The voice of Southbank, South Wharf & Montague

SOUTHBANK



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Taking our Green Spine higher

By Sean Car

Developer Beulah International will put forward a proposal to the state government for Australia's tallest building at 118 City Rd, Southbank, after announcing the winner of its design competition last month.

After a six-month global search, the twin-tower proposal *Green Spine* by Dutch architecture firm UNStudio and Melbourne-based Cox Architecture was announced as the winning design for the \$2 billion plus BMW Southbank site.

Conceived as a conceptual extension of the new Southbank Boulevard linear park, *Green Spine* proposes a vertical city of green spaces, with the taller residential tower to be crowned with a publicly-accessible botanic garden.

Reaching 356.2 metres, the tower would become Australia's tallest tower if approved by Minister for Planning Richard Wynne.

Competing against five other groundbreaking designs, Beulah International executive director Adelene Teh said *Green Spine* showed work by a strong, multidisciplinary collaborative team that was a bold, yet thoroughly-considered approach.

"At a macro scale, the two-tower silhouettes with twisting forms provide a new, site-responsive and elegant visual beacon in the precinct," she said.

"In its details, the scheme displays a strong intent for well-considered public and private amenity and at a street level, the proposal displays qualities that will truly transform the public realm by eroding the hard edges that are prevalent in Southbank."

Given the nod ahead of five other competing proposals by a design jury of experts, which included the likes of Victorian Government Architect Jill Garner, *Green Spine* offers a world-class entertainment and community precinct in Southbank.

Along with a 252.2 metre tower, which will house commercial offices, a hotel and specialty bars and restaurants, the lower levels of the towers will make space for a vertical school, day-care, library, cinema, auditorium and an Australian-first BMW experience centre.

Despite offering an impressive proposal, the City of Melbourne's assistant chair of planning Cr Rohan Leppert took to Twitter after the announcement last month to highlight that the design was actually prohibited under the planning scheme.

"If the design progresses to an application to overrule the planning scheme and create site-specific rules to permit an otherwise prohibited development, this would extend the Crown tower precedent further in the central city," he wrote.

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When Jenny met Sally!

City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp recently presided over her first citizenship ceremony with almost 100 people from 37 different nationalities.

"As my first citizenship ceremony as Lord Mayor, it was a very special occasion for me," the Lord Mayor said. "It is a momentous occasion to accept citizenship of another country and there were a lot of proud and emotional people in the room."

Jenny King was among the new

As my first citizenship ceremony as Lord Australians. Originally from England, she has been a Southbank resident for four and a half or me," the Lord Mayor said. "It is a years.

"I was very impressed with the ceremony," Jenny said. "I think it's very important to commit to a country that you have been staying in for a long time."

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Deadline for edition 79 is October 4.

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SOUTHBANK MEWS Taking our Green Spine higher

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"[This is] certain to erode the planning system and signal to the industry that if the site and financing is big enough, don't bother with the planning scheme: instead get the state government to write special rules for you."

Cr Leppert also criticised the involvement of both State Treasurer Tim Pallas at Beulah's design symposium on July 27 and Jill Garner in helping select the winning design, for giving the perception of government support.

While acknowledging a "stunning" design, he said an approval by the government would represent "a victory for PR", as well as the use of architects as a PR tool, over orderly and publicly accountable planning processes.

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne defended Mr Pallas, noting that, except from being at a public event where the project was raised, the Treasurer had not discussed the project with the developer.

A spokesperson for Mr Wynne told Southbank Local News that he had not had any communications regarding the project with the developer.

"The minister has no view on the proposal as no application has been submitted," the spokesperson said.



'Green Spine' by UNStudio and Cox Architecture.

Southbank Residents' Association president Tony Penna said the proposal was "bold and edgy."

"I commend the developer with encouraging ideas from across the globe, and congratulate our own Cox architecture," he said. "While it's the perfect location for such a development, I am sceptical that what won the competition compared to what will be delivered will not be the same as in it's current form it doesn't comply with the planning scheme. In any case, it is a step in the right direction.



Ashmor wins preselection

Local lawyer, entrepreneur, community volunteer and mum Kate Ashmor has been preselected as the Liberal Party's candidate for the Federal seat of Macnamara.

Ms Ashmor won preselection to contest the long-held Labor seat ahead of the likes of the Liberal Party's previous candidate Owen Guest, as well as City of Port Phillip councillor Marcus Pearl.

She will go head to head with Labor candidate Josh Burns and Greens candidate Steph Hodgins-May at the next election, which could occur as soon as March 2019. Current sitting Labor member Michael Danby, who has held Macnamara (formerly Melbourne Ports) for 20 years, will retire after the election.

BAR TENDER'S CHOICE OF













Push for Metro 2

Following the State Government's pledge to build the Suburban Rail Loop if re-elected in November, the business community is looking for a similar commitment to deliver Metro 2 to Fishermans Bend.

With the new proposal to terminate at Werribee, doubt has also been raised about whether or not the government might even consider Metro 2 redundant.

Transport spokesperson for The Greens, Sam Hibbins, put the matter on the agenda at the Metropolitan Transport Forum at Melbourne Town Hall on Monday, August 13.

The Metro 2 train network would connect the South Morang and Werribee lines, bringing rail to Fishermans Bend and allow for extensions to outer suburbs including Doncaster.

Committing \$100 million to start planning the project, Mr Hibbins said it was the piece of infrastructure that would "define liveability in Melbourne".

"Today we've announced The Greens' policy on committing \$100 million to start planning Melbourne Metro 2," he said. "It's a far better investment than the North East link or the West Gate Tunnel or the East West link."

"Planning for Metro 2 needs to start now so we can get it built and the benefits can be realised as soon as possible. We can't wait another decade for this project to get up and running."

While not committing to any funding announcements for Metro 2, Minister for Public Transport Jacinta Allan told *Southbank Local News* that her government was "building the thing that connects it".

"The Metro Tunnel has to be completed before Metro 2 – our current Metro Tunnel works are paving the way for Metro 2, especially around the new Parkville Station."

It is understood that the new Parkville Station, currently under construction, will have the capacity for additional tracks to connect rail via Southern Cross Station and Fishermans Bend.

While welcoming the government's \$300 million pledge to start planning for Suburban Rail Loop, the Property Council of Australia's Victorian executive director (acting) Matthew Kandelaars said the industry was hoping for a similar commitment for Fishermans Bend.

"The proper integration of transport and land-use planning is vital to the success of Fishermans Bend as a once-in-a-generation urban renewal project. In particular, its success will rely in large part on the timely delivery of mass transit to the precinct."

"We would like a commitment to deliver the infrastructure Victoria needs, including significant planning for Melbourne Metro 2 and the Suburban Rail Loop, in the next term of government."

The state government included \$1 million in this year's budget for the next stage of planning for a new connection between Fishermans Bend and the CBD, including the development of transport and economic assessments of river crossing options.

However, a spokesperson for Ms Alllan said the government didn't currently have any announcements on Metro 2.

Fishermans Bend Business Forum executive officer David Weston said business was looking for a commitment to deliver Metro 2 as soon as the tunnelling equipment was finished on Metro 1.

"Fishermans Bend Business Forum believes that without a firm commitment to funding new public transport access to Fishermans Bend, it will not achieve the outcomes that the government is seeking," he said.



Southbank Residents' Association president Tony Penna and Montague Community Alliance convener Trisha Avery at the Boyd Community Hub Assembly Hall last month.

Community partners

The Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) and the Montague Community Alliance (MCA) will work together for the first time as part of the Southbank Meet the Candidates event ahead of November's Victorian state election.

To be held at the Boyd Community Hub at 207 City Rd, Southbank on Tuesday, October 30, current sitting Labor member for the seat of Albert Park Martin Foley, Liberal candidate Andrew Bond and The Greens candidate Ogy Simic will all feature.

While the MCA had initially proposed to host its own event, a tight campaign schedule in lead up to the November state election had meant limited opportunities for all three major political candidates to present to the Montague community.

With both communities sharing many common interests and dealing with a number of similar issues, the SRA has graciously partnered with MCA to broaden the scope of the event for Montague locals to question candidates on issues affecting their community.

The Montague Precinct, which encompasses City Rd up to Boundary St in South Melbourne, Normanby Rd and Cecil St in Southbank, is one of five precincts of Fishermans Bend

Having met with SRA president Tony Penna last month to confirm the partnership, MCA convener Trisha Avery thanked the Southbank community for providing Montague locals with the opportunity to address the candidates.

"It is a warm strategic partnering that will result in strengthening our messages to the candidates about the areas important to both of us," Ms Avery said.

Mr Penna said: "Southbank and Montague precinct have a close affiliation and the same struggles associated with their being in the Capital City Zone. Montague is heading into a massive transformation through the Fishermans Bend Renewal. There are many lessons that can learnt from Southbank that can be applied there."

More information on the event will be provided in the October edition of Southbank Local News. For enquiries email Tony at president@southbankresidents.org or Trisha at trishavery@me.com



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Residents let down on short-stay Bill

By Shane Scanlan

Residents hoping for a legislative solution to short-stay rentals in apartments will have to wait until at least 2021 for their next opportunity following the passing of the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 on August 8.

The new law won't come into play until February and the government has said it won't again revisit the issue until at least two years after that.

The state opposition is promising "serious change to these laws" if it wins the next election but, if actions speak louder than words, it has given little hope to residents, having failed to oppose the government's new legislation in Parliament.

High-rise residents are appalled that, after four years of inquiry and legislative review, the best protection owners' corporations have is an ability to take unruly visitors to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to face a possible \$1100 fine.



Lobby group We Live Here spokesperson Barbara Francis accused the government of being in the pocket of Airbnb and said Victoria now had "the weakest regulatory restrictions for short-term letting ever seen in Australia".

But the state opposition is also in the sights of the lobby group – having spoken vehemently against the Bill, but failing to oppose it in the Parliament.

"Yesterday's outcome must rank as one of the worst cases of politicking and back-room deals seen in Parliament," Ms Francis said. "How can we think otherwise when every speaker on the opposition side condemned the Bill for the reasons we have articulated over the past two and half years, then walked out of the House before the vote was taken."

The Greens also did not vote against the legislation. Melbourne MLA Ellen Sandell told *Southbank Local News* there was no point forcing a division where votes are counted and recorded because the Liberals had already determined not to oppose the Bill.

Opposition planning spokesperson David Davis told *Southbank Local News*: "In the circumstance of being unable to rewrite the entire Bill from opposition, the Opposition chose to not oppose the Bill, neither supporting, nor opposing."

Earlier in the Parliament, he said of the government: "They have squibbed it here. We are going to look at expanding the powers after the legislation has passed. That is too late. This pathetic piece of legislation will be passed into law, and they are then going to review it after missing the whole opportunity to actually improve it."

"Today they come to the chamber wanting the bill passed—a squib of a bill, a weak, pathetic, paltry bill—and yet they have had these recommendations in front of them since June 2017."

In a press release, Consumer Affairs Minister Marlene Kairouz said of the new legislation: "These tough new laws will deliver essential protections that apartment residents deserve."

"We're regulating the short-stay sector to better protect Victorians and crack down on unruly behaviour in short-stay accommodation."

Tom Bacon, CEO of Strata Title Lawyers said: "The legislation is not worth the paper it is written on. These regulations are the lightest feather of a touch, and do not provide owners' corporations with any meaningful way of regulating the issues associated with short-term stays. I would not advise owners corporations to use these regulations. It would be a costly exercise and a waste of time."

Mr Davis said in the Parliament: "It may not make it any worse. It may just leave it pretty much the way it is now. It will do no harm, but it will do no good. I think that is a summary of this bill."

"I can put on record now that if we are elected, we will take action in this area. I know my shadow ministers are all aware of the feedback from the community and we understand that in fact people have a right to be safe and people have a right to lay out the living conditions of their area in a reasonable way."

"I accept that there is a balance to be struck, but truthfully this is not it and more will need to be done. We are very aware of that and we think that this is just a very, very weak step."



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Tower gets the nod

Local architect Rothelowman has received planning approval from the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to build an 18-storey tower at 153 Sturt St.

VCAT's decision to grant a permit ends a long struggle by local resident lobby group *Save Dodds Street* to have the height of the tower lowered, to preserve what it describes as the low-rise character of Southbank Village and the Arts Precinct.

Apart from ordering a lowering of the building's side buttresses, the overall height of building remains unchanged with the presiding VCAT members stating in their decision that they had "not been persuaded that the building's height was unacceptable."

Rothelowman co-founder Shane Rothe told *Southbank Local News* that he was pleased with the outcome.

"The outcome was a positive one for quality design and architecture," he said. "We also amended our designs to further comply with the State Government's Arts uses."

"We have a permit but we don't know what's going to happen going forward."

Southbank Residents' Association president Tony Penna said: "Sadly, but not unexpected,



A sketch of the approved building.

the developer has got their way. I commend the efforts of the residents with their representation at VCAT but until the planning scheme is tightened, this beautiful section of Southbank will be destined to high-rise. It would not surprise me if the developer now flips this site."

The VCAT decision follows neighbouring Sturt St architect Hayball's VCAT victory in late 2017, who were also issued with a permit to develop its office at 135 Sturt St into an 18-storey tower next door to the Malthouse Theatre. Hayball has since put its permit up for sale.

Arts-chitects appointed!

Melbourne's NH Architecture and Norway's Snøhetta have been appointed to deliver the Arts Centre Melbourne's vision for the future of the Theatres building, including addressing specific critical maintenance issues.

The team will create an integrated design for the footprint of the Theatres building, incorporating design for the critical asset maintenance (CAM) project to minimise redundant works in the future as the organisation progresses with a major redevelopment.

The CAM project and the continued development of Reimagining Arts Centre Melbourne's Masterplan are supported by the Victorian Government as part of the \$208 million first stage of the transformation of Southbank's Arts Precinct.

As reported in the June edition of *Southbank Local* News, the precinct redevelopment will deliver NGV Contemporary, a new gallery on the current CUB building on Kavanagh St, major upgrades to theatres and public spaces and a new creative hub at 1 City Rd.

The project will include more than 18,000sqm of new and renewed public open space, seamlessly linking the city to Southbank's Arts Precinct and beyond.

Snøhetta is a design studio based in Oslo and New York City with an office in Australia. The internationally-renowned practice has captured global attention with projects such as the Norwegian National Opera and Ballet, the 9/11 Memorial Pavilion and Times Square redevelopment projects.

It will team up with NH Architecture, which has extensive experience in the design and delivery of complex infrastructure projects such as the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and Margaret Court Arena.

Arts Centre Melbourne CEO Claire Spencer welcomed the appointment of both practices to what is an iconic project for Southbank and Melbourne.

"A reimagined Arts Centre Melbourne at the gateway to a seamlessly connected Arts Precinct will solidify Melbourne's point of difference and competitive advantage over interstate and international competitors, while ensuring we retain our international reputation as Australia's busiest and best performing arts centre," she said.

NH Architecture and Snøhetta are currently collaborating on the \$271 million Melbourne Park Stage 3 works and have previously worked with Arts Centre Melbourne to produce the masterplan and concept design for Reimagining Arts Centre Melbourne.

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Critics lash Melbourne Day

By Shane Scanlan

The "invasion day" label, which has controversially dogged Australia Day in recent years, has caught up with Melbourne Day, with immediate consequences.

After decades of support, Melbourne Day proceeded on August 30 without any funding from the City of Melbourne.

Melbourne Day chairman Campbell Walker told Southbank Local News the council this year offered only half as much as in previous years. And, he said, new conditions attached to the grant obliged him to not accept it.

Mr Walker said the diminished grant was conditional on a 50 per cent refund back to the council should bad weather have kept the crowds away from the 10.30am flag raising ceremony at Enterprize Park.

"It would have been fiscally irresponsible to accept the grant," Mr Walker said.

Support for Melbourne Day is waning within the councillor group, with two not taking part in the celebration.

Aboriginal portfolio chairperson Nic Frances Gilley and Cr Rohan Leppert said they didn't recognise the day that the destruction of local indigenous culture started.

Cr Frances Gilley said he didn't participate in Australia Day and he similarly thought it inappropriate to celebrate the founding of Melbourne on the anniversary of the day white settlers first arrived.

"I think we should stop it. I think we should change it. I think we can do better than that," he said.

Cr Frances Gilley said Canada and New Zealand had managed to be proud of their European heritage without necessarily offending their indigenous residents.



This year's Melbourne Day flag raising ceremony.

"I don't think anyone is trying to give offence. They're just trying to celebrate their European culture and everybody means well. But there is a cost and that cost is to the 60,000 or 70,000 years of continuance culture on this land."

"If we are going to celebrate, then we need to be inclusive. The current model does not promote reconciliation," he said.

Cr Frances Gilley said white Australians celebrating "invasion days" was akin to someone walking into your house and, after five minutes, starting to rearrange the furniture without your permission.

"And then they would tell you how lucky you are that they invited themselves to dinner,"

"I want to be a proud Australian, not a proud white Australian, and I feel compelled not to support the current arrangement," he said.

He suggested that a day like Moomba, when there were lots of people around, might be a better day to commemorate and celebrate Melbourne's origins. Or, alternatively, he suggested the birthday or anniversary of the death of William Barak as a date.

Cr Frances Gilley said he was not willing to "fight a fight that could not be won" in the current political climate, but he was not

willing to participate and would continue to speak his mind when the issue next came up at the City of Melbourne.

Cr Rohan Leppert concurred, saying: "I love this city and there is so much to celebrate about Melburnians and our achievements, but I've never felt that Melbourne Day was critical to these celebrations."

"The occupation of the north bank of the Yarra in 1835 by European settlers is a historical fact. Choosing whether or not to celebrate Melbourne Day doesn't change the historical fact, but it does say a lot about how government views indigenous Victorians."

"The committee's mission is to make Melbourne Day prominent. I admire the tireless volunteer efforts of the committee but, to be frank, I'm relieved that Melbourne Day isn't all that prominent. If it was, it would generate just as much controversy and division that Australia Day does."

"But I'm a white bloke, questions about Melbourne Day's future should be put to traditional owners ahead of me. Until we have a mature understanding of the cultural significance of Melbourne Day and its future, I'm reluctant to sink ratepayer's funds into the romanticisation of white settlement," Cr Leppert said.

But Mr Walker says the local indigenous community supports Melbourne Day.

"They say they'd rather talk about the present and the future rather than the past," he said.

He said he was disappointed that Crs Frances Gilley and Leppert had chosen not to consult directly with him on their views.

Mr Walker pointed out that he and his committee were volunteers and said, if Melbourne Day was not appreciated, there were plenty of other ways he could give back to the community.

The August 30 flag-raising event was preceded by an indigenous "welcome to country" and a "junior lord mayor" was presented in the presence of Lord Mayor Sally Capp and other councillors.



Image: John Donegan/1826.

Carlins up in smoke

Police continue to investigate the circumstances surrounding a suspicious fire at a warehouse in Montague on August 23.

Emergency services were called to a fire at the now-vacant former Carlins showroom on the corner of Buckhurst and Kerr streets just before 6pm.

It took more than 20 firefighters around two hours to bring the fire under control. No neighbouring buildings were damaged.

Fire investigators examined the site the following morning to determine the cause of the fire. Port Phillip Crime Investigation Unit detectives are investigating and are keen to speak to anyone that may have seen any suspicious activity in the area.

Southbank Local News understands that squatters had taken up residence in the vacant building for some time.

The site is part of a major four-tower redevelopment of 6-78 Buckhurst St, which has planning approval.

Located adjacent to South Melbourne Primary School, it is understood that the owner of the building has since been issued with a demolition notice due to safety concerns.

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Reflections on "full pelt" for 100 days

By Shane Scanlan

Some 100 days into the lord mayoralty, Sally Capp's energy is undiminished and her learning along the way has sharpened her capacity to effect change.

It's a very different council with Cr Capp in the chair. The council has become open and available. Collaboration and co-operation are present where, not so long ago, it was Robert Doyle's way or the highway.

"I've been working so hard. And part of that is learning and part of that is doing. So it's been full on. I've absolutely loved it," she told *Southbank Local News*.

And with the opportunity to help appoint a new CEO to match her style, it's very easy to be upbeat about better connections between the council and the citizens.

"I've never done this before and, apart from the fact that I love going full pelt, we need to manage what 'full pelt' looks like to make sure it's constructive for everybody and that we're putting energies in the right places," she said

So what has she learned so far and what would she do differently if she had her time again?

"I genuinely didn't realise the length and breadth of the services that they city gets involved in. It's enormous," Cr Capp said. "And the number of really dedicated people in this place is seriously fantastic."

Cr Capp said long-time staff had told her the demand for lord mayoral attention had tripled since she assumed the role.

"I think that's because there's a new lord mayor, I think being a woman as well, and then just my own contacts and history in the city together with what I see as a renewed interest in the lord mayoralty – reinvigorated," she said.

"I could fill the diary 10 times over. The amount of demand for the lord mayor's time really surprises me. And all of that compounds into incredible demands on time. But it's been great."

Not such a nice surprise has been the layers



Lord Mayor Sally Capp in a reflective mood

of restraint imposed by the government system itself.

"I probably didn't realise the amount of legal constraint. I find that overwhelming as well," she said. "There's a huge amount of control that's put in place through the Local Government Act. The amount of time we spend on compliance is heartbreaking to me"

"Over the decades we've built up these processes to protect the public's interests. But boy, it takes up a huge amount of time and cost – making sure things are compliant with forms and double-checking. It's quite mind-boggling."

Her local government inexperience has also made her vulnerable because she accepted so many donations during her campaign.

Cr Capp said she and her husband thought they were doing the right thing by accepting smaller donations from more people. Some 100 people contributed \$332,000 in the lead-up to the May election. But this means she has to be extra vigilant to avoid conflicts of interest under local government law.

"Well, I think it set me up for very, very challenging processes. So far, it's been okay but the processes I have to go through – my Sunday afternoons are now spent checking and double-checking lists," she said.

"I think it stems from my own naivety. I had not done this before. Our thinking on this, was if we took a little bit from a lot of people, then it would be difficult for anyone to say 'oh you're influenced by one person."

"So, we purposefully went about it that way

and, as we went along, some people did say 'oh, that's going to be interesting'. I was so focussed on the influence bit so I didn't really take the time to stop and listen about the challenges that was going to set up."

"Would we do it differently? The fact is that we really did everything we could to win. That was the first priority. And that's what we achieved, so we've got to be happy with that. But would I do that again? No. I would definitely not do that again," she said.

Cr Capp also said she had some more learning to do around speaking on live radio - in particular recognising when questions require a broader, and less literal, answer.

"I'm a lawyer by training so I'm very literal," she said. "This is one of the surprises and maybe one the things I can do better – that is to be conscious when entering broad conversations, I'm tending to be literal."

"I think I'm missing the point a bit with where people are trying to go. I'm focussed on one little bit. The question seems to be focussed on that, but is actually a broader issue," she said.

Cr Capp has wasted no time getting out and about in the community. She has established "community conversations", is talking about a formal "residents' panel" and has driven the establishment of a "people's panel" to guide the renewal of the Queen Victoria Market (QVM).

It is on this issue that differences have emerged for the first time within the councillor group and her approach has also attracted outside criticism.

So has she over-reached on her desire to consult on the market? And does she accept that the QVM could make or break any attempt to seek re-election in 2020?

"I could only have over-reached if I'd already decided what I wanted the outcome to be," she explained. "I do know that we want to redevelop and I also know that we've reached an impasse. I genuinely believe that if we can't get the broad support of the people, and particularly the stakeholders involved, so that the voices in support of this are louder and more predominant and positive."

"Some of the feedback I had from those generally in support of the redevelopment is that they have been giving feedback over the last four or five years but it sort of goes into a black hole and, when it's presented back in terms of this is what we are going to do, they can't see where their ideas were considered."

"Of course everything's going to be a compromise and, if you can say to people 'we considered that idea but couldn't make it work because we had to do this,' then people have an idea of why it's happened and, even if they don't agree with it, they can come along with it because they can see the logic of it and the rationality to it."

"I think all of us agree that we lost the narrative and trust of the broader community who became concerned with things like heritage – even though we've always had heritage at the core. So how do we win the confidence back?"

"I think how it gets handled will be make or break. Because, from my campaign's point of view, I've always said I'm a big supporter of the development but my main piece has been engagement. And that's basically what I'm delivering."

"It's the opportunity for those key stakeholders to engage in a way where they feel that they are deliberating in the future of the market – not just on the sidelines throwing ideas into a bucket."

In the meantime, she's getting on the job – at "full pelt".

"I have very high expectations. As I said through the campaign, this is a very serious role. It has a major impact on our city and beyond. And I just want to make the most of every single moment to make sure it is having that impact," she said.







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Family living at Ferrars St

By Niccola Anthony

A proposed 20-storey apartment complex in the Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area is set to become particularly family-friendly.

A Section 72 amendment to the existing permit for 171-183 Ferrars St would dramatically increase the number of three-bedroom dwellings on the proposed site from the original plans.

Amended plans for 171-183 Ferrars St include provision for 43 three-bedroom dwellings, an increase of 41 dwellings of this type.

If successful, the amendment could provide a blueprint for 21st century family living in the inner-city, given that the recently-opened South Melbourne Primary School is within walking distance of the development.

The revised plans also provide a car parking rate of 0.8 spaces per dwelling, a proposal made in consideration of the July 2014 Fishermans Bend Strategic Framework Plan (FBSFP).

The FBSFP recommendations would see an overall reduction in local car ownership, maximising the potential for local residents to travel solely by public transport.

At the City of Port Phillip Planning Committee Meeting on August 22, Cr Louise Crawford expressed her desire for the area to become a leader for lifestyle changes and shifted perceptions on car ownership.

"This is the ideal area where we are encouraging families and people to live without cars. It's exactly what we need to encourage behavioural change," Cr Crawford said

"If people are moving into an area where they know they don't actually have [car parking] facilities that's the best way to ensure behavioural change."

However, not all councillors agreed, with concerns raised that a 0.8 car park rate per dwelling was unsuitable for family living.



A render of the Ferrars St development.

Cr Andrew Bond argued that each three-bedroom dwelling should have access to at least one parking space onsite and that to support the Section 72 amendments would be "just ridiculous".

"We want these apartments to be full of families and families have cars," Cr Bond said.

"A three-bedroom apartment without a car park will just become an Airbnb property or student accommodation, where they'll cram as many people as they can into every room. That's not the sort of precinct we want to have here."

The City of Port Phillip carried a motion in support of the Section 72 application, which will come before the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) as the responsible authority next month.



Park plan out for comment

By Jacklyn Yeong

City of Melbourne councillors have unanimously supported and approved the release of the draft Domain Parklands Master Plan for community engagement after a council meeting last month.

The master plan sets a foundation for council to make strategic decisions that would address issues such as population growth and climate change over the next 20 years for Southbank's local parklands.

Beside preparing the parklands for a resilient and sustainable future, the master plan highlights the need to address aboriginal cultural heritage, improve visitor experience, redesigning bicycle lanes to avoid conflict between cyclists and pedestrians as well as collaborating with other land managers.

Council's environment chair Cr Cathy Oke expressed her excitement about putting the plan to the community for feedback.

"It is a parkland for everyone and I think that a lot of the changes that are recommended really reflect that as well so I'm excited about what we hear in the next six weeks and how it may change," she said.

"I look forward to the consultation online through Participate Melbourne and encourage everyone who's interested in these parklands to get involved."

Cr Oke said the council was also particularly keen to gain insights from the younger generation.

"There will be a specific facilitated process with young people and children as part of the six-week consultation process," Cr Oke said. "Having the voice of young people is obviously important in all of that."

The master plan also proposes changes to road space in Alexandra Ave in repurpose it into a cycle lane.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp emphasised the need to conduct trials before making changes to the road infrastructure.

"I think it's important that we wait to see the further work that comes and what happens with those trials before there are other commitments made in terms of some hard infrastructure," the Lord Mayor said.

"But overall, I'm a big fan, I'm definitely a supporter and I'm very excited and committed to being involved with how we actively pursue long-term plans for this very important precinct."

The engagement period will run from August to September before being presented to the Future Melbourne Committee for approval in December.

To have your say and find out more information visit **participate.melbourne. vic.gov.au/domain**



Questions remain over governance

By Sean Car

Some local councillors from the City of Port Phillip (CoPP) and the City of Melbourne (CoM) have expressed concerns with the state government's new governance arrangements for Fishermans Bend.

The government announced last month that a new six-member development board would be charged with guiding the transformation of Australia's largest ever urban renewal project.

The new independent board, to be chaired by the head of the former Fishermans Bend Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) Meredith Sussex, has no formal representation from either council.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp and CoPP Mayor Bernadene Voss will instead represent their municipalities through a mayors' forum, which the state government said would "keep the councils up to date and engaged". Both councils will also be given formal roles in the government's inter-departmental committees.

While the appointment of former CoPP mayor Janet Bolitho to the board, who also sat on the MAC, was welcomed by Mayor Voss, she said the community, which had three representatives on the MAC, would now have one "voice" on the new board.

"It is crucial that our community continues to have the best possible opportunity to provide ideas and feedback through avenues including a formal mechanism. To do this, continuing community engagement and representation is required," Cr Voss said.

"We are keen to understand exactly how this interim arrangement will work, including how our community will continue to be heard and informed as Fishermans Bend's new suburbs in our city take shape."

"While council didn't advocate for this type of governance arrangement, we are confident the Fishermans Bend Development Board and mayors' panel has the potential to serve development well."

Fellow experts in planning, industry, finance



The five development precincts of Fishermans Bend. Lorimer and much of the Employment Precinct fall within the City of Melbourne. Wirraway, Sandridge and Montague fall within the City of Port Phillip.

and transport Martyn Myer, Susan Oliver, Cheryl Batago and Gary Liddle, join Ms Sussex and Ms Bolitho on the development board

A state government press release said the board would lead engagement with the community and advise precinct plans and major decisions to ensure the interests of the community continued to be at the forefront of development.

At a CoPP council meeting on August 15, Greens councillor Ogy Simic moved an urgent response to the new governance arrangements, which was passed by fellow Greens councillors Katherine Copsey and Tim Baxter, as well as acting Mayor Dick

Councillors Marcus Pearl, Andrew Bond and Louise Crawford opposed the motion, with Cr Pearl stating that the position held on the former MAC by Mayor Voss, who was absent from the meeting, should be considered as part of council's formal response.

The motion noted that the new arrangement would only work if the mayors' panel was a "genuinely representative mechanism" that imparted the full expertise and opinion of council.

"I moved the motion because I'm quite unimpressed with the way the state government has been operating the Fishermans Bend project," Cr Simic told Southbank Local News.

"More specifically, I'm frustrated that councillors are constantly being locked out of the decisions made by the state government. For example, *The Age* received a copy of the draft framework before it was sent to councillors."

"We also weren't consulted on the governance model before it was announced. Ultimately this means that our community is missing out."

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said having had the opportunity to participate in the formation of the new governance arrangements the City of Melbourne was satisfied that the structure would provide community with adequate representation.

"After some discussions about the way in which we would be able to operate, as well as understanding how influential our input was going to be, which is very similar to that of other government agencies, we were satisfied in ultimately signing off on that governance structure," she said.

CoM Cr Rohan Leppert said there was a lot of capacity for good outcomes to be achieved under the governance structure, but said it was important to get it right.

"How we feed the community's views to the board is going to make or break this new structure," he said. "The biggest risk is that councils won't have full participation or its voice heard in decision making."

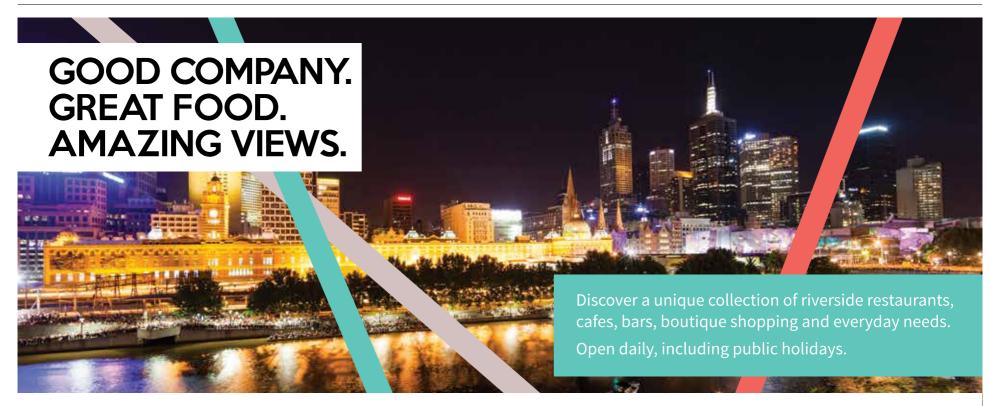
Cr Leppert said he was optimistic about the new arrangements and noted that Ms Sussex was an "outstanding" choice to lead the board. However, he said that co-operation wasn't without its challenges and that such arrangements "had a tendency to be secretive".

Member for Albert Park and state government minister Martin Foley moved to quash such fears, stressing that independence was a key component of the new structure.

"The new governance structures for Fishermans Bend – worked out in consultation with the mayors of both Melbourne and Port Phillip – locks in a leadership role for local government for the first time," he said.

"The days of the Liberals rewarding rich donor mates from massive windfall gains with not one brick being laid are gone. An independent expert based governance structure takes the politicians out of the process – be they want to be MPs, councillors or anyone else," Mr Foley said.

"The next step will be delivering a planning scheme that delivers the framework for a liveable, public transport based new Fishermans Bend. The new governance structures will make that work."



Veteran art hangs in limbo

Both sides and all levels of government continue to dance around the subject of a potential arts and community space for the veteran community at 310 St Kilda Rd, Southbank.

The Australian National Veterans Art Museum (ANVAM) continues to wait for information from both the state and federal governments as to whether either will commit to taking ownership of the site.

The former repatriation clinic at Victoria Barracks, which is currently under the control of the Department of Defence, has been vacant since 1995. ANVAM has long proposed to become trustee of the site for the purpose of establishing an art gallery, studio and community space for veterans.

As previously reported in *Southbank Local News*, Victorian Treasurer Tim Pallas formally wrote to Defence in February last year expressing the state government's interest in purchasing the site.

Southbank Local News understands that the state government had until August 1 this year to formally respond to Defence to confirm whether or not it would purchase the site.

However, a spokesperson for Mr Pallas didn't comment on the deadline, nor on the state government's intentions when questioned.

"The Victorian Government occasionally looks at strategic opportunities to acquire available sites. However, any comment on discussions with the Department of Defence at this point would be premature" the

spokesperson said.

In a potential sign of hope, a spokesperson for the Department of Defence said it was still working on a deal with the state government.

"Defence continues to work with representatives from the Victorian Department of Treasury and Finance assisting the Victorian Government in developing an offer to purchase 310 St Kilda Rd," the spokesperson said.

"Defence will retain responsibility for the property until a divestment approach is finalised."

While Federal Labor leader Bill Shorten has previously stated that, should his party win government, it would support ANVAM's proposal for the site, the state government seems less willing to commit to the proposal.

Minister for Creative Industries and Member for Albert Park Martin Foley said in May that he believed "the ball was in the federal government's court" to present a business case to his government.

This is despite ANVAM director Mark Johnston arguing that his organisation had conducted a business case for Creative Victoria at the request of the state government in 2016.

CITY OF MELBOURNE



The former repatriation clinic at 310 St Kilda Rd.

Liberal candidate for Albert Park Andrew Bond said the issue "wasn't a priority" heading into November's state election.

The 2013 Melbourne Arts Precinct architectural framework, conducted by Peter Elliott Architecture + Urban Design, perhaps goes some way to explaining the state government's hesitation to commit. While the previous Liberal state government sat on the Arts Precinct Working Group at the time this framework was commissioned, it earmarked a potential boutique hotel for 310 St Kilda Rd.

Mr Elliott told *Southbank Local News* that this was just one of a number of ideas tested against various potential sites.

"The economic and property development advice came from other consultants. We then tested their ideas against the various potential sites," he said.

"The Barracks is still occupied by the Department of Defence, so nothing can happen there while they remain. Many of the ideas were blue sky thinking to encourage creative outcomes for the precinct."

While this suggestion didn't appear in the 2014 Melbourne Arts Precinct Blueprint, it does include 310 St Kilda Rd as part of Victoria Barracks site as a place of "urban renewal opportunity."

The property has also been nominated to the Victorian Heritage Register, however a spokesperson for Heritage Victoria confirmed that it couldn't be considered by the Heritage Council until it moved out of Commonwealth ownership.



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Launch Party!

By Jacklyn Yeong

Locally-based social enterprise LiftMeUp will host an event to celebrate its launch as a non-profit organisation this month.

As featured in the August edition of *Southbank Local News*, LiftMeUp, which is a support group for people suffering depression and anxiety, was founded by local resident Nai Ti in her Southbank apartment.

Launching at Boyd on September 13, the party is a perfect opportunity to meet new people, build meaningful relationships and find out how to live a fulfilling life while dealing with mental health.

The event will be separated into two sessions: three speakers will share their personal experiences Ted-X-style, before transitioning to more hands-on activities such as colouring, origami, laughter yoga, as well as diary and hug stations!

Participants will be offered a blue wristband to indicate whether they have a mental health condition or have experienced mental health issues. The wristband is also designed to reassure people that they are not alone.

eventbrite.com/e/liftmeup-launchparty-tickets-48105149798



SKINC coordinator David Sparks and Westgate Park's Janet Bolitho show off the new logo of their amalgamated organisation Westgate Biodiversity: Bili Nursery & Landcare.

A sustainable merger

Two Fishermans Bend environmental groups amalgamated last month to form Westgate Biodiversity: Bili Nursery and Landcare.

As Fishermans Bend transitions to Australia's largest urban renewal area, local native plant nursery the St Kilda Indigenous Nursery Cooperative (SKINC) and Friends of Westgate Park have merged to provide a force equipped to cope with rapid change in

Having worked closely together for more than a decade, the two organisations' shared passion for conserving urban biodiversity, environmental education and supplying native plants to local people forms the vision of Westgate Biodiversity.

With the SKINC nursery slated for open

space as part of the State Government's plans for Fishermans Bend, SKINC coordinator David Sparks said the new organisation would be located on a purposebuilt retail plant nursery at Westgate Park in the future.

"The idea is to have that focal point with the ability to have community workshops," he said. "We can also better showcase what local native plants can do because Westgate Park has over 300 species of local plants that are growing to their full potential so you can really ramp up that educational aspect."

westgatebiodiversity.org.au



Fancy yoga?

Are you interested in improving your posture, boosting fitness and lowering stress?

Local yoga instructor Beishen Khor has just the thing for you. Beishen has been running Saturday morning Shen Yoga classes (8am-9am) at the Boyd Community Hub for the past three years and she says newcomers are always welcome.

Offering personalised classes for all levels, locals can sign up to a month's worth of classes for just \$30 and must provide their own mat.

"I think it's very traditional that yoga should be more personalised instead of being taught in a standardised way. We make sure that variations and modifications are provided to ensure that yoga is for everyone," Beishen said.

Shenyoga.com.au





New SEASON of OPERA revealed!





Opera Australia (OA) has announced its 2019 Melbourne program, promising a truly spectacular season with five new productions, including one Australian premiere, and featuring some of the world's finest performers.

"It's a truly incredible season," OA artistic director Lyndon Terracini said. "It will be one of the most outstanding seasons we have presented in recent years and we're proud to be offering an array of new productions, particularly the Australian premiere of Rossini's *II Viaggio a Reims*.

Never staged in Australia before, a thrilling cast will perform Rossini's jubilant score in Damiano Michieletto's playful, large-scale production of *II Viaggo Reims* that brings some of the world's most recognisable artworks to life.

Alongside the Australian premiere, OA will present the Melbourne premiere of four productions this season. After receiving rave reviews, acclaimed director Sir David

McVicar's productions of *Cosi fan tutte* and *Faust* will be performed in Melbourne for the first time.

Also making its Melbourne debut is Robert Andrew Greene and Dean Bryant's popular operetta *Two Weddings, One Bride* and OA will return to the Malthouse Theatre in 2019 to present Aribert Reimann's chilling *Ghost Sinata*.

As well as the new productions, two opera favourites will return – Elihaj Moshinsky's iconic interpretation of *Rigoletto* and Graeme Murphy's much-loved production *Turandot*.

Mr Terracini said the 2019 season would see Melbourne play host to some of the finest opera singers in the world. "We have the best singers performing some of the world's greatest music, in productions by world-renowned directors. There is definitely something for everybody," he said.

"The 2019 season exemplifies why Opera Australia is considered one of the world's leading opera companies."

At the announcement of the 2019 season on August 16, OA and Arts Centre Melbourne also announced that 30 of Dame Joan Sutherland's most iconic costumes would be donated to the Australian Performing Arts Collection.

Curated over a number of years, OA's Dame Joan Sutherland collection spans three decades and comprises dresses, wigs, headpieces and accessories all worn over the course of her celebrated career.

The Australian Performing Arts Collection is the nation's largest collection of performing arts memorabilia and ephemera, charting the stories of the Australian stage.

"These costumes are a treasured piece of Australian history and we are glad that ACM will ensure their continued preservation and share them with the public," OA CEO Rory Jeffes said.

The first costumes will be on display as early as November this year with the remaining costumes expected to travel down to Melbourne in the coming months.

For more information and to find out more about the 2019 season visit **opera.org.au**



King and Gripper unite!

Review by Sean Car

The combination of hypnotic lights and abstract visuals with prodigious and scintillating classical sounds provided an unlikely yet mesmerising combination at the Melbourne Recital Centre last month.

American guitarist Kaki King and South African guitarist Derek Gripper featured in an exclusive double-bill performance in Southbank on August 13, which left the audience lost for words throughout the evening.

There can be no doubt about it – this wasn't your average Monday night!
Renowned for her incredibly immersive and entrancing solo shows, Kaki King warmed up the crowd with a performance that was simply captivating.

Not only does she bring her guitar to life through playing a diverse range of unique soundscapes, the guitar itself complements



American guitarist Kaki King.

the music by producing its own visuals that range from real visions to psychedelic patterns.

This experience is reflected and reinforced by an enormous projection in the background, providing the audience with no means of escape from what was truly a wondrous journey into one's own senses.

Very different yet just as brilliant, virtuosic classical guitarist Derek Gripper ended the evening in a more relaxed tone that was far more synonymous to what one would expect for a Monday night.

While there were no visual aids, Gripper's



African guitarist Derek Gripper

incredible talent provided a spellbinding finale. His skill was only further illustrated by his ability to casually converse with the audience about the music he was playing while his fingers travelled at lightning speed up and down the fretboard.

From his unique ability to interpret complex compositions played with the Kora – a 21-stringed traditional West African lute to his renditions of Mozart and African folk, Gripper is a true musical talent; a master of his craft whose passion resonates with his audience

Melbournerecital.com.au



Eva Rothschild @ ACCA

The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) has announced the first Australian solo exhibition for the Irish-born, London-based artist Eva Rothschild, ahead of her appearance at the 2019 Venice Biennale where she will represent Ireland.

Opening on September 28 and running until November 25, Eva Rothschild brings together new sculptural commissions with recent work spanning the last decade of the artist's diverse yet distinctive practice.

Shaped by a myriad of influences from minimal art of the 1960s and 70s to classical architecture, spiritualism and pop culture, Ms Rothschild has developed an international reputation for sculptural forms that are both striking and spare, as sharp geometric shapes morph into flamboyant, enigmatic compositions.

Stripped of excess, her abstract arrangements draw the mind into spaces where power, ritual, the architectural and the existential intersect.

Alongside the artist's interest in the materiality of sculpture – encompassing ideas of form, mass and scale – is the questioning of the physicality of the body and its role both in the act of making, as well as experiencing and artwork.

Her striking forms, assembled from a variety of materials including concrete, leather, jesmonite, fabric and plastic, encourage an energetic, as well as aesthetic, response from the viewer.

Several works consider the social potential of sculpture as spaces in which to convene and converse – to relax within or, more actively, play.

acca.melbourne

Ballet classes relaunch in new-look centre

Locals can now slip on some ballet shoes and get ready to jump, stretch and twirl because The Australian Ballet has relaunched its adult ballet classes in its newly-renovated building in Southbank.

Uniquely, adult ballet classes at The Australian Ballet are all accompanied by piano and taught by current and former dancers. Fit for absolute beginners right up to advanced dancers, all classes are conducted in the very same studios the company's dancers use during the day, giving all participants the chance to put their hand on the same ballet barre as the principal artists.

Classes range from beginner level to advanced, tailoring the experience to every

level each week, catering for participants of all ages who have always dreamed of dancing but never knew where to start their ballet journey.

Artistic co-ordinator at The Australian Ballet Robyn Begg said anyone was welcome to come and learn the ballet basics or take more advanced classes and perfect their pirouettes!

"A huge point of difference for us is that we have live piano accompaniment for every single class. So even if you're a beginner, the moment you step into the studio, you will feel like a ballet dancer," she said.

"We're also very experienced in keeping it approachable, there's also no dress code and you don't need ballet shoes for the ballet classes. You can just try a casual class and have fun, and if you want to continue we offer six-week series packages."

Classes run on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings weekly including Ballet Basics Levels 1, 2 and 3, and a repertoire class giving anyone the chance to learn the most famous steps and sequences from the most loved ballets.

The Australian Ballet recently unveiled its new studios on Kavanagh St, where its dimensions now match those of the vast stage of the neighbouring State Theatre on St Kilda Rd.

The \$13.6 million upgrade of the Primrose Potter Australian Ballet Centre includes medical and therapy rooms, improved facilities for the dancers and new office areas. The upgrades are the first major works carried out by The Australian Ballet since the centre was opened in 1988.

For more information and for details about the ballet classes visit **australianballet.com.au**







photography 🖁 🙆



Freedom feeds vision

It's the pursuit of freedom that led Julien Visse to Australia, and ultimately, to photography.

The 22-year-old French photography student said he initially travelled to Australia to work for six months. He's now been here for three years.

"The lifestyle and culture made me stay," Julien said. "In Australia you can be whatever you want. There are no judgments and it's a really open-minded country."

Having spent plenty of time travelling

65 City Road, Southbank, VIC 3006



info@psc.edu.au

Surfing and skating (top right) are two of Julien's big loves

around Australia, which included several months living in Queensland, he said it was Melbourne's "European" nature that made him settle here.

After searching for a way to develop his interest in photography, he soon found his way to the Photography Studies College

(PSC) and said that just two months into his part-time course, he knew he wanted to be a photographer. So what changed?

"The vision," Julien said. "In photography there are no rules. Of course, there are rules like composition and all that stuff but I can do whatever I want."



"People cannot say it's not good. If they don't like it that's okay but it's my vision. Everything I make is my vision."

With his decorated background as a competition snowboarder, Australia has particularly suited Julien's love of surfing and skateboarding. It is through these passions, as well as his love for Australia, that his passion for photography has manifested.

From surfing Snapper Rocks to skating at St Kilda foreshore, he continues to capture doing what he loves and to breathtaking

"It's about speed," he said. "The thing when you're shooting sports and especially skate or snowboard or surf photography is that one second after is too late. One second before is too early. You have to get the right

"It's good for me to practice those sports as well because I know when I have to press the button."

Julien is already working in the field and said that PSC had proven invaluable for connecting him into the industry.

He said his dream gig would be to travel the world capturing the World Surf League.

"I think that would be the best job ever,"

Instagram: @julien_visse



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Find out more at psc.edu.au

E V E N T S



A DOLL'S HOUSE, PART 2

Until Sep 18 - The Sumner

Due to popular demand, A Doll's House, Part 2 has been extended until September 18, with two new performances added. Marta Dusseldorp, Deidre Rubenstein, Greg Stone and Zoe Terakes make up the 'uniformly magnificent' cast (Time Out) in this exquisite production, which has transfixed audiences since opening in August, with tickets in high demand for the remaining season.

mtc.com.au

AUSTRALIAN MUSIC VAULT

Ongoing - Arts Centre Melbourne

The Australian Music Vault features a free, immersive exhibition showcasing Australian music, innovative digital participatory experiences and iconic objects from our Australian Performing Arts Collection.

australianmusicvault.com.au



NAURU: NOTES FROM A CRETACEOUS WORLD

Sep 5 - 7 - Testing Grounds

A projection work from artist Nicholas Mangan exploring the history of Nauru, and the proposition put forward by the former president Bernhard Dowiyogo. Lying on his death bed in a Washington D.C hospital in 2003, at the time of Nauru's imminent bankruptcy, Dowigyogo outlined his plan to save Nauru's ailing economy - to turn the coral rock into ancient coffee coral tables.

testing-grounds.com.au

POLYPHONY

Until Jan 2019 - Cafe Vic Terrace

Artist Louise Paramor has created a group of four sculptures specifically for the terrace outside Café Vic in Southbank. The works, titled *Polyphony* #1 – 4, have been commissioned as part of a Contemporary Art Projects program. FREE.

artscentremelbourne.com.au



YALINGWA @ ACCA

Until Sep 16 - ACCA

Curated by Hannah Presley, *A Lightness of Spirit is the Measure of Happiness* celebrates the significance of family, community and humour in contemporary Aboriginal life. This major exhibition features 10 new commissions by artists from south-east Australia and beyond, in an exploration of everyday life and experiences of Aboriginal people today.

acca.melbourne

GUIDER TOURS

Sep 5-Oct 31- Arts Centre Melbourne

Did you know Arts Centre Melbourne extends five floors underground?! Explore the labyrinth beneath the famous spire, including the grand State Theatre, and uncover the fascinating story of this 130-year-old entertainment precinct. Daily tours start at 11am.

artscentremelbourne.com.au



SPARTACUS

Sep 18 - 24 - State Theatre

In 2018, one of The Australian Ballet's most popular works springs to new life. *Spartacus* tells the story of a gladiator who led a slaves' rebellion against the Roman empire. Charting the journey of a man finding passionate love, his mission and freedom, the ballet showcases the company's men at their spirited and athletic best.

australianballet.com.au

MOMA AT NGV

Until Oct 7 - NGV

In partnership with The Museum of Modern Art, New York, this exhibition conists of over 200 key works, arranged chronologically into eight thematic sections. It traces the development of art and design from late-19th century urban and industrial transformation, through to the digital and global present.

ngv.vic.gov.au



ANA MOURA

Oct 7 - Elisabeth Murdoch Hall

A Portuguese singing tradition dating back to the 1820s, fado is the music of longing, and there is no fado voice like Ana Moura's. Whether capturing the airs of historic Lisbon or turning attention to the pop songs of today, Moura's fado singing is rich with verdant emotion.

melbournerecital.com.au



ICH NIBBER DIBBER

Until Sep 23 - Beckett Theatre

Natalie Rose, Mish Grigor and Zoë Coombs Marr sure talk a lot of shit! First loves, bowel movements, birthing moans and the global financial crisis: they tackle the messy issues, and it's all on tape. In this colossal act of self-examination, Nat, Mish and Zoë fast-forward through 10 years of camaraderie and captured key moments, embarrassing, hilarious and profound.

malthousetheatre.com.au



MOZART'S JUPITER & MORE

Sep 14 - Melbourne Town Hall

Experience neo-classical works alongside masterpieces from the classical period under the masterful baton of Benjamin Northey in this special evening at the Melbourne Town Hall, featuring popular works by Stravinsky, Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky and Mozart. After her recent thrilling sell-out Town Hall performances, Australian pianist Andrea Lam returns to the Melbourne stage to perform Mendelssohn's beautiful *First Piano Concerto*.

mso.com.au



THE ARCHITECT

Sep 27 - Oct 31 - The Sumner

From award-winning playwright Aidan Fennessy (What Rhymes with Cars and Girls) comes a moving and thought-provoking new work that grapples with one of life's biggest questions. Directed by Peter Houghton (The Odd Couple) this empathetic and surprisingly humorous story navigates the politics and emotions that come with confronting the end of life and the solace we take in moments of unexpected joy.

mtc.com.au

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Office & Showroom- 15 Industry Blvd, Carrum Downs 3201



We are leaving an intergenerational time bomb for our children

There is a growing concern in the broader community about the increasing number of homeless people we see on our streets.

Whether directly affected or not, people intuitively know the intrinsic Australian values of equality and fairness are being challenged. Probably not consciously but they know something is wrong.

The problems of homelessness are largely systemic and cannot be solved by community goodwill alone. Effective resolution of homelessness, and its impacts, requires a bi-partisan mind-set.

The provision of housing for all Australians not only satisfies the fundamental human need for shelter, but forms the backbone of the essential infrastructure needed for a prosperous country and economy.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), estimates that there are currently 116,000 homeless people in Australia at any given time. Homelessness is defined as living arrangements that do not have a sense of security, stability, privacy, safety, and the ability to control living space. It can mean living in cars, couch surfing, (over) staying with family, living in very crowded shared living arrangements, and having access to emergency accommodation for only a few days at a time. This means that not all the homeless are easily identified or in fact visible.

Homelessness is not confined to our city either. The media shows us vision of the homeless, with pictures of Flinders St colonised by homeless people being dragged kicking and screaming out of the CBD. But it goes much wider and deeper than this with an estimated 50 per cent of homeless people spread across our suburbs and regional areas.

We need to see the homeless, beyond the stereotypes. Homelessness must not be considered a lifestyle choice. It is the outcome of extreme social disadvantage, with its consequential negative life effects.

While some individuals are homeless due to substance abuse, mental illness or perhaps their recent release from correctional institutions, there are many other Australians now also finding themselves homeless or close to homelessness.

The impact of being homeless affects the individuals' long-term future, particularly that of children. This includes issues around poor health, both physical and mental, disrupted education, truncated social development, inability to form lasting personal relationships and feelings of shame, hopelessness and insecurity.

This may lead some to a life which will result in mental health issues, family violence, police intervention and, therefore, have flow-on effects on our justice system. Without having a stable home, homeless children may face a future without hope, without purpose and the majority may become dependent on a life time of welfare.

We already know that the current estimated cost to the community, of rough sleepers, is around \$25,000 per year for each individual, including around \$8400 in health



The Housing for all Australians strategy.

costs and \$6100 in crime related costs. But we also need to consider these long-term flow-on costs of homelessness and must be mindful of the implications to future governments and generations. If we fail to address the root cause, NOW, which is the lack of stable and affordable shelter, we will be leaving future generations with an intergenerational time bomb.

It makes good economic and business sense to invest in economic infrastructure that results in long-term cost savings. Recently, there has been much discussion among the commentariat, about social licence and what people's perceptions and expectations are of our politicians and the private sector. Social licence embodies the permission and trust that we give to our leaders, political and otherwise. They should, at all times, operate in the best interests of their customers, members, shareholders,

and constituents.

I believe it is time for the private sector to stand up and lead a national discussion around the provision of housing for our country, especially the drastic need for more social and affordable housing. That is why we have established Housing all Australians, as an organisation that consists of like-minded private sector leaders that believe it is in the long-term economic interest of Australia to provide housing for all its residents, rich or poor.

The Edelman Trust Barometer recently found more than 60 per cent of Australians surveyed expect the impetus for effective policy to be driven by leaders in the private sector. With this level of public support (and expectation) more boards should be confident of allowing their CEOs to take a public stand around important issues for Australia, such as the provision of a

fundamental human need like shelter. One of the four pillars of the Housing all Australians strategy shows how the private sector, working with the community sector, can provide immediate short-term shelter in buildings that are vacant pending a planning and development process.

In July this year, the Minister for Housing, in the presence of the Governor of Victoria, launched Melbourne's first pop-up shelter in a building owned by CaSPA Care. As a result of the private sector's goodwill, the YWCA has been able to provide housing for 38 women over 55 years of age, in a building that would normally have been empty for several years. Since its launch, the level of public support we have received for this initiative has been nothing short of amazing. We have hit the Australian nerve of compassion and care.

The same outcome has also been achieved in Leichardt (NSW) where Uniting has repurposed a vacant aged care home pending demolition, into temporary accommodation for 30 women aged over 45 years. These two examples have proven the willingness of the private sector to help find solutions to homelessness. However, as much as more pop-up shelters are needed, they are not a solution. They are a private sector response to a country in crisis. We must build more social and affordable housing.

Another one of the four pillars of Housing All Australians, is the need for a "build-to-rent" sector in Australia. Australian Super Funds currently have invested several billion dollars of their members' funds into private build-to-rent developments in America.

They are helping Trump "Make America Great Again". We need those funds directed back into housing Australians by allowing the super funds to achieve their required financial returns by investing in this country.

If our collective governments collaborate through COAG and provide the necessary financial incentives to make this new asset class work, Australian Super Funds will invest billions into this new and low risk sector. However, with the provision of these concessions, every new development must include a reasonable number of affordable and low-income housing so that it can result in the longer-term savings in the areas mentioned earlier.

We cannot be a country that pays lip service to our values of equality and fairness. We must recognise that shelter is a fundamental human need (not right) and that if we want our country to be innovative, creative, multi-cultural and inclusive, we must be able to shelter all our people, rich or poor.



Robert Pradolin

Former general manager for Fraser's Property Australia

A visionary proposal for Southbank

Last month saw a remarkable event, something we don't see very often, an international architectural design competition for a residential building – and it is to be built in Southbank.

Yes, last year Beulah International successfully purchased the BMW site on City Rd and anticipate a \$2 billion development. The winning design by local architectural firm Cox Architecture, was bold, edgy and in many ways inspiring. It would be higher than Eureka and Australia

Its height would certainly make it fit well with where it is positioned. However, as we have seen with Australia 108, it was not able to build to its proposed height because it would contravene the civil aviation air space. I am not sure how this development believes it could escape the same fate.

I am a little confused with where the government is positioned with this proposal. We have seen with Queensbridge Tower that when they support something that all planning rules go out the window.

It would seem that there is certainly some support here through the Treasurer, Tim Pallas, opening the competition and the State Architect being on the judging panel. Is this a marketing ploy to give the impression it has already got the government's support despite it not being considered against any of the planning laws? I guess time will tell.

Something that recently came to my attention that other property owners might find interesting, is there is an annual parks charge of \$77.10 (min) on our water bills.

This charge is apparently to "help manage and maintain Melbourne's parks and zoos as well as our Royal Botanic Gardens and the Shrine of Remembrance". Since I am a user of these parks, I have no great concern with contributing to their upkeep, however, this charge is only charged to owners and not renters.

In Southbank's case, we know that the majority of Southbank's residential population consist of renters. So essentially renters across the state have the privilege of utilising these parks with no need to contribute to their upkeep. Doesn't seem fair if you ask me. What are your thoughts?

We will be holding another "New to Southbank" information evening on September 19 at 6.30pm at Boyd Community hub at 207 City Rd. If you are new to Southbank, come along and hear all the little things about our suburb which will help make your stay smooth and enjoyable. Even if you have been here for a while, you are still welcome to come along as I am sure there will still be something learnt. Please register for the event on our website southbankresidents.org.au

Also, the state election is fast approaching. We are joining with Montague Precinct to hold a "meet the candidates" event to give our communities the opportunity to ask the hard questions to help guide our voting intentions. We have confirmed the candidates from major parties. Watch this space in next month's edition for details of when and where.



Tony Penna

Tony Penna is the president of Southbank Residents Association.

southbankresidents.org.au

Southbank

St Johns Southgate

Religion: It ain't sexy. Or is it?

From what I've observed, people tend to imagine Christians as being prudish and uptight when it comes to sex.

That may be a fair description of some, but it's unfair to blame that on the Bible. To be sure, you don't often hear people saying, "Gee, that Bible's a raunchy book!" But if they'd read it cover to cover they might have noticed that it does have some saucy hidden treasures.

The Old Testament book, Song of Songs, which simply means the greatest of songs or poems, is a book of erotic poetry. There's no other way to describe it. It's a poetic musing on the joy of sex!

It's often explicitly descriptive, with lines like, "How beautiful and pleasant you are, O loved one, with all your delights! Your stature is like a palm tree, and your breasts are like its clusters. I say I will climb the palm tree and lay hold of its fruit."

At other times the poetry is more suggestive than explicit, allowing the reader to dive as deep as their blushing mind might take them into a sexual daydream. It's been said that you haven't lived until you've read Song of Songs in bed with your partner. It is incredibly sexy, there's no doubt about it. It's by far the sexiest book of Holy Scripture.

Sexy things are great, but what's a book like Song of Songs doing in a collection of sacred writings considered by believers to be the very word of God? After all, in its eight chapters, God isn't even mentioned a single time! There aren't any commands or instructions and you won't find typical religious vocab like "repentance", "forgiveness" and "salvation" in it. So why is it in the Bible?

I'd prefer not to give a definitive answer. After all, poetry is for the reader to interpret as they will. But what I will say, is that the simple fact of it being in the Bible expresses God's wholehearted endorsement of intoxicating sexual love within loving, co-equal, partnerships.

Additionally though, it can speak to us allegorically. If Song of Songs is in the Bible, and the Bible is a collection of writings that speak to, for and of God - a god who is "love" as the good book says - then it tells us something of God's nature in Christ Jesus. It tells us that God loves us with a passion; loves us beyond rhyme or reason; loves us beyond words. It tells us that God looks at humankind with a lover's gaze - with eyes that say, "I just want to be near you, with you, a part of you, completed by you!" If the Bible is God's love letter to us, then Song of Songs paints the technicolour masterpiece of the consummation.

If for no other reason than curiosity, I encourage you to dust off the Bible and give Song of Songs a read. It's better writing than the The Joy of Sex and it speaks on so many more levels. Fair warning though, either read it with a bucket of cold water or your partner close at hand.



Tom Hoffmann

Tom Hoffmann is the pastor at St Johns Southgate Church. www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au





Every Sunday

Sunday 23 September

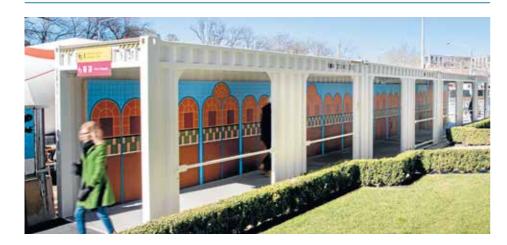
9am Worship with Bach Cantata Wer sich selbst erhöhet, der soll erniedriget werden (BWV47) for 2 soloists, chorus, strings, 2 oboes, organ and continuo St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra directed by Graham Lieschke 8:30am Cantata in Context: pre-service talk

9am Traditional worship with communion 10:30am Sunday School during school terms 11am Informal worship with communion 6pm Sunday Night at St Johns

Informal contemporary worship hosted by Lutheran Students and Friends The chapel is open daily for private prayer and reflection

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

Metro Tunnel



Transforming Metro Tunnel construction sites

Add a touch of artistic flair to construction sites - the Metro Tunnel Project is asking artists from all over Melbourne to take up the challenge to transform its worksites into vibrant and attractive destinations.

Esther Stewart is the latest artist to be commissioned by the Metro Tunnel Creative Program. She has created a bold geometric design for the pedestrian gantries located outside 390 St Kilda Rd near the Anzac Station construction site.

Esther's previous work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at galleries and art fairs, and is held in major collections including the Heide Museum of Modern Art. In 2014, she collaborated with Italian fashion designer Valentino on his Autumn/Winter 2015-2016 menswear collection and won the Sir John Sulman Prize at the Art Gallery of NSW in 2016.

This artwork is just one of many that will be commissioned by the Metro Tunnel's Creative Program, which will bring worksites to life, minimise the impacts of construction on the local community and showcase the work of some of Melbourne's emerging and established artists.

The Metro Tunnel Project has also partnered with the NGV to promote masterpieces from the current MoMA at NGV: 130 Years of Modern and Contemporary Art exhibition, Prints of a selection of the MoMA pieces are on display on the City Square hoarding along Swanston Street. Iconic artwork from Andy Warhol, Jackson Pollock, Pablo Picasso and others are on show, encouraging people to see the original works at the NGV located just a short walk away.

To find out more about the creative program visit metrotunnel.vic.gov.au.

Upgrading the Moray Street bike path

The Metro Tunnel is upgrading the Moray St bike path to give cyclists, pedestrians and motorists a reliable and safe alternative to St Kilda Rd during construction of the new Anzac Station.

Two new Victorian-first roundabouts are now open at Dorcas and Coventry streets. Pedestrians and cyclists have right-of-way to allow for safe crossing at both locations.

Each pedestrian crossing has a raised zebra crossing and a new dedicated bike path running parallel. The bike lane gives cyclists right of way and requires motor vehicles to stop, allowing cyclists to pass through the roundabout freely. This not only improves safety but will reduce travel times for cyclists.

The Moray St bike path upgrade is expected to be completed in October. This work is part of road and traffic management upgrades designed to keep the city moving while we build the Metro Tunnel.

Owners' Corporation Law

OCs will be forced to fix dodgy cladding

The Minister for Planning Richard Wynne, announced late last month new reforms to reduce the cost of removing dangerous combustible cladding from buildings, noted as "the first of their kind anywhere in the world".

The reforms include amendments to the Local Government Act that will create what is called cladding rectification agreements (CRAs).

The CRAs will be between owners' corporations (OCs) and local councils providing long-term, low-interest loans to pay for building work to rectify cladding.

Effectively, owners would be charged via their rates over a minimum period of 10 years, with costs transferred with the property if owners sell.

This arrangement was a key recommendation of the Victorian Cladding Taskforce (VCT) established last year and chaired by former premier Ted Baillieu.

What stinks to high heaven about all this? Well, for starters, it's because the VCT was made up of stakeholders comprising architects, building material suppliers, real estate agents, builders, developers, engineers and building surveyors.

Absent from the taskforce stakeholders' table was the one group that perhaps needed to be represented the strongest - the poor old owners of the affected buildings themselves, Mr and Mrs Joe Public.

The closed recommendations of the VCT were always going to be skewed towards an outcome that recommended no fault to the actual wrongdoers who were responsible for installing the combustible cladding in the first place.

Because the VCT and the government have not put in place any stronger consumer law protection reforms to widen the ability of owners to sue wrongdoers, the OCs themselves are now left to pay to fix the problems with their buildings.

Over 100 building orders have been sent by the Victorian Building Authority to date, while it finalises its audit of all buildings in Melbourne.

A number of other significant recommendations came out of the interim report, including a proposed statutory duty of care on building practitioners, including architects and designers, in the residential strata sector. However, to date, none of this has been implemented.

The Victorian Cladding Taskforce (VCT) released its interim report into highlycombustible aluminum composite panels (ACP) and expanded polystyrene (EPS) on December 1, 2017. The products, which have been widely used since the 1990s, have been implicated in a number of blazes including the fires at Docklands' Lacrosse building, and London's Grenfell tower that claimed the lives of 71 people.

The interim report made a number of key findings and recommendations to government, chief among them being the ban of ACP and EPS cladding on buildings of two or more storeys that are residential, health-care, assembly or aged care buildings, and buildings of three or more storeys that are office, shop or storage buildings.

A number of other significant recommendations came out of the interim report, including a proposed statutory duty of care on building practitioners, including architects and designers in the residential strata sector.



Tom Bacon

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

Open for business

Scott Alley

A window into the future

Quarter, new viewing windows in Scott Alley give an insight into Melbourne's

For more information visit metrotunnel.vic.gov.au or call 1800 105 105.



More trains, more often



Scott Alley businesses

- 3. Alpha Barbers
- 5. Bailey Nelson Glasses



Cautious welcome of new governance

The Montague Community Alliance cautiously welcomes the Minister for Planning's recent creation of the Fishermans Bend Development Board, under the guidance of chair, Meredith Sussex.

We're encourged that the message from the minister is that: "The Fishermans Bend Development Board has been established to guide the planning and development of this landmark project for Melbourne."

"The board will guide engagement with the community, advising on precinct plans and major decisions for Fishermans Bend, supporting the growth of healthy, thriving neighbourhoods while creating new jobs"

We expect that this means the board will engaged directly with those currently living and working in the Montague Precinct.

The history of engagement directly with us is not that good, and we have some concerns about this going forward.

We live and work here and really believe we have some substantial and relevant data to contribute to our precinct plan and the growth of our healthy and thriving neighbourhood.

I suggest that the board members come and meet us, spend time experiencing how we live and work, understand who the people are that inhabit this precinct in South Melbourne. We want them to know what it's like at street level and, particularly, to walk through the neighbourhood with those of us who reside and run businesses here, not just those who think they know about the area.

We can be contacted through the email address below and would welcome contact about a visit.

We are also concerned about the state

election which is only a couple of months away. If the government changes what will happen to the current planning minister's plans and will we see a return to the developer-driven decisions that occurred under the now Leader of the Opposition when he was planning minister?

As a community alliance, we are non-political but we are concerned with what all parties think would/should/could happen to the livability, planning, design and amenity of the Montague Precinct.

There are many topics to discuss with our political representatives and we are organising a "meet the candidates" evening on October 30 at The Boyd in City Rd. We are delighted to say that we will be partnering with the Southbank Residents Association to bring you this event and the Montague Community Alliance will still be supported by the Southbank Local News.

Further details will be in the next edition of this paper and for those in Montague and surrounds we will be doing a leaflet letterbox drop. As usual please get in touch if you have any ideas for future forums or content for this column, I would be happy to hear from you.

Now it's ... Meet a couple of Montaguans!

Who are you?

We are Boyd Tolley and Dean Nixon, we live in the Montague Precinct of South Melbourne, we have two dogs and love food,



wine, entertaining and travelling.

What brought you to live or work in the Montague Precinct (MP) of South Melbourne?

When I (Boyd) moved back from the UK nine years ago, I wanted to live bayside so I could see the water every day. I was looking for an apartment in Port Melbourne but found my little old terrace in South Melbourne and fell in love with it. Dean moved in a few years later.

What are the best and/or most interesting things about living in MP?

We can walk everywhere we need, the bay is 15 minutes, the city restaurants and theatres are 20 minutes and the market – our favourite place in Melbourne – is less than a 10-minute walk.

How does living in Montague affect your quality of life, including your work?

We both work in Port Melbourne. Our commute is six minutes which is brilliant. We could walk but our roles require client

visits. Our quality of life is pretty good. We're very active as we walk our dogs in the park twice a day, we run along the bay several times a week, but this is countered by the fact we can also walk to all our favourite pubs, cafes and restaurants. Being close to the city, our friends come to us as we're central. There is no need to go out on those cold winter nights. Having an old terrace with a wood fire also helps.

What are the challenges of living in MP?

We have no idea what's going on around us. Under CCZ zoning, we receive no notification or have any right to appeal developments. We're concerned we are going to lose some of the buildings with character. Traffic is also a problem. Montague St is a car park and will only get worse with more towers. Parking in our street is getting worse as well.

If you could change something about Montague life, what would it be?

We are all for the regeneration of the area, we sometimes feel guilty about how good we have it in South Melbourne. I'd limit the height of buildings, so we don't end up with another soulless Docklands.



Trisha Avery

Trisha Avery is the convener of the Montague Community Alliance.

trishavery@bpca.com.au



Critic

Key figure in Art Informel

Ten students at the Victorian College of the Arts will have the chance to soak up artistic culture thanks to a bequest by artist John Vickery.

Traditionally artists have left the country to find out how Australian culture shapes their practice.

Elsie Preston will use the grant of \$2300 to take up a residency in Spain.

Artists are valued in Europe, particularly in Spain where galleries such as the Prada and Guggenheim attract visitors from all over the world.

The scholarship does not stipulate how students spend the grant. John Vickery was forced to leave art school in the 1930s and empathised with the sacrifices students make.

Attitudes towards artists have changed since Vickery was forced out for economic reasons. The general population now accepts that artists add value in terms of tone and beauty to the city.



But artists are not merely concerned with the visual.

Previous recipients of the Vickery scholarship have challenged attitudes. One student was attacked in the press for posing as an officer and refusing entry to students to the annual exhibition to show how it feels to be excluded.

Another got himself onto a TV quiz show with a packet of Smarties and showed footage at the exhibition.

Performance pieces have been theorised in France by Nicolas Bourriaud as a means of getting art out of the galleries and VCA students have experimented with many of its forms.

John Vickery spent most of his artistic life overseas where he worked as an illustrator and for the hospital sketch program during World War II before becoming an abstractionist in post-war New York.

The art establishment in Spain is critical

and knowledgeable. It is an honour to gain a residency there.

The two-month residency is at Mas Els Igols in Southern Spain. Preston will make a body of work to be exhibited as part of the Art Nou fair in Barcelona.

"It is this southern landscape of ruins that has influenced artists such as Alberto Barri and Antoni Tapies," Preston says.

"I too am interested in the poetics of the fragmented, the broken and the incomplete."

She will visit sites such as the cement-covered walls of the Barrio Gotic that still hold the marks, stains and graffiti that spoke of the attitudes of the working class against a bourgeois complacency.

"The fundamental elements of human nature expressed in material form such as the incisions on these walls is what inspired Tapies," she says. "The layer of culture, both present and past, is very dense in southern Europe."

Tapies, who died in 2008, used everyday materials in his work and is considered to be a key figure in the movement know as Art

Rhonda Dredge rhonda@cbdnews.com.au

Government ignores Airbnb stabbing death

In stunning scenes in Parliament this month, the Victorian Government passed the weakest legislation for short-term letting ever seen in Australia, to the delight of Airbnb.

In answering questions from The Greens in Parliament, the Trade and Innovation Minister, Philip Dalidakis admitted to Parliament that he visited Airbnb's office in San Francisco. (Hansard, 7 August 2018, page 46).

It has also been reported by *The Age* that Premier Daniel Andrews had visited Airbnb in San Francisco in 2015.

Quizzed on the Airbnb stabbing death in the CBD in July, Mr Andrews told ABC Radio: "We certainly would be open to having a look at whether there's anything we can do from a regulatory point of view."

Mr Andrews also said that Consumer Affairs Minister Marlene Kairouz was "already doing some work on this".

However, in Parliament this month, the government passed the same legislation word-for-word that had been rejected by the Upper House as inadequate more than 12 months earlier.

Since the widely-released photograph of the then Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jane Garrett, shaking hands with Airbnb head honcho Brett Thomas on the steps of Parliament, it has been clear that Airbnb has been behind every move the government

And now Airbnb is celebrating the passing of the weakest short-stay legislation in Australia.

One of the recommendations made over 12 months ago was for the government to investigate giving greater powers and resources to Victoria Police to be able to deal with criminal activity in short-stay apartments. However, that recommendation was never acted upon, despite Minister Dalidakis telling Parliament that he considered the issue "core police business".

The government stated in its policy response that it would conduct a review in 2021 to see whether the new regulations were working and would seek feedback from stakeholders and resident groups at that time. However, this review was not inserted into the Bill and the Labor government could not commit to a review because it might not be in power in 2021.

The Liberal's Shadow Minister for Planning, David Davis, addressed Parliament to slam the government for reintroducing the same legislation which he labelled "weak, pathetic and a damp squib".

The Liberal Party told Parliament that it would seek to have this legislation amended if it were to form government at the next election.

Ultimately however, the Liberal Party did not block the passing of the Bill when it came time to vote on the legislation and was absent from the chamber when it was put to the vote.

Tom Bacon, CEO of Strata Title Lawyers said: "The legislation is not worth the paper it is written on. These regulations are the

lightest feather of a touch, and do not provide owners' corporations with any meaningful way of regulating the issues associated with short-term stays. I would not advise owners' corporations to use these regulations; it would be a costly exercise and a waste of time."

This parliamentary outcome must rank as one of the worst cases of politicking and back-room deals seen in Parliament.

How can we think otherwise when every speaker on the opposition side condemned the Bill for all the reasons we have articulated over the past three years, then walked out of the House before the vote was taken?

The statements made by Minister Dalidakis and his advisors were feeble and showed how little the government understood the issues that it became an embarrassing spectacle.

Airbnb-taxing Vienna teaches Melbourne a lesson

Vienna, which has a policy of levying a tourism tax on Airbnb, has overtaken Melbourne as the most liveable city in the world. Vienna is also now in a battle with Airbnb, demanding the multinational hand over its Vienna registration data so that the tourism tax can be collected fairly from all operators.

Why doesn't our state government look to see what is happening overseas? Vienna, New York, London, Tokyo are all taking action – we are not the only city wrestling with this issue.

So again, we invite Daniel Andrews to come and talk to us at We Live Here (now more than 300 buildings are signed up as supporters). We are an organised and passionate group of residents wanting to have our voice heard and includes a large disenfranchised section of the electorate – those who purchased apartments in residential buildings not designed for short-stay quasi hotel-type accommodation.

Time is also running out with the state election looming in a few months. Most of the inner-city seats are held by candidates who support our stance.

We have given the government statistical data, analysis and concrete solutions – all ignored, at its peril. Mr Andrews, please wake up.

We hope it won't take another death in an Airbnb apartment before politics is taken out of the debate and the real issues discussed, which the passing of the Bill does nothing to address.



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

Crime wrap



Burglary

Police are seeking to identify a man after an alleged burglary in Southbank on Sunday, April 1.

At round 3.30am, a man entered a Clarke St apartment carpark before allegedly cutting through a storage cage and stealing property.

Police have released CCTV images of a man whom they believe may be able to assist in their enquiries.

The man is perceived to be Caucasian in appearance.

He was wearing dark pants, a grey hooded top, dark jacket, white shoes, a light cap and carrying an Adidas duffle bag.

Burglary

Police are seeking to identify a man after an alleged burglary in Southbank on Sunday, April 10.

At around 3.25am,
a man drove into a
Clarke St apartment
building car park
before allegedly
stealing property from a storage cage.



Police have released CCTV images of a man whom they believe may be able to assist in their enquiries.

The man is perceived to be Caucasian in appearance and aged in his 30s or 40s.

He was wearing a black top, grey tracksuit pants, a blue jacket and red shoes.

Montague burglary and thefts

Port Phillip Crime Investigation Unit detectives are hoping to identify a man following a number of storage cage burglaries in South Melbourne last month.

It is believed a man entered the car park of Gravity Tower on Gladstone St in the Montague Precinct at around 1am on July 25.

While inside, he broke into a number of storage cages and stole property belonging to residents, including a suitcase and other personal items.

Detectives have released images of a man who they believe can assist with their enquiries.

He is perceived as Caucasian in appearance and aged in his 30s with short cropped hair and a slim build.

The man was wearing a distinctive red, grey and black striped jumper at the time.







SOUTH BANK



I think the whole thing is extremely embarrassing. We continue to have the freedom to vote, but it doesn't seem to matter who we vote for because those people aren't being kept in office.



I don't know anything about Scott Morrison, but I think the whole thing was absolutely ridiculous and terrible for the reputation of Australia.

Turnbull should've been allowed to serve his full term.



It certainly looks like it's very volatile over here! I'm not quite sure why that is, apparently the political structure here means that it's a little easier for a leader to be de-throned.



It's a little bit funny. It looks like Australia is falling



It's the fifth leader in five years, isn't it? So, I'm not very happy about it. I'd like more stability.



It's absolutely ridiculous. We are the joke of the world basically, they just need to get their act together and govern.

Question:

What are your thoughts on the recent leadership spill and our new Prime Minister Scott Morrison?



Call 03 9654 6351

SOUTHBANK SUDOKU



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

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

Good Luck!

T	Н	0	В	K	S	N	U	A
S	В	U	Т	A	N	0	Н	K
A	K	N	0	U	Н	T	s	В
0	N	В	Н	Т	K	U	A	s
K	U	S	N	В	A	Н	0	Т
Н	T	A	U	s	0	В	K	N
В	0	K	A	Н	Т	s	N	U
N	A	T	s	0	U	K	В	Н
U	S	Н	K	N	В	A	Т	0

Last month's Sudoku solution

	В	Н		U				
			o		В	Н		
	S	0		K				
Н			N		S			K
В			U		0			A
				0		В	N	
		S	Т		Н			
				S		U	Т	

Southbanker





Boating on Cloud 9

If you frequent the Yarra River along Southbank and South Wharf, it is likely you've seen local resident Warren Box's unmistakeable timber boat Cloud 9 before.

Having retired to Freshwater Place in 2011, Warren said it was the river and life along the waterfront that had attracted he and his wife to settle in Southbank from their previous home in Lysterfield.

With greater access to the water, he said living in Southbank had provided him with a great location to pursue his passion for timber boats. Namely, his beloved Cloud 9 - an African mahogany timber speedboat inspired by the classic Italian boats of the 1950s

"I built the boat as a bit of a passion," Warren said. "I've always been into timber boats and with a mate being a boat builder I said do you reckon we build a bigger one?"

"We threw some ideas around. I was in Europe in the early 2000s and I bought some books and got some basic plans out of Italy and went from there but it was a five or sixvear project to build it."

While he first took Cloud 9 out on the water in 2009, its use has expanded from a recreational hobby to an occasional business earner since moving to Southbank.

The 7.8 metre long boat, which includes a forward cabin with two bunks and a toilet. is available for photography, advertising and promotions and TV and film projects. Warren said it was a popular choice for a range of photography, with newlyweds among some of the most common users.

Cloud 9 has also led Warren to join the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) here in Southbank, which as well as providing a useful network, had also used the boat to capture photos of the river precinct in the past.

"Anyone who has seen the boat knows it," Warren said. "The feedback is always good. It doesn't matter where you go whether people have seen it on the water or on the road on the back of the trailer people are often getting their phones out to take pictures because it's unique."

For more information visit cloud09.com.

History

"Mansions" in Southbank

The early 20th centry saw the arrival of large blocks of apartments in the city and inner suburbs of Melbourne.

But they were generally new purpose-built blocks for the well-off, such as Melbourne Mansions at 101 Collins St (c.1906).

The conversion of empty factories to residential apartments is a commonplace part of inner-Melbourne housing today and fits neatly into the philosophy of adaptive reuse but was almost unheard-of in the early 20th century.

When the Hoadley company vacated its premises in Aikman St, which ran from City Rd to the Yarra, for a new factory in Coventry St in 1912, the disused property was sold to developers for conversion into selfcontained flats.

The developer engaged a notable architect called Robert Haddon who had set up his practice in Melbourne in 1901 and would be highly influential in the Melbourne architecture scene.

He designed a block in the Art Nouveau style popular at the time, one that gained its inspiration from nature and contrasted the curvaceous lines and beauty of the organic form with a strong sense of geometry.

Called Alexandra Mansions, after the wife of King Edward VII, this was to be a new idea in residential chambers. The name of



Art Nouveau style Alexandra Mansions.

the block was spelt out in large letters above the roof-line, an innovation that provided income from leasing rights and soon caught on, but one that was unusual at the time of construction.

The three-storey block, located next to the Garrick Theatre and enjoying wonderful views across the river to the newly-opened Flinders Street Station, was financed by a share issue. The prospectus referred to "commodious residential flats". Tenants could rent suites of three rooms or a single room, furnished or unfurnished, and it was advertised as containing every modern

appliance and convenience to enable tenants to enjoy life, including hot and cold water "laid on", electric light, ventilation, heating and telephones.

The block was ready for occupation by 1914. Unlike other "mansion" blocks in Melbourne, it was aimed squarely at the middle class and was regarded as suitable for "professional gentlemen". But many of those who moved in were single women in occupations such as hair removalist or music teacher. Many of the original tenants stayed

You won't find the building today, as it was demolished in 1960.

Aikman St is gone too, a victim of the massive changes in the area as part of the development for the NGV and Southbank.

But Alexandra Mansions was a leader in conversion of factories for housing in the inner suburbs.



Robin Grow

President - Australian Art Deco and Modernism Society robingrow@ozemail.com.au

Imposter syndrome: What it is and how to beat it

Living in Southbank, I come across a lot of very intelligent high achievers, who appear to be thriving in their chosen professions and lives.

When I meet such people in a therapeutic context, however, I find that many of them appear to be suffering from a debilitating phenomenon – a distortion of thinking that makes them believe they're actually incompetent, unintelligent, and lazy, that their achievements are as a result of pure luck and that one day, they'll be found out – exposed as the frauds they believe they are.

It is called imposter syndrome (IS) and those who struggle with it maintain a strong belief that they are not intelligent. In fact they are convinced that they have fooled anyone who thinks otherwise, despite plenty of evidence that indicates they're skilled and quite successful.

Current research suggests that IS is more likely in high achievers then not, and in women more than in men.

Symptoms of imposter syndrome

Struggling to accept praise: They are nagged by a feeling they aren't worthy of the praise they receive and struggle to rationalise their success being due to their hard work.

Discounting their success: They have a tendency to relate their success to external factors such as due to other people's input, luck, timing or being in "the right place at the right time".

Overcompensation: Staying late at work

or not setting appropriate boundaries around workload.

Feeling a compulsion to be the best: They hold themselves to impossible standards of perfection and expect themselves to accomplish any task they set out to achieve flawlessly.

A paralysing fear of failure: They expect so much of themselves that pressure blankets their every move. This only gets worse the more successful they get.

They explain their success away as due to charm or personality characteristics, not intelligence: Studies on women with IS have shown that their high intellect coupled with a great deal of intuition affords them the capacity to be charming and engaging with colleagues in the workplace, to get "the job done". Once praised for their work, however, they assume the praise is due to their charm as opposed to their legitimate abilities.

Tips to beat imposter syndrome

Therapy (specifically cognitive behaviour therapy): This can help identify and correct thinking and belief patterns like identifying negative thoughts and reality-checking beliefs.

Talking with trusted friends or colleagues: Because IS thrives in isolation, it is important that they speak to friends or

colleagues/mentors at work. It is important to not only share how they are feeling but seek out regular feedback regarding their

Finding the right job and workplace culture: The professional atmosphere of a place can either feed into, or help relieve IS.

Practice gratitude and mindfulness: This can support individuals wellbeing by helping them see the blessings they have in their daily life. If done regularly, these practices can re-wire your brain towards making positive instead of negative conclusions over time.

Own your success: Make a list of achievements and reflect on your successes (not on what you haven't achieved).

Remember that it is normal to experience self-doubt and to have some tendency towards wanting to be "perfect" or "great" at what you do.

Limit comparisons with others.

Do you have any questions or future.

Do you have any questions or future topics you would like me to cover? Please email them through.



Rajna Bogdanovic

Clinical psychologist
bogdanovicrajna@gmail.
com

Southbank Sustainability Group

Zero waste: personal and community

There is a lot of talk around sustainability and reducing waste.

But with sustainability being such a large topic to tackle and with so much information, where does one even begin?

There is no question that the *War on Waste* series did a great job to help us become more aware of the waste we produce and how to reduce it. However, I see people still wondering "Where and how do I even start? With companies producing so much waste, can I even make a difference?"

With the average person producing 136kg of plastic waste alone, the answer is "yes, you can".

A good place to start is taking responsibility for the waste we produce individually and then send a strong message to companies on what we want to see from them as consumers, by voicing our concerns and voting with our dollars.

We can also show our local and state governments what we want to see happening in our communities, by voicing our needs or through state funded projects,



like choosing environmental community projects on PickMyProject.

The Southbank Sustainability Group has submitted two projects to make Southbank more sustainable and bring more muchneeded green space in our community, which need your votes to make them a reality.

Go to **pickmyproject.vic.gov.au** and find "Inner City B&B BeeHotels" and "Greenify Undercroft Concrete Dead Spaces". Votes close on September 17 and we could really use everyone's support through this simple voting process.

How to reduce your landfill waste through the zero waste philosophy? A zero waste way of living started from Bea Johnson (see her TEDx talk, or her blog https://zerowastehome.com/tips), as a way to reduce the waste we produce individually and so reduce our impact on the environment.

Her family of four now produces half a mason jar of landfill waste per year, which as a slow-paced zero waster myself, I can tell you it's much easier than it looks. We can make a huge difference just by being more aware of our impact and how we consume

The FiveRs to follow to reduce your landfill waste are:

Refuse: what you do not need, like freebies and plastic packaging;

Reduce: what you do need;

Reuse: what you consume, like using a KeepCup or a water bottle;

Recycle: what you cannot refuse, reduce or reuse; and

Rot: i.e. compost the rest.

We're hosting a free Zero Waste Basics talk on Saturday, September 22, at 10.30am at the Boyd Community Hub with practical solutions in Melbourne if you want to come and learn more.



Artemis Pattichi

Southbank Sustainability Group southbanksustainability@gmail.com

Pet's Corner



Calling out for a companion

10-year-old staffy Tyson is in search of a new home.

Southbank Local News spotted Tyson walking along South Wharf with his temporary carers Kate Nixon and Marcus Pickles last month, who recently met Tyson through an RSPCA foster program.

Described as a "true people's dog," the couple has quickly come to love their new friend. However, Marcus said that he and Kate were planning on moving overseas next year so they were trying hard to find Tyson a new home.

"I think he'd be perfect for someone that really wants someone to love them," Marcus said. "He's got so much love to give. We'd love to keep him but sadly it's just one of those things."

"He's an older guy but he'd be perfect for a retiree or for anyone living in an apartment. He doesn't need a big back yard he just needs a companion."

Having become foster parents to Tyson around four months ago, Kate explained that the RSPCA program was meant to provide a new pet to foster each month. However, despite being a loving, friendly and all-round good guy, the couple said his age was sadly proving a barrier in attracting a new home.

"Marcus and I wanted to get a dog but we live in an apartment and I travel a lot for work and the goal for next year will be to live overseas and move around," Kate said.

"We thought we may as well try fostering through the RSPCA where you basically help a dog who isn't quite ready for adoption."

Tyson is understood to be a fun and chilled-out dog who loves to sunbake! While prone to being a tad lazy from time to time, the couple said he loved his regular walks.

And according to Kate, who works as a fashion designer, he is a great source of company anywhere she goes ... even to work!

"He loves working at a lingerie warehouse that's for sure! He's even been on a photoshoot," she said. "There will be girls modelling in their undies and he'll just stroll on set and just sit there!"

Any locals interested in adopting Tyson can contact Kate on **0434 361 830** or **kate_nixon@hotmail.com**

Business

Act of Wine launches in Southbank

From the team which brought you the hugely-successful Broad Bean Organic Grocer, Act of Wine will launch its wine, beer and spirits retail shop right next door at 22 Fanning St in early October.

To complement Broad Bean's incredible range of organic produce, meals and healthy products, Act of Wine now gives locals access to a selection of more than 500 sustainably produced alcoholic beverages right in the heart of Southbank.

Having already launched its online store (actofwine.com.au), the shop's manager Sam Fitzsimmons said the retail store was about showcasing Australian producers and educating the community on the growing market of sustainably made products.

"The overarching framework of the business and products we stock is sustainability so we're focusing on and showcasing producers who are working with sustainable practices," Sam said.

"We're passionate about products which use more natural farming practices to grow the grapes and then, in the winery, not adding anything to the wine and letting it express the land and the fruit."

With organics proving a hit in Southbank since Broad Bean opened its doors four years ago, Sam said owners Paul and Andrew felt expanding the offering to alcohol was a natural fit for the area.

Having grown up in a wine region in NSW and forged his passion for hospitality and wine over many years, Sam has been a part of Broad Bean's journey for more than three

In that time, when not behind the coffee



Act of Wine manager Sam Fitzsimmons.

machine, he said he had been busy working at a natural wine bar and travelling to different wineries, breweries and distilleries

to build his product knowledge for the new business in his spare time.

"It's a passion project for the three of us,"

Sam said. "The guys (Paul and Andrew) have had the store for a little over four years now and with my product knowledge and their business knowledge it's a really good fit."

"Initially I was unsure how it would be received but the beauty of the industry is that everyone is so eager to get on board and they're just happy that their product is being represented. The reception has been amazing."

While the new store will be unveiled with a small launch party in early October, locals can jump online in the meantime and start shopping.

Stressing the importance of the store as a space for education as much as anything, Sam said Act of Wine looked forward to regularly featuring as many producers as possible to raise awareness about the industry.

"We'll have winemakers, brewers, distillers and distributors in as often as we can because we want to focus on education," he

"We understand that the organic natural sphere of wines isn't the most widely accepted or understood at the moment so we want to bridge that gap and make it a bit easier for people to get their heads around it. I'll have bottles open every day so people can come in and try!'

Actofwine.com.au

Cutting edge living

Melbourne historically passed a significant milestone this week, with our population skyrocketing up to five million for the first time ever.

And it's no wonder people are flocking to this great city, with its vast array of culture, nightlife, food and wine.

At the very centre of this sits South Melbourne as one of the city's most vivacious playgrounds. With the quintessential South Melbourne Market on their doorstep, ample public transport and just a stone's throw from the beach, residents in this suburb are extremely well catered for.

Characterised by heritage streetscapes ith Victorian terraces and a village feel, it makes for a highly desirable location on the city's edge.

A veritable melting pot of class, culture and convenience, it's an area of Melbourne that attracts locals and new members to the community at an increasing rate. Hence, it was an easy decision for CEL Australia to choose this suburb for its exciting new development, FIFTEEN85 South Melbourne.

Conveniently located at 15-85 Gladstone St, FIFTEEN85 South Melbourne offers residents an expertly-curated community, conveniently located directly opposite

the brand-new South Melbourne Primary School and Montague community park.

There are also plans for a world-class early learning centre to be launched nearby, making it an incredibly convenient development for new families.

"This location has everything going for it, with excellent transport connections and its close proximity to the bay and beach areas. The area is also well serviced by government-driven infrastructure," CEL Australia general manager Tim Pearce said.

"We love families and want to make sure that they are given the opportunity to own their first home and grow their family, while enjoying a cosmopolitan lifestyle."

CEL's development will feature three towers consisting of 700 apartments as well as shared spaces, specially-designed to encourage interaction between residences, creating a vertical community."

All three towers will includes a variety of one bedroom, one bedroom plus study, two bedrooms plus one bathroom, two bedrooms plus two bathrooms and three bedrooms plus two bathrooms apartments.



FIFTEEN85 South Melbourne is a residential showpiece aiming to set the trend for city living.

Fifteen85.com.au

Letters to the Editor

My preferred option

Design competition personal preference and comment. Our city and especially Southbank is already full of concrete and glass boxes, none of them really a design landmark. Suddenly now we have the opportunity to see something new, something that will add much needed-movement and fluidity to this prominent corner.

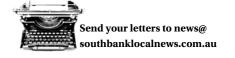
I would love to see it built. It is by far my preferred option. Cesare Leonardi

Go "Urban Tree"

My name is Lara and I am a Southbank neighbour. I don't know about architecture and all projects look amazing, however my vote would go for the more sustainable and eco-friendly

Having said that, I like the Urban Tree because wants to reconnect the city with nature.

Lara



WHAT'S ON **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

I SEP JUL A U G APR MAY JUN



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.

www.life.org.au/imlac or call Dianne 0425 140 981



TUESDAYS @ BOYD - \$5 DONATION

BOLLYWOOD WORKOUT

Inspired by the high energy music from Indian/Bollywood films these workout sessions are focused on building and developing your dance technique and most importantly, having tonnes of fun!



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.



YOGA: SATURDAYS @ BOYD

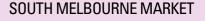
Suitable for all levels of experience and includes an appropriate amount of challenges and relaxation which will help you achieve a balance between strength and flexibility. Register: facebook.com/ events/625656444477843/



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

NEW TO SOUTHBANK?

Find out how to get the most out of Southbank's fantastic community (including services and public facilities) at this free information session. To register: southbankresidents.org.au



The market reguarly hosts a range of cooking classes, workshops and kids activities. Find out what's happening this month by visiting the website: southmelbournemarket.com.au/ whats-on/



FRIDAYS 7.45AM - 9AM @ BOYD

COMMUNITY TAI CHI

WULONG TAI CHI offers you the opportunity to enhance your strength, balance, flexibility and well-being in a friendly, supportive environment. All welcome. lily@wulongtaichi.com.au



SUNDAYS

ARTS CENTRE MARKET

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

www.artscentremelbourne.com.au.



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.



ONE ROOF

A community, a home and an entire ecosystem providing everything a female entrepreneur needs to thrive under one roof. Find out what's on: melbourne. oneroofwomen.com/new-events

77 - 83 CITY ROAD, SOUTHBANK



FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY EACH MONTH

SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

A growing group of green and sustainability enthusiasts who live in Southbank looking to bring positive change. More info: facebook.com/ SouthbankSustainabilityGroup

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.

www.southbank.org.au

MONDAYS @ BOYD

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Local Southbank JP Atilla Akguner offers two hour sessions every Monday morning from 11am until 1pm at the Principal's Office at Boyd. To book in a time contact:

atillaakguner@gmail.com

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

Over 50, living in Southbank and want to join our vibrant club for activities, events and friendship? Meet at Library at the Dock at 10am. Contact Verna on 0407 065 910. MSPC.docklands@gmail.com

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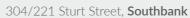
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Persa Kapsali 0450 840 440



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