

"We've got three personal trainers here as well and everyone that joins gets free personal training from the start as well."

"So we're not joining people up and leaving them in the dark. We're following up over the next couple of months to ensure everyone stays as a member as opposed to cancelling."

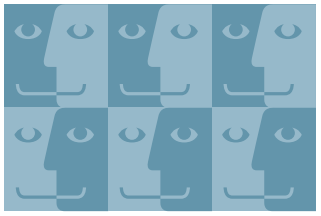
Mr Bratton said, as of February, the club was now also offering a range of classes in a bid to further enhance the experience for all of its members.

"We're running classes as of the first of February and that's all included in their membership so all the classes are free," he said.

"We're going to be doing boot camp classes down at the parks and we're also going to be doing boxing classes and circuit classes inside the club as well so that's available for all members and all guests that want to try out the club."

SNAP Fitness is located at 85D Queensbridge St, Southbank.

www.snapfitness.com.au/southbank/



FACES OF SOUTHBANK



DAVID VILLARRUEL, 29

I would like to focus on study while I am completing a semester abroad. I am from Ecuador and I am having an amazing experience in Australia so far. Before I go home in July I would like to visit Cairns and Tasmania.



CHANEL TREWIN, 5

I start prep for the first time. I'm excited to meet brand new friends, and to learn lots of different things like painting, skipping, reading and dancing.



MATTHEW JOHNSTON, 22

Aiming to travel as much of Australia as we can before moving to London next January. We have already booked Hobart, Sydney, Canberra and Adelaide!



SHELBY STOREY, 22

To be outside of my country for more than one minute! I am from the UK so I have already succeeded. I was in Sydney and Brisbane for a working holiday last year, went home for Christmas and am now back before heading to New Zealand for another working holiday.



JERRY KEATING, 41

To stop worrying my mother so much. I also want to start my own business this year. I want to start up a courier business, initially it will be a few drivers but hopefully I can build a fleet of drivers soon!



LISA FRANDING, 36

I made no resolutions this year! I just kept my one from last year, which was to get fit. I didn't quite keep it, so I guess it is an annual resolution for me!

"What were your New Year's resolutions, and did you keep them?"

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TUESDAYS

SOUTHBANK ROTARY

Rotary Club of Southbank meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year at various locations. Visitors are always welcome.
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TUESDAYS

SOUNDS OF SOUTHGATE

Run by voice teacher, choral director and composer Kate Sadler, Sounds of Southgate is a community choir open to anyone to join. 6:15pm - 8pm every Tuesday at St Johns Church Southgate.

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS

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Artistic renders of 'MARCO' - Southbank.



Artistic renders of 'Marina Tower' - Docklands

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FULLY FURNISHED APARTMENT, LIVING IN THE HEART OF SOUTHBANK!

This fully furnished 2 bedroom apartment is to a very high standard. The kitchen is equipped with brand new Bosch gas appliances. The property also features a large breakfast bar with stools, spacious open plan living /dining area with table and chairs, new carpets and tiles throughout to compliment the modern furnishing. Balcony with city views and & internal laundry.

The master bedroom features a walk-in robes, both bedrooms have queen sized beds for comfort. Split system heating and cooling. The property also has security intercom system, access to all facilities, tennis court, indoor heated swimming pool, barbeque areas and gymnasium, 1 car space and 24 hour concierge.

For any enquiries regarding these residential properties, please contact our Rental department on 9690 8800 or melissa@evolverealestate.com.au



FEATURED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY FOR SALE

1303/180 CITY ROAD, SOUTHBANK, 3006

2 1 1



LUXURY LIVING AT SOUTHBANKONE!!!

This luxurious apartment has been tastefully decorated with elegant, modern flair. Offering lifestyle and convenience it is located in the prestigious SouthbankOne development. Features include:

- Spacious, open plan living and dining area
- Gourmet kitchen with quality appliances
- Double bedrooms with built in wardrobes
- Luxury bathroom with quality finishings
- European laundry & air-conditioning
- 24 hour concierge, indoor pool and gym, BBQ Terrace
- Car space, Storage Facility, Secure fob entry
- Comfortable balcony

This apartment is sure to impress! Don't miss out!

**PRICE
REDUCTION!**



2106/63 CITY ROAD, SOUTHBANK, 3006

1 1 -

STYLE AND SUBSTANCE IN SOUTHBANK!

This spacious one bedroom-plus study apartment is set within the Vue Grande Building in Southbank.

A generous floor plan, with exquisite views of south bank and surrounds, with a balcony and beautiful wooden flooring throughout.

Close to shops, trams and crown casino - You are set!

Perfect for someone looking to enter the market - or the seasoned investor looking to add another property to their portfolio.

For any enquiries regarding these properties please contact Chad Tawhi on 0456 222 456 or chad@evolverealestate.com.au



Contact us now, for a free appraisal through February!

Head to www.evolverealestate.com.au to see all our available listings!

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