

The voice of Southbank

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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Past students reunite at Boyd

Some 15 students from the former JH Boyd Girls' School in Southbank reunited last month at their old school.

Organised by Eleonore Lee, who was a student at the school from 1971 to 1975, the meeting was arranged via Facebook.

For many it was the first time they had seen each other since their schooling days, with the eldest student present being Judith Strahan, who attended from 1949 to 1952.

Now a state of the art community facility, the women spent the afternoon catching up and exchanging stories in the Boyd meeting room, which was once their classroom.

The group meets every six months at Boyd and will catch up again in September.

If you would like to know more information about the group please contact the team at Boyd via its Facebook page: www.facebook.com/BoydCommunityHub



Southbank heritage under threat

The Melbourne Heritage Action (MHA) group is demanding that an interim heritage overlay be applied to the former Castlemaine Brewery bottle shop at 115-117 Queensbridge St before it is demolished.

The 107-117 Queensbridge St and adjoining 216 City Rd site, which were put on the market in February, includes one of our suburb's last remaining heritage-graded buildings.

State planning laws outline that a heritage grading means a site is solely acknowledged as possessing historical value, while a heritage overlay requires a developer to

consider such value as part of any new proposal.

MHA media officer Adam Ford said, as it currently stood, a developer was well within its rights to demolish the entire building.

"None of the buildings are protected by law and the short answer is that, if a developer fancied it, they could demolish the buildings tomorrow," he said.

"The only way of protecting this building is for council to apply an urgent interim heritage overlay to the property."

However, Mr Ford stated that while heritage overlays forced developers to consider the heritage value in a new development, they didn't necessarily guarantee a building's full protection either.

As is the case with many other Southbank

developments, he said a heritage overlay could at the very least ensure that the building's facade was kept intact.

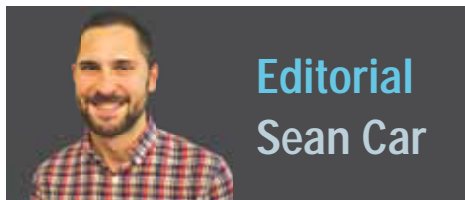
"This is where it starts to get a bit grey," he said. "An overlay would normally prohibit complete demolition unless they could argue the building was dangerous or unsaveable or similar."

Continued on page 2.

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Welcome to our 50th edition

March 2016 marks the first major milestone for Southbank Local News, in what is our 50th edition.

Having published our first edition back in October 2011, the newspaper is now more than four years old and continues to go from strength to strength.

While I've only held the role of editor since July 2014, I'm well aware of the hard yards my predecessor Sean Rogasch and publisher Shane Scanlan undertook to establish what is now a highly-appreciated community asset.

It is hard work that certainly paid off and I'd like to use this milestone as an opportunity to congratulate them both for their contribution in helping provide the growing Southbank community with its voice.

This milestone also provides me with another opportunity to thank everyone from our advertisers to our columnists for your support of the newspaper, for whom without, there would be no *Southbank Local News*.

To our readers - thank you for picking up a copy of the newspaper each month and for sharing your stories with us over the years. We look forward to many more!

Sean Car
Editor



The historic former Castlemaine sites on Queensbridge St.

Southbank heritage under threat

Continued from page 1.

"In a lot of circumstances that would allow for facadism but facadism itself has its own recommendations that suggest you need to keep an appreciable amount of the new building and it needs to retain its context as a stand-alone structure."

However, Mr Ford said that considering the historic value of a building could also be interpreted as preserving something as small as a window or a doorframe.

The City of Melbourne told *Southbank Local News* last year that it would conduct a heritage review of Southbank in 2016, however it only recently passed a resolution to begin the study in 2017.

With the very real prospect of a purchase being made this year, Mr Ford argued that a 2017 study was far too late to preserve the building's history.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said council wouldn't commit to applying for an urgent interim overlay until a new proposal was put before it.

"If significant heritage buildings are under threat of demolition, council can consider applying to the Minister for Planning to introduce interim heritage controls to protect them," the spokesperson said.

"The City of Melbourne has not considered or received any planning application seeking

significant redevelopment of 107-117 Queensbridge St."

The Castlemaine Brewery was established in the late 1850s, and the South Melbourne site was built up during the 1870-80s as a backup in case the main brewery caught fire.

In 1890, Castlemaine Brewery was regarded as one of the most prosperous breweries in Melbourne, and the remaining buildings are thought to be the most well preserved brewery buildings left in the inner city.

The three remaining buildings are all National Trust classified. Still, the introduction of the overlays in the 1980s left these, and many other historical buildings, unprotected and vulnerable to redevelopment.

A press release issued by the real estate company titled "Owners team up to capitalise on Southbank land boom," gave no mention to the historical value of the property.

In September last year, *Southbank Local News* reported that several other heritage-graded buildings had been demolished in Southbank to make way for high-rise towers.

Other Southbank sites under the same threat include the recently sold Art Deco Opera Australia building and the Edwardian warehouse at 63 City Rd, which currently houses the Photography Studies College.

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The Monkey Arch Corridor at Sandridge Bridge lit up Queensbridge Square. Image: Courtesy of Bella Anderson.

Chinese New Year celebrations

Southbank was a buzzing sea of activities and illuminations throughout last month's Chinese New Year celebrations.

Cultural performances, lighting installations and food stalls lit up the river promenade stretching from the arts precinct down to Crown Casino, with Queensbridge Square providing the hub for the celebrations.

The final weekend from February 19 to 21 saw the area surrounding the renowned red steps come alive, with thousands flocking through the Monkey Arch Corridor installation from Sandridge Bridge.

Lion and dragon dancers and Chinese

drummers provided roving entertainment, which was also complemented by an installation of lanterns depicting Chinese Opera with a matching soundscape located on the Queensbridge Square stage.

Australia's largest illuminated dragon head drew crowds to the Eureka Skydeck Plaza, while Chinese zodiac lanterns and illuminated pandas lit up the Evan Walker Bridge and Southgate Promenade.

Council supports waterways reform

Hopes for reform of local waterways suffered a setback last month, but the City of Melbourne has pledged to take up the issue.

On February 19 members of the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group (LYRUFDDG) were told the State Government would reject its recommendation for a single independent waterways authority.

However, it is understood that Environment Minister Lisa Neville is yet to make a decision on the matter and has agreed to receive a community delegation to discuss the matter on March 23.

Speaking at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on March 8, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the council would be making representations to Ms Neville for the declaration of a local port.

"The policy position of this council is for a declaration of a local port. We'd like to see that sooner than later. We think that this is the eminently sensible way of managing our part of the Yarra," Cr Doyle said.

Council's environment chair Cr Arron Wood pointed out that a planning process looking at protection for the river was running in parallel, but answering to Planning Minister Richard Wynne.

"Having attending the last reference group meeting for the Yarra River Protection Act, I think we have some way to go in talking with both ministers about the lower port declaration," Cr Wood said.

Cr Wood stressed the need to communicate the difference between the environmental protection of the river and the pressing governance issues.

One of the key recommendations of the LYRUFDDG, which comprised private and government representatives, was the establishment of a new local port.

But proponents were told Ms Neville does not intend to support this approach, instead favouring a model, which will see the existing governance structure remain relatively unchanged.

According to the final LYRUFDDG recommendations to Ms Neville, the current governance situation is too difficult for the private sector to navigate and, accordingly, the river is failing to reach its tourism, heritage and environmental potential.

The group also recommended the establishment of a management committee, headed by an independent chairperson, charged with implementing a "shared vision" for the Lower Yarra and working with all relevant agencies to oversee management of the river.

But it's understood that LYRUFDDG delegates were told, while Ms Neville supported the "shared vision", she was likely to endorse a different approach of asking the relevant government agencies to work together more collaboratively.

Rather than an independently-chaired management committee Parks Victoria could be provided with funding to establish and support a committee to advise it on management and berthing issues.

And, while the future governance of the waterways isn't looking good, it's understood the situation is potentially more positive for commercial boat operators.

It's understood Ms Neville broadly supports these recommendations and that money will be provided to improve berthing conditions.

The LYRUFDDG had advocated for longer-term leases for commercial overnight berths.



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Climb for justice

Two protestors scaled the 162-metre Arts Centre spire in Southbank last month in response to the recent High Court decision to send 267 asylum seekers to detention on Nauru.

Curious onlookers littered Southbank's arts precinct throughout the morning, as the pair unfurled a banner stating #LETTHEMSTAY, having begun their climb at approximately 3.30am on Friday, February 19.

According to police, the two protestors - Katherine Woskett and Hannah Patchett - were experienced climbers who had carried out a similar stunt over the Eastern Freeway in the week prior.

The pair eventually came down shortly before 3.30pm after spending more than 11 hours hanging from the spire.

The protest was part of an ongoing nationwide campaign calling on the Federal Government to prevent the deportation of 267 asylum seekers, including 37 babies, to the offshore detention centre on Nauru.

A group of supporting protestors spent the morning on the Arts Centre lawn with placards and facemasks of Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Immigration Minister Peter Dutton as "world leaders in cruelty".

Speaking earlier in the morning, Snr Sgt Dean Velle Vergeni said, while they had successfully got their message across, police had held strong concerns for the women's



A protestor at ground level speaks to the media.

safety.

"I haven't seen a protest for some time that has attracted this much attention and obviously this is a very public space, which is probably apart of their agenda and they've achieved that but we're here to ensure their safety and also the safety of ourselves in our efforts to get them down," he said.

A Victoria Police spokeswoman later issued a statement that Arts Centre Melbourne would not be pressing trespassing charges against the pair.



The two protestors dangle from the top of the Arts Centre spire with their banner.

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WHERE THE HEART BEATS!

Designs released for Southbank School

Plans for the Fishermans Bend development have taken a major step forward with the release of designs for Victoria's first-ever vertical school at Ferrars St, Southbank.

The State Government has been working closely with the City of Port Phillip and the Ferrars St Planning Committee to deliver a shared vision for the education and community precinct.

Education Minister James Merlino and Planning Minister Richard Wynne released the first images of the school and surrounding area last month, which will accommodate over 525 students.

The school, designed by Hayball Architects, will officially open its doors to students in 2018.

The new images include proposed treatments for the surrounding streetscapes, including tree planting, partial closure of some roads, drop off points for the school and upgrades to intersections.

Adjacent land was also purchased last year for \$19 million to be developed as a park, while another \$5 million has been allocated for local infrastructure, including improvements for two nearby tram stops.

The government also announced that the contract for remediation of the school site would be awarded soon and was expected to be complete by May.

Speaking at last month's community forum on Fishermans Bend, Minister Wynne said while the project was crucial to addressing enrolment pressures in the area, it was only a drop in the ocean for what was needed.

"As Martin (Foley) will tell us, all of his schools are completely oversubscribed now and are extraordinarily popular so the Ferrars St school is a very good first start of it but the predictions are that we are going to need up to six schools within the precinct so it's a very significant number," he said.

"We're going to have to intervene into a market place where, in fact, we don't own any of those sites so it is an enormous challenge but we simply don't have a choice about it we have to be up to this and we have to find ways of locating those school sites and acquiring land for them."

These comments followed the release of the findings from a State Government review into local school shortage for inner-Melbourne.



Looking from Southbank, the render shows an overview of how the Montague community precinct will appear. To the left is the new vertical school on Ferrars St, while opposite on the right is the new park, which was purchased by the State Government off a developer last year for \$19 million. Image: supplied by State Government.

Stage one of the review found that there would be a shortfall of around 4800 government primary school places and 2000 government secondary school places across the study area of Southbank and inner-Melbourne by 2031.

The State Government has confirmed the review will now move into stage two, which will focus on further community and stakeholder consultation and look at options to deliver schooling across Docklands and surrounding areas.

The study area focuses on inner Melbourne including Port Melbourne, Albert Park, South Melbourne, Carlton, North Melbourne, Kensington and Docklands.

Mr Merlino said: "As promised, we are reviewing the future education needs across inner Melbourne to tackle a dramatic reduction in school infrastructure investment under the former Liberal government."

In the meantime, local parents have continued their campaign for a local school, with lobby group City Schools 4 City Kids

gaining a following.

The group, recently formed by Docklands parents Denise Fung-Henderson and Michelle Styles, held a morning tea for around 70 people at Parliament House last month to raise awareness for the cause.

The group is advocating for public primary and secondary schools for children living in the inner city, including Southbank, Docklands and the CBD.

Speaking to the group, Ms Styles said every family living in the inner-city was affected by the current situation, describing her own experience of driving her seven-year-old son to school each day in peak hour, heavily congested roads and city gridlock.

"This crisis affects many inner-urban communities including Docklands, the CBD, Southbank, West Melbourne and South Melbourne which have no local state schools," Ms Styles said.

Ms Styles also highlighted the impact on neighbouring communities of North Melbourne, Carlton, Kensington, Parkville, Port Melbourne and Albert Park, which are

dealing with overcrowding in local state schools.

"I really hope as a united community we can do this. We can support the children of Docklands, Southbank and the CBD to have a school in their own community. Schools are the glue that help communities stick together."

City Schools 4 City Kids has already attracted political attention with Greens Melbourne MLA Ellen Sandell putting her support behind the group.

Attendees at the morning tea also included Sex Party leader Fiona Patten, Prahran Greens MLA Sam Hibbins and City of Melbourne councillors Jackie Watts and Ken Ong.

Other speakers at the morning tea also included social and urban planning academic Professor Carolyn Whitzman and Albert Park Primary School principal and Docklands-based grandmother Elaine Mills.

Prof Whitzman said the authorities had so far ignored the reality of families living in high-rises.

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Donors urged to “hop in” this Easter

The Australian Red Cross Blood Service is urging Southbank locals to donate blood at the Southbank donor centre this March.

Concerned about the impact of two long weekends this month, Blood Service spokesman Doug Allen said it needed more people to help out over Labour Day and the Easter long weekend.

“We’re worried because many of our regular blood donors will head off on a well-earned break over Labour Day long weekend or over Easter,” he said.

“Sadly, the need for blood doesn’t take a break with patients still requiring blood products during these times,” he said.

“We’re asking locals to consider donating blood during March to help ensure patients get the blood products they need.”

“We also really need people to consider donating blood on Sundays, as patient needs don’t stop just because it’s the weekend.”

Of most concern is a component of the blood called platelets. Either collected directly or made from whole blood donations, platelets are mostly used by patients undergoing treatment for cancer.

Platelets have a very short shelf life – only five days after they’ve been collected and without enough donors giving blood over long weekends, the supply can quickly drop.

“Every donation has the power to save up to three lives,” Mr Allen said.

“With one in three Australians needing blood in their lifetime yet only one in 30

donating, most of us will know someone who has benefitted from this incredible gift.”

“Patients undergoing chemotherapy, people with anaemia, orthopaedic patients, those on kidney dialysis, pregnant women and even premature babies all benefit from blood donations.”

Mr Allen explained that donating blood was easier than most people thought.

“Generally people aged between 16 and 70 years of age who are feeling fit and well are able to donate, but if you’re not sure, please don’t rule yourself out,” Mr Allen said.

“The donation process is quite straightforward. We do ask donors to make an appointment as it helps to reduce waiting times when they arrive at the centre.”

“Don’t forget to drink plenty of water before, bring photo ID and when you arrive you’ll be handed some paperwork to complete.”

“You’ll then be taken in for a quick medical assessment before making your donation in one of our comfortable donor couches.”

“Within 5-10 minutes on the couch it’s all done, and you can enjoy Australia’s best biscuit in the knowledge you’ve just saved three lives!”

The Southbank Donor Centre, located at Level 1, 51-65 Clarke St, is open six days a week to collect blood donations from the local community.



A local blood donor signs up.

The centre will also be open for collections on Labour Day (8.00am - 3.30pm), Easter Sunday and Easter Monday (8am - 3.30pm).

To make your appointment to donate please call **13 14 95** or visit **www.donateblood.com.au/make-appointment**

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The need for blood never stops, even when many donors are away. Save lives this Easter – donate at the Southbank Blood Donor Centre, Level 1, 51-65 Clarke Street.

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Thursday 24 March	7.00am – 7.00pm	Monday 28 March	8.00am – 3.30pm
Friday 25 & Saturday 26 March	CLOSED	Tuesday 29 March	7.00am – 7.00pm
Sunday 27 March	8.00am – 3.30pm	Wednesday 30 March	7.00am – 7.00pm

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Minister for Planning Richard Wynne addresses more than 250 locals at last month's Fishermans Bend community engagement forum at North Port Oval.

Neighbourhood planning progresses

Planning Minister Richard Wynne met with more than 250 locals on February 29 for the first Fishermans Bend community engagement forum at the Port Melbourne Football Club.

The forum was held on the same day the State Government released its response to the independent Ministerial Advisory Committee's (MAC) first report.

The report included 40 recommendations focusing on transport, future infrastructure, design controls, community engagement and sustainability.

Mr Wynne said that 34 recommendations had been adopted in full, while six were adopted in part, pending further information from relevant authorities. This included the need for a new planning taskforce dedicated to drafting plans.

Mr Wynne appeared alongside Member for Albert Park Martin Foley to answer questions from the crowd, along with members of the Fishermans Bend MAC chaired by Meredith Sussex.

Martin Foley was quick to shut down an early question directed at the planning minister as to why it had taken so long for further information to be released on the progress of the planning process.

"This Minister is now in front by one compared to his predecessor so, with the greatest respect, if you want transparency and accountability this bloke fronts up and gets in front of 300 people to start the discussion," he said.

"I'm all for legitimate criticisms but there's a ministerial advisory committee, there's a report from it and on the day of the launch there's a reset process."

The panel covered questions regarding a range of topics including transport, sustainability and climate change, education, resource strategies, apartment standards, building controls, developer contributions and open space.

While stating that an integrated transport plan was still being devised, Mr Wynne used the opportunity to rule out the City of Port Phillip's recent push for a tram bridge between Fishermans Bend and Docklands.

"That's been ruled out. It was ruled out before the last election by us in opposition," he said.

"We will be coming up with proposals for how we address a light-rail link, just not that one."

Questions were also raised as to whether the government's new interim planning controls would help ensure consistency with the damage done by the previous Liberal government's capital city rezoning of the precinct.

The Montague precinct, of which a large part is situated in Southbank, already has more than 7000 apartments approved with many more proposals submitted under the old planning laws.

Mr Wynne said the situation had been made more difficult by the former government but expected that the new interim planning controls for new applications would help to minimise future overdevelopment.

The planning minister also stated that developer contributions would continue to play a significant role in funding much of the urban renewal precinct, and said the Commonwealth also had a part to play.

"The opportunity for us to have a meaningful engagement with the Commonwealth around this inner-suburban site is something that we've started to pursue," he said.

Some members of the audience also raised concerns surrounding what a future change in government could mean for planning consistency.

Mr Wynne said increased community engagement would help to ensure political consensus.

"I think ultimately the way you get certainty around this or at least a level of stability is when you take communities with you, when you take local government with you," he said.

"Can you guarantee that a change of government won't throw this out? I think it's very unlikely because by the time of the next election we will have a clearly articulated plan for all of the precincts."

The full government response and information about the Fishermans Bend plans can be found online at

www.delwp.vic.gov.au/fishermans-bend

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Battle lines drawn in council election

By Shane Scanlan

October seems a long way off, but tensions are rising over this year's City of Melbourne council elections.

The first skirmish of a probably-protracted war took place at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on February 16 over voting methodology.

The battle-lines didn't take long to form up - with Team Doyle and fellow "business" councillors Stephen Mayne and Ken Ong using their dominant numbers to slap down the four "residential" Green and Labor councillors.

A seven to four voting pattern is likely to become the norm on electoral matters from here on in. On the "business" side of the fence are councillors Doyle, Riley, Wood, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer (Team Doyle), Mayne and Ong. On the "resident" side are Greens councillors Oke and Leppert and ALP-aligned councillors Foster and Watts.

So far, only councillors Doyle, Oke and Leppert have declared their intention to contest the October 22 election.

Melbourne's uniquely complex electoral system has been designed and refined by successive state governments over decades to prevent a "ratbag" element (of whatever colour) getting its hands on the prize capital city council.

The primary tools employed are an unsubdivided municipality and granting

each business two votes while residents are restricted to one. Apologists of the system claim legitimacy by equating representation with relative rate contribution.

Giving voters a choice of either posting their ballots or dropping them into a box at a polling booth, would appear to give little advantage to either business or residential interests.

Nevertheless, on February 16 business councillors resisted a pitch by residential councillors to add attendance voting as an option to the currently-exclusive postage voting method.

Choice of voting system is the only decision that councils can take in relation to the conduct of their elections.

In advocating a choice, Cr Rohan Leppert predicted that the declining standards of Australia Post delivery times, coupled with the fact that in 2012 some 4335 ballot papers arrived late, would result in 10,000 ballots arriving after the October 21 cut-off date.

"We can't guarantee that there's a one-day turn-around for the majority of our voters," Cr Leppert said.

Cr Stephen Mayne had earlier said: "Frankly I find advocacy for attendance voting

a very sectional position to benefit the residential section of the voter roll and quite disrespectful of, and disenfranchising of, the other segments, which are uniquely important in a capital city council."

Despite 40 per cent of enrolled voters failing to vote in 2012, Cr Mayne said: "It seemed to work very well. It does achieve higher turnout rates and, obviously suits our unique role with a lot of off-shore and interstate and corporate interests."

And while voting methodology may be contentious, what is far more important for the opposing camps is getting their constituents enrolled before August 26.

City of Melbourne residents, in particular, aren't particularly interested in voting in local government elections. If they did, they could dominate the vote, despite the gerrymander against them.

In 2012, only 43,789 residents were enrolled to vote at a time when the residential population was around 110,000. As such, they comprised just 40.3 per cent of the total 108,434 enrolments.

There are now 124,000 residents in the municipality, but the council is not compelled to make sure they are on the roll. On the other hand, if a corporation fails to

nominate its two voting representatives, the council is obliged by law to enroll company officers from Australian Securities and Investment Commission records. This provision does not apply to any other Victorian municipality.

This month the council will start a three-month door-knocking census of businesses in CBD, Docklands, Southbank and St Kilda Rd to ensure all eligible businesses are on its roll.

It does send letters to residential addresses which are absent from the Victorian Electoral Commission's database and, in 2012, sent 26,109 such letters. However, this exercise only netted 2000 extra residents to the council's roll.

Cr Leppert complains that the business component of the council's voter roll is far more accurate than the residential component.

But residents don't have to be Australian citizens and need only have lived in the municipality for a month to be eligible to vote.

Should the estimated 112,000 residents of voting age sign up, the 2017 Melbourne City Council could have a very different composition.

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A visual render of the amended proposal for 84-90 Queensbridge St, Southbank.

Image: The City of Melbourne.

Stark stats

Figures from the City of Melbourne's most recent Census of Land Use and Employment (CLUE) study tells us much about what we already know about Southbank.

Headline statistics showed our suburb has 41,828 workers, 939 establishments and a \$530 median weekly rental price, which is the same as it was in March 2012.

Probably the most telling statistic, which is hardly surprising in itself, is that community space covers the least amount of floor space of any of the 13 applicable categories.

Community space accounts for a miserly 5162 sqm compared with accommodation, which covers 1.47 million sqm of the suburb.

While future open space projects at Southbank Boulevard, Boyd Park and Kavanagh St will help address the problem, it's a stark illustration of how desperately community space is needed.

Other figures on Southbank show arts and recreational services and professional, scientific and technical services are the two biggest employment industries, while accommodation has tripled since 2002.

The data shows that Southbank is the city's third largest area for employment, with jobs increasing to 41,828, up from 32,500 in 2005.

Across Melbourne generally, the data reveals there were 29,000 new dwellings and 8 million sqm of floor space added to the municipality in the last 10 years.

The CLUE data found that Melbourne's economy is now worth 44 per cent more than it was in 2005, valued at \$90.6 billion.

The number of jobs across the Melbourne municipality has also increased by 33 per cent in the past decade to 450,336 local jobs.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the latest data reinforced anecdotal evidence and reports from other agencies and business that the city's economy was booming.

"We're growing in a smart and sustainable way with our largest industries being professional services, finance, insurance and technology, clean-tech and biotech - paving the way for an innovative knowledge economy," Cr Doyle said.

Extra height knocked back

A proposal to add six storeys to an already approved development at 84-90 Queensbridge St was met with disdain at last month's Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting.

Having purchased the site off former developer New Sky Group, which was issued with a planning permit for a 55-storey tower in 2014, developer Decent Place Pty Ltd has returned with a 61-storey proposal, which was unanimously knocked back by councillors on February 16.

The \$90 million project proposed to increase the height of the building from 174 to 199.5 metres in a zone that carries a discretionary height limit of 160 metres.

Addressing the committee, Southbank Residents Association president Tony Penna said he was "bamboozled" by the proposal.

"We ask ourselves the question as to why the developer has waited another year and a half to make a change and add a few more floors on? Why not just have it at 199 metres from

the word go?" he said.

Planning portfolio chair Cr Ken Ong provided a blunt response.

"The answer is no," he said. "It's an overdevelopment. It's exceeded even further from what we considered already as a high plot ratio so it's pretty simple and I'm happy to say thanks for trying but it ain't going to happen."

While Cr Rohan Leppert also echoed Cr Ong with a "flat no," Lord Mayor Robert Doyle acknowledged the developer's efforts to provide appropriate apartments for families.

"I'm glad you think it's that simple. I'm going to support the officer recommendation but I don't think it's that simple," he said.

"At least this one came back to us, reduced

the number of apartments significantly and introduced three and four-bedroom apartments."

In proposing another six levels, the developer reduced the number of dwellings from 295 to 252 to include larger apartments.

Cr Stephen Mayne also acknowledged the applicant's commitment of \$252,000 (\$1000 per apartment), to go towards delivering public realm works beneath the King Ways undercroft.

"The fact that the applicant has offered proactively to come up with a quarter of a million for public realm works was another noteworthy element but I agree that, overall, it (the proposal) is a stretch," he said.

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An outlook on Southbank's development surge

With some more major projects such as Australia 108 and the Kavanagh St block now on the horizon, some renders provided to us by Urban Melbourne show that the property boom in Southbank is only just getting started.

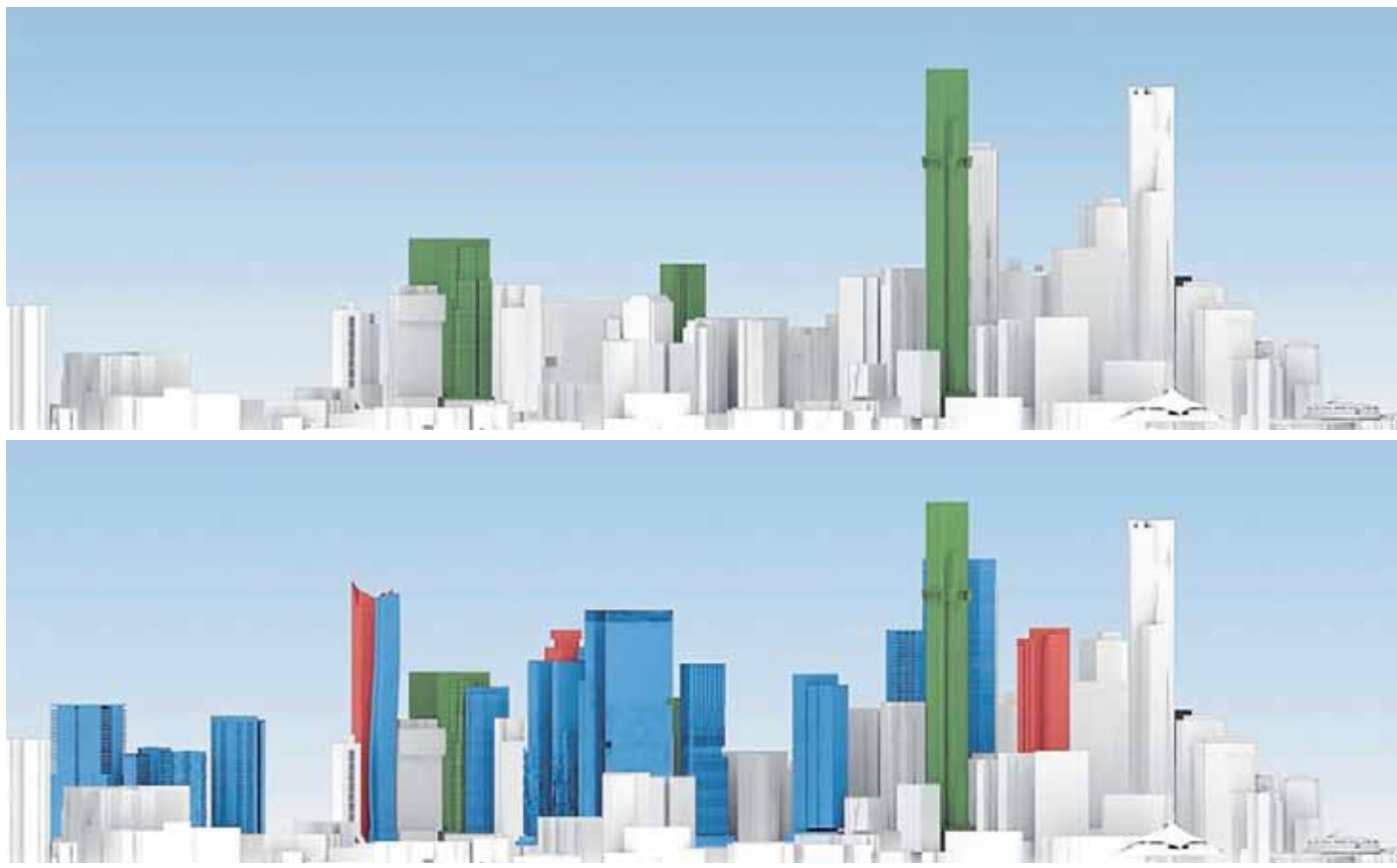
Urban Melbourne's Laurence Dragomir kindly provided these renders to *Southbank Local News*, which were part of an online story published on Urban Melbourne February 4.

The diagrams show approved projects in blue, as well as projects under construction in green. These include:

- Australia 108;
- 1-11 Balston St;
- Opus Tower;
- 2 Riverside Quay;
- Shadow Play;
- Marco Apartments; and
- Platinum Tower.

Still missing from the bottom image is Schiavello and Crown Resort's forthcoming 317-metre proposal for 1 Queensbridge St, Southbank and Central Equity's plans for 71-87 City Rd.

With a few extra buildings pending approval marked in red, the renders are an interesting look at what's in store for Southbank's skyline.



Visual renders supplied by Urban Melbourne showing a five year forecast of what's to come for Southbank.

Helicopter noise blitz

The City of Melbourne last month agreed to develop Fly Neighbourly Agreements (FNAs) with local helicopter companies in an effort to reduce the impact of aircraft noise on local residents.

Councillors unanimously agreed to support the development of a Fly Neighbourly Agreement at the February 16 Future Melbourne Committee meeting.

Last year some 6289 helicopters flew over the City of Melbourne between January and July, with two helipads located along the river opposite South Wharf and Crown Promenade in Southbank.

Regulation of helicopters and small aircraft is at a federal level and generally require aircraft to fly at a minimum of 1000 feet.

However, current regulations don't address issues such as flight paths, time of operation and minimum heights for hovering.

The City of Melbourne will seek to develop FNAs with all main helicopter companies operating within the municipality.

Residents of Flinders Wharf, who live close to the helipad opposite South Wharf, and also East Melbourne, have been campaigning for action on the issue for some time.

While the council supports the development of FNAs, it's uncertain how much the initiative will impact on the current situation, given the agreements are non-binding and voluntary.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the first hurdle was the acceptance of the agreements by the relevant federal authorities.

He said there was no precedent for FNAs in urban areas, with the agreements previously being applied to remote and regional areas.



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VCASS principal Colin Simpson (second from right) with students (left to right) Sam, Yang and Adam.

New speed limit to protect students

A new 40kmh school speed zone has been introduced in Sturt St to improve safety for students of the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS) on Miles St.

The new speed limit, developed by the City of Melbourne in consultation with VicRoads, Yarra Trams, Victoria Police and VCASS, has been installed between Kings Way and Grant St.

VCASS principal Colin Simpson raised the issue with the City of Melbourne last year after many of his students experienced close calls with speeding motorists while trying to cross the road to the nearby tram stop.

Mr Simpson praised the City of Melbourne for its assistance in making the new speed limit a reality and said it was just the start of an ongoing effort to slow down traffic on Sturt St.

"We're working with all key stakeholders to try and calm the area down and help manage traffic as well," he said.

"We're also working with Yarra Trams to install a more robust tram stop. The current tram stops are very old fashioned and don't cater for safety of students or local residents."

Mr Simpson said, while the initiative was predominantly focused on improving the safety of his pupils, it was also about being "good members of the community".

"We pride ourselves on being good community members and there is a real potential for us to become involved at a greater level," he said.

"We want the school to look great. We want the area to have trees and space for people to enjoy and we want to see more people visiting the area."

The new limit is now in effect between 8 and 9.30am and 2.30 and 4pm on school days.

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An artistic interruption

Artist and founder of Southgate's new Three O'clock Gallery Kim de Kretser said the motivation underpinning its establishment was based on bringing the community together for a conversation.

The not-for-profit project, which now occupies a re-purposed retail space on Southgate's upper level, will explore social and environmental themes through installation art, film and public talks.

Supported by Southgate Melbourne, RMIT and a host of other organisations, the project will feature six exhibitions over six months exploring a range of topics such as women, diversity, displacement and oceans.

Ms De Kretser said its launch exhibition *Interrupted* would present a series of interactive artworks that welcomed the viewer to reflect on the nuances of what the gallery was all about - conversation.

"The exhibition invites visitors to respond to art about conversation," she said. "You might be encouraged to ask a stranger a question, reflect on a lost conversation or type up an old wives tale."

"It's a beautiful space and people are welcome to pop in for a look, to chat to our studio artists or to have a cup of tea with us!"

Ms De Kretser's grandmother, who met her neighbour everyday for more than 50 years for tea and conversation, inspired the vision for the project.

Ms de Kretser said over time, the entire



Left to right: Founder Kim de Kretser with artists Ainslie Macauley and Monique Snepvangers.

neighbourhood came to know where they could find someone to talk to daily at three o'clock and would randomly drop by.

She said she hoped the new gallery space could help create a similar atmosphere for the local community to pop by for a visit whenever they liked.

"It's exciting to launch a completely new arts concept that brings together artists from

across the spectrum of creative practice and we hope to broaden how people engage with semi-public space," she said.

Interrupted will run from March 8 to 22.

The gallery is open from 11 am to 5 pm Tuesdays to Saturdays.

For more information visit www.threeoclockgallery.com

Battle of the towers at Boyd

The team at Boyd Community Hub is inviting local residents to take part in the first ever free Southbank Community Trivia Night on Wednesday, April 6.

In what will be a true test of residents' loyalty to their home, teams will be arranged into residential blocks, where towers will face off in a bid for Southbank supremacy.

Supported by the Southbank Residents Association, there will be 12 teams of five people in a first-in-best-dressed attendance policy.

The trivia will be general in theme, with one round dedicated to Southbank. Prizes will be awarded on the night.

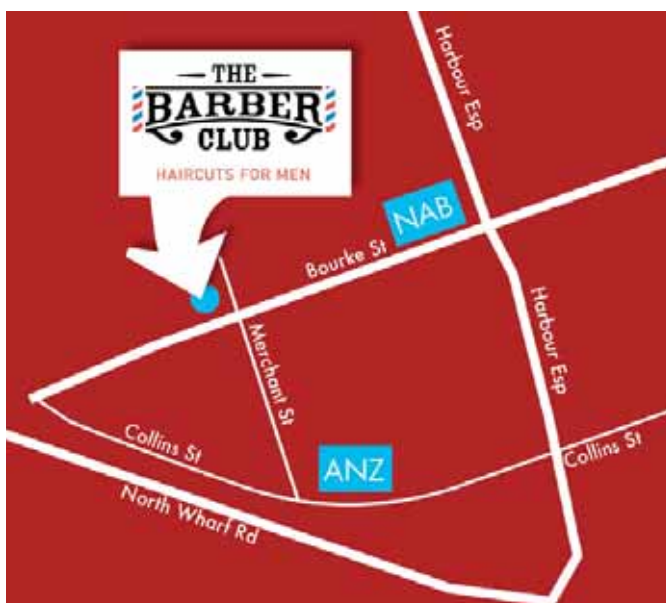
To register interest email your name and residential tower you live in to Nadine Ford:

Nadine.ford@melbourne.vic.gov.au



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THEARTS PRECINCT

NEW16 launches at ACCA

Curator Annika Kristensen said she hoped that this year's influential NEW16 exhibition would encourage audiences to create their own connections between the works shown within it.

In what is one of Australia's only commissions exhibitions, the popular annual NEW series returned on March 5 with 10 promising artists invited to make eight big new works.

Now in its 14th year, around 100 artists have made ambitious new works for NEW since it was first established in 2003, in what is widely considered a defining moment in invited artists' careers.

This year, 10 artists from across Australia will deliver new projects with the support of the ACCA installation team in time for this month's opening, becoming the 2016 fresh crop of artists to watch.

Without giving anything away, NEW16 curator Annika Kristensen said she hoped that people would find it to be an "open exhibition".

"There is no over-arching theme to the show but ideas around vulnerability, futility, absurdity and proximity connect the works within it," she said.

"A word that was circulating in the back of my brain in the research process for the show was 'generosity' and how as an artist, a curator or an institution you can create an exhibition that opens up ideas, communicated through art, to a wide public audience."

Having worked as ACCA's exhibition manager for the last 18 months, Annika said the experience had given her a

comprehensive understanding of the centre's unique gallery spaces.

While boasting a decorated career as a former project co-ordinator of the Sydney Biennale and working at various arts institutions in London, Sydney and her hometown of Perth, she said NEW16 was the biggest show she'd curated to date.

"It's definitely the biggest project that I have curated in my own right, which has been an extremely exciting and humbling experience," she said.

She said the artists assembled for this year's exhibition had a shared interest in negotiating various tensions and thresholds, including "relating various tensions between themselves and others, the artwork and the audience, private and public space and productive futility."

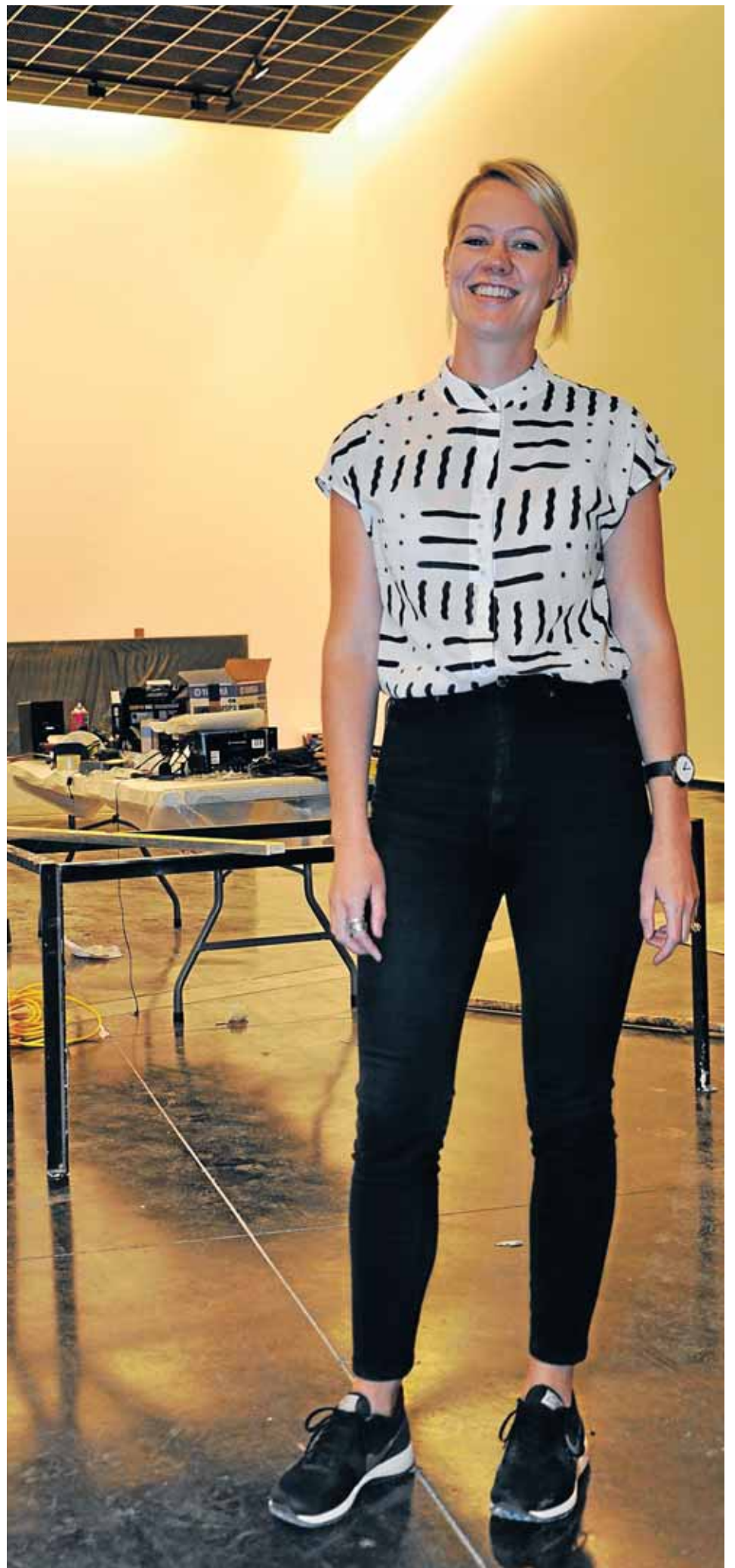
"The research process was a lengthy one," she said. "As well as regularly viewing exhibitions, I did studio visits with over 60 artists from across Australia."

"There was no theme in mind as I met with these artists - just a desire to create an exhibition that reflected a diversity of practices that both contrasted and complemented one another."

"It wasn't until I finalised the shortlist that I realised that there were in fact strong themes that connected the projects in the show - but much of this is down to luck rather than design!"

New16 is a free exhibition that runs for March 5 to May 8.

For gallery hours and more information visit www.accaonline.org.au



NEW16 curator Annika Kristensen and the team at ACCA have worked hard to transform the exhibition space.



MARGARET LIM



Margaret Lim's work is symbolic and whimsical, dreamlike and dark.

By Ella Gibson

She is one of the featured artists being exhibited at the Queen Victoria Women's Centre as part of the upcoming International Women's Day festival next month.

Her exhibition is called the Song of Love, and it's centered on exploring the issues faced by women.

"I think one of the things that I have always been very passionate about is the fact that from time immemorial we have been submitted to a lot of male dominance. I've done work on domestic violence as well, so a lot of my images reflect the state of where the woman is coming from," Ms Lim said.

"If you are conscious enough, you question the boundaries that have been placed on you. If not, you fall into it. I like to be able to do something and have things change because of that. I like making people think."

Her inspirations range from Guillermo del Toro to Hieronymus Bosch.

"I think it's just that fantasy, metaphorical kind of mixture that I'm more interested in," Ms Lim said.

Currently in her fourth year of study at Photography Studies College (PSC), Ms Lim said she used the medium of photography as a conduit within her work.

"Basically I work on symbols, objects that I use and then place them within the work to come up with a metaphor for what I want to

say. It's more suggestive rather than straight out illustrative."

Her subjects in Song of Love are old toys, relics of childhoods that had been discarded or given to op-shops and now take on new roles as integral parts of her work.

"I know that sometime a while ago someone loved it and nurtured it and carried it and took it to bed with them and told it stories, and now all of a sudden it's in an op-shop," Lim said.

"So I gave it a chance to tell another story and gave it another go at life. How can you discard something that was once so loved?"

Ms Lim said that her time at PSC had expanded her horizons and helped her explore her identity as an artist.

"My second year here was the best because all of a sudden something happened for me. I began to explore and that exploration has continued," she said.

"It's a great place to find yourself. I found my art and I found my path as to how I want to

express it. They encourage you to explore."

Continuing her exploration in the future, Ms Lim said she'd like to try new mediums such as sculpture and also take her passion for symbolic illustration further with a metaphorical retelling of classic fairytales.

"I don't want to do it literally, I'd want to use symbolism. I can't stand the fluffy stuff, so if I decided to illustrate, I'd be illustrating the dark side. But those wouldn't be for children, although fairytales are actually already very dark."

While it is clear that Ms Lim intends to challenge perceptions and make people think, it's also about creating something beautiful.

"Whether you read too much into it is unimportant to me," she said.

"It's pleasing when people just enjoy my work aesthetically. More people will see the message behind it. I don't like to do ugly work just to get the message across; I still like to create something nice ... and still get my message across."



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www.eventbrite.com.au



PHOTOBOOK MELBOURNE

Running until March 12 - Boyd Community Hub
The Australian Photobook of the Year Awards celebrate excellence and innovation in photobook creation and to showcase the work of Australian photographers to a growing local and international audience. Images from this year's series will be exhibited at the Boyd Community Hub at 207 City Rd, Southbank.
www.photobookmelbourne.org



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March 30 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
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www.melbournerecital.com.au



THE DISTANCE

March 5 - April 9 - The Sumner
Award-winning actors Nadine Garner (The Weir), Susan Prior (Puberty Blues) and Katrina Milosevic (Wentworth) star in the Australian premiere of The Distance - an observant and funny new play that examines one of society's biggest taboos.
www.mtc.com.au

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March 31 and April 1 - Hamer Hall
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www.mso.com.au

LUNGS

Running until March 19 - Fairfax Studio
Kate Atkinson (Wentworth) and Bert LaBonté (The Mountaintop) star in the Australian premiere of this internationally acclaimed modern relationship drama - a witty, tender and profound 21st Century love story by multi award-winning British writer Duncan Macmillan, directed by Clare Watson.
www.mtc.com.au

ANDY WARHOL AND AI WEIWEI

Running until April 24 - NGV International
This major international exhibition features two of the most significant artists of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: Andy Warhol and Ai Weiwei. Presenting the work of both artists, the exhibition explores modern and contemporary art, life and cultural politics through the activities of two exemplary figures.
www.ngv.vic.gov.au

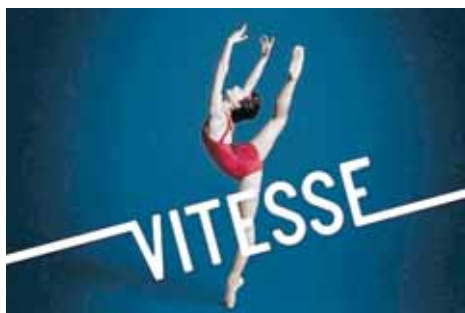
AN EVENING WITH LOW

April 4 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
For more than 20 years, Duluth, Minnesota's finest have been conjuring both hypnotic beauty and debilitating tension with their distinctive brand of delicate, space-infused music. Low's austere aesthetic initially found them at the vanguard of the 'slowcore' genre in the '90s, a movement developed as a direct foil of dominant grunge.
www.melbournerecital.com.au



STEVE EARLE & THE DUKES

March 18 and 19 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall
Grammy Award-winning, prolific, and multi-skilled, Earle knocked the world on its head in 1986 with the ground-breaking Guitar Town, which shot to No.1 on the Country charts and immediately established the term "New Country". Steve Earle & his formidable band are renowned for their rocking live show. Set to pack a punch yet again, returning often to Australia due to high audience demand.
www.melbournerecital.com.au



VITESSE

March 11 - 21 - State Theatre
Faster, louder, deeper - in this stirring triple bill, three of the world's greatest contemporary choreographers take you on a visceral ride. Christopher Wheeldon's DGVC: Danse à Grande Vitesse takes its title and its thrilling momentum from Michael Nyman's MGVC: Musique à Grande Vitesse, composed for the inauguration of France's fast train, TGV.
www.australianballet.com.au



PICNIC AT HANGING ROCK

Running until March 20 - Malthouse Theatre
Picnic at Hanging Rock has haunted the Australian psyche for over a century. One summer's day in 1900, three schoolgirls and a teacher inexplicably vanished, never to be seen again. The trip was supposed to be a Saint Valentine's Day treat. They were supposed to be home for dinner.
www.malthousetheatre.com.au



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SKINC coordinator David Sparks will host a workshop at the Boyd Community Hub on March 23.

Native garden advice

By Jack Hayes

St Kilda Indigenous Nursery Co-operative (SKINC) will be holding a local history talk this month, enlightening Southbankers about the rich floral history of the area.

This free event is part of the City of Melbourne's Night School program, and will be held at the Southbank Library in the Boyd Community Hub on March 23.

SKINC is expert in the local native plants that once covered the area between the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay, called the Sandbelt area.

With almost all Southbank residents living in apartments, SKINC is encouraging locals to use indigenous plants in their homes, both ornamental and edible.

SKINC co-ordinator David Sparks said, regardless of peoples' living situation, using plants in their home was an integral way to connect with nature in such an urban space.

"The further through the in-built environment we are, the less connected we can feel, and there is no reason to do that because where ever you are you can grow

plants," he said.

The talk will provide residents with an array of native plants, container growing techniques and a history of the local area.

"The first part of the talk is about preparing," Mr Sparks said. "How to prepare and what you need to think about when using native plants. The second part is about the native plants themselves."

"We all only have so much space so we are trying to help residents utilise the spaces they have with local Australian plants."

The event will be held at Southbank Library on Wednesday, March 23 from 6pm to 7pm. To book phone **9658 8300** or visit **www.melbournelibraryservice.com.au**

For more information on the St Kilda Indigenous Nursery Co-op visit **www.skinc.com.au**

Sky-high tourism talk

Local business people were treated to an informative and engaging speech from Tourism Victoria CEO Nick Foa at the Yarra River Business Association's (YRBA) first business luncheon of the year.

Held above the clouds at Eureka Skydeck on Wednesday, February 17, guests enjoyed breathtaking views, high quality food and wine and an interesting and detailed insight into Victoria's tourism industry.

Mr Foa spoke passionately and frankly about the work involved in transitioning

Tourism Victoria into the much bigger Visit Victoria and provided insights into current work surrounding tourism in the Yarra precinct.

The YRBA will host its next luncheon mid-year.

For more information on the business association visit **www.yarrariver.info**



Tourism Victoria CEO Nick Foa addresses the Yarra River Business Association at last month's luncheon at Eureka 89 in Southbank.

Southbank to gain from Metro Rail

The recently released Metro Rail business case reveals that Southbank will benefit from employment growth, increased tourism and more balanced tram connections as a result of the new Domain Station.

The business case, which was released by the State Government on February 23, stated that the Domain station would support "existing business, tourism and cultural uses and provide significant relief to tram routes and other traffic".

The report states that the station, which will be located adjacent to the Domain tram interchange at the top of Albert Rd, South Melbourne, will generate a range of "productivity, liveability and customer experience benefits" to the area.

In what is perhaps the most key benefit to Southbank, the report presents the case that an added transport link alongside the tram interchange would relieve congestion on the St Kilda Rd and Swanston St corridor.

More than 500 daily services will be diverted away from Swanston St and redistributed

in Elizabeth St, Spencer St and Harbour Esplanade (in Docklands).

The business case predicts that without a station at Domain up to 10,000 extra tram commuters would congest the St Kilda Rd corridor during AM peak times by 2031.

It also projects that by the same year, 40,000 people will use the station making it as busy as Flagstaff station is today.

Given these projections, the report states that a reconfigured tram network would be required to divert selected St Kilda Rd tram services to Park St, Kings Way/William St and Clarendon/Spencer St.

It's recommended that ultimately, additional services running through the precinct would be required to facilitate an increase in the number of passengers accessing local employment and education destinations.

It's also argued that the expansion of the CBD to include new precincts such as Southbank and Docklands would facilitate employment growth.

It states that the station would provide access to 33,000 jobs and 17,000 residents living within 800 metres.

"In turn the community will also benefit by having access to better quality and higher skilled employment," the business case says.

"Employment growth has been facilitated by targeted, planned expansions of the CBD and through business redevelopments included in urban renewal projects, such as the expanding CBD to include new precincts such as Southbank and Docklands."

According to the business case, an alternative location for the station was considered at Kings Way, however it's

understood that the Domain site would be \$1.4 billion cheaper.

In announcing the release of the business case, the Premier, Daniel Andrews, said the project would: "Protect our place as one of the great cities of the world."

He said the project would deliver back \$1.10 for every dollar invested.

Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said train trips within Melbourne were expected to double in the next 15 years.

"Melbourne Metro is desperately needed – without it, our transport system, our city and our state will grind to a halt."

The business case predicts that an extra 28,000 jobs will be located within the CBD as a result of the \$10.9 billion project.

Underpass upgrades stall

Public Transport Victoria (PTV) has confirmed that physical works to restore the dilapidated underpass between Elizabeth St and the Northbank won't take place as part of phase one of restoration works to Flinders Street Station.

The State Government announced on March 1 that construction company Built Pty Ltd had been awarded the contract to refurbish the station, with works to commence this month.

However, PTV media manager Adrian Darwent said that initial works to "fix the leaky roof, restore the crumbling façade and re-paint" the station, would not include the underpass.

"Other works including passenger improvements such as reviewing entrances and re-tiling the subway will be determined by detailed design that is taking place this year," he said.

"These works will commence after the design phase has been completed."

While no further details were provided to explain the delay, Mr Darwent confirmed

that it was expected that works would be included as part of phase two.

Long seen as the CBD's gateway to Southbank, the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) has been campaigning for the underpass to be restored, with the group's president John Forman last year labeling it "a disgrace."

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said both he and Mr Forman had been in negotiations with PTV on the issue to lobby for early upgrades to the underpass.

However, he said a lot hinged on the continuing discussions with Heritage Victoria.

Announced last year, the \$100 million Flinders Street Station project is expected to be fully completed in 2018 and create 150 jobs over the course of construction.



An example of one of the seven studios at the Boyd Community Hub.

Image: Ella Gibson.

A secret world of art

By Ella Gibson

Southbank's Boyd Community Hub contains a number of artists working and showcasing their work as part of the Creative Spaces and Artist Residencies programs.

Creative Spaces is part of the City of Melbourne and it aims to broker, develop, and manage spaces for the creative sector.

One of the ways in which they do this is through the Creative Spaces website, where people are able to list suitable spaces that are then made available to creators to rent for a certain amount of time.

From that concept, the Artist Residencies program began. The program itself is grant-based and applications are examined and chosen by a panel.

Creative Spaces program co-ordinator Laura Beilby stated that the idea behind it was to support arts and culture in Melbourne, and to diversify the use of the building.

"It's quite a diverse mix of artists. We believe that if you put people of different disciplines in a building together you'll get a certain amount of cross-pollination, which is something that happens naturally. We just set the right environment," she said.

The Boyd school building now contains seven studios, contributing to more than 100 studios being used as part of the creative spaces program in the City of Melbourne.

"The important thing for us is that we are very opportunistic," Ms Beilby said.

"We seek opportunities to intervene on the real estate market wherever we can, to make sure that our creative sector can still work within the City of Melbourne."

The cost of real estate in the city means that many people are finding themselves pushed out.

"In many cases, artists don't have a steady income or nine-to-five jobs, so it can be hard for them to go and seek out space. To keep Melbourne a livable city, it's important to support artists, and this is one way in which we're doing that," Ms Beilby said.

"Melbourne is largely a creative place. It's one of the reasons people like living here. But if we don't have artists practicing within Melbourne then it's going to die out."

The program itself, rather than being project-based, is centered on giving artists space and opportunity in which to develop their work.

"It's a space in which they can research and develop and explore all things related to their practice, and in exchange they commit to having one public outcome," Ms Beilby said.

"We're very conscious that the spaces we do develop are sustainable and long-term. We're not doing things in a short-term way."



The Elizabeth St underpass at Flinders Street Station.

Image: John Forman.



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with Tom Hoffmann

Christianity isn't a religion: Discuss!

I'm not a religious person. I'm not. To be honest, I don't know what it is to be "religious."

Religion, etymologically at least, is about binding, being bound, about being locked-in to something.

In a song by my favourite band, Pearl Jam, the lead singer, Eddie Vedder sings the words, "Are we bound out of obligation? Is that all we've got?"

That's an important question for the "religious" person to ask. Because if the seeking of a connection with a supreme being is one based on obligation - a connectedness initiated out of a sense of a required submission, a duty to hold out one's wrists for the handcuffs - then, as far as I'm

concerned, forget that!

That's not religion as I know it, and for those reasons I don't call the tradition I participate in a religion at all.

The vision of religion that I see is one that is inverted - one that shatters the once understood notions of piety on the ground next to a similarly shattered vanity mirror.

Christianity isn't a religion, or at least it shouldn't be, if it's based on the person of Jesus.

Jesus' people had been waiting for him, eagerly anticipating someone who would bring a new hope, someone who could make redemption possible where it was seemingly impossible. And that's exactly what he did! Jesus came to set the captives free, to show

the people of the world that the almighty is smiling upon us, not locking us up in chains.

With a Christian worldview one can see that the only person being bound to an unnatural submission is Jesus himself. Jesus bound himself to his father's will when he allowed himself to be whipped, mocked and nailed to a cross to die.

Jesus submitted himself to this punishment so that we don't need to fear being punished for not measuring up to divine perfection.

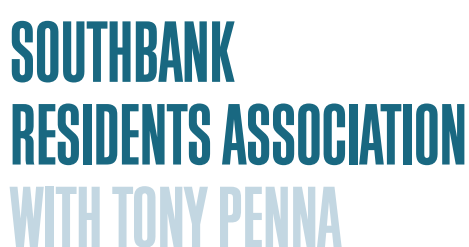
With Jesus as one's life-compass, any sense of obligation goes out the window and in the freedom that he brings we can find joy in a new way of living - one that embraces an altogether different kind of binding.

In the New Testament, St Paul writes about

submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ. This expresses the game-changer that Jesus was, and is, for religion. If we're touched and awed by the perfect selflessness of Jesus we can find fulfilment in following his example of being subject to our neighbour - being servants of one another - without thought of reward.

In another Pearl Jam song, Eddie Vedder sings, "Everything has chains, absolutely nothing's changed." When you consider the history of religion and look at the institutional church today, I wouldn't blame you if that's what you see.

But I would say this: Human beings make things religious. What Jesus is doing is something else altogether.



This month the community has had some ups and downs.

Firstly we felt we made a strong submission to council at the Future Melbourne Committee regarding voting methods at the upcoming council elections in October.

We thought a combination of postal and attendance voting would be the most equitable and fair system, but a small majority of councillors felt that postal voting should be the preferred and only method open to voters.

We argued that the City of Melbourne has the largest population of homelessness in the state and postal voting would deprive them of the privilege to vote. Notwithstanding,

attendance voting would have brought us in line with the state and Commonwealth government practices. It is the most effective method of supporting a vibrant and inclusive democracy that encourages voter participation, minimises election costs and reduces the opportunity for voter fraud through ballot theft.

In light of the absence of any supporting position explained by any councillor I can't help but think that postal only voting will work to the interests of some councillors.

On a more positive note, at the Fishermans Bend forum last week, held by the Planning

Minister Richard Wynne, I was excited to see the plans for the long-fought and highly-sought-after new South Melbourne primary school on Ferrars St. This will be a vertical school of some five-stories and will be able to accommodate 525 students. The minister tells us it will be finished in time for the commencement of the 2018 school year.

After all the lobbying the community has done over the past years, it was a great feeling to see the plans and artist's impression.

We have a busy month ahead with submissions to the Consumer Affairs

Victoria review of the Consumer Property Law but in particular of interest to us is the Owners' Corporation Managers discussion paper and the OC Act proper discussion paper still to come. This is a valuable opportunity for us to have a say.

Building membership has continued to grow this year with three more buildings realising the benefits of a strong community voice. Thank you!

Remember if you or your building would like to join you can do so via our website southbankresidents.com.au. Our voice is only as strong as our membership base.

St Johns
Southgate

The community of St Johns Church Southgate invites you to church at Easter

Palm Sunday March 20
9am, 11am Worship

Maunder Thursday March 24
7:30pm Worship

Good Friday March 25
9am Worship
6pm Worship with music and poetry

Easter Sunday March 27
6:45am Worship at dawn
11am Worship

Sunday after Easter April 3
9am Worship with contemporary cantata by GC Biller, 2012
11am Worship

20 City Road Southbank Telephone 9682 4995 www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

The dog that fell from the sky



Four-year-old Southbank pup Sol is regarded as somewhat of a resident socialite by his owners as well as fellow neighbours.

When Southbank Local News caught up with its March Southbanker Wendy Grenfell last month, the Kavanagh St resident shared her tale about the “dog that fell from the sky” in her apartment building.

That dog was in fact her neighbour Sol, and Southbank Local News was keen to catch up with owners Johann and Kiara Galliani to uncover the hidden legend behind this illustrious title.

“Wendy didn’t realise that Sol lived two apartments up and there’s a little hole that Sol can walk across through the garden bed to get into her apartment,” Johann explained.

“She had no idea where he came from and she said he must have fallen from the sky!”

Not that Wendy minded the intrusion one bit, with Sol highly regarded by everyone in the building including the concierges.

Nor does Wendy’s own dog Annie mind the regular visits who, according to Kiara, has become Sol’s girlfriend.

Johann said Sol was commonly known for being friendly, playful and sitting on people’s feet.

“He normally likes to sit on people’s feet. He’s like a set of moccasins in winter,” he said.



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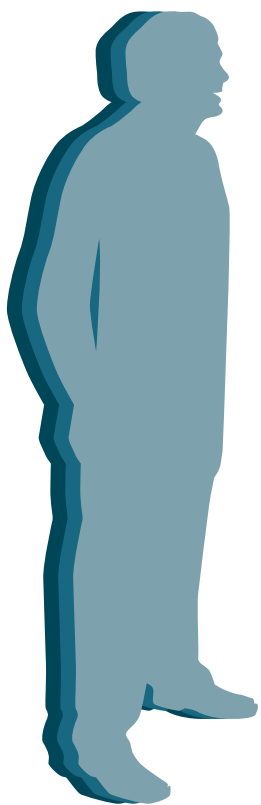
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Empowering potential

Southbank resident Wendy Grenfell has built a career out of inspiring and motivating others to realise their full potential.



SOUTHBANKER

Profile by Sean Car

Having started her career as a primary and secondary school teacher for 10 years, Wendy would later transition into the field of corporate training and human resources where she worked in various industries and business schools across the world.

While building a decorated career in her specialised field, she told Southbank Local News that five years ago, she had reached a point where an urgent change was needed.

"I really had that 'take your job and shove it' moment where I just really felt things needed to change but in a different way," she said.

"It's like that idea where you can't change if you're a part of the problem and as an internal employee I politically had to navigate certain worlds so it was difficult for me to help change the world."

After realising her own true potential, the former Williamstown resident established her own business Elgin Hall School of Modern Leadership, which she currently runs from her Southbank apartment on Kavanagh St through Google Hangouts.

The business, which specialises in personalised business coaching, training

and mentoring for talented individuals or corporate groups from all over the world, has proven to be a resounding success.

"My focus is really exceptional and talented professionals so it's really those ones who get to 80 per cent in their career and they're doing well when all of a sudden they hit a wall," she said.

"It's sort of like elite athletes. They know there's a wall there and their coaches help them to get over it but talented professionals in workplaces don't know that same wall is there for them."

Working with a broad range of ages and backgrounds, Wendy said the most satisfying part of her role was being able to provide people with a personalised education.

And given her unwavering ability to constantly help inspire others, Southbank Local News was curious to find out who Wendy's biggest inspiration was ...

"Richard Branson is definitely my main inspiration at the moment actually because he's a watered down version of the American entrepreneurial spirit more done in an Australian cultural way."

"I was lucky enough to work at his centre for entrepreneurship in South Africa a few years ago with his start up entrepreneurs for a week and we worked at his centre and then we went into a game reserve for three nights," she said.

With a daughter studying at Monash Clayton and a son at the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School in Southbank, Wendy said the location had provided an ideal base for both her and her children.

Having enjoyed living and working in Southbank for nearly two years now, she said she had no plans to leave the area anytime soon.

"Just being in Southbank around arts and high performance is very inspiring, which is probably another reason why we chose Kavanagh St because at one end of our apartment is the Arts Precinct and at the other you've got Boyd," she said.

"I'm very lucky that my business is based in Southbank as it's a great centre to empower people from. It's a wonderful environment that helps motivate me to empower others."



FACES OF SOUTHBANK



KYLE O'DONNELL, 21, DELI WORKER
From: Warrnambool

Looking for Alaska by John Green. Mostly because it's just a great read, it's a rollercoaster of emotions and most people will enjoy it.



SIMONE TRUMBULL-WARD, 20, MANAGER
From: Warrnambool

I can't remember the name of it! It was my favourite book as a child, and this girl turns into a cat – it was very stressful and amazing. And the cover was furry!



ELLIOT BROWN, 21, STUDENT
From: Melbourne

Scar Tissue – it's about the lead singer of the Red Hot Chilli Peppers. It's a bit gritty but it's really good. I'd recommend it because I'm a big fan of the band but it also gives a good insight into his background and his childhood.



SIMONE GIRY, 20, STUDENT
From: Camberwell

Of Mice and Men. It's quite short so you can read it quickly, and it's got a good plot. It's quite emotional but you wouldn't expect it to be, and I think reading it now compared to when it was written is interesting because we take different things from it.



TAYLOR FARRUGIA, 20, STUDENT
From: Romsey

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo. I used to read very wishy-washy books so it was a break from that! It was a solid book, interesting and very intense.



BENEDICT BARRETT, 23, RESTAURANT WORKER
From: UK

The Martian. It was quite light-hearted and entertaining, and they skipped through quite a lot of the science. But I watched the movie first, which was a mistake.

Question:

If you could recommend a book to everyone, what would it be and why?



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Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

Looking for action on tram stop

I saw an article about the tanbark at the new tram stop on Whiteman St in this month's edition titled "Where's the green space?"

I was wondering if you could follow it up with my photos and information.

I wish to express my view of disappointment with part of the re-development of the Whiteman St tram stop. I was also wondering if you had information on whether the tanbark was temporary or permanent, as the article doesn't mention it?

The tanbark has already displaced in one section due to rain, leaving clumpy dirt. There is also rubbish scattered along the tanbark including numerous alcohol bottles and a broken bottle. This has been there for weeks.

There are now unsightly weeds growing along the edges of the tanbark.

Also because of the recent upgrades a new area of road has major drainage issues during normal levels of rainfall.

I have advised Yarra Trams and the council about all of this but am yet to see any action taken.



I'm attaching a compilation of photos, which show the issues I've mentioned.

I am happy to provide you with better quality original photos or take some more photos if needed.

Thanks - Trevor



OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

The impacts of crime in high-rise buildings.

As we all can tell just from looking out our windows, high-rise buildings now make up the predominant form of new housing in the Melbourne inner-suburb areas.

Local and state governments have implemented changes to planning legislation to permit high-density housing in an effort to combat the pressures of maintaining and repairing a sprawling infrastructure asset base.

The changing housing and social environment will mean that more and more Australians will be calling an apartment their home in the coming years. However, little consideration has been given as to how the government's changes to its policies might impact on levels of crime and perceptions of safety and the fear of crime within these vertical communities.

However, research academics are finding considerable empirical evidence to suggest that the interconnections between transport networks, land use, and population density can contribute a great deal to explain the crime rates at certain places and times.

Dr Sacha Reid (Griffith University) and others recently published a report to the Criminology Research Advisory Council called Crime in High-Rise Buildings: Planning for Vertical Community Safety.

From a large sample of high-rise buildings in Queensland, the report rather unsurprisingly found that buildings with predominantly long-term residential tenure recorded the lowest levels of crime. Buildings with short-term tenancies only (such as hotels and serviced apartments) recorded the next highest rates of crime, while the runaway leader were buildings with mixed tenure (being buildings that had a combination of both short and long-term tenures) which reported the highest amount of crime.

Surprisingly, whether or not a building had a sophisticated security system, roving security patrols or an on-site building manager mattered little in the reported crime rates.

The report makes for powerful reading for committee members, building managers,

security contractors and OC managers.

There is great potential that some high-rise buildings in and around our local communities might be labeled as "risky facilities" in the future, which could lead to a diminution in value of all of the apartments within those buildings.

Often, the design of the building can lend itself to being targeted by criminals, or can otherwise raise the fear of crime amongst residents.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is often not taken seriously by developers and builder (nor the councils - in approving the buildings).

However, owners' corporations should take charge of the security of their communities and should consider engaging an expert to advise them on security measures to shore up entry points and to ensure that ground floor units are not easy to access.

The presence of an on-site manager can also act as a great crime deterrent in and of itself. A manager that works 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday would be unable to react to matters quickly and this can greatly enhance resident's perception of safety and guardianship.

Security patrols are another key element of regulating vertical community safety. Anecdotally however, I have seen many owners' corporations that have terminated the security patrols from the annual budget in an effort to save.

The one point that I would note is that owners' corporations should consider approaching their neighbours to share the costs of security patrol during nighttime, weekends and at special events, thus each paying less to receive the service.

Much more research needs to be done in this very important area, and I would encourage local and state governments to impose greater restrictions on developers and builders at town planning stage to ensure that CPTED is strictly planned for and enforced.

We Live Here

Giving people a voice

The support and feed-back for the We Live Here Movement has been overwhelming since our December launch.

Thank you to everyone that continues to visit our website to keep up to date or register as a supporter. We are growing in number as people become aware of the movement and we are proud to say that we now advocate for more than 70 buildings.

As the movement gathers momentum We Live Here is now being recognised as a genuine voice for residents and community groups grappling with issues arising from inner city living that are not being adequately addressed.

This month's column will focus on issues facing two community groups that have invited We Live Here to lend support.

City Schools 4 City Kids

City Schools 4 City Kids are actively lobbying for local, inclusive and quality education for both primary and secondary students living in the inner city communities of Melbourne for which there are NO schools.

The government has known of reports showing a critical CBD shortage and subsequent surrounding school overcrowding for over five years with little action!

City Schools 4 City Kids has taken its case to Parliament where a forum and morning tea was held on February 25. We encourage you to sign the group's Facebook petition at: www.facebook.com/cityschools4citykids/

Development of Harbour Esplanade, Docklands

A small group of Docklands residents dedicated to ensuring that residents are given a voice in deciding the final plans for the development of Harbour Esplanade are now being supported by the We Live Here movement.

Harbour Esplanade is an area that has been overlooked and neglected by authorities during the development of Docklands. It is clearly the most vital carriageway in all of Docklands and provides Melbourne with its only true urban waterfront.

The Harbour Esplanade Master Plan created with Places Victoria now receives approval oversight from the Melbourne City Council. We hope that their oversight is sufficiently strong and informed to create the Harbour Esplanade needed by the public - visitors, workers and residents - and not one that just suits the developers!

Consideration of a linear park, street-level water views and traffic flows are imperative. Further information can be found at www.welivehere.net

Short-stay apartments

In our previous column we referred to the Independent Panel on Short Stays. We are still awaiting the Government report.

The stance of the We Live Here Movement is for the government to legislate for stays of 30 days or more, which is consistent with a Residential Tenancy Agreement.

Anything less and residential apartments operate as hotel-style accommodation which is not what Class 2 residential buildings were designed for.

We need the government to hear us, the people that actually work and enjoy living in high density inner city areas.

We would like to work with all levels of government to find solutions to the many and varied issues that are unique to this mode of living.

Please continue to support us, by joining up via our website, and encourage other like-minded residents to join up as well.

We also welcome and encourage input and contributions from YOU on the issues that affect YOU.



www.welivehere.net
emails to campaign@welivehere.net



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DO IT YOURSELF with KATHLEEN TOOHEY

Haymes PaintRight Southbank

The importance of undercoat



It is a common misconception that many projects can be completed without an undercoat. Two coats of low sheen will do just fine right? No! So let's get a few basic rules out of the way to help you along on your next project.

Undercoats have been formulated to do a specific job. They basically seal a surface and prepare it for the decorative or, top coat. They prevent surfaces from soaking up too much paint, they prevent colours and stains from bleeding through and they ensure adhesion and prevent peeling.

Without undercoats, projects would take twice as long and last half as long. It's important to get it right.

Firstly, anything that has not been previously coated should be. While this is not always 100 per cent necessary, it is always 100 per cent necessary to be safe rather than sorry! So, whether it is new plaster walls, timber, concrete, panelling, metal or even a canvas, be sure to give the substrate a coat of appropriate undercoat.

Depending on the colour chosen, sometimes

undercoats require tinting. Particularly dark or bright colours at times require a grey undercoat. This helps with coverage and prevents the need for multiple coats. It also provides a more accurate representation of the colour. Your local paint expert will be able to tell you if this is required.

Previously coated surfaces should only require an undercoat if you are wanting to apply a water-based paint over an unknown or oil-based paint, if there are stains present or if the surface is rough or peeling, resulting in prep such as sanding or filling. This is mainly for adhesion purposes.

Undercoat is certainly required whenever there has been fillers applied. Fillers can be quite thirsty.

Stains such as water stains, smoke stains, etc require a particular undercoat to prevent them from bleeding through, essentially blocking the stain, very clever!

Luckily, Haymes Paint has devised a prep coat range called Ultra Series, comprised of only five products, that cover all undercoat needs. This range includes two-water based

undercoats, two oil-based and one spirit-based. These five products – Ultra Cover, Ultra Seal, Ultra Prime, Ultra Lock and Ultra Hold cover every possible requirement.

For those that prefer water-based paint, Ultra Cover and Ultra Seal are for you. Between the two, there is superior adhesion, low odour as well as stain sealing properties. Ultra Cover is actually the most versatile of the whole range. It is the best of the best.

For those that prefer the traditional oil-based undercoats, the Ultra Series range has enhanced them. Ultra Lock has incredible adhesion and is rapid drying. Ultra Prime is a metal primer suitable for all metal surfaces including galvanised iron and Ultra Hold is their rapid drying stain sealer. No more waiting to apply the next coat.

Now you have a fair idea of what you need to use and why, but it is still always worth explaining your project to your local paint expert, they will make sure you are using the right thing.

Please feel free to contact me at Paintright Southbank if you have any questions.



HEALTH & WELLBEING

with Justin Moran
Just In Time Personal Training

Some pertinent health and exercise information!

Heart rate versus fat loss

Research indicates that low intensity exercise (25-55 per cent VO2 Max) does not enhance aerobic/C-V fitness and is not always associated with significant amounts of body fat loss.

The higher the exercise intensity, the more fat kilojoules burned in total, thus more fat is burned despite the lower percentage of fat actually used as a fuel source (kilojoule = measure of work energy).

For individuals who have the capability and the motivation to exercise at a higher intensity, fat loss will be greater and they will benefit from gains in aerobic fitness (increased VO2 max). However, for individuals who are considered obese or have low compliance with exercise regimes, low intensity exercise is always the best option.

Muscle and fat are two different tissues

One myth that many people get wrong is that muscle can turn into fat and vice versa. This is simply not possible as they are two very different compounds. One can increase and the other can decrease but simply do not under any circumstance turn into each other.

The purpose of muscle is contraction and relaxation and to allow our bones and body to move. Fat cells however just either store or release fat and fat is adipose tissue.

Remember this simple premise that Rosemary Stanton delivered to a room of dieticians, nutritionists, doctors and professors of health – “Move more and eat less”. Simple but very true and effective. Any exercise is better than nothing – so get moving!

Posture, function and balance

Maintaining good posture throughout life is important to reduce the risk of injury and to make sure you function at your best. When your body moves well you feel good.

There are many different postural problems and different ways to correct them.

The most common problems are as a result of time spent sitting and as a result of lack of movement. If you have pain as a result of your posture or you are concerned with your posture then you should seek help from an expert in this area such as a physiotherapist, exercise physiologist or qualified and experienced personal trainer.

Recognising the early signs and correcting them is important and it is not only about how we sit and stand but also how we move and therefore how we function every day.

Maintaining a neutral spine, retraction of the scapula, activating your core and balance are essential elements of a successful exercise program and areas that you should

endeavour to become aware and educated about.



Top 10 tips for sitting posture

The top 10 tips for sitting posture are:

1. Stand up and move around;
2. Use a lumbar support;
3. Sit tall;
4. Lift your shoulders up and back slightly;
5. Have your feet on the ground spaced at hip width;
6. Knees and hips at about a 90 degree angle;
7. Have your screen at eye height;
8. Have your mouse and keyboard close to you so you aren't having to reach;
9. Stretch at regular intervals; and
10. Don't sit if you don't have to (try standing up every time you answer the telephone).

For more information, exercise guidance or if you have any questions feel free to contact me www.justintimept.com

Justin Moran

Businesses in Southbank

Your one stop paint shop

Housing both a state of the art showroom and a trade accessible centre, Haymes PaintRight Southbank is a paint shop like no other.



Haymes PaintRight Southbank trade manager Ben Lowry and store manager Kathleen Toohey.

Since moving the business to its new flagship Southbank store from Maribyrnong in 2013, store manager Kathleen Toohey said it had provided the ideal location for serving all of its customers' needs.

"You don't walk into any other paint shop and see this kind of thing happening so by having the showroom here we can cater for architects, designers, specifiers and then we have our trade access as well," she said.

"We have to make sure we're pleasing everybody and making it a welcoming place for DIYers and people doing home renovations so that's where this all came about."

With a combined total of well over 50 years of industry experience, Kathleen and the Southbank team can assist with everything from colour consultations and wood care treatment to industrial coatings and home renovations.

With the retail end of the business growing strongly, Kathleen said it was a strong reflection that the comfortable and relaxed nature of the new store was being received well by the local community.

She said as was the case with most apartment residents, the store had become a local hub for people mainly seeking advice on a whole range of DIY projects.

"For most of the people who do live in apartments, it's generally just small touch ups as there are a lot of renters. Being a renter myself I can understand that!" she said.

"We're also seeing a lot more people wanting to do little craft projects as well as a lot of outdoor work, which isn't so much the case in Southbank but we get a lot of people coming in for their decks and things like that."

While already both sponsoring a regular kids craft club at the South Melbourne Night Market and Kathleen establishing a DIY column in our newspaper, she said the team was still looking forward to engaging further with the local community.

She said the location of the store, situated in between Southbank, the freeways and the future Fishermans Bend redevelopment, meant the opportunities moving forward were endless.

"There is certainly huge potential and many opportunities for us being close to Southbank, Montague and Port Melbourne with Lorimer St and of course the ongoing maintenance of existing houses and apartments," she said.

"As our brand and our store becomes a bit more well known hopefully that means they will just come directly to us and we can help them out with whatever they need."

Haymes PaintRight Southbank is located at 224 Normanby Rd.

For more information visit southbank.paintright.com.au

An education in fitness

Owner of the new F45 Training studios in Southbank James Ben-Unu said the fitness franchise's model was nothing like anything he'd experienced in the industry before.



Left to right: F45 Training's Kate Meredith, James Ben-Unu and Abner Castillo outside their new Power St facility.

The long-time personal training specialist is due to open up his new state of the art studios on Power St on March 12, and said he couldn't wait to bring the F45 concept to residents of Southbank.

"I've been in the industry for 10 years and in terms of concepts and the way that gyms are operated I think this one is the best by far that I've ever come across," he said.

"Once I experienced the model and did a bit of research I thought it was a no brainer to be honest."

With a qualified and experienced team of six trainers and a seventh on the way, the 268sqm Southbank facility will house the largest F45 studio in Melbourne and one of the largest in Australia.

Described as "the most innovative, challenging and systemised team training workout in the world," James has added a new dimension to the F45 model by introducing personal training to his studio.

"What we're doing differently to other F45 gyms is we're adding in a PT studio so that was one element that I thought was missing from the initial model," he said.

"People came in, they enjoyed the larger classes, they lost weight, they got to where they wanted to get to and there was that element of what do I want to do next?"

What's better about the Southbank studio's training system is that on top of offering more than 12 differently themed classes, the

added personal training system is extremely flexible.

As James explained, clients can access their own training program after hours at any time that suits them, making it perfect for the busy lifestyles of inner-city residents.

"We've got an online system that use Dropbox so we just upload their programs on the Dropbox, they come and access one of their iPads on the wall, look up their folder, get their program and it's all there in front of them," he said.

"When they finish they just chuck it back on the wall and the personal trainer can access it next time and see if they're on top of everything, they can write any questions, notes or anything like that on there."

Having spent the last four months retrofitting the Power St site, James said he and his team couldn't be more excited to get started and hoped to create a real community fitness facility.

"My idea with creating that environment where everyone is approachable is that everyone is working for each other to try and service our members and create a real community atmosphere," he said.

The new F45 training studio is located at 30A Power St, Southbank.

For more information visit www.f45training.com.au/southbank/#Tue

2016 WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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WEDNESDAYS

FITNESS FUSION @ BOYD

If you're looking for a great way to start the day, come along to Fitness Fusion at Boyd for a series of fun and challenging exercises. Starts at 6.45am and finishes at 7.45am.

MARCH 23 @ BOYD

NIGHT SCHOOL - SKINC

St Kilda Indigenous Nursery Co-operative (SKINC) are experts in the local native plants that once covered the area between the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay. The event runs from 6pm to 7pm.



TUESDAYS

LAUGHTER YOGA @ BOYD

Laughter Yoga is a unique concept that allows you to laugh even when you least feel like it and is ideal for all ages. Sessions are at Boyd Community Hub, Assembly Hall each Tuesday at 6pm



WEDNESDAY MARCH 30

KERE KERE DAY

Hosted by Cafe Kere Kere at the Boyd Community Hub, this day is a celebration of giving. To celebrate its birthday the cafe gives away free coffee for the entire day.

WEDNESDAY APRIL 6

BATTLE OF THE TOWERS

Local residents are invited to take part in Boyd's first ever free Southbank Community Trivia Night. For more information see the article on page 12 of this edition.

FRIDAY MARCH 11

DIVERSITY WEEK AT BOYD

Children can come and make finger print people by using inks and paint to make their finger print across a piece of board. This activity reminds parents, children and our community that we're all different!



SUNDAYS

ARTS CENTRE 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.
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TUESDAYS @ BOYD

HULA HOOPING & BOOTY CAMP

Incorporating 80's Dance, 90's Hip-Hop Dance, Booty Dance, Hoop-Aerobics, Hoop-Hop, striking your tree pose with Voga, Hula-Hooping tricks, and LOTS of Hilarity.



WEDNESDAYS @ BOYD

FREE WALKING GROUP

Join local fitness experts JustInTime as they lead a 'not just walking group' for Boyd walkers. The program runs on Wednesdays from 9.30am to 10.30am.



FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

For over 50s living in Southbank. Join for fun, activities, events and friendship. First Thursday of the month at Library at the Dock 10am. Contact Sue 0425 831 954.
www.clubrunner.ca/mspc

SECOND TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

LIONS CLUB

The new Melbourne City Southbank Lions Club hosts its monthly meetings at Boyd from 7pm until 8pm. All welcome.
Email chengji1214@gmail.com for more information

MARCH 11

SEE MAKE PLAY WORKSHOP

A free monthly toddler and parent workshop that fosters the development of creativity and early literacy skills. This month's theme is friendship and belonging.

SECOND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

READING CIRCLE

A free and informal chat about whatever it is we've been reading. Fiction, non-fiction, plays, poems, travel writing, biography – anything at all!
6pm - 7pm @ Boyd Library

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March, 2016

It's an exciting time when you make the decision to purchase a property, but it can often come with a lot of questions and a little anxiety. Don't panic, it doesn't... It shouldn't be a daunting experience provided you have a plan of attack and a process to follow.

But where do you start? Get in touch with us! With five simple steps we will have you armed and ready to find the property that's waiting for you. It's our mission at Ray White Southbank to ensure this becomes an enjoyable and memorable adventure where you finish with a set of keys and a place to call home or secure investment for your future.

To assist with this process further we have an in-depth buyers guide available to pick up from our office or contact us to email you a copy.

Happy buying :)

Michael Pastrikos - Sales Manager
Ray White Southbank M: 0404 282 864



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