

The voice of Southbank, South Wharf & Montague

SOUTHBANK Local NEWS

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The Testing Grounds is back!

The team at Testing Grounds celebrated the reopening of Southbank's very own experimental art space last month following its big transformation.

More than 300 people attended the site's relaunch on Friday, November 25, which featured a number of performances and installations in the new creative ad-hoc spaces.

Program manager Arie Rain Glorie said the response to the new spaces from artists so far had been one of sheer excitement.

Read more on page 8.



(Left to right) The Testing Grounds team Arie Rain Glorie, Millie Cattlin, Joseph Norster (with baby August) and Trent Griffiths celebrate the venue's reopening!

C270 fails to deliver for Southbank Village

By Sean Car

The State Government officially legislated its C270 amendment of the Melbourne Planning Scheme last month and, unfortunately for residents in Southbank Village, it has failed to hit the mark.

Despite appointing a ministerial advisory panel to provide recommendations on C270, Minister for Planning Richard Wynne officially adopted the amendment largely unchanged from how it was first proposed.

While C270 provides a clearer vision for development in the central city zone, the Southbank community had hoped mandatory controls would be introduced for the whole of Southbank Village's low-rise precinct.

The precinct is defined under the Melbourne

Planning Scheme as a special character area and the State Government's amendment will see mandatory controls for the area remain.

However, it's the discretionary controls along the precinct's boundary, namely the Sturt St spine, which the local community had hoped to see changed to mandatory.

The community is currently in a battle with a developer to prevent a 67-metre tower from going ahead at 135 Sturt St, which is subject to a 40-metre discretionary height control.

Under C270, this control will remain but with the introduction of a floor area ratio to guide the discretion that be exercised in relation to overall height.

Speaking at the November 22 Future Melbourne Committee meeting, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the area would remain open to opportunistic developers unless stronger rules were enforced.

"I actually think that 40-metres is too high for this street," he said. "If you think 40-metres is the top of Manchester Unity (in the CBD)

and that is not the streetscape of Sturt St."

"My plea to the State Government in the strongest terms is going to be around if you want to think about this as an Arts Precinct then you need to step in now and you need to provide protections that will allow it to grow. We're going to get these opportunistic development proposals put before us unless we do that."

Continued on page 5.

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Local candidate edges closer

By Shane Scanlan

Southbank candidate Joe Sarraf is one step closer to being elected to the Melbourne City Council following a decision by the Municipal Electoral Tribunal (MET) on December 5.

Magistrate Michael Smith dismissed an application from the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) for a recount. Instead, Mr Smith formally dismissed ineligible candidate Brooke Wandin and created an extraordinary vacancy.

The rules governing an extraordinary vacancy require a count-back, which awards voters who opted for Ms Wandin their second preference.

Ms Wandin's running mate, Nic Frances Gilley is expected to be offered the 11th councillor position, but it is not known whether or not he intends to accept it.

Should he not accept, Joe Sarraf is widely tipped to be next in line.

Although a count-back was scheduled to start on December 12, Mr Smith's decision will delay the action until early January.

The VEC asked Mr Smith for a recount, despite acknowledging that this could result in some successful candidates losing their positions.

Mr Smith told VEC barrister Liam Brown that he would not entertain this option. He said, unlike the recount option, the count-back option was sanctioned by legislation and was the fairest available course of action.

Ms Wandin was elected to the council at the October 22 poll but was later found to be ineligible because she was not correctly enrolled. She was not sworn in and later resigned her position.

But, legally, her resignation was not enough



Southbank resident Joe Sarraf.

and Mr Smith formally dismissed her as a councillor at the December 5 MET hearing.

With only 10 councillors, the Lord Mayor is currently enjoying an effective majority on council due to his casting vote as chairman.

However, he will not have things his own way next year regardless of which candidate wins the 11th position under the count-back system.

It is understood councillor Doyle was confident of getting former deputy lord mayor Susan Riley elected should the tribunal have ordered a recount, as requested by the VEC.

Mr Smith was critical of the laws governing local government elections in Victoria. He said a 2015 amendment presented an opportunity to insert some certainty around circumstances such as the Brooke Wandin case but had failed to do so.

"All it would have taken was the insertion of a single extra paragraph," he said.



A render of 175-187 Sturt St, Southbank.

Tall orders

Planning officers at the City of Melbourne are currently assessing two new planning applications for Southbank's low rise neighbourhood in Coventry St and Sturt St.

Developer Ramjan Nominees Pty Ltd has submitted an application to council for 175-187 Sturt St for a \$35 million, 13-storey proposal comprising 159 apartments.

Measuring 39.99 metres, the proposal falls within the area's 40-metre discretionary height control, which is a "good start" according to Southbank Residents' Association president Tony Penna.

"The devil is in the detail though. What will it offer the public realm, street activation, internal amenity, etc?" he said.

Developer R&Y Pty Ltd has also submitted an application to council for a \$38 million, 20-storey residential tower comprising 143 apartments.

Controversial local architect Hayball has designed both proposals. The architect-turned-developer is currently in a battle with the local community to win approval from Minister for Planning Richard Wynne for a 20-storey application at 135 Sturt St.

What do you think about more tall development for Southbank's low-rise neighbourhood? Send your thoughts to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

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Foley slams Lord Mayor over public art

Minister for the Creative Industries and local member Martin Foley publicly slammed Lord Mayor Robert Doyle last month over his comments on Transurban's new public art display at the Power St Loop.

Speaking at the official launch at the Malthouse Theatre on November 30 Minister Foley criticised the Lord Mayor for taking a "backwards approach" on public art in our city.

It followed the Lord Mayor's initial comments at the November 22 Future Melbourne Committee meeting where he said he "wasn't a fan" of the artwork at the Power St Loop, known as *Habitat Filter*.

An expanded report in the *Herald Sun* followed, where he was quoted saying that he thought the sculpture was "too intrusive", "a pity" for the Arts Precinct and dominated the landscape.

Minister Foley hit back at the Lord Mayor, informing guests at Transurban's official launch for the sculpture that he had phoned the Lord Mayor to "set him straight".

"While I agree with my friend the Lord Mayor a lot, I don't agree with him here," he said. "While his comments were no doubt heartfelt, he has misjudged his criticisms."

"It breaks hearts of our creative designers who are looking for support from the City of Melbourne."

While acknowledging that the sculpture was something that would be talked about for years to come, he said the Lord Mayor's comments were misplaced in the effort to encourage the next generation of public art designers.

He instead praised the sculpture as a "huge, creative post-it note."

"I already love it!" he said. "I think it fits this part of Southbank like a glove."

"I congratulate Transurban on recognising the power of creativity – and for providing opportunities for creative talent to generate fresh ideas, push boundaries and bring exciting new creative works to life."



Minister for Creative Industries and Member for Albert Park Martin Foley (left) and Transurban CEO Scott Charlton at 'Habitat Filter' in Southbank last month.

"These are examples of how creativity can be used to transform spaces and communities in imaginative and sustainable ways."

Transurban CEO Scott Charlton also acknowledged the Lord Mayor's critique during his speech at the launch stating: "It's good people are talking about it!"

Designed by Melbourne designers Matt Drysdale, Matt Myers and Tim Dow, *Habitat Filter* features a series of pods with a range of sustainability elements including specially-designed nesting boxes for birds and bats, solar panels to offset lighting at night and the

use of recycled materials.

Transurban also partnered with Landcare Australia to revegetate the site with native plants, and ran a number of projects in the local community with the neighbouring Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS).

Mr Charlton said the inspiration for the project came from the three pillars of Transurban's sustainability strategy – to be good neighbours, use less and think long term.

"Habitat Filter is a great example of how we

can rethink the use of vacant land along our roads to make cities more liveable," he said.

"It shows how we can engage the community to transform the urban landscape and deliver lasting benefits to the communities in which we operate."

"We're very excited to see this new, iconic entrance into the heart of Melbourne's arts precinct."

What do you think about *Habitat Filter*? Send your thoughts to news@southbanklocalnews.com.au



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“A complete shocker of a development”

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle expressed his strong opposition to developer Hayball’s 20-storey proposal for 135 Sturt St at last month’s Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting.

In positive news for the Southbank community, City of Melbourne councillors unanimously objected to the proposal on November 22 with the Lord Mayor opposing it “in the strongest possible terms”.

“This development is an absolute shocker. It is inappropriate in every way for the streetscape of that street,” he said.

“This is a street I know very well. I travel along it coming to work on the Number 1 tram or I drive past it every single day.”

“It breaches every aesthetic that we wish for Sturt St and I want to oppose it in the strongest possible terms.”

The matter will now be referred to Minister for Planning Richard Wynne as the responsible authority. Mr Wynne told *Southbank Local News* earlier last month that the local community had made its voice very well heard.

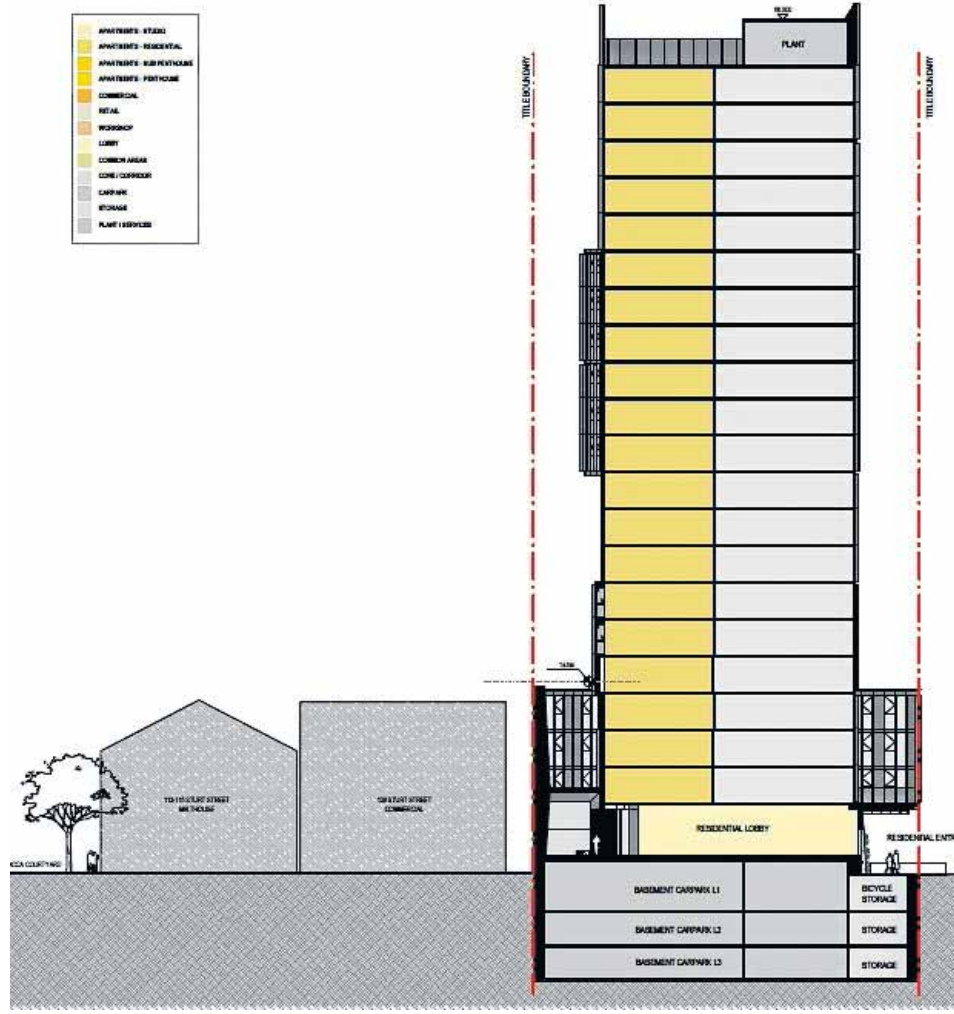
“I’ve certainly received very significant representation from residents who are living there in some of the lower scale stuff,” he said. “I’m very cognisant of the issues that they’re raising with me.”

“I’m just not in a position to take that any further at the moment. But I am very aware of their representations and, of course, from my colleague Martin Foley who is not shy in putting a view forward.”

Council’s planning officers recommended objecting to the proposal in its report, stating that it was an overdevelopment of the site and would overwhelm the precinct by virtue of its design and excessive height.

Council’s objection follows months of campaigning by the local community to protect the low-rise area of Southbank Village from overdevelopment in its neighbourhood.

Led by the Save Dodds St lobby group, council received 58 submissions from local



The 67-metre proposal for 135 Sturt St, which far exceeds the neighbouring Malthouse Theatre (left).

residents objecting to the proposal, while local Member for Albert Park Martin Foley has also expressed his opposition.

Developer Hayball, which is also the architect and owner of the building, is proposing to construct a 67-metre residential tower in an area with a 40-metre discretionary height control.

Save Dodds St convener Eileen Vamos

was one of six submitters who spoke at last month’s FMC meeting expressing her disappointment with the developer.

“They (Hayball) have been in Sturt St for about 14 years. I admire their success but not what they are proposing here,” she said.

Southbank Residents’ Association president Tony Penna said the proposal threatened to destroy Southbank Village.

“It’s a massive overdevelopment and we can’t even comprehend how a developer or an architect with the credibility of Hayball could present something like this,” he said.

“If this is approved by the minister this will be a very sad day for Southbank Village. In fact I almost think we could say this is goodbye to the village as we know it. It will be finished.”

Wells St resident Shaun Evans said the development would compromise the State Government’s vision to transform Sturt St into a creative spine as part of its plans for the Arts Precinct.

“The Arts Blueprint states a desire for Sturt St to become an Arts Spine as a destination in itself. There are so few commercial spaces left to achieve this vision.”

Cr Rohan Leppert said that while it was fantastic that the council was standing alongside the local community very strongly there was a very real chance that application could end up at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

“I think we have to be aware that there is a very decent chance that the tribunal would permit the application with two, three or four storeys taken off,” he said.

“67-metres above 40-metres is not out of the realms of possibility when you consider other planning permits in Southbank.”

The local community had been hoping that the State Government’s planning scheme amendment C270 would provide Southbank Village with stronger protection.

However, as reported on page 1, C270 was officially published in the government gazette on November 23 and existing discretionary controls in special character areas, including Southbank Village, are to remain.

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Santa Claus at last year's Boyd Christmas Party.

Boyd Xmas

In what has become a festive favourite in Southbank, the Boyd Community Hub will host its annual Christmas Party on Saturday, December 10.

Switching from its usual mid-week evening timeslot, the event will now run on the Saturday from 10.30am to 12.30pm to allow more families to attend.

The party will feature all the usual favourites including a visit from Santa Claus, book sale and a host of activities for kids and adults to enjoy.

Highlights will include a jumping castle, face painting, balloon artistry, craft workshops, outdoor family games and a treasure hunt organised by the Southbank Library team.

Cafe Kere Kere will also open its doors for the event, while Southbank Rotary will put on a delicious barbecue for locals to enjoy.

C270 fails to deliver for Southbank Village

Continued from page 1.

Speaking at a Southbank community meeting in October, RMIT planning professor Michael Buxton told Southbank Village residents: "The only way that you and residents like you are ever going to win is to get clear mandatory controls."

The Minister for Planning Richard Wynne didn't respond to *Southbank Local News* when quizzed on why mandatory controls were not introduced for the entire precinct.

Southbank Residents' Association president Tony Penna said the amendment represented a missed opportunity.

"This was a real opportunity for us to protect Southbank Village and that opportunity has now passed," he said. "I can't foresee another opportunity coming up anytime soon. It was quite disappointing."

While C270 provides more clarity around building setback and tower separation, its controversial floor area uplift (FAU) scheme for the provision of public benefits has also been adopted.

C270 sets a plot ratio for all developments of 18:1, which was previously set at 24:1.



10 Consulting group director Rob Milner makes a submission to the ministerial advisory panel to planning scheme amendment C270 on behalf of the Southbank Owners' Corporation Network in August.

The scheme means that any development that exceeds this high ratio will be required to provide a public benefit.

However, developers get to have a say in what benefit they incorporate in their development from a list of categories, and while some of these include open space and social housing, competitive tower design and commercial office space are also offered.

The Minister's panel recommended in its report that the scheme be abandoned with a workable uplift mechanism to be further investigated and to lower the trigger from

18:1, which it deemed very high.

Tony Penna said he was disappointed that the Minister for Planning had ignored his panel's recommendation.

"We would have liked to have seen the government adopt a scheme where it can identify the community amenity and put the contributions into a community pool," he said.

"Even the report suggested that was the way to go but he (Richard Wynne) didn't follow the advice."



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Foley defends record

By Nadia Dimattina

Last month's article "Arts plan falls off the radar" has sparked discussion by stakeholders involved in the Southbank Arts Precinct redevelopment plan.

Minister for Creative Industries and member for Albert Park, Martin Foley, has taken issue with some of the claims raised in the article.

"The article states that a long and ongoing commitment to the Southbank Arts Precinct redevelopment by consecutive State Governments is still yet to be delivered. The article also implies that the matter is of less importance to the State Government than it should be. I respectfully disagree," he said.

Mr Foley believes the Arts Precinct redevelopment plan holds significant importance to the State Government.

"While the Arts Precinct Blueprint was always an aspirational document - a guide - and never government policy, the Victorian Government can point to a number of major developments which demonstrate that work has been done and is being done to further develop the precinct," he said.

Mr Foley commented in response to former minister Heidi Victoria saying she was "disappointed" by the lack of progress being made on the government's precinct plan.

"The previous government, however, commissioned the Arts Precinct but neither

costed nor committed to any of its projects," Mr Foley said.

Mr Foley said other developments being made in the area were the driving force towards the redevelopment of the precinct.

Some of these key precinct projects include the establishment in Southbank of the Buxton Contemporary Australian Art Gallery and the establishment of ACMI X, a brand-new, 60-seat co-working space dedicated to creative industries.

"These and other developments are driving the reconfiguration and reinvigoration of the precinct in a manner that is welcoming to visitors and which better connects the arts organisations, businesses and residents that call the area home," Mr Foley said.

Mr Foley said the State Government was working collaboratively with all stakeholders to transform the precinct in Melbourne's fastest growing suburb.

"The Victorian Government welcomes its leading role in bringing together current and future precinct activity - and we will continue to work in a strategic, coordinated and collaborative fashion with the precinct's many stakeholders," he said.



The team at Ray White Southbank is calling on the local community to come drop a gift under its giving tree.

Give a Christmas cheer

The team at Ray White Southbank is continuing its tradition of providing Christmas cheer to those less fortunate through its annual giving tree.

The local business is once again partnering with The Mirabel Foundation to provide presents for disadvantaged children this festive season as part of its Ray of Giving campaign.

Ray White Southbank principal Andrew Salvo said he and his team were calling on the local community to embrace the giving season and dig deep for children who needed it most.

Mr Salvo said the gift drive was a simple way to help put a smile on the face of

children and families who may need some extra cheer at this time of year.

"All you need to do is wrap up your present and drop it under the tree into our office reception," he said. "Even a small gift can make the biggest difference to families who are struggling at an expensive time of year."

Those who wish to donate a gift just need to inform the Ray White team if the gift is for a boy or girl, and nominate an age group.

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Restoring faith in council

By Sean Car

New Greens councillor for the Gateway Ward of the City of Port Phillip Ogy Simic says he wants to re-engage the community with its local council.

As the ward covering the Montague Precinct of Fishermans Bend and Southbank, Cr Ogy will represent Gateway alongside Mayor Bernadene Voss and fellow new Liberal councillor Marcus Pearl.

And while at 29 years of age, Cr Ogy is the youngest of the nine City of Port Phillip councillors, he is certainly not short on life experience.

Having escaped to Serbia from a war-torn Sarajevo along with his mother and two brothers as a young child, Cr Ogy only arrived in Australia at the age of 11 after living in Germany as a refugee.

While the civil conflict in Sarajevo was one that tragically took the life of his father, he said the entire experience had taught him to appreciate and fight for every opportunity.

"I was 11 and a half when I arrived in Australia and I didn't speak any English," he said. "The experience of arriving here shaped and sparked my community interest and political interest," he said.

"I guess I felt this overwhelming sense to give back to the community. I started putting my hand up for things and being involved in different organisations and groups was always very important to me."

Cr Ogy originally settled with his family in Adelaide where he attended school and studied law at university.

He said his experience in local politics first began when he undertook year 10-week work experience with his local council, which would later lead him to a number of youth advisory roles and ultimately, The Greens Party.

He said the recent elections were a great result for his party with fellow Greens Canal Ward councillor Tim Baxter and Lake Ward councillor and new deputy mayor Katherine Copey also having been elected.

"The big story of the election is how well the Greens did," he said. "We went from zero representatives to three and we topped the primary vote in each of the three wards, which is incredible I think."



New City of Port Phillip councillor Ogy Simic gets accommodated with the 'Southbank Local News'!

"What having Greens on council will bring I think is an opportunity for people to see what good local representation means and what it means to have people who are championing their views at a local council level."

He said his experience in working at local community level through local council had made him appreciate all that could be achieved in local government.

The issues he is most determined to address include education, public transport, sustainability, social inclusion, community safety and climate change.

And representing the ward covering Montague and Fishermans Bend, he said he was concerned by the current state of planning as a result of the urban renewal area having been rezoned as capital city.

"The retrospective stuff really worries me because it's a wasteful approach to planning. It means that you end up paying a lot more than what you should have originally as we

did with the Montague Park," he said.

"We really have to put the amenities in now so that we can build the rest around that otherwise it's not going to work."

While he is excited by the opportunities Fishermans Bend presents for building a city of the future, he said the vision wouldn't be achieved unless the local community informed it.

It's that belief in engaging with local community that has inspired his passion for local government and he said he hoped to use it to restore the municipality's interest in its local council.

"When I found out I had been elected I couldn't put my words together," he said. "I was quite overwhelmed with being trusted with so much responsibility."

"I think for too long people have been disengaged with what council does and I hope to be able to work towards restoring some of that and making sure that people get the sort of representation they deserve."

Voss Mayor re-elected

Cr Bernadene Voss has been returned as City of Port Phillip Mayor following October's council elections.

Joining Cr Andrew Bond as one of the only two returning councillors from the previous term, Cr Voss was re-elected at the November 10 council meeting.

Addressing the meeting, she said she was honoured to resume the role.

"I am humbled by your faith and I know, as a team, we will see out this first 12 months strongly while we establish our council plan and the first budget for our term," she said.

"I am particularly excited by this new team of nine councillors. We have spent the last two days together working on our values and behaviours and we want to work as a group."

Changes by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to the city's electoral wards have led to the creation of three new electoral wards of Canal, Lake and Gateway, which covers the Montague Precinct of Fishermans Bend.

Having previously comprised seven councillors across seven individual wards, the City of Port Phillip is now home to nine councillors who represent the three new wards.

The three councillors representing Gateway (Montague) include Cr Marcus Pearl, Mayor Voss and Greens councillor Ogy Simic.

Another new Greens councillor Katherine Copey, who represents Lake Ward, was elected as deputy mayor at last month's meeting.

She told the meeting she was grateful for the opportunity to serve in the role and was confident the new council could work together towards a shared vision.

"It is an honour to accept the role of deputy mayor," she said. "I hope I can use this role to help make Port Phillip's example of local democracy at work a reason for people to get involved and stay involved."

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The Testing Grounds is back!

From page 1.

“All the artists I’ve spoken to are just really excited mostly because it’s robust,” he said. “There are so many things that you can’t do at a normal gallery or performance space so everyone is just super excited about it.”

The space now features four ad-hoc atriums or “cubes”, which are connected by what is known as a “creative superstructure”.

Arie said the approach of head curators Joseph Norster and Millie Cattlin towards managing the space was to allow artists to manipulate the space as much as possible.

“It goes back to Joe and Millie’s attitude about how to run the site as well and people are really excited that they can just drill into

things. We don’t mind.”

The site’s former setup meant that it used to hibernate over the winter months and Arie said that the upgrade to site meant it would now be open to locals and artists throughout the year.

“We’ve had locals already bringing their dogs down and everyone uses this as a massive walkway, which is really amazing for the artists to have works on here because then you’re exposed to a whole new audience,” he said.

For more information visit www.testing-grounds.com.au



Trader Angelo Zahos and City of Port Phillip Mayor Bernadene Voss at the market's 150th birthday celebrations.

Market celebrates

The South Melbourne Market celebrated its 150th birthday last month with a party in its food court on November 30.

City of Port Phillip Mayor, Cr Bernadene Voss, told *Southbank Local News*, the market was the jewel in the city’s crown.

“It’s the embodiment of everything we love about Port Phillip,” the Mayor said. “It’s diverse, it’s friendly, it’s invigorating and, of course, it’s local.”

Generational trader Angelo Zahos said the market had given more than just a living to his family, which started selling fish at the market in 1962.

“It’s been a privilege to have been part of this great market,” he said.

Mr Zahos recalled his father insisting (against his will!) that young Angelo pitch in and contributed to the family business.

“It was quite resentful as a 12-year-old with different ideas about what I should be doing that early in the morning,” he said. “I’m now so glad dad was strict.”

Mr Zahos praised market management for being collaborative and responsive to their traders.

With 4.7 million annual visitors, it is apparent that everyone associated with the market is doing a great job.



More than 300 people attended across the night at Testing Grounds reopening launch on Friday, November 25.

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Kelly's Christmas vision

While many will be relaxing over the festive season, Vision Australia event manager and Southbank resident Kelly Swanson will be busy organising Australia's biggest Carols by Candlelight event.

Ms Swanson is charged with the huge responsibility of putting together Vision Australia's annual Carols by Candlelight at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl each year, which she said was a year-round job.

"It's a big time of year for me, Christmas! It really goes all year round as we have to secure sponsorships and just even the logistical side of things as well, it's always ongoing underneath the surface," she said.

"Annually this event generates over \$1 million, which is wonderful. It's our flagship fundraiser at Vision Australia and certainly our biggest event."

Held on Christmas Eve, the event annually attracts more than 10,000 people and raises much needed funds for Vision Australia's mission to help improve the lives of Australians who are blind or have low vision.

The organisation will celebrate its 150th year of operation in 2017 and having worked there for six years now, Kelly said it had been a privilege to help drive its efforts to help people in need.

"We change people's lives. The work that we do is really empowering for people. That's our goal - to empower people to live as independently as possible," she said.

"It's a very individualised service. It's not



Vision Australia event manager Kelly Swanson at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

one size fits all so that's a really nice way of working and I really appreciate that about the organisation."

According to Vision Australia, there were an estimated 357,000 Australians in 2013 with blindness or low vision and the figure is set to grow to 564,000 by 2030.

Kelly said it was a cause that was close

to a lot of people's hearts and that the community spirit around the carols was always very high.

"If you were to survey all Australians or most people in the world, the sense that people fear losing the most is sight," she said.

"It really can be quite disruptive and we obviously work to ensure that people who

do go through that can still continue life as normal as possible and live it how they want to live it."

With the venue provided by Arts Centre Melbourne, broadcasting provided by Channel 9 and a range of local and national sponsors, the event is a truly wonderful community event.

Local residents will be able to enjoy the biggest Carols by Candlelight yet, with the return of musical favourites such as Marina Prior and Denis Walter and an expanded program of family activities in Alexandra Gardens.

Having lived in Southbank for four years now, Kelly said she loved everything about living in the area and encouraged the local community to come experience the Christmas magic!

"I've lived in Southbank for about four years and it has sort of surprised me with how fantastic it is. I just feel really lucky that I'm so close to the city but not in the city," she said.

"I hope the community crosses big St Kilda Rd to come over! It is amazing the community feeling around carols."

For more information and to purchase tickets visit carols.visionaustralia.org



迎新春 墨尔本

CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL • MELBOURNE

YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

27 Jan – 12 Feb 2017

cnymelbourne.com.au



Southbank is hub for Chinese New Year

Southbank continues to emerge as a significant hub for Chinese New Year celebrations which next year will be celebrated with more than a fortnight of festivities between January 27 and February 12.

The Year of the Rooster gets underway with a New Year's Eve countdown at Queensbridge Square on January 27. The square will also host a variety of family-friendly activities including music, performances, a Chinese cultural village, dragon boat demonstrations and a closing ceremony.

Illuminations of Yarra River bridges and along both sides of its banks will be bigger, better and brighter than last year's inaugural combined festival.

The city's major players came together last year to deliver a unified festival under the banner of CNY United Pty Ltd, an incorporated body established to manage the festival.

Chairperson Jane Nathan said: "We hope to build on the success of last year's festival. This year we have developed existing and created new programming and will again deliver all events under one cohesive brand."

Other Southbank highlights include: An illuminated retail hub at DFO South Wharf; a performance by the Beijing Dance Academy and China's Three Tenors at MCEC Plenary on February 3; and a Chinese New Year Concert by the Chinese Music Orchestra of CNODDT, *Treasures of a Nation*, at the Recital Centre on February 9.

Ms Nathan explained that similar activities would be held all over the city, with Chinatown, Chinese Museum, the Queen Victoria Market and Docklands also hosting events during the festival.

She said the event was moving into the mainstream and her organisation had ambition to create the biggest celebration of new year outside of China in the future.

Ms Nathan said the State Government was on board this year through sponsorship from Study Melbourne – a great match, considering 100,000 overseas students now call Melbourne their second home.

"We had a session with these students during



Jane Nathan and Junxi Su.

the year and listened to what they wanted to do for Chinese New Year," Ms Nathan said.

Federation of Chinese Associations president, Junxi Su, said the 110 cultural organisations and 100,000 people she represented were right behind the concept of the broader celebration.

She said the Beijing Dance Academy and China's Three Tenors, in particular, were of international significance and would ensure the millions of people would be exposed to Melbourne via Chinese television.

The festival's lighting installations include peacocks at Docklands, a huge rooster at Queensbridge Square, blooming flowers at South Wharf and Chinese mystical animals at Queen Victoria Market.

The New Year countdown at Queensbridge Square and the celebration of Chinese food at Queen Victoria Market are two

major events with leading Chinese cuisine authority and celebrity chef, Elizabeth Chong at the helm.

"The 2017 Chinese New Year Melbourne Festival will see our wonderful city come alive once again for two spectacular weeks," said Beverley Pinder, CNY Festival Liaison.

Ms Pinder said the festival would offer spectacular lighting installations, cultural performances, food experiences and public activities designed to encourage people from diverse backgrounds to come together and celebrate.

The full list of programming can be found at www.cnymelbourne.com.au

Printed programs are available from: Federation Square Visitors Centre, SkyBus, Yarra Trams as well as via festival partners, hotels and universities.

Spike in bicycle thefts

By Nadia Dimattina

Police urge residents to be aware of the increasing theft of bikes being reported in the Southbank area.

Leading Sen-Constable Glenn McFarlane, a crime prevention officer for Victoria Police, said there had been a spike in bicycle thefts in residential car parks and storage rooms.

"The last month has seen an increasing trend of bicycle thefts from public places and residential properties," he said.

Sen-Constable McFarlane said the spike was a result of residents not being cautious when leaving their bikes unattended.

"Some of these bicycles have been secured with no lock or a poor quality lock," he said.

Sen-Constable McFarlane recommended securing bikes with good quality locks such as "D" or "U"-type locks.

"Chains, wire cable and other poor quality type locks can easily be cut by cutting tools," he said.

Police ask residents and visitors alike when out in the Southbank area to be vigilant of persons acting suspiciously – that is using some type of cutting device to break through a lock or locking mechanism to steal a bicycle.

Sen-Constable McFarlane said it was important to keep a record of your bike details in case it was stolen.

"Record details such as the brand, type, colour, serial number (under the pedal crank case) and also take a photograph of the bicycle and keep the picture in a safe place," Sen-Constable McFarlane said.

For further information on how to protect your bicycle follow the link www.police.vic.gov.au/crimeprevention to the Bicycle Security Brochure under the "Home and Property" section.



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New controls not strong enough

City of Port Phillip councillors have said that the State Government's new social housing controls for new developments in Fishermans Bend don't go far enough.

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne announced the new controls last month – focused on social housing and smart apartment design.

Under the new rules, developers wanting permits taller than 12-storeys will be encouraged to include 6 per cent social housing in their projects, and to make at least 30 per cent of all apartments three-bedroom.

In the Montague and Lorimer precincts, buildings taller than 12-storeys will be expected to include at least 15 per cent of floor space for commercial and community use.

The measures will be in place until March 31, 2018 while the government considers permanent controls.

While the council has welcomed the government's new interim controls as a positive step for the community, Mayor Bernadene Voss said controls needed to be made mandatory.

"While we are pleased the Victorian Government has acted to address the need for more affordable and diverse housing in Fishermans Bend, we urge the government to go further by making the controls stronger and mandatory," she said.

"Boldness is needed to create a world class, liveable and sustainable city of the future so these interim controls don't go far enough."

Fellow Gateway Ward councillor Ogy Simic echoed the thoughts of the mayor, saying mandatory controls would be the only way to achieve affordable housing.

"I don't think it went far enough because it only recommends to the developers that they have affordable housing built into it," he said.

"Council has called for those measures to be mandatory because that's the only way we can actually work towards affordable

housing."

"It's not in the developers' interest to do it so we've got to make sure that we set the regulations in place to make sure that it happens."

Expert calls for national strategy

Former general manager of Frasers Property Australia and Southbank resident Robert Pradolin is now an active member of the property industry who speaks and writes regularly on affordable housing.

He told *Southbank Local News* that he believed a "paradigm shift" was required towards how Australia dealt with affordable housing as a country.

He has called on the Federal Government to begin working towards developing a national housing strategy, as he said current controls such as those in Fishermans Bend were not economically viable.

"One study released in 2015 found that if you don't provide a child stable housing when they're young you've lost their economic

productivity for life," he said.

"How much is that worth to government to then invest to give people stable shelter? It's only if you've got stable shelter can you start to create a life and productivity in your society. It's as basic as that and I think we get confused."

Mr Pradolin said government needed to start reframing social housing as "economic infrastructure".

"In a metropolis the housing segmentation is

blurred, everybody says the market will solve the housing problem only if it's economically viable," he said.

"Social affordable housing is not economically viable because the rents will not support the capital investment therefore no one does anything in that space and its declining."

"Developers need rules," he said. "If the rules are there they'll follow the rules so change the rules and then you actually get different outcomes. Otherwise nothing changes."

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Haileybury has been ranked No.1 of all co-education primary schools in Victoria.*

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Haileybury has also been ranked No.2 of all co-education secondary schools in Victoria.*

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Paul's Movember mission

A renowned local face and personality in the Southbank community, La Camera's Paul Scidone last month went above and beyond for men's health as part of Movember.

Donning an impressive moustache, Paul last month embarked on a mission to raise awareness by fundraising and hosting a "Classy Moustache Party" at La Camera, which raised more than \$800 for the Movember Foundation.

However, Movember means a lot more to Paul than simply growing a moustache. Raising awareness for men's health is a cause very close to his heart.

For a large part of his life Paul has been living with bipolar disorder, yet he was only diagnosed with the condition in 2013.

According to the Black Dog Institute for Mental Health, while bipolar disorder is often purely associated with manic and hypomanic episodes or "mood swings", another major side effect is depression.

On average it can take 10 years for one to be diagnosed and in Paul's case he said that for more than 20 years he had been living with bipolar without fully understanding his condition.

"The main feeling for me when I discovered that I had bipolar was just relief because finally I had discovered what I had," he said.

"Bipolar is not recognised as much as depression but depression is part of it. Whenever you hear a story of bipolar no one

ever says that they're depressed. Everyone thinks Robin Williams died from depression but he had bipolar."

While Paul has been an integral part of the family business at La Camera for much of his life, his main passion previously was tennis coaching, which he did for 20 years.

He said that between tennis coaching, managing the restaurant and trying to deal with his symptoms, his anxiety used to swell up to the point where he often didn't want to get out of bed.

However, having finally reached a stage in his life where he understood and accepted his condition he said he now wanted to use his experience to help others going through similar mental health issues.

"For me when I first came out talking about it that was my release," he said. "My best mates and my family were also feeling it so I had to because otherwise you don't get better."

"My thing is if you're unsure go and seek advice. Go to a GP first and see what they recommend. Early diagnosis is key because the longer it is those thought processes build up in your head it's harder to get out."

For anyone experiencing mental health issues support services are available through Beyond Blue (beyondblue.org.au).



La Camera's Paul Scidone donning an impressive moustache as part of Movember.

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Whilst Malcolm Turnbull is giving the big banks a \$7.4 billion tax cut, Bill Shorten and Labor are calling for a **Royal Commission.**

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The Age, 19 February 2016

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Sydney Morning Herald, 27 October 2016

Penalties too weak to discourage bankers' bad behaviour, says ASIC boss

Lateline, 19 October 2016

Cash Converters to refund millions of dollars to pay day loan customers

ABC News, 9 Nov 2016,

Big four banks profit to top \$30B

Fairfax Online, 12 October 2016

www.weneedabankingroyalcommission.org.au



Michael Danby MP

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THE ARTS PRECINCT



Slum Sociable returns to Sugar Mountain

By Sean Car

It's been a whirlwind couple of years for local band Slum Sociable since it first played Sugar Mountain festival in 2014.

Hailing from Melbourne's bayside suburbs, the band's rise since gracing Sugar Mountain's first festival at its new home at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) in Southbank has been profound.

Back then, Sugar Mountain represented the band's first major gig. Come January 21, 2017, Slum Sociable will be recognised as one of the major local draw cards on the line up off the back of its first EP *TQ*, which was typified by its signature opening track *All Night*.

The band, spearheaded by duo Ed Quinn (guitar/keys) and Miller Upchurch (vocals/percussion) and supported by Ryan Beasley (drums) and Dylan Savage (bass), is now embarking on a national tour for its new single *Name Call*.

And in the words of Ed, it's currently "putting the hundreds and thousands" aka, finishing touches, on its debut album, which is due for release in 2017.

Ed described the band's rising success as somewhat of a shock given that it originally started as nothing

more than a university project between mates.

"It started off as a project for uni that we weren't initially going to release and some stuff happened and we put it out," he said. "Labels started calling and we were pretty shocked with that and we released our first single last year."

"It's been surprising and almost overwhelming I guess and now we're recording our debut album, which is kind of crazy considering two years ago we weren't even going to release any music at all."

Drawing on an eclectic range of creative and musical influences, the band has developed a unique sound that has won plenty of fans.

Driven by Miller's penetrating voice and Ed's production qualities channeled through his talents on guitars and keys, the Slum sound is one even Ed himself finds difficult to define.

"It's very hard to describe your own music because you want to try and be as unique as possible. You don't want to lock yourself in but I guess within the studio it's an anything-goes-type approach," he said.

"If there's a sample that starts the song off, we'll play some live instrumental and then Miller will come in and wail over

the top of it with his incredible voice."

"I reckon he probably makes a lot of my production look a lot better than it is but it's an asset to have someone with a powerful voice like that."

Having recently embarked on tours of New York and Europe, the band launched its *Name Call* tour in Adelaide this month, which was followed by shows in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

However, having provided it with its first major live platform, Ed said the band couldn't wait to return to the stage at Sugar Mountain.

"We're back at Sugar Mountain in January, which is awesome because that's easily one of our favourite festivals," he said.

"We didn't really think our music would have this type of effect on people and even now people are coming up to us and saying how much they like it so it's been really cool."

To enjoy Slum Sociable and the huge array of musical and artistic talent on January 21 at VCA head to sugarmountainfestival.com/tickets

Children come out to play

By Nadia Dimattina

The Music Play Children's Festival is back for its eighth year to entertain children and their families this summer.

The Children's Festival will be held at Melbourne Recital Centre between January 11 and January 14.

Director of Artistic Planning at Melbourne Recital Centre, Marshall McGuire said the location was perfect for this festival.

"Melbourne Recital Centre is the best place to discover music, no matter what age, and Music Play allows children to do just this, play instruments and make a lot of noise," he said.

The festival will feature a program of big and mini concerts, workshops and free foyer activities with something for the whole family to enjoy.

Popular entertainers, performers and teachers in the industry will get involved to provide an entertaining and educational

experience for the children.

This year is full of surprises and will bring a big concert with the premiere of a brand new show from television's Play School presenter, Justine Clarke, *Look Look It's a Gobbledygook*.

Cabaret star Ali McGregor has created a mini concert for the whole family to enjoy with her jazz band and very special guest comedians.

Music therapist and song writing specialist Dr Emma O'Brien will lead a creative journey for the first time this year from a blank page to an original song.

Mr McGuire believes music therapists can enable children to create music without any skills required.

"This encourages children to bring their ideas and they are able to see and hear their songs unfold. No music skills needed just a song in their hearts," he said.

Alongside the many concerts on offer, families and children can experience music making first hand at one of the four



Ali McGregor will stage a mini concert as part of the Music Play Children's Festival in January.

workshops.

In addition to ticketed events, Melbourne Recital Centre has a variety of free activities throughout the foyers.

"Free foyer fun, the Magic Harp, hit the Gong

Wall, snap a picture in the photo booth or have your face painted, come and join the fun," Mr McGuire said.

Ticket prices range between \$10-\$30. For more information and to book tickets visit melbournerecital.com.au



Made in Melbourne festival directors Sarah and Ivan Malekin at the Backlot Studios in Southbank.

MIM returns to Backlot

The Made in Melbourne film festival will return to the Backlot Studios in Southbank this month for the festival's closing weekend.

Having launched in 2009, the local film festival has gone from strength to strength over its eight years of supporting films exclusively made by Melbourne filmmakers.

This year's festival will run from December 6 to 11 across five different venues featuring a record of more than 70 films.

The festival's closing weekend will run exclusively at Backlot and will feature three sessions across both Saturday and Sunday.

Festival director Ivan Malekin said this year's festival would be its biggest yet.

"We're the only festival exclusively for Melbourne and it's a lot of emerging filmmakers," he said.

"It's kind of like the next generation of local talent that get its chance to shine, have a big screening and who knows where they'll be tomorrow."

For more information visit www.mim.org.au

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MICHAEL FOXINGTON

Mr Foxington first picked up a paintbrush at age 10 and purchased his first DSLR camera at 25 to take better reference photos for his paintings.

After some time, his interest for photography became an obsession.

“I was always trying to get better photos for references, and then I realised that photography wasn’t as easy as I thought,” he said.

“The challenge of photography is really fascinating. Every step of the way, every time you get better, it’s so rewarding. Eventually I realised that I didn’t need the paintings anymore, so I would describe myself as a failed painter before a successful photographer.”

Always wanting to refine his skills, Mr Foxington said one of his biggest challenges was being his own worst critic.

“You have to find a fine line between being objective about your work and not being overly critical about your work,” he said.

“You always need to do better than your last but you always need to accept what was good about your last work as well.”

Mr Foxington said he was immediately drawn to studying at PSC after a student co-ordinator offered to walk him through the building for an open day.

“What really caught me were the images on the walls. They were just beautiful,” he said.

“I was looking at them and thinking ‘that’s what I want for me’, to be at that level where I can produce stuff that is not just technically perfect but also stuff that is engaging.”

Upon completion of his studies, Mr Foxington sees a future in editorial fashion photography.

“Fashion is challenging because it’s not just about you as a photographer, it’s about the team that you collaborate with.”

“But as you go along and produce better work, better people want to work with you. So you get access to amazing clothes and amazing models and putting those teams together and realising a unified vision is just amazing,” he said.

Over the next year, Mr Foxington plans to help established editorial fashion



A photo from Michael Foxington’s extensive fashion portfolio.

photographers on shoots as well as expand his own existing client base.

“The next year is going to be about working alongside successful photographers – going along and helping them and learning

everything I can from them. There’s going to be a bit of assisting, a bit of working on my existing fashion client base, and then building my client base. Just running the business, really.”

Painter turned photographer

By Khiara Elliott

Final year bachelor student Michael Foxington has an impressive portfolio of portrait, fine art, beauty and fashion photography. But his passion for taking photographs was discovered almost accidentally.



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The Listies Ruin Xmas takes a tongue-in-cheek look at the Christmas season through the eyes of outrageous mischief-makers The Listies. Get ready for some anarchic festive fun as Christmas traditions are turned on their head in the ultimate kids end of year party.

www.malthousetheatre.com.au

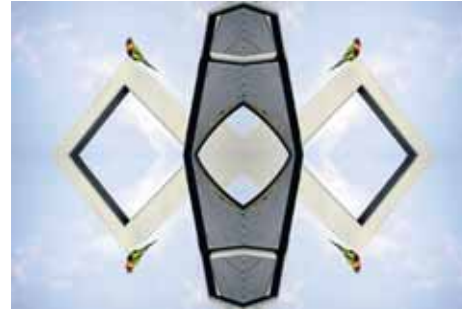


STEVE GADD BAND

Dec 18 - *Elisabeth Murdoch Hall*

Steve Gadd is a man who needs little introduction – particularly within the drumming community and ultimately with musicians all over the world who recognise his genius and immense contribution to music history. He continues to tour extensively with James Taylor and is still first call for Eric Clapton and Paul Simon when available.

www.melbournerecital.com.au



SOVEREIGNTY

Begins Dec 17 - *ACCA*

ACCA is proud to present *Sovereignty*, an exhibition focusing upon contemporary art of First Nations peoples of South East Australia, alongside keynote historical works, to explore culturally and linguistically diverse narratives of self-determination, identity, sovereignty and resistance.

www.accaonline.org.au



AURORA

Jan 31 - *Elisabeth Murdoch Hall*

Norwegian pop princess and mistress of the dark arts, AURORA, performs in Melbourne for the first time. Her fantastical, assured debut *All My Demons Greeting Me As A Friend* is filled with euphoric pop moments that belie the introspective nature of her thoughtful lyrics.

www.melbournerecital.com.au

THE ODD COUPLE

Runs until Dec 20 - *The Sumner*

Shaun Micallef and Francis Greenslade play the famous mismatched duo in this comedy classic, directed by Peter Houghton. Neil Simon's classic comedy about divorced men living together might be, perversely, the world's funniest play about marriage.

www.mtc.com.au

STORYTIME BALLET: THE NUTCRACKER

Dec 14 - Jan 24 - *The Playhouse*

The world's most famous ballet comes to life on stage in a brand-new production of *The Nutcracker* for children aged three and up. Packed with wonder and delight, this is the perfect ballet experience for boys and girls.

www.australianballet.com.au

MSO + KATE MILLER-HEIDKE

Jan 28 - *Plenary (MCEC)*

Kate Miller-Heidke is a classically trained singer who traverses the worlds of contemporary pop, folk and opera. In her first collaboration with the MSO, Kate Miller-Heidke performs her popular hits, favourites from recent albums, songs from her award-winning opera *The Rabbits*, covers and brand new songs.

www.mso.com.au

FRIDAY NIGHTS AT NGV

Runs until Mar 10 - *NGV*

Start the weekend early at NGV Friday Nights with after-hours access to our major summer exhibitions, David Hockney: Current and Viktor&Rolf: Fashion Artists. Listen to live music in the Great Hall, DJ sets in the garden, pop-up talks and enjoy access to food and bars.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au



VIKTOR & ROLF FASHION ARTISTS

Runs until Feb 26 - *NGV*

This exhibition features some of the Dutch design duo's most show-stopping and innovative works, drawn from the Viktor & Rolf archive as well as museum collections in the Netherlands.

www.ngv.vic.gov.au



PIKNIC ÉLECTRONIK

Starts Jan 1 - *Sidney Myer Music Bowl*

Piknic Électronik is pleased to announce its third season in Melbourne, Australia. This summer, Piknic Électronik will showcase 12 weekly events with world class electronic music, family friendly activities, delicious food and it's inimitable Summer vibe every Sunday, Southside at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl.

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au



BORN YESTERDAY

Jan 14 - Feb 25 - *The Sumner*

This glorious classic of the American stage begins with junkyard tycoon Harry Brock settling into a swank Washington hotel suite ready to grease the palms of crooked US Senators. But how can he win over Congress if his girlfriend, Billie, is always bringing down the tone?

www.mtc.com.au



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Feb 2 - 10 - *Malthouse Theatre*

For over 30 years, renowned UK theatre company Complicite has dazzled audiences with their spectacular use of technology in theatre. Their most immersive work to date uses state-of-the-art audio design to lead audiences into a remote world, raising some of the most urgent questions of today: how do we live and what do we believe to be true.

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Students take on national competition

Three emerging young ballet dancers from the Victorian College of the Arts Secondary School (VCASS) in Southbank will perform on the national stage this month as part of an internationally-renowned dance competition.

15-year-old Amelia Menzies, 13-year-old Ethan Abud-Schimming and 12-year-old Milei Lee are preparing to represent Victoria at the Sydney Opera House on December 10 in the National Genée Dance Challenge finals.

The three students were recently selected to be Victorian state finalists in the Royal Academy of Dance's nationwide final as part of the prestigious Genée International Ballet Competition.

Returning to Australia after a 10-year hiatus, the competition has helped catapult the careers of young ballet dancers worldwide and is recognised as an international launch pad for professional careers in dance.

All three dancers told *Southbank Local News* that they were very excited to have the opportunity to showcase their talents on a national stage, with the youngest Milei Lee describing it as a shock.

"It's really exciting because I was one of the youngest contestants in the competition so it



(Left to right) Amelia Menzies, Milei Lee and Ethan Abud-Schimming.

was a bit of a shock!" she said.

Four other VCASS students, Olivia Castagna, Luke Dimattina, Lily Folpp and Holly Frick, will also travel to Sydney to compete having been successful in achieving the prestigious

Royal Academy of Dance's Solo Seal award.

These students will compete in the academy's annual flagship event in the Genée International Ballet Competition on December 11.

Short-stays referred to committee

The Opposition has delayed the second reading of the short-stay accommodation bill by referring it to a parliamentary committee for further scrutiny.

The second reading of the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-Stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 will now not proceed before March 7 next year when the Environment and Planning Committee is due to report back to the Legislative Council. Moving to refer the matter on November 7, Eastern Victoria Member Edward O'Donohue wants the committee to report on:

- "Undertaking proper consultation with peer sector economy providers, individuals and owners' corporations short-stay letting providers;
- The impact on individuals, families, apartment owners and owners' corporations of short-stay letting in apartment buildings; and
- The adequacy of owners' corporation rules in managing impacts on amenity, noting also the lack of adequate planning on the part of the building and construction sector to accommodate the impact of high-intensity short-term lets."

迎新春墨尔本 CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL • MELBOURNE 27 Jan — 12 Feb 2017



Chemist Warehouse Tai Chi Series

Celebrate Chinese New Year with FREE Tai Chi in Queensbridge Square with the Chemist Warehouse Tai Chi Series!

Queensbridge Square

30 Jan–10 Feb
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The morning classes will feature a Tai Chi trainer who will guide participants through movements regardless of their age, Tai Chi experience or fitness level.

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Insight into White Night

New White Night artistic director David Atkins gave local business stakeholders an exciting insight into next year's festival at last month's Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) luncheon.

With a resume boasting a whole host of major events including the Sydney Olympic opening and closing ceremonies, the newly-appointed artistic director provided an impressive presentation about what the city could expect.

Presenting at the luncheon at Arts Centre Melbourne on November 25, Mr Atkins said local businesses could expect the Yarra River precinct to be a major part of the festival.

While he said the water itself wouldn't play host to installations, he said businesses could expect a number of attractions along Southbank and Northbank, as well as a special installation underneath Princes Bridge.

Mr Atkins also said a large proportion of the schedule would soon be made available on the White Night website.

The presentation topped off what was another successful YRBA member's event, with more than 50 attending the association's final luncheon of 2016.

The YRBA will host its first luncheon for 2017 in February, which will feature a guest speaker from council who will provide insight into a major Southbank project.

For more information visit yarrariver.melbourne



David Atkins (top left), Laura Cavallo and YRBA president Jon Forman (top right), guests listen in (bottom right) and members network on arrival (bottom left).

Melbourne trees vulnerable in the future

By Nadia Dimattina

Melbourne's city streetscape is set to change after ground-breaking research has prompted the City of Melbourne to reassess which tree species it will plant in the future.

The City of Melbourne, in partnership with the University of Melbourne, has released new research that highlights the vulnerability of trees in Australia's warming climate.

Principal researcher Dr Dave Kendal explored the vulnerability of tree species currently planted in the City of Melbourne and identified some potential new species that may be more suitable for the city's climate future.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the City of Melbourne was using Dr Kendal's research to select and trial new tree species in the city.

"The application of this research will lead the world in urban forest planning. We will use it to make evidence-based decisions about which trees we should plant now to ensure our urban forest thrives in future decades," he said.

The research found that 19 per cent of species growing now in the city were already temperature vulnerable.

It found that 35 per cent of trees would be

vulnerable by 2040 and 62 per cent by 2090.

"Trees are a defining part of Melbourne but they are also vulnerable to the effects of climate change," Cr Doyle said.

Elm trees lining St Kilda Rd in the Southbank precinct are one of the species that are struggling to cope with Melbourne's rising temperatures.

"We have identified species that will struggle to survive in Melbourne in 100 years' time, let alone thrive. These include deciduous trees from colder climates such as the Dutch Elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*), along with some species of indigenous Eucalypts," Dr Kendal said.

Dr Kendal believes that change is essential in order to conserve Melbourne's greenery.

"Climate change is likely to have a significant impact on many of the 375 tree species currently planted across the city. Some species will perform better, while some will perform worse."

"We have reviewed 1729 new species for Melbourne, many of which will be suitable for Melbourne's future climate realities," Dr Kendal said

Trees identified as suitable for Melbourne's future climate include the sub-tropical South American Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), the Australian native evergreen Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*) and the indigenous Coast Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*).

Earlier this year it was announced that hundreds of St Kilda Rd elm trees will be removed to make way for the proposed Metro Rail tunnel.

It has not been revealed what tree species will be planted to replace these matured trees.

However this proposal may be a head start into replacing St Kilda Rd's elm trees with new climate suitable trees discussed in the *Trees for Melbourne's Future Climate* research.



Workers at last month's Power St Loop planting day.

Planting Day Loop

Workers from Transurban and Landcare took some time out last month for a tree-planting program at the Power St Loop.

As part of the construction of the new public art display *Habitat Filter*, Transurban teamed up with Landcare to plant a number of Australian native plants at the site over two days.

And as you can see, everyone looked pretty happy about getting their hands dirty!

Southbank Residents Association

Another big year for the local community

2016 has been a big year for SRA. I can barely believe this is the last newspaper column for the year.

Please allow me to begin by wishing our members and avid readers a very merry Christmas and healthy and happy New Year.

2016 has been a very productive year and we couldn't have achieved what we have without a dedicated group of volunteers. As such, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our committee which has worked tirelessly to get us to where we are today.

A few of my personal highlights for the year include two trivia nights, an abundance of submissions to council and State Government and a very successful meet the candidates event.

We also celebrated the first birthday of our Southbank Owners Corporation Network (SOCN) which has grown from strength to strength with a doubling in membership.

In November we welcomed the induction of the new committee and joined the fight against an overdevelopment at 135 Sturt St. Fortunately council sided with the residents and also agreed it was an overdevelopment and voted against recommending the application to the planning minister. Let's hope the minister thinks the same.

It was heartening to hear the Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle, comment that even a 40 metre height limit in the Southbank Village/Arts Precinct area was too high. Unfortunately the Lord Mayor can do very little to change this, but he certainly has the power to lobby.

Talking about development standards, the big news for the month is the sign-off on C270 Amendment. While we didn't get everything we asked for on behalf of

Southbank residents, (in fact we got very little) we can safely say, without a doubt, that our concerns were heard.

We threw everything we had into our submission and the assistance of a consultant was well worth our while. The outcome is disappointing, but the C270 Amendment was too important an opportunity for us to stay passive. I will be hoping the minister sticks to the new rules and you can guarantee we will be there to keep them honest.

I've seen many residents in Southbank decorating their windows and balconies for Christmas and the light displays bring our community such joy.

We're looking forward to the free Boyd community Christmas barbecue on December 10 and hope to see as many Southbank residents there as possible.

There will be plenty of fun and entertainment and we'll be there with our

SRA booth and a festive hamper up for grabs so please come by, say hello and buy a raffle ticket or two.

Finally, for me personally, this has been a very rewarding year and as our new committee settles in, I'm excited (and honoured) to lead us into 2017 and tackle some exciting projects in the future.

Until next year, stay safe and have a Merry Christmas and a festive and Happy New Year.

Tony Penna

President



Tony Penna

Tony Penna is the president of Southbank Residents' Association.

southbankresidents.com.au



St Johns Southgate

Do you do it?

Do you do it with the curtains closed? Do you do it in the shower? Do you do it in your car when you think no one is looking? I'm talking about singing of course!

I recently attended the annual blessing of the nativity scene at the City Square where there was an opportunity to sing. No hairbrush was needed, no shower acoustics were necessary, courage of the Dutch kind wasn't even required. Even though some passers-by did stop and stare, it didn't matter. Together, people sang - and gloriously so - to a

common tune and theme.

There aren't too many occasions when people sing together without the merciful brevity of a happy birthday or the drown out decibels of the pub, club or stadium. But if you do find a place where singing along with others - even if you can barely hold a tune - is not just tolerated but encouraged, it's magical!

There's something incredibly edifying about hearing your own voice, allowing others to hear it too, all the while absorbing the sound of the whole and reacting to its push and pull, it's swellings and contractions.

Public singing drags the individual out of the narrow passages of introspection into the wide open spaces of the collective.

The sharing of song draws people together in a unique way because it instantly creates commonality. There's no space for intellectualising or rationalising why you're doing it, you have to be in the moment to make it happen. And when it happens it feels great!

At Christmas time the people of the Christian churches sing, sing and sing some more. They sing the seasonal carols telling the story of the hope, joy, peace and love that the coming of Jesus heralded. They sing because the birth of Christ opens their eyes to the real possibility of reconciliation, connectedness and community here on earth.

Singing Christmas songs goes beyond mere story telling. Joining the chorus and singing as one with the crowd is an enactment of the

divine vision that all peoples might be one.

The next time you pass a group of carollers, stop for a moment and join in. You might just find yourself living that which is truly glorious about Christmas.

Carols in the Courtyard will be held outside St Johns, Southgate (mezzanine level) on Christmas Eve at 7.15pm. All welcome.



Tom Hoffmann

Tom Hoffmann is the pastor at St Johns Southgate Church.

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



christmas



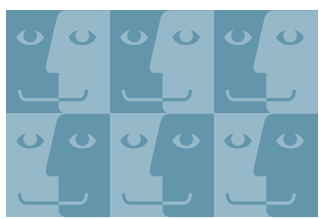
Every Sunday
 9am Traditional worship with communion
 10:30am Sunday School (during school terms)
 11am Informal worship with communion (except 18 December and 8 January)

Sunday 18 December
 9am **Worship with Bach Cantata**
 Guest preacher: **Stephen Hultgren**
 Lecturer in New Testament, Australian Lutheran College
Jauchzet, frohlocket, auf, preiset die Tage BWV248/i
 The first cantata of the Christmas Oratorio

Christmas Eve
 7:15pm *Carols in the Courtyard*
 7:30pm Worship with carols and poetry

Christmas Day
 10am **Worship with communion**
 includes children's presentation

Sunday 8 January
 9am **Worship with Bach Cantata**
 Guest preacher: **Andreas Loewe**
 Dean of Melbourne, St Paul's Cathedral
 Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam BWV7



FACES OF SOUTHBANK



GLEND A D'ESPOSITO, 65

To sing, because it makes everyone else feel happy and you enjoy it just as much.



GARRY WRIGHT, 54

To sing, because I admire people who can sing well.



CHRISTINE MORIER, 61

I would like to be a singer, because it's cool.



DAVE JACOBS, 59

To effectively share ideas and beliefs that are meaningful back and forth in conversation, rather than being misunderstood as one-sided.



KELLY BERRY, 42

If I could have any skill, I think it would be the ability to have a better sense of how people are feeling when I am talking with them. It might make it easier to say or not say things that might make their day better, or if not, at least not make it worse.



BRAD FISHER, 31

I think the ability to play music and sing would be fantastic because I think it would be very relaxing and to have that power over people to be able to stop and listen to you and appreciate the ability you've got. I'd love to be able to sing.

Question:

If you could have any skill, what would it be and why?

Health & Wellbeing

Christmas tips and New Year's resolutions!

How to survive the Christmas eat-a-thon!

The Christmas period has the potential to stack on five or even 10 kilos. We resolve faithfully on January 1 to lose that weight as quickly as we can, and spend the rest of the year battling with it - with varied success.

So how do you get through Christmas without gaining weight? How do you Christmas-proof your diet?

Try looking at Christmas Day as an indulgent eating period that starts and finishes in a 24-hour period.

When December rolls around and the social engagements step up, the first thing off the must-do list is exercise. But prioritise your needs and keep to your scheduled exercise routine.

Just because Christmas is coming, there's no need to eat, drink and make merry every moment of the day.

This is a pretty radical concept at this time of year, but remember you can say "no" politely and firmly to food, if you're not hungry.

There's no rule that if it's there, you have to eat it.

Learn to think like a boy scout and always be prepared. Be prepared with a line or two so you can refuse food you don't want. Be prepared with how much you're going to eat when you get to a social gathering, and stick to it. Decide how much you're going to drink before you go to that party, and stick to it.

With a little bit of thought and preparation, Christmas doesn't need to spell disaster for your waistline.

New Year's resolutions – forget about them unless . . .

Save yourself the trouble of setting a New Year's resolution unless the resolution has been building in importance in recent times because otherwise you are setting yourself up for failure!

Statistics show that half-thoughts about something a person would "like" to achieve without being prepared to put in the required work or commitment are not enough.

I would like to share Prochaska's behaviour-change model which has been adapted and adjusted over the years but remains essential to understanding what it takes to make a habit and ultimately change behaviour.

New Year's resolution/s fail because people are not at the action stage and hence lack desire, commitment and ability to stick to the work required.

Stages of behaviour change

Pre-contemplation; Preparation; Contemplation; Action; Maintenance; and Termination.

So what does this all mean for you reading this? As a personal trainer who lives and breathes helping people change their behaviours and achieve their set goals, I urge you to sit down and be realistic about what it is you want to achieve.

I often get people come to me hoping, wanting and/or expecting to lose (for example) 10 kgs in two months and yet when I ask them how long it took them to put on that 10 kgs, they often say (for example) over the period of 10 years!

See the gap in reality? Put on 10 kgs in 10 years but expect to lose it in two months? We live in a society where almost everyone wants results now, yesterday, even last week!

Be realistic, write your goals down and better still, confide in someone your goals. By sharing a goal publicly with someone you then make a commitment and it means you have attached importance to your goal.

Announce it on Facebook if you have to. You will then get people that will ask how you are going, perhaps help motivate you on your way but you then become accountable to someone other than yourself.

I hope this helps you as you contemplate 2017 and have a safe and happy New Year!



Justin Moran

Justin Moran is the Owner of Just In Time Personal Training.
www.justintimept.com

Montague Community Alliance

The Voice of Montague

The NIMBY – Not in my back yard.

Right now, someone somewhere is describing those of us living and working in high development areas all over Melbourne as NIMBYs. That is, those who raise their voices to express concerns about the development in their neighbourhoods.

I noticed this week that the City of Yarra, a geographical area about the same distance from the CBD as the City of Port Philip, passed a resolution to lobby the State Government to ensure height and density limits in Fitzroy.

We here in Montague and on the interfaces with Port Melbourne of course think that resolution is a great idea and want the City of Port Philip (CoPP) to follow City of Yarra's lead.

However, it is just not possible. Planning permits for up to 40-storeys have been granted and the Recast Vision for Fishermans Bend has been enthusiastically taken up by the relevant Minister. We even doubt the community engagement process will have any effect on the outcome of Minister Wynne's final decision.

Our friends at Surveyors Place are experiencing this directly as the South Melbourne Primary School and the adjacent roads start to transform and their car parking is removed. It is interesting that Fishermans Bend planning talks about a "carless society" and that we are told no parking permits will be issued for new builds. We look forward (with some scepticism) to seeing how this works!

We are so fortunate to live in an urban environment that offers such opportunities for access to the city, the South Melbourne market and the beach and we do welcome our potential new neighbours to our community with the wish that they honour our environment in the same way we do.

As we near the close of 2016, our hope is that the planning departments at the State Government and CoPP work with the community and with the developers, to ensure incredible urban design, a vibrant and relevant connection to the existing communities living and working in and around the Montague Precinct and, most importantly, to communicate with us regularly. This respect for the existing

community will go a long way in ensuring great communities develop now and in the future.

We have started our Facebook page @ **MontaguePrecinct**, please like our page and check for updates as we move into the new year.

Wishing you all a peaceful end to 2016 and a wonderful new year to come.



Trisha Avery

Trisha Avery is the convener of the Montague Community Alliance.
trishavery@bpca.com.au



Owners Corporation Law

A golden opportunity to re-write the laws

Hoorah – the Victorian Government wants to hear from us about our views on the legislation relating to owners' corporations.

As part of its comprehensive review of consumer property laws, which also include reforms around the sale of land and the regulation of estate agents, property managers and conveyancers, Consumer Affairs has released an options paper setting out a range of possible reforms to the Owners Corporation Act 2006.

The options paper will be open for public feedback until December 16 and is available for download from the Consumer Affairs website.

I for one, applaud Consumer Affairs' approach in the way it has set out the issues and questions in the options paper. There is no doubt that the policymakers are giving considered thought to a number of issues that have plagued owners' corporations for years and they are thinking creatively to help resolve these issues.

However, the policy-makers need your

help. Without proper community feedback, the government may not get a truly representative and balanced view about the state of our vertical communities. Each owners' corporation committee ought to be dedicating some time in the next two weeks to put together a submission.

Broadly speaking, there are eight areas that have been identified for possible reform. In no particular order, these are the regulation and licensing of owners' corporation managers, the responsibilities of developers, the decision making process within owners' corporations, dispute resolution and legal proceedings, the need to treat different sized owners corporations separately, the setting of budgets and determining insurance, the ability to re-develop and terminate owners' corporations and where retirement villages fit in.

Consumer Affairs has asked 66 separate

questions in relation to these areas and has suggested various models of reform, taking cues from legislation in NSW, the ACT and Queensland and has also attempted to create its own new models.

Some of these models will work very well in Victoria. Others, may not.

As the options paper identifies, the current version of the Owners Corporation Act is considered to be a "light touch" regulatory model. However, the increased regulation of owners' corporations, and therefore greater interference in the property rights of lot owners, is argued to be justified on two grounds.

Firstly, lot owners owe a duty to each other to maintain and insure the common property, which includes paying their fees on time as well as enforcing a positive duty to take steps not to harm other lot owners' amenity and the value of other lots.

Secondly, there is a perceived public interest in regulating owners' corporations to ensure that they are democratically operated and not compromised by factions or cliques.

The outcome of this process will see draft legislation being drawn up and presented to Parliament in 2018. If passed, this legislation will likely last at least another 15 years. So, it is vitally important that owners' corporation committees do not let this deadline expire without putting pen to paper.

Good luck keyboard warriors. Let us see the very best of democracy in action.



Tom Bacon

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Vertical dwelling energy hacks

Energy bill shock – it’s something that we all dread regardless of our type of dwelling. And while there is much advice for householders endeavouring to reduce their energy costs, specific options for vertical dwellers are not so plentiful.

Looking at some apartment advice sites, their “energy hacks” include switching to LED, sealing gaps around windows and doors, adjusting your thermostat and even air-drying your clothes (just not on your balcony!).

While sound advice, these suggestions really do not take advantage of vertical living’s specific circumstances – or opportunities. So rather than trying to emulate ground-bound residents, the question really is, what could we as vertical dwellers do?

Consider this.

High-rise apartments have huge amounts of external, often glass-clad vertical space.

Many of us have a love-hate relationship with these areas, loving the light that penetrates and hating the summer heat amplified by these sun-drenched exteriors. What if these glass panels could be treated so as to not only improve our thermal comfort but also capture this solar energy for our use?

This type of building-integrated technology is the holy grail of sustainability and photovoltaic (PV) glass is promising apartment residents a way of working with the sun to simultaneously generate power while reducing the demand for electricity to heat, cool and light.

Comprising a transparent solar panel, standard mono-crystalline PV cells are integrated into double glazing, which lets natural light in while capturing solar energy at the point of utilisation. The potential



Nicholas Hill (sales manger), Cameron Knox (CEO), Miriam Robinson (member of Nicholson Gardens). Allume Energy will be piloting its new solar technology and business model with Nicholson Gardens, in Fitzroy.

uses for this technology are astounding, with hundreds of thousands of sun-baked apartment windows and glass doors being ready candidates.

However (isn’t there always?) the current limitation of PV glass is its high cost which, when combined with the additional challenges of retrofitting, mean that this is not yet an accessible solution for most vertical dwellers.

There is, of course, another better-known application of PV technology, which is solar panels. While these adorn the rooftops of many Australian houses, unfortunately comparatively few high-rise apartment buildings have adopted PV systems and those which have typically direct their

benefits towards reducing the costs of heating, cooling and lighting common property. This leaves the individual vertical dweller largely excluded from the many benefits of renewable energy.

Enter Allume, a new Australian social enterprise that is taking a different approach to cracking this solar-nut. Its stated mission is to make solar energy accessible to apartment residents or, as they phrase it, “those who don’t own their own roofs so can’t get access to solar”.

Allume comprises a group of recent graduates of University of Melbourne, who are currently working under MAP (Melbourne Accelerator Program), and as part of this program, they will soon travel to

Silicon Valley to meet potential investors.

According to CEO, Cameron Knox, (who balances his bachelor of science in mechanical systems with his diploma in French), Allume removes the entry barrier to solar through a pay-for-power (not panels) service, commonly referred to as a solar power purchase agreement (SPPA).

This means that vertical dwellers (both renters and owner occupiers) pay a reduced rate for the power they use from the panels (estimated between 20-40m per cent less than retail electricity), with revenue from the SPPA being paid to the financier of the system.

Allume sees their key advantage as providing a solution that bypasses the regulatory overhead of an embedded network while offering each resident an opt-in/opt-out arrangement. This also means there is no long-term contractual commitments. And to complete its offer, Allume helps with negotiations with owner’s corporations, as access to roofs remains a key requirement.

It is these types of “hacks” from our universities that can pragmatically shape our emerging vertical villages, making our high-rise residences both more visually appealing as well as resource and cost efficient.



Janette Corcoran
Apartment living expert
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Pet’s Corner

Favourite office pet

By Nadia Dimattina

Every day is Take your Dog to Work Day for pet owner, Simon Bogli.

Zella, a four-year-old Labrador retriever may not live in Southbank but is able to commute here every day with her owner.

Zella’s companion, Simon Bogli takes her to work where she gets a lot of attention from everyone in the office.

“She [comes] into the office everyday and everyone loves her. When I first applied for employment I said to them you get me, you get the dog,” he said.

Mr Bogli takes his dog for a walk each day so that she gets some space out of the office. He said Southbank was a great area for dogs like Zella to enjoy the outdoors.

“It’s excellent, it’s really well treed, there’s lots of space for the dogs to run around and it’s a really nice area to take the dogs if it’s a nice day like today,” he said.

Zella is unlike many dogs as she is a former breeding dog for Seeing Eye Dogs and a mother to 21 puppies.

“She was in the top 3 per cent of all the dogs in the Seeing Eye Dogs Program. Rather than assigning her with someone to help them see, she was breeding dogs for the program which get trained to be Seeing Eye dogs themselves,” Mr Bogli said.

As a former breeding dog, Mr Bogli says Zella had some very unique qualities.

“Everyone loves her and she has a special relationship with everyone. When you are not feeling well she is very conscious of that and can pick up the signs. She will give you the equivalent of a dog hug and is an awesome dog,” he said.



Letters to the Editor

Amazed

I am continually amazed by the actions of our city council staff.

Allowing NIDA to commence activities on the ground floor of the Guild Apartment building with no access to running water in the leased premises astounds me.

Students and staff are forced to use the two toilets provided for residents' use in

the swimming pool/gymnasium area.

This is clearly inadequate for the, at times, large number of young people attending. Is getting drinking water from a toilet even safe? How long will this undesirable situation be allowed to continue?

Richard

Taxi chaos

In the *Southbank Local News* issue 58 - page 20 - letters to the editor is a letter from John warning about an accident.

You are welcome to pass this on to John if you have his contact details.

Some time ago I sent a complaint to a taxi company about the exact same issue John has concerns about.

The reply I received (email, but cant seem to find it) was unhelpful and dismissive of the taxi drivers of any wrongdoing.

The company said the taxi queue on Clarendon Street between Normanby Street and the taxi entrance to Crown is actually the responsibility of Crown. Maybe John could seek answers from Crown management.

I did not enquire or complain to Crown and don't know if there is any truth in what the taxi company said.

But I share the same concerns as John and always hear the horns of vehicles and dings of trams with every change of traffic lights on a Friday and Saturday night between 10pm to 3am.

Peter



Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au

Southbanker



Southbank resident and co-owner of Fancy Sword Games Jackson McCrohan.

A future in gaming

22-year-old Southbank resident Jackson McCrohan is already forging a successful career in the gaming industry.

Along with his two friends and colleagues Raymond Awad and Richard Baldachhino, the trio last year launched their business Fancy Sword Games.

In less than a year, Fancy Sword Games has produced two highly rated app games and is in the process of making more.

Having studied together at the Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) at the World Trade Centre tower at North Wharf, Jackson said the trio had developed a range of skills with a shared vision for developing games.

"I did the programming course and then Richard and Raymond did an arts course but specialised in different things," he said.

"Raymond specialised in animation whereas Richard specialised in concept art and game art with texturing and modeling."

"All three of us always wanted to make apps, which is really good because the team we were with before always wanted to make PC games and they have a much bigger scope and are generally year-long projects as a minimum."

Having grown up in the Latrobe Valley and Pakenham, Jackson moved to Southbank with his family in 2014.

With Jackson undertaking his course at the World Trade Centre and his father working at Price Waterhouse Coopers at Freshwater Place, he described Southbank as a very convenient place to live.

Since graduating, Jackson said he and his colleagues had quickly set about establishing a business - having all undertaken an incubator course in management and marketing as part of their studies.

To date, Fancy Sword Games has produced two games *Get Flipped* and *Tile Descent*, and

is now in the process of creating its third game *Get Down*.

Jackson said the trio had been encouraged by the positive response to its games.

"The first one *Get Flipped* we released that about five months ago so that one actually went better than we expected," he said.

"We only expected around 50 downloads and I think it ended up with 200."

Jackson described both *Get Flipped* and *Tile Descent* as puzzle-based games, which focused on testing reflexes, memory and patience.

Having grown up as a gaming enthusiast and witnessing the transformation in technology, he said the possibilities in gaming development today were endless.

"*Tile Descent* has got heaps of stuff that would have just been stupidly hard to do back in the day and it's changed so much especially with graphics," he said.

After recently exhibiting at the PAX Australia gaming and pop culture exhibition at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), Jackson said the trio hoped to continue networking and growing the business.

"When starting a new game from scratch, every little thing you do you can see so it's really rewarding," he said.

"We're hoping to produce a new game every one to two months, so our goal for this time next year is to have about 10 games out."

Get Flipped and *Tile Descent* are both available to download on the iOS App Store and Google Play Store.

For more information visit fancyswordgames.com

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We Live Here

Big win for residents in parliamentary vote

The Owners Corporation Amendment (Short Stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 has been referred back to the Environment and Planning Committee for inquiry.

The parliamentary vote has stopped the Victorian Government from introducing a Bill that would only benefit commercial short-stay operators.

This is a huge win for the We Live Here movement which has been working tirelessly with politicians from all sides of Parliament to achieve this outcome.

A special thank-you to David Davis, Shadow Minister for Planning, Russell Northe, Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs, along with Nina Springle from the Greens and Fiona Patten from the Sex Party who all supported the We Live Here movement on this issue.

The Legislative Council vote

On November 8, the Legislative Council voted overwhelmingly to block the Bill and open up the opportunity for community and stakeholder consultation – consultation that the government should have offered from the outset.

Mr O'Donohue, the Liberal Member for Eastern Victoria, proposed a motion to send the Bill to the Committee for Environment and Planning for inquiry and report, on the grounds of inadequate community and stakeholder consultation.

The Labor Government shocked Victorian apartment owners on May 24, 2016 when, with no prior notice given, it introduced the Bill in the Lower House through the former Consumer Affairs Minister Jane Garrett.

The decision by the Legislative Council now prevents this Bill from passing into law, and represents a victory in the on-going push by community groups to ensure that short-term commercial accommodation becomes a regulated industry.

The inquiry by the Committee for Environment and Planning must complete its report by March 7 next year and table it with the Legislative Committee for further debate.

In Parliament, Mr Davis said: "It [short-stay accommodation] is a very important part of our tourism industry, but it is an area where there needs to be better regulations. Untrammelled access can lead to very poor lifestyle and living outcomes ..."

Speaking on behalf of the Sex Party and in support of the blocking of the passage of the Bill, Ms Fiona Patten MP said the vote was a wake-up call for the government to realise the benefit of "clear and effective regulation" of commercial short-stays.

Greens MP Nina Springle expressed the concerns of residents who "foot the bill" for the increased costs caused by the commercial short-stay industry. Apartment buildings "were not designed as hotels" she told Parliament.

Members of the We Live Here movement were present in Parliament to witness the debate having canvassed the support of



We Live Here movement members meet shadow planning minister David Davis (centre).

political parties on either side of the divide including the crossbenchers.

Barbara Francis, a director of We Live Here said: "We are very pleased with this decision, and are very proud to represent the nearly one million residents in apartment buildings in Victoria in continuing to advocate for serious regulation of the commercial short-stay industry."

"We have tried to schedule meetings with the Consumer Affairs Minister(s) and advisers on many occasions, but they were not interested in engaging with residents and owners."

"Finally, by the blocking of this Bill and sending it back to the drawing board, we will have an opportunity to have our voice heard. The onus is now on the Labor Government to engage with the community, and this time to get the balance right with any proposed legislation."

Council elections

Prior to the election all 59 candidates were sent a survey by We Live Here to canvas their opinions on the issue of commercial short stays.

An excellent response of almost 86 per cent was received and all but one of the teams supported the regulation of short stays in residential buildings. The one exception was the team headed by former councillor Stephen Mayne who subsequently failed in his re-election bid.

It appears that ex-councillor Mayne, the self-proclaimed most pro-development former councillor, paid the price for not listening to concerns raised by us and other resident groups.

He has since declared that he has learned his lesson, that to ignore residents groups is a good way to get dumped off council!

The final make-up of the council is not yet known but we look forward to working with them all on issues involving residents in the City of Melbourne.

You can support the We Live Here movement by registering on our website at welivehere.net.

Contributions are also welcome and can be made online.



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

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Business



Holmesglen fashion gurus Sinead Gregorie, Scott Williams, Jess Arena, Amy Douglass and Lucy Jarvis.

Excellence in education

Since opening in Southbank in 2012, the Holmesglen City Campus has helped reinforce Holmesglen's name as Victoria's leading vocational education and training service provider.

The institution was the recipient of a number of awards at the Victorian International Education Awards last month including the Premier's Award for International Education Provider of the Year and the Excellence in International Education (TAFE).

In addition to its older campuses at Moorabbin, Chadstone and Waverley, City Campus co-ordinator Maria Quinto said its St Kilda Rd location had helped boost Holmesglen's growing reputation.

"I think having a city presence has definitely lifted our profile," she said. "We have a customer connect centre where all of our enquiries go and a lot of our calls are 'do you offer this course in the city?' so I think the fact that we are in the city now is a big thing."

While the campus is limited by space, its state-of-the-art learning facilities caters to a broad range of courses, which are tailored for a number of more city-focused careers.

Courses offered include building design, construction management, early childhood education, a range of languages, masters of professional accounting and, exclusively to the city campus, fashion design.

Maria said the introduction of fashion design to its portfolio had been a huge success, as the course offered a unique and attractive industry-focused program based on pattern engineering.

"To have the actual garment made up they needed to be able to engineer the pattern, which is different from some of the other providers that just do the visual display," she said. "That was an industry-focused program and it's been very successful. It's a bachelor program for three years and we probably get around 25 students starting that at the beginning of every year."

With fashion, business and construction

being very prevalent in the inner city, Maria said Southbank was the perfect location for students to be able to tap into industry.

And being a smaller campus, Maria said students were provided with round-the-clock access, which helped facilitate a strong community atmosphere.

"We've got a huge open learning area here called the learning commons and we offer that from 8am in the morning until 10pm at night so they can relax and stay here until late at night if they need to," she said.

"We tend to have small classes as well and I think students get to know each other and they build a bond and forge those relationships."

With the campus having only operated for five years, Maria said many of its dedicated staff had been there since the beginning and were passionate about their workplace.

"A lot of the staff have worked here since day one and this is sort of their baby as they've nurtured the students through," she said.

"Because they have a little bit more control over the areas and who they teach they tend to look after them and make sure they get the most out of them. They just love teaching and dealing with students on this one on one basis."

Holmesglen City Campus is located at 332 St Kilda Rd, Southbank. The campus hosts open days on the third Thursday of most months.

For more information visit www.holmesglen.edu.au/about_us/campuses/city



Tipple co-CEOs Ryan Barrington (left) and Matt Walsh (right).

A bottle shop that comes to you

An idea that seems long overdue, alcohol delivery, is unsurprisingly taking off in the inner-city with the new service Tipple.

In just 12 months, co-CEOs Matt Walsh and Ryan Barrington have expanded the service to more than 120 suburbs and has carried out more than 20,000 deliveries.

Tipple not only guarantees delivery in under an hour but drinks are delivered to the customer's door cold and ready to drink.

As a former inner-city resident himself, Matt Walsh said the service had already proven to be a massive hit for people living in apartments.

"This is just a super solution for people who live in apartments chasing convenience," he said.

"We believe the Tipple alcohol delivery business has significant appeal to people who live in apartments where it's a bit more difficult to get in and out with heavy purchases. We remove the hassle."

While alcohol delivery exists in a handful of cases overseas, Tipple is the first business of its kind in Australia.

With a long background in the fast food and liquor industries, Tipple is Mr Barrington's brainchild.

"I came up with the concept probably two and a half years ago," he said. "My brother and I opened up a chain of kebab stores, to complement our bottle stores and we offered a delivery service."

"We thought we can deliver food in under an hour so why not alcohol?"

Having started with one shop and a fleet of three delivery vehicles, the business has rapidly grown to four locations and more than 40 drivers.

Through its easy to use app, available through the App Store and Google Play, alcohol is delivered to your door cold thanks to the customised insulated carry containers

fixed on each Tipple delivery bike.

And while the service has proven useful for people hosting a gathering at home, Matt said that most of its customers had incorporated Tipple as part of their regular shopping habits.

"Almost half of all of our deliveries are wine and we're able to offer some pretty exciting and very well priced high quality wines," he said.

"Many of our customers who order regularly have just built us into the way they go about their alcohol purchases. It's been received very well and the repeat business validates what we're doing."

Most importantly, Tipple takes responsible serving of alcohol (RSA) very seriously and has developed its app in such a way that enforces that message. All drivers are RSA trained and valid ID is required upon every delivery.

With a vision of bringing the service to more cities around Australia, Mr Barrington said it was exciting to be at the forefront of a new marketplace.

"Everyone is so busy these days so instead of ordering 12 bottles that they don't have storage space for, they're ordering what they need for one or two nights at a time," he said.

"Mobile phones have become the remote control for life. Customers want to be able to use their phone to co-ordinate various aspects of their lives. Apps need to be easy and simple to use and improve the quality of life for customers. At Tipple we want to improve the drinking experience for our customers."

For more information visit www.tipple.com.au

2016 WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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



INNER MELBOURNE LIFE ACTIVITIES CLUB

Meeting on selected dates and various locations, IMLAC takes in the city's parks, its culture, fabulous eating options as well as festivals, galleries and concerts.
website www.life.org.au/imlac or call Carolyn on 9696 1090



THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

DADS' LEGO CLUB @ BOYD

Are you a dad living within the bounds of the City of Melbourne? Here's something just for you. Dads are invited to bring their preschool child(ren) along. Bookings: playgroups@melbourne.vic.gov.au

TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS

CHUNKY MOVE DANCE CLASS

Mondays to Thursdays and Saturdays at 111 Sturt St. Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength.
www.chunkymove.com



WEDNESDAYS

FREE FITNESS @ BOYD

Run by Just In Time PT, the free "Posture, stretch, strength & balance" sessions will run every Wednesday from 7.15-8.15am at the Boyd Community Hub.

TUESDAYS

SOUTHBANK ROTARY

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

THURSDAYS @ BOYD

BOOKS AND BITES

Enjoy a free afternoon tea and meet members from the School of Hard Knocks while you read along or listen to stories. Free, no bookings required. Thursdays from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.
Register: www.eventbrite.com.au



CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS @ EUREKA

Take the kids out of their comfort zone and high into the sky these Summer School Holidays with a range of activities at Eureka Skydeck. Find out what's on offer:
www.eurekaskydeck.melbourne



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.



FRIDAYS

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SUNDAYS

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www.artscentremelbourne.com.au

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



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.

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

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

DECEMBER 10 @ BOYD

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Save the date for Saturday 10 December from 10am to 1pm. Visit the Hub or search 'Boyd' in Eventbrite to find out about upcoming community events.
Register: www.eventbrite.com.au



SATURDAYS @ BOYD

COMMUNITY YOGA

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DECEMBER 2016 & JANUARY 2017

AUCTION RESULTS



Andrew Salvo
0403 278 724



Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864



Jesse Lorenz
0403 142 119



David Barber
0437 980 091



Persa Kapsali (Rentals)
0450 840 440

148 Napier Street, SOUTH MELBOURNE



- 223 enquiries, 17 opens and 59 inspections
- 14 potential bidders attended the auction
- 7 active bidders on the day
- 13 bids
- Sold for \$1.35m

Contact us for Live Auction Video



Jesse Lorenz: 0403 142 119
Andrew Salvo 0403 278 724



2/108 Southbank Boulevard, SOUTHBANK



- 122 enquiries, 18 opens and 77 inspections
- 5 potential bidders attended the auction
- 3 active bidders on the day
- 17 bids
- Sold for \$645K

Contact us for Live Auction Video



Michael Pastrikos: 0404 282 864



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