

SOUTHBANK NEWS

southbanklocalnews.com.au

Forever Free

Twitter @southbank_news



Left Bank's new market
Photo by John Tadigiri

Popular local venue Left Bank is now home to the Mercato pop-up take away market offering essential groceries, drinks and fresh produce on weekends from 10am right through stage four lockdowns. *Continued on page 18.*

Lord Mayor cops Deputy's criticism over advisory group

Lord Mayor Sally Capp was publicly criticised by her deputy Arron Wood for the second time in five weeks after he raised "governance" issues surrounding her high-profile advisory board.

WORDS BY David Schout
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The Bringing Melbourne Back Better advisory group, which features the likes of Lindsay Fox and Elizabeth Proust, was established by Lord Mayor Sally Capp last month to look at ways of reactivating the city amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cr Wood said the public wrongly perceived the Cr Capp-assembled "Bringing Melbourne Back Better" as an official board of the council, and called her behaviour "worrying" not long after accusing her of "playing politics" in relation to the CBD injecting room debate.

His latest comments have only heightened speculation of a likely run for Lord Mayor at the upcoming local government elections on October 24, however he is still yet to publicly reveal his intentions.

Despite Cr Wood's criticisms, other councillors defended Cr Capp, with some commending the Lord Mayor for openly assembling a "captains of industry" economic recovery group to lead Melbourne through and beyond the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

The tense encounter took place at a July 28 council meeting, where councillors unanimously voted to formally establish the City of the Future/Recovery Taskforce.

Speaking in favour of the council's official taskforce, Cr Wood used the opportunity to raise what he called a

"serious issue" with the Lord Mayor's esteemed group.

"The danger comes when the appearance of what is an unofficial advisory group for an individual councillor, is given the idea that it is actually an official board of council," he said.

"And that's what I don't think the intention was, but I do want to make that clear."

Cr Wood raised Mr Fox's connection to the Lord Mayor's byelection campaign in 2018.

"I'm not in any way talking down the high calibre of people that the Lord Mayor is canvassing with, they are absolutely eminent and amazing. But governance is critical, governance is important. Lindsay Fox is amazing, but he's also a donor to the Lord Mayor's campaign. These things actually matter."

Cr Capp assembled the group of prominent figures in mid-July and, along with Fox and Proust, also includes the likes of National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) director Tony Ellwood.

The group has since met weekly, and in broad terms has aimed to canvass ideas for attracting investment within the inner-city in the aftermath of COVID-19.

Cr Rohan Leppert said that, contrary to the criticism, the Lord Mayor had done everything above board and should be commended.

"First of all, can I just say that

Continued on page 2.

Pandemic guidance provided for apartments

WORDS BY Meg Hill
STRATA

Long-awaited guidelines have been released for residents and owners' corporations (OCs) to limit the transmission of COVID-19 in multi dwelling buildings.

The new guidelines were released on July 18 following two roundtable meetings conducted by the Department of Job, Precincts and Regions in July, which included Victoria Police, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), the Department of Justice, City of Melbourne, as well as resident groups and student and community leaders.

"Residential multi-dwelling developments with shared facilities represent a risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) transmission between neighbouring residents, compared to single dwelling or lower density residential buildings," the document reads.

The 14-page document, now available on the DHHS website, provides recommendations, actions and

checklists on how to manage the likes of common property such as lifts and stairwells, visitors and deliveries, resident welfare and compliance.

Southbank Residents Association (SRA) president Tony Penna said SRA had been involved in the round table discussions and was happy with the outcome.

"The situation before was confusing because you saw different buildings doing different things, so residents rightly so would question why a building next door still had its tennis courts open while theirs was closed, for example," he said.

"Decisions were made by OCs, and they were limited to the information available to them and their interpretation of that, and of course they would interpret them differently."

"So certainly, I think this is a step in the right direction. I'm relatively pleased with them and am looking forward to working with City of Melbourne to tweak the information even further to our buildings and residents."

Continued on page 3.

ELECTIONS, PAGE 05

A Labor calls for "culture change" at Town Hall



HEALTH, PAGE 07

B Tissue Bank appeals to donors



BUSINESS, PAGE 09

C Business help amid "devastating" impacts



COMMUNITY, PAGE 11

D New Rotary Club president reaches out



Melcorp
Real Estate



Your Southbank Property Experts

Contact us today for a free, no obligation rental or sales appraisal.

9696 8869 | info@melcorp.com.au | melcorp.com.au



CONTACT
Suite 108, 198 Harbour Esplanade
Docklands 3008
southbanklocalnews.com.au
Tel: 8689 7980

EDITOR
Sean Car

PUBLISHER
Hyperlocal News Pty Ltd
ABN: 57 623 558 725

ADVERTISING
Hyper-local print works for advertisers in our digital world because local people are interested in local news. To sell to the Southbank community, contact Jack Hayes on 0401 031 236 or jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au

Reader contributions are welcome. Send letters, articles and images to: news@southbanklocalnews.com.au

The deadline for the September edition is September 3, 2020.

SOCIAL MEDIA
Follow us on Twitter
@SOUTHBANK_News

Like us on Facebook
Southbank Local News

Follow us on Instagram
@southbanklocalnews

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily shared by the publisher.

hyperlocalnews.com.au
admin@hyperlocalnews.com.au



Lord Mayor cops Deputy's criticism over advisory group

Continued from page 1.

any Lord Mayor would consult with anyone that they wish and that includes captains of industry, prominent Melburnians and a range of people," he said.

"The difference here is that you've convened that group and told the world who they are, whereas previous Lord Mayors might not have. I think you should be commended for that, not chastised."

Cr Nicolas Reece said both the official taskforce and the Lord Mayor's advisory group "were all good initiatives".

"I think the individuals you've been able to attract to your advisory group are second-to-none," he said.

"People like Lindsay Fox, Elizabeth Proust; I mean Lindsay Fox is just a titan of industry in this town. And also, a very creative businessman who has lots of ideas to offer up. Someone like Elizabeth Proust, she was a central figure in the recovery of Melbourne from the 1990s recession. To get advice like that would be very valuable."

Cr Capp did not directly address the criticism from the Deputy Lord Mayor, but said the city benefited from having key voices contribute to its future.

"To those that have mentioned my advisory group, thank you for acknowledging them, their efforts and their ideas, and the contribution they're already making. They are giving their time and their intellectual capacity like so many groups are," she said.

"For many of them, like lots of other people around town who are very busy ... they don't always want to be on formal committees. They can't always make that commitment. It doesn't mean that people in those situations don't have a genuine commitment to the city."

City of Melbourne CEO Justin Hanney clarified the matter, stating that the council's official taskforce would receive advice from various channels, one of which would be the

high-profile advisory group, via the Lord Mayor.

"The City of Melbourne is not resourcing [it, the Lord Mayor's advisory group]. It's not a board, it's an advisory group to the Lord Mayor of people who are committed to city recovery and who are giving the Lord Mayor advice," he said.

The City of the Future/Recovery Taskforce was initially established in April in response to the COVID-19 crisis and will now expand its remit to include external advisory groups to assist decision-making going forward.

Mr Hanney said the following key stakeholders would be represented:

- Felicia Mariani, CEO Victorian Tourism Industry Council;
- Paul Guerra, CEO Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
- Cressida Wall, Victorian Executive Director Property Council of Australia;
- Danni Hunter, Victorian CEO of the Urban Development Institute of Australia;
- Martin Bean, RMIT University vice-chancellor;
- Duncan Maskell, University of Melbourne vice-chancellor; and
- Barbara Cullen, Director of Small Business Victoria.

Mr Hanney said it would also include representatives from:

- Victorian Government;
- Australian Hotels Association;
- Australian Retailers Association; and
- Private sector organisations ("large employing groups") ●



David Schout

JOURNALIST

DAVID@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU



▲ The shared accessway at 141 Sturt St.

Changes to accessway

PLANNING

The developer of an approved 18-storey development at 131-139 Sturt St has sought to reconfigure car parking arrangements in the shared accessway with the neighbouring property at 151 Sturt St.

A total of 37 car spaces are currently accessed via a central accessway at 141 Sturt St, which separate neighbouring properties at 131-139 and 151 that currently house the office of Hayball Architects and IGA supermarket and Southbank Medical Clinic, respectively.

Under the plans of 131-139 Sturt St's owner Evolve Development to expand the building's envelope, car parking on the southern side of the accessway will be converted into an upgraded pedestrian link between Sturt and Dodds streets.

In doing so, 16 diagonal car parks will be reconfigured into the southern side of the accessway, which will also require the removal of two trees. Under the changes, one-way access will be provided from Sturt St through to Dodds St.

Evolve Development has a permit to build a mixed-use development, including a ground floor arts tenancy and more than 200 apartments, at the 131-139 Sturt St site ●

Labor for City of Melbourne



More affordable housing

Supporting jobs and businesses

Safer and better public transport





CONTACT US:
E: laborforcityofmelbourne@gmail.com
P: 0401 162 586
melbournelabor.com.au



Most short-stays banned

WORDS BY *David Schout*
STRATA

Short-stay accommodation like Airbnb has effectively been banned by the state government under stage four restrictions imposed on August 2.

According to new guidelines released from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), “a person who owns, controls or operates an accommodation facility in the restricted area must not operate that facility”.

This included private holiday rental facilities like Airbnb, and serviced apartments.

However, the guidelines included some exceptions for operators, who could offer accommodation under circumstances that included:

- A person, on a temporary basis, who has travelled to Victoria for work purposes;
- A person who requires emergency accommodation, including in relation to family violence and other vulnerable groups; or
- A person who requires accommodation for work purposes, where their work is for the purposes of responding to the pandemic.

The move is another blow to Southbank’s many short-stay operators. But it is also unsurprising given the state of the pandemic, and after Victoria Police revealed instances of illegal parties within short-stay accommodation in July.

Earlier in the month, they swooped in on a Southbank Airbnb party of 15 revellers.

Victoria Police Chief Commissioner Shane Patton said that while the “vast majority” were doing the right thing, there were exceptions.

“When I say people are doing the right thing as a majority, we’ve still got others who are doing stupid, selfish, reckless actions,” he said on July 8.

“Sunday night we had an Airbnb party in Southbank where 15 people thought it was okay to get together and party. We issued every one of them infringements because they just can’t do it.”

“Some people are still not listening and if the only way we can get through to them to listen and to adhere to the directions is through us giving out significant fines, that’s what we’ll do.”

Last month *Southbank News* reported a local short-stay operator was seeking damages from the owners’ corporation (OC) of Southbank’s Prima Tower in what some billed a “defining case” in the context of COVID-19.

Apartment owner Marcela Zamora claimed that the building’s OC illegally prevented her and other owners from leasing apartments in the early stages of the pandemic, and were seeking damages. The Victorian Civil and Administrative Council (VCAT) directional hearing, originally billed for late July, has been adjourned until August 28 ●



Stage three of Southbank Boulevard upgrade begins

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Work has started on the new civic space outside the ABC, as part of the Southbank Boulevard upgrade project.

With earth works starting in late July, Lord Mayor Sally Capp said 2200 square metres of additional open space would now be created between Sturt and Moore streets.

“This is the third stage in the Southbank Boulevard upgrade and this part of the project will transform an area the equivalent of almost two Olympic-sized swimming pools,” the Lord Mayor said.

“We have always valued parks and green space, but COVID-19 restrictions have shown just how vital open space is for people to get fresh air while maintaining physical distance.”

“Investing in new parks and public open spaces is a top priority for the City of Melbourne and this project will deliver Southbank residents, workers and visitors with new gardens, seating, lawns and a large area for events.”

“The central stone terrace will be equipped with data and electrical points for outside broadcasts and community event holders can access power.”

“The extensive gardens will feature 50 new trees from a variety of species with an iconic River Red Gum as the focal point.”

The Lord Mayor said upgraded public lighting would ensure the space was welcoming at all times of the day and would provide a sense of security during the evening.

“We want to make this area attractive and welcoming during the day or night so locals, workers and visitors feel safe to enjoy these new gardens, seating areas and lawns,” the Lord

Mayor said.

The Lord Mayor said there would be some noise and disruption in the first few months of demolition, and some pedestrian detours during construction.

“Firstly, I’d like to acknowledge that this project has already had a number of delays. I’ve made it very clear to our team that continued delays are unacceptable to our local community,” the Lord Mayor said.

“For the remainder of this project, our team is committed to reducing disruption to residents, workers and businesses wherever possible. We are particularly mindful that many people are working from home.”

“We will schedule works to reduce disruption as much as possible and will notify residents and business well in advance.”

Roadway, tramline and lighting works between St Kilda Rd and City Rd are now complete. Separated bike lanes have opened along Linlithgow Avenue and Southbank Boulevard, and the remaining bike lanes are expected to open by late 2020.

In other capital works news in Southbank, community consultation is still open on the council’s forthcoming upgrade of the 300-metre stretch of Southbank Promenade between Princes Bridge and Evan Walker Bridge.

In March the council announced that it was putting the project on hold until 2021 to minimise disruption in the area, providing an extended window for locals to have their say on the landscape design until August 21 ●

For more information:
participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au

Pandemic guidance provided for apartments

Continued from page 1.

The guidelines recommended the closure of all non-essential communal areas, the establishment of hygiene stations with hand sanitiser at entrance points and communal areas, cleaning schedules for all high touch surfaces and communal areas, and the consideration of processes for deliveries, contractors and visitors.

The guidelines also acknowledged that “each property is unique and should develop a tailored plan based on the information contained in this guide”.

“Multi dwelling buildings’ includes, but is not limited to:

- Low, mid and high-rise residential apartment buildings;
- Student accommodation;
- Long term accommodation rentals;
- Townhouses with shared facilities;
- Single room occupancy properties with shared facilities; and
- Mixed use properties where there is residential component with shared facilities.

CEO and Principal Lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers Tom Bacon said the guidelines were welcome, but overdue.

“For much of the pandemic, OCs and committees have been left to fend for themselves and to take ad hoc advice and guidance about what to do in relation to closure of communal facilities, and advice regarding the closure of short-stays and guest accommodation,” he said.

“There has been an abundance of privately sourced information that has got out into the public domain, and this advice has at times been inconsistent and contradictory. I am aware of at least one VCAT case between an owner and an Owners Corporation regarding the blocking of security access swipes for short-term stays which may or may not have been lawful.”

“This case might have been avoided if the Victorian government had come out with advice at an earlier juncture.”

“Nevertheless, the DHSS guidelines document is a really good initiative. The information is clear and concise, and sensible and practical. My advice would be that all Owners Corporations should simply ignore any previous advice given from any other source, and simply follow this document.”

As of August 3, there were 684 cumulative cases in the City of Melbourne, including 300 active cases, emphasising the need for locals to stay at home, wear a mask and socially distance where they can.

While there had been around 60 confirmed cases of coronavirus reported in Southbank at the time of publishing, most were understood to be linked with returned travellers in hotel quarantine ●

EAST Tower

Melbourne Quarter

**Elevate Your
Urban Lifestyle**

**Rent a brand new apartment in the heart
of Melbourne’s CBD**

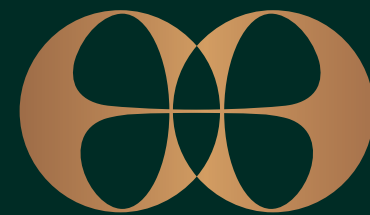
Select from a variety of one, two or three
bedroom apartments with breathtaking views
and access to resort-style amenities.

Learn more and submit an enquiry at:
melbournequarter.com/live/apartments-for-rent/



THE EVERMORE

MELBOURNE



THE PLACE YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS

Recently completed, The Evermore apartments are located at 56-60 Dorcas Street Southbank and offer superb resident amenities and everything you need to call this home.

With resort style facilities:

- outdoor heated swimming pool
- cinema room with up to 8 seats
- gym
- three lounges
- two dining areas
- central outdoor activity area
- two saunas
- library

Affordable owners corporation fee for luxury living:

One bedroom o/c starts from \$2000 per annum
Two bedroom o/c starts from \$3000 per annum
Three bedroom o/c starts from \$5000 per annum

A variety of apartments still available:

One bedroom apartment starts from \$425,000
Two bedroom apartment starts from \$635,000
Three bedroom apartment starts from \$999,000

Enquire now.

TheEvermore.com.au ☎ 1300 383 766 ☎ 52 Dorcas St, Southbank

Labor calls for “culture change” at Town Hall

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
ELECTIONS

For the first time in recent memory, the Labor Party has formed a serious ticket in its bid for Town Hall in 2020 and its team says it wants to “change the culture” and create a “real city government”.

Led by Lord Mayoral candidate Phil Reed and Deputy Lord Mayoral candidate, business-woman and multicultural campaigner Wesa Chau, Mr Reed said his team was looking to bring “good government” with a track record of delivery to Town Hall.

And Mr Reed, who currently works as head of government and stakeholder relations at Slater and Gordon, cited the City of Melbourne’s poor record of underspending its capital works budget as prime motivation to overhaul the council’s management.

“When you look at the stark contrast between the way the Andrews Government has got on with the job of delivering large capital projects like the metro rail tunnel, and the abject failure of council projects like the Southbank Boulevard parks, there’s a clear need for cultural change at Town Hall,” he said.

“We’re going to change the culture from that of a local council to a real city government where the decision makers and the bureaucrats have to take accountability for the full performance of their projects - not simply run a tender and then expect to turn up for the ribbon cutting.”

“My own background in executive management has taught me the importance of having proper accountability in management and it starts with making decisions, not excuses.”

“This is vitally important as we see a large amount of infrastructure spending proposed for the City of Melbourne, and we face a restructuring of city workforces and workplaces.”

The Labor ticket vying for office at the October 24 local government elections includes local resident and small business owner Davydd



▲ *Phil Reed and Wesa Chau.*

Griffiths, former Mayor of the City of Glen Eira Mary Delahunty and community liaison Hamdi Al.

Mr Reed said his team was busy putting the finishing touches on one of the most “comprehensive policy agendas” to be put before voters since the city’s governance structure was reshaped in the early 2000s.

He said the city needed policies that addressed a long-term vision for key issues such as transport and affordable housing, as well as the short-term challenges of economic recovery in the post COVID-19 environment.

“It is this real-life experience that will lead the City of Melbourne out of lockdown,” he said. “Labor has people on our ticket who understand business and what it means to live and work in our City of Melbourne communities.”

“Davvyd Griffiths’s pub has been shut down and lost trade like so many small businesses, Mary Delahunty works for one of the biggest Industry Super funds and understands the climate we need to create to stimulate activity, and Hamdi Ali lives and works in Carlton as a community leader among some of our most

disadvantaged public housing communities.”

Mr Reed said his team was currently developing a set of policies called “COOL Melbourne”, which stood for “Coming out of Lockdown”.

With city businesses hopefully looking to emerge from lockdown in the last quarter of 2020, he said there were a lot of things “big and small” that could be done.

He wants to start by removing permit fees and restrictions for businesses who wish to promote their business at the front of their premises and overhaul the council’s website to become a “real community directory”.

Turning to Southbank, he said that he couldn’t understand the council’s decision to sell land at Boyd Park for private development, and that ongoing delays in delivering the vision set out in the City Rd masterplan was further proof of the need for “cultural change”.

“It’s good to see that some community spaces are being incorporated in new developments such as the community meeting facilities in the Beulah development, or the open pedestrian link between Queensbridge St and City Rd in the Aohua Sheng Le development, but we need

to make sure that we incorporate some quiet spaces for residents as well,” he said. “The Boyd Hub is precious in that regard and I cannot understand council’s decision to allow buildings on part of the park.”

“We will improve safety and pedestrian linkages for residents rather than the focus constantly being on visitors.”

“Council has to learn to walk and chew gum at the same time. In a capital city with such a dynamic and ever-changing landscape the local government must be able to provide confidence that these projects will be used to guide private-sector development, not fall victim to it. The ‘pause’ [on the City Rd masterplan] suggests that council will become reactive rather than proactive in delivering better outcomes for residents and businesses.”

He added that it was also important that Crown was held to account on its vision to upgrade Queensbridge Square and Sandridge Bridge as part of its revised vision for a high-rise tower at One Queensbridge.

Despite speculation of a preference deal being done with Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Mr Reed dismissed the claims, saying his team would wait to assess the “full field” of participants.

The Labor ticket is the first to be publicly announced ahead of the October 24 elections, which will be conducted by postal ballot.

While she is yet to reveal her ticket publicly, Lord Mayor Sally Capp is expected to run alongside Cr Nicholas Reece as her deputy, with Cr Kevin Louey understood to have earned a place on the ticket.

Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood is also yet to reveal his plans, with the futures of fellow incumbent councillors from former Lord Mayor Robert Doyle’s team Beverley Pinder and Susan Riley also unknown. Cr Jackie Watts is expected to run again on Gary Morgan’s ticket.

Cr Philip Le Liu is expected to run first on a Liberal Party ticket, while long-term Greens Cr Rohan Leppert will go around for another term. However, it’s understood his colleague Cathy Oke will not be contesting ●

RATE RELIEF FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES



The City of Melbourne is supporting businesses and residents through the COVID-19 pandemic with rate relief, and a zero percent average rate rise for 2020—21.

If you are experiencing financial hardship and need help paying your rates, you may be eligible for a waiver, reduction, suspension or deferral of fees through the city’s Rates Financial Hardship Policy. To apply for rate relief, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/rates

The City of Melbourne has also announced rate relief in its Recovery Budget for 2020—21 to fix costs for residents and businesses. Fees and charges for community services such as recreation centres and children’s services will also remain the same, and fees have been suspended while facilities remain closed. These are just some of the ways we are supporting residents and businesses during this current public health challenge.

Read the latest updates on our response by visiting melbourne.vic.gov.au





YOUR MELBOURNE, YOUR VOTE

Melbourne City Council elections 2020

Enrol to vote

Did you know it's a Melbourne City Council election year?

This year's election will be by postal vote in October, with ballot packs sent to enrolled voters from early October. You can check if you're enrolled, or eligible to enrol, or update your details by calling the Elections Helpline on **1300 735 427**. In order to vote, you must be on the voters' roll by **4pm on Friday 28 August 2020**.

For more information visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/elections



Interpreter services We cater for people of all backgrounds. Please call 03 9280 0726.

03 9280 0717	廣東話	03 9280 0722	Soomaali	03 9280 0726	한국어
03 9280 0719	Bahasa Indonesia	03 9280 0723	Español	03 9280 0726	हिंदी
03 9280 0720	Italiano	03 9280 0725	Việt Ngữ	03 9280 0726	All other languages
03 9280 0721	普通话	03 9280 0726	عربي		



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Donor Tissue Bank urges community to register as tissue donors

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*
HEALTH

Whether it's helping someone to regain their eyesight, restoring a burn victim's quality of life or increasing mobility in cancer patients—tissue donation helps thousands of Victorians get back on their feet every year.

So, although Donate Life Week in late July has just passed, the Donor Tissue Bank of Victoria (DTBV) on Moore St is still working around the clock to raise awareness about the importance of becoming a donor.

DTBV tissue donation nurse specialist Janine Shields said that although it wasn't a conversation many people wanted to have, it was vital people thought about their wishes to save their family making the decision later down the line.

"I'm very passionate about tissue donation because it's not promoted as widely as organ donation is," Ms Shields said.

"Our message is that people should decide what they want to do, talk to their families and register to become a donor as it makes it much easier for your family to know what your wishes are."

As the only not-for-profit multi-tissue bank in Australasia, DTBV works under the Victorian Forensic Institute of Medicine to screen, process and distribute many types of tissue.

The parts of the body that can be donated include skin, heart valves, bones, tendons and corneas—which help patients of all ages get their quality of life back.

"Unlike organ donation which has to take part in a hospital setting, tissue donation can occur up to 24 hours after death," Ms Shields said.

"If we had a full tissue donor—someone who donated cornea, skin, heart valves, bones and tendons—that could help 55 to 65 people from just one donor."

Ms Shields said the importance of donors was well illustrated by the White Island volcano disaster late last year off the coast of



▲ Janine Shields promotes Donate Life Week last month.

New Zealand, which completely depleted the DTBV's skin bank.

"All our donations went to Victorian victims of the disaster and we're still trying to build our storages back up. So, it just shows that if you have something like a bush fire, it can completely wipe us out in regards to skin donation," Ms Shields said.

With Jersey Day coming up on September 4—an awareness day run by the Organ and Tissue Authority—now is a great time to start thinking about becoming a donor.

"It's a day to wear your favourite team jersey—sports or otherwise—to get the word out there about organ and tissue donation," Ms Shields said.

"Becoming a donor is really an amazing gift you can give to someone after you've passed away which can give them back their life—whether it's a burn victim or someone with mobility issues. They can go out and play with their siblings or their children and get that quality of life back."

As the loss of a loved-one is a sombre and often messy affair, it's particularly important to have these discussions early—which is why the DTBV recommends becoming part of the register.

"It's a tragic time for a lot of people and a difficult conversation. But our conversation does become a little but easier if the donor is registered on the Australia organ donor register because families then know what their loved ones wishes were," Ms Shields said.

"A lot of people don't know that their loved one is registered so it's important to have those conversations."

The staff at DTBV not only support the families by giving them information, guiding them through the process and providing emotional support, but also follow up with the families afterward.

One way they do this is through a memorial day service centred around the "tree of life" at DTBV headquarters— a painting donated by the family of a tissue donor who was an artist.

"We put the names of every tissue donor on the leaves. Then at the end of the year in November we have a memorial service called Leaf Day where all the families can come together and we can meet them to commemorate the tissue donors," Ms Shields said.

"We can also give the family some information about how their loved-one's donation has been used to help someone else in the community."

Although her job is often difficult and emotional, Ms Shields said it was a very rewarding position to be in.

"Our slogan is that it only takes a minute to register and it's an incredible gift you can give to someone, so I'm very glad to be involved." ●

"Becoming a donor is really an amazing gift you can give to someone after you've passed away which can give them back their life—whether it's a burn victim or someone with mobility issues. They can go out and play with their siblings or their children and get that quality of life back."



For more information visit dtbv.org.au or register to become a tissue donor at donatelife.gov.au



**An invitation to
ROTARY DISTRICT 9800 ZOOM BREAKFAST
Building Resilience in Today's Economic Business Climate**

Guest Speaker: Michael Byrne

MC: District Governor Nominee Amanda Wendt
Introduction: District Governor Elect Dale Hoy

ZOOM MEETING

Tuesday 25th August 2020
7.00 am – 8.30 am



Michael Byrne,
International Freight Coordinator
General, Austrade
Past MD, CEO and Director, Toll Group
CEO, Coates Hire, Linfox, Westgate Holdings &
Non-Executive Director, Australia Post



RSVP: 21st August 2020
<https://www.trybooking.com/BKRGN>
Zoom link will be sent upon RSVP

Display Gallery Now Open Daily.

Experience Our Virtual Tours Now Available Online.

OSK
55



Apartment 201W.

Brand New Apartments Ready To Inspect.

Southbank's newest vibrant heart, perfectly poised above an expansive 3700sqm park. With a wide range of residential, retail, food & beverage, resort-style amenity, childcare, Hilton Hotel and full-line integrated Woolworths supermarket, Melbourne Square will be a dynamic new lifestyle destination in Southbank.

Designed by COX Architecture with interiors by Carr, Melbourne Square will redefine inner city living.

Visit the display gallery or call to book a virtual inspection.

Residences Now Selling

2 bedroom \$698,100*

3 bedroom \$1,010,000*

*Prices can vary depending on size of residences.

Display gallery open daily. 11am-2pm
Corner of Power & Kavanagh Street
Southbank, Melbourne

Melbourne Square practices safe
COVID-19 procedures to protect the
health and wellbeing of our community.
Visit the website to find out more.

M MELBOURNE
SQUARE®

1300 888 770
melbournesquare.com.au

OSK
PROPERTY | 55 YEARS

KWSP
EPF

CBRE

Business help amid “devastating” impact of lockdown

WORDS BY *David Schout*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*
BUSINESS

Southbank businesses will benefit from a \$20 million lifeline after the state government declared inner-city businesses had been “uniquely hit” by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

In announcing further assistance, the government’s CBD Business Support Fund aims to help businesses faced with a “large and sustained shock to their trading environments”.

While details of the grant were still yet to be released at time of publishing, a government spokesperson confirmed that, despite what the name suggested, the grants would be available to both Southbank and Docklands businesses along with those in the CBD.

The announcement came after a City of Melbourne survey before the second lockdown revealed around 15 per cent of businesses were either unsure of their future or would close permanently as a result of the pandemic.

While more than 80,000 employing businesses within metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire would be eligible for a \$5000 grant, small and medium inner-city businesses were set to receive even greater support.

The grants program was expanded by a further \$5000 on August 3 following announcements made by Premier Daniel Andrews regarding stage 4 restrictions after officially declaring a “State of Disaster” in Victoria the previous day.

“For those businesses that suffer significant losses or need to close as a result of the current restrictions, we will provide support through our expanded Business Support Fund,” Premier Andrews said. “Those in Melbourne and Mitchell Shire can apply for up to \$10,000 in recognition of spending longer under restrictions.”

Effective from 11:59pm on August 5, the state government also imposed restrictions on a range of businesses as part of the stage 4 lockdowns, which were largely in response to significant numbers of community transmissions spread from workplaces.

While supermarkets, grocery stores, bottle shops, pharmacies, petrol stations, banks, news agencies and post offices can continue to operate, all other industries face significant restrictions or closure under the new rules.

Premier Andrews said that all open businesses and services had until 11:59pm on August 7 to enact a COVIDSafe plan focused on safety, prevention and response in the event that coronavirus was linked to the workplace.

Prime Minister Scott Morrison followed this by announcing a \$1500 pandemic disaster payment for Victorians who had exhausted sick leave.



▲ A normally bustling Southbank Promenade in early August.

Speaking in July, Victorian Minister for Industry Support and Recovery Martin Pakula said the government was aware of the distinct problems faced by central city business owners.

“[Central Melbourne] has in some respects been uniquely hit by the fact that stay-at-home directives have particularly kept people away,” he said.

“And the absence of foot traffic in the CBD has meant many businesses in the city, and Docklands and Southbank, have been particularly affected by the restrictions that have been imposed on Victorians.”

A usually vibrant central Melbourne and Southbank was again rendered desolate after stage three restrictions were re-imposed on July 9.

The government went a step further and introduced stage four restrictions on August 2, to be in place until at least September 13.

After experiencing a brief resurgence in the period after Melbourne’s first lockdown, foot traffic in Southbank nosedived in the last month.

The City of Melbourne’s pedestrian sensors indicated that in the last week of July, the number of pedestrians passing through Southbank Promenade during evening peak hour (5pm-6pm) averaged only 530.

This number is usually well above 2000.

The government acknowledged this, and also indicated it would look to assist tourism operators and businesses associated with the night-time economy.

Mr Pakula said the latter had “suffered greatly”.

“It is a very important part, not just of Victoria’s economy, but of Melbourne’s culture. It is one of the things that has set Melbourne apart over many years; our bars, our restaurants, our laneways, our theatre district,” he said.

“And it’s why we’re providing specific support because we want to see all of those businesses, or at least as many of them as possible, through to the other side. They’re going to be a crucial part of returning us to the Melbourne we love ... we want to see those businesses survive. There are some critical differences, and some critical responses needed, in particular for that night-time economy in Melbourne.”

Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood, the council’s finance chair, said the package was “much-needed”, but acknowledged some businesses were on a knife’s edge during the second lockdown period.

“Our city has taken a massive hit,” Cr Wood said.

“The biggest of any capital city. We need bold thinking and ideas to get us through. Otherwise recovery will take years. My only worry is that this Victorian Government business support won’t be enough to see many struggling businesses through the next six weeks after impacts since March. Any help is absolutely welcome though.”

Cr Wood said the council would also issue temporary free parking permits to food premises to help them deliver takeaway meals during lockdown. The parking permits will be available from July 21 and will apply until further notice.

“We want to support restaurants and cafes

to set up their own home delivery services,” the Deputy Lord Mayor said.

“Each business will be eligible for two passes so they can park for free in areas with green signs close to their business or near their customer’s delivery address where that address is within the City of Melbourne,” the Deputy Lord Mayor said.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said while she was obviously pleased many Melburnians were adhering to stay-at-home measures, the huge dip in foot traffic had a “devastating impact” on businesses.

“We usually have about 950,000 people coming into the city every day, [but] with people listening and complying with the restrictions it means that we don’t have those hundreds and thousands of people coming in to support our local retailers and hospitality,” she said.

On July 21, the federal government announced that it would be extending its JobKeeper program from September until March, but that fortnightly amounts would be scaled back to \$1200 a fortnight. A payment of \$750 will be provided to those working less than 20 hours per week. Businesses will also be required to report turnover quarterly to prove eligibility.

The JobSeeker unemployment benefit has also changed, with the \$550 coronavirus supplement cut to \$250 through until the end of 2020.

While there were some calls for the original \$1500 payments for both JobKeeper and JobSeeker to be extended in Victoria due to the declared State of Disaster, the federal government had not announced any changes at the time of publishing ●

City of Melbourne Business Concierge Hotline:
9658 9658

Business information:
business.vic.gov.au/coronavirus

Guide to stage 4 business restrictions:
dhhs.vic.gov.au/updates/coronavirus-covid-19/premiers-statement-business-restrictions

Connect with your local community

The Southbank Community Hub is a free online space to connect with fellow Southbank locals, stay in the know, post requests for help, share skills and local knowledge, ask for recommendations, discover local services, classes, retailers, events and more!

This Facebook group is owned by **Southbank News**.

If you’re a local resident or business you can join up here:

www.facebook.com/groups/southbankcommunityhub/

f SOUTHBANK
Community Hub





I'm a Southbanker

Stories from the locals you know

Southbank and South Wharf are a vibrant mix of residents, workers and businesses. Over the past 20 years they have evolved from just places to live into communities with a growing heart. We invite you to get to know some of the personalities behind the shops, bars, restaurants and cafes. Drop in for a chat, enjoy a drink or meal with friends, because it's your "front yard", and it's you who make it our "home".

Photography Studies College (PSC)

37-47 Thistlethwaite St, South Melbourne
www.psc.edu.au Ph 9682 3191



Photography Studies College (PSC) is a Southbank cultural landmark. Until January this year, it had occupied two buildings at 65 City Road since 1972. It was founded by Julie Moss and more than 40 years later, Julie is still very much at the helm.

During these COVID times, one of PSC's busiest staff members is Jill Bartholomeusz, the College's librarian and who also runs the student support and wellness program. If anyone needs medical or mental health advice, accommodation or jobs while at PSC, it's usually Jill to the rescue. Before 'bookworm' Jill came to PSC she had been Head Librarian at The Melbourne Athenaeum Library, the city's oldest library. She has also run the library for the

Department of Zoology and Genetics at Melbourne University.

Jill moved-in to Southbank from McKinnon 8 years ago. These days she 'e-scooters' her way through the back streets of Southbank to reach the ultra-modern, new PSC premises at 37-47 Thistlethwaite Street in South Melbourne

Jill is a natural communicator/networker and is a regular at the Yarra River Business Association's lunches and social functions. She says they are a great way to forge connections, particularly for PSC's student/ client job register. She also uses the Association's functions and e-newsletters to spread the word about PSC's very popular part time and short courses in photography, their exhibitions, guest lectures and their pop-up gallery in Southgate.

When asked about a career highlight, she has little hesitation in nominating 2005, when she travelled to Sri Lanka after the tsunami to fill several of their libraries with books donated from around Australia. She also helped set-up three mobile library services donated through City of Melbourne fundraising.

Running a close second in highlights is the evening she took to the dance floor at Crown with tennis star Serena Williams. Now, career highlights don't get much better than those two !



yarrariver.melbourne



Melbourne Water Taxis

Berth 4, Southgate
www.melbournewater taxis.com.au Ph 0416 068 655



The little blue and white 'whaler' boats of Melbourne Water Taxis have become synonymous with life on the lower Yarra River.

Whether he's taking school groups to explore the river for the first time, transporting tennis fans to a concert, the Aus' Open or escorting international celebrities, Andrew Bird is one of the most recognizable faces on our beloved waterway.

Andrew was probably destined to have an on-water career. With a Master Mariner father and after a childhood spent around yacht clubs and in yachting races, he dipped his commercial toe into the lower Yarra in late 1995.

He bought a 'whaler' boat off HMAS Brisbane for \$6,000 in an auction at the Cerberus Naval base. He set-up shop on a pontoon alongside the Polly Woodside, charging \$4 a head for a trip upstream to the tennis or to a concert in the sports precinct.

Two more 'whalers' arrived. He bought and restored an elegant 1948 fishing boat, 'Rebecca', and then bought shares in the beautifully restored M.V. Elizabeth Anne.

He started when there was just Southgate, and watched as the factories quickly came down and Southbank started sprouting its many landmarks. Locals and school groups were his bread and butter initially, but the internationals have grown steadily during the last 15 years.

Andrew has a long connection to the Yarra River Business Association. In his early days, the contacts made through attending meetings and social events kept him touch with the growing businesses and the opportunities they presented. He worked with the Association on 'Carols on the River' one year, and he fondly recalls the build-up to the Commonwealth Games, and its two weeks of competition, as a career highpoint. In fact, he was part of the opening ceremony.

Andrew also happens to be one of the nicest people working in Southbank, and what better endorsement is that !



Business Friendship Offer

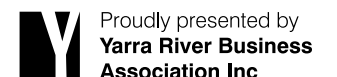
It's times like these that all businesses need a friend, colleague or sometimes a mentor, especially family-run and smaller operations.

As our gift to the Southbank business community, Yarra River Business Association is offering a six month (July to December 2020) membership free of any charges.

Try us out for 6 months at no cost and with no strings attached.

You'll get a weekly e-bulletin of news, issues and opportunities. Then, when things are up and running again, you'll have opportunities to rub shoulders with fellow small business people, through lunches, workshops and drink events. In between, we're always here to chat and share our 20 year knowledge about business in the Southbank and South Wharf precincts.

After 6 months, you can choose to stay with us for the remainder of the financial year, or we can part on good terms, having been able to learn who you are and what you do!



To take up this free 6 month membership offer, simply email the Executive Officer, Tim Bracher, at exoff@yarrariver.melbourne, or phone him on 0412 502 931

Check us out at www.yarrariver.melbourne/about-us



▲ President-elect Jasmin Dhillon (far back) with Southbank Rotary members.

New Rotary president supporting community during lockdown

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*
COMMUNITY

As the newly elected president of the Rotary Club of Southbank, Jasmin Dhillon is working hard to support the Southbank community during lockdown.

Under her leadership, the club has recently launched a number of new projects to celebrate Rotary's 100th year in Australia and New Zealand.

One such project is the G'day Network launched in June—a mental health service designed to combat the loneliness brought about by isolation.

"As part of the G'day Network you can join a meeting online and have a safe space to chat and engage. And in the future, we plan to be out and about, at markets, so people can feel free to drop by and chat to us," Ms Dhillon said.

To assist people who are trying to leave a difficult home situation during lockdown, the Rotary club of Southbank has also recently partnered with the Rotary Club of Prahran to form the Inner Melbourne Emergency Relief Network.

Ms Dhillon said the new Network would work to provide donated furniture and other household goods to those in need.

"It's essentially a crisis emergency network for the inner city where people can donate furniture they no longer want and we can provide it to people who are setting up a new home," she said.

Inside the club itself, Ms Dhillon and her team had also been hard at work to create a new satellite club for millennials.

"We've created a more flexible satellite club which allows millennials to meet and work on projects that interest them without having the buy-in of the original club," she said.

In October, Rotary will also be launching a satellite club for executives, which will be targeted at business leaders in the Southbank community.

"We'll also have the executive club for people with a busy lifestyle who want to help out with fundraising but don't have the time to commit to weekly meetings. We hope it will

help us be more responsive, adaptive and innovative when dealing with community issues," she said.

In terms of fundraising, the Rotary Club has a book sale fundraiser planned which will be going ahead digitally in August.

"We're planning to launch that in the next couple of weeks and most things will go for a couple of dollars—even the good books," Ms Dhillon said.

"We want to fundraise, gold donation style, to put towards our projects such as eradicating polio and making and donating face masks."

The money will also be used to continue supporting Southbank-based crisis centre Steps, along with Upbeat Arts which provides arts programs to marginalised communities.

"There's been an increase in children fleeing home during COVID-19 which is unfortunately related to domestic violence, so Steps is seeing a need for more support and fundraising," Ms Dhillon said.

"Upbeat Arts also provides support to people who are having mental health issues or may have lost their jobs so we want to support that community connection."

Ms Dhillon was elected as the president on July 7 after two years as a member—the youngest woman to ever run the club.

"It's still a bit unique for a young woman of a culturally diverse background to be in leadership role in my district so we're hoping to see that change," she said.

In Jasmin's personal life she practices both criminal and commercial law, but she said the Rotary Club provided a unique sense of connection and altruism—which was particularly important during current times.

"I love the vibe of the club, the people, and it was great being able to give back to the community and be around like-minded people," she said.

"It becomes like a second family." ●

For more information:
southbank.org.au

Extended building hours continue

WORDS BY *David Schout*
BUILDING

Weekday construction work on job sites can continue for 14 hours-a-day during Melbourne's second coronavirus lockdown, despite growing frustration from affected residents stuck inside.

As Victorians are being asked to stay indoors following a surge in COVID-19 cases, the impact of extended construction hours has taken its toll on those living near building sites.

City of Melbourne councillors confirmed with *Southbank News* they had received a "significant" level of complaints from disaffected locals across the municipality.

Noise complaints are expected to decline after the state government declared a six-week "state of disaster" on August 2, with construction projects higher than three storeys now only allowed up to 25 per cent of normal employees on site at any given time.

But since April 2, the City of Melbourne has allowed construction activity to take place from 6am to 8pm on weekdays as a way to "fast-track projects, save jobs and help limit the economic impact of COVID-19".

The special exemption allows job sites, usually bound by 7am-7pm rules, extra time to offset the time lost to social distancing and other safety measures.

Normal 8am-3pm rules on Saturdays have also been extended by three hours (from 7am to 5pm), giving the industry an additional 13 hours on-site per week.

Procedurally, the move to extend construction hours has caused some disagreement at Town Hall.

The City of Melbourne made the decision "under delegation" earlier this year without going before councillors, a decision both the planning chair and deputy planning chair said was wrong.

"When COVID-19 hit Melbourne there were a lot of decisions that were made very quickly. And with the benefit of hindsight, I think that decision is one which should have gone before a council meeting for proper consideration and endorsement," Cr Nicholas Reece said.

His deputy chair of planning Cr Rohan Leppert went a step further.

"It's a terrible, terrible policy," he said.

"It should have gone to council. If this is going to be a policy that lasts throughout the pandemic — and the pandemic is not going away for the rest of the year and the rest of 2021 at least — then yes, it should still come back to council. This isn't a sustainable situation."

A council spokesperson maintained that the special permits were considered on a case-by-case basis, and said it was sympathetic to residents' current predicament.

"We understand construction work has an impact on residents, so we have significantly increased proactive inspections to monitor compliance and enforce observed

breaches," the spokesperson said.

"Our inspectors are out every morning and night to ensure works do not start before permitted times and are consistent with the conditions of the out-of-hours permits."

Those additional inspections saw the council issue 103 infringement notices to builders between May and July, an average of more than one per day.

Both Cr Leppert and Cr Reece argued that the maximum penalty of \$2000 for breaching the local law was simply not enough of a deterrent.

And at the July 21 Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting, the pair put forward a motion calling on the state government to increase the fine.

"For the largest construction projects, it [the \$2000 fine] is simply being built into the cost of doing business," Cr Leppert said.

"This isn't about curtailing construction activity in the City, it's about curtailing illegal construction activity."

Cr Leppert said he was contacted about early morning construction noise "more than any other issue" and argued there was a public health element to the issue while many residents were spending a significant amount of time inside.

"There are 50,000 residential apartments in the CBD, Southbank and Docklands. Every central city resident knows that they live in a high-density area with plenty of construction activity. But we limit construction activity to daylight hours for a reason. The consequences of repetitive early morning breaches of construction hours on community health and wellbeing are significant."

In a written submission supporting the motion, Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) president Tony Penna said the issue was well known in the local area.

"The residents of Southbank have endured continuous construction for many years, and it is not over yet. There are several projects that are either due to start, on the drawing board or in the planning stage," it said.

"Breaches of (out-of-hours) permits are a frequent occurrence. The financial penalties specified in the legislation are inadequate as a disincentive for the scale of the construction projects that Southbank experiences."

Cr Reece said repeat offenders should be held to account.

"We cannot have a situation where construction companies are openly flouting the rules and include the risk of copping a fine as part of business costs on a project," he said.

"There are still too many issues of permit breaches of permit conditions occurring and we need to increase the fines to such a level that they create enough pain for builders to force them to comply."

The motion passed unanimously at the meeting, and the council will now write to the Andrews Government seeking to amend the relevant law ●

Councillors call to review the *City of Melbourne Act*

COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Cr Jackie Watts has led a unanimous push by City of Melbourne councillors calling on new Minister for Local Government Shaun Leane to undertake a review of the *City of Melbourne Act 2001*.

Mr Leane was appointed to the vacated portfolio in June following the sacking of previous minister Adem Somyurek following branch stacking allegations aired on *60 Minutes*. The scandal followed the passing of a new *Local Government Act 2020*, however, not all of the reforms applied to the City of Melbourne, which has its own Act that Cr Watts noted had not been reviewed since its introduction.

Her motion, which went before councillors at the Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting on July 21, called on the state government to commit to a review of the Act ahead of the 2024 elections, which also reconsidered

representation of First Nations people.

Cr Watts's final motion unanimously supported by councillors also called for the implementation of a number of interim measures in time for the forthcoming council elections in October, including:

- The disclosure of any donation and/or in-kind gift within three business days of receipt;
- Capping donations at not more than \$4000 from any one person or organisation within any 12-month period; and
- Prohibit taking donations from persons who personally own or hold controlling interests in companies that actively engage in the property or gambling industries.

The motion also called for council officers to investigate options for virtual platforms for democratic debate that adhered to social distancing for the October local government elections ●



PERFORMANCE MEDICINE

We are here for you in whatever capacity you need!

Online Clinic Still Available

Online Consultations

Live Stream Classes

Online Sports GP

Online Exercises Programs

Physiotherapy
Remedial Massage
Myotherapy
Sports GP

Get \$20 off your first Myotherapy or Remedial Massage when you quote this ad

Offer Expires August 31 2020

Ground Floor, 312 St Kilda Road, Southbank, 3006
03 9686 2373
www.performancemedicine.com.au

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne Community Update

10 VIRTUAL SERVICES FOR MELBURNIANS

Get access to business support, wellbeing services, inspiring conversations and more without leaving home thanks to the City of Melbourne's expanded virtual services.

As COVID-19 restrictions continue, here is some information from the City of Melbourne about just a few of the virtual services on offer.

1 Books, music, movies and more

Our digital library materials, including ebooks, audiobooks, music and movies, are extra popular at the moment, and our book clubs, conversation clubs and storytimes (for children and adults) are continuing online. If you need book recommendations, check out our podcasts or eBook Valet service. If you have borrowed books from our libraries, loans will be extended during the closure and no fines will accrue. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries

Melbourne magazine online

To keep in touch with the latest news from the City of Melbourne, visit magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au and subscribe to our newsletter.

2 Business support

Our Business Concierge Hotline is here for all businesses affected by COVID-19. Simply phone 9658 9658 and press 1 for business from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday. You can also submit your query online at any time, and subscribe to our business e-newsletter, at melbourne.vic.gov.au/business

3 Online exercise

Keep moving while our recreation centres are closed, even if you aren't a member, by using our free Active Melbourne app and virtual classes, such as yoga and tai chi. We have also

continued to offer outdoor personal training as appropriate. For details, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/activemelbourne



Online exercise

4 Creative activities for kids

We are publishing videos and activities prepared by local artists to help keep kids entertained at home. To dive into some creative adventures, including circus skills and juggling, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/artplay

5 Online council meetings

Council and Future Melbourne Committee meetings have moved online until further notice. The system allows councillors to vote, and members of the public to participate, from their homes. For details, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil

6 Telehealth consultations for parents

We continue to provide maternal and child health services to families via telehealth consultations, with face-to-face consultations for all infants aged up to 8 weeks. Immunisation services are available to all families at community sessions by appointment. New parents groups and parenting information programs are delivered via Zoom. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/families

7 Community Food Guide

We have updated our guide to finding healthy and affordable food in and around the City of Melbourne to reflect the current landscape, as many organisations have adjusted their operating models. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/communityfoodguide

8 Melbourne Conversations

In the coming months, hear from pros about future tech and how COVID-19 could spark a digital awakening, discuss future preparedness with an Australian Defence Force expert, and cast your mind forwards to a potential 'leisure society'. Visit Knowledge Melbourne on Facebook for livestream event dates.

What's On in Melbourne

Things are changing quickly in Melbourne as COVID-19 restrictions continue, and businesses and events launch innovative offerings. To keep up-to-date, visit whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au to subscribe to our weekly What's On newsletter.



Digital library materials



Telehealth is being used to provide maternal and child health services

9 Family violence support

We are providing support for people experiencing family violence during restrictions. If you are experiencing family violence, or if you are concerned for another person's safety, there is help available. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/familyviolencesupport

10 Virtual citizenship ceremonies

We have been holding online citizenship ceremonies for individuals and family groups. We usually hold six to eight in-person citizenship ceremonies each year, with about 100 new citizens participating in each ceremony.

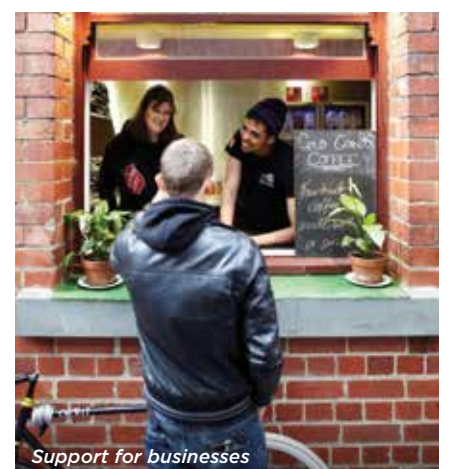
To find out more about the City of Melbourne's response to COVID-19, including support for vulnerable people, and temporary closures and adjustments to services and facilities, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/coronavirus



Find healthy and affordable food using the refreshed Community Food Guide



Online creative activities for kids



Support for businesses

ADVERTISEMENT
Your City of Melbourne Community Update

A MESSAGE TO OUR COMMUNITY

As we continue to face the biggest public health challenge we've ever experienced, the City of Melbourne is here to reassure you that the health and wellbeing of our community remains at the heart of all our decision-making.

You can still count on us to continue to deliver services such as waste and recycling; support for the elderly, isolated and at risk; children's services; homelessness services and animal management. It's what we're here to do. We won't let you down.

We are committed to supporting all residents and businesses by delivering essential services and helping respond to the challenge of COVID-19.

To all Melbourne businesses: we know you're facing tough challenges. We are right beside you and are advocating on your behalf. We know businesses are the lifeblood of our city.

To help you find support and information, we're continuing our Business Concierge Hotline which has provided advice to thousands of businesses in recent months.

We will recover and together we will build a stronger city. For the latest on City of Melbourne support, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au

Take care, stay connected, and look out for each other.

Melbourne City Council



Photo taken before socbefore 1al distancing restrictions

(From left) Cr Susan Riley, Cr Kevin Louey, Cr Beverley Pinder, Cr Nicolas Frances Gilley MBE, Lord Mayor Sally Capp, Cr Nicholas Reece, Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood AM, Cr Rohan Leppert, Cr Cathy Oke, Cr Philip Le Liu and Cr Jackie Watts.

HELP FOR BUSINESSES FACING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

The City of Melbourne's Business Concierge Hotline is here for all businesses in the municipality affected by COVID-19 restrictions.

The service has been expanded to cater for 300 calls a day, and it is staffed by a dedicated team of people who speak to small business owners directly and help them navigate the support options available.

This includes the Victorian Government's recently announced

\$534 million boosted relief package for businesses affected by the reinstatement of restrictions in metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire.

To get support, call the Business Concierge Hotline on 9658 9658 (press 1 for business) from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday. You can also submit your query anytime online, and subscribe to our business newsletter for regular updates, at melbourne.vic.gov.au/business



Council's vision

Find out more about the Council's shared vision for the city, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/councilplan

Connect with us

[f /cityofmelbourne](https://www.facebook.com/cityofmelbourne)

[@cityofmelbourne](https://www.instagram.com/cityofmelbourne)

[@cityofmelbourne](https://twitter.com/cityofmelbourne)



Melbourne City Council postal elections

Your Melbourne, your vote



You must be enrolled to vote

A general election will be held for Melbourne City Council in October 2020. To be able to vote in this election, you must be enrolled by the close of roll at **4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020**. Two categories of voters can vote in the Melbourne City Council election: State-enrolled voters and Council-enrolled voters.

State-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

You are already enrolled for this election if:

- you will be 18 years of age or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 **AND**
- you live in the City of Melbourne **AND**
- you are on the State electoral roll for your current address.

You need to enrol if:

- you are an Australian citizen aged 18 or over on Saturday 24 October 2020 **AND**
- you live in the City of Melbourne and you are not on the State electoral roll **OR**
- you have lived at your current residential address within the City of Melbourne for at least a month and have not yet updated your enrolment details, including any changes to your postal address.

How do I enrol?

You can enrol online at vec.vic.gov.au

You can also download an enrolment form from the website.

All enrolment applications must be received by the Victorian Electoral Commission by the close of roll at **4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020**.

How can I check if I am State-enrolled?

You can check your enrolment details online at vec.vic.gov.au at any time, or call 1300 805 478.

Voting is compulsory

Voting is compulsory for everyone who is enrolled in the Melbourne City Council election, including non-Australian citizens and corporation voting representatives.

Thinking about standing for election?

Candidate requirements have recently changed. To nominate as a candidate for Melbourne City Council, you must:

- be an Australian citizen and enrolled on the voters' roll for Melbourne City Council **AND**
- be eligible to become a councillor should you be elected **AND**
- have completed the mandatory candidate training before lodging your nomination with the Election Manager.

For further information, visit vec.vic.gov.au

This notice is published by the Victorian Electoral Commission on behalf of the Registrar for the Melbourne City Council voters' roll.

Council-enrolled voters

Am I enrolled to vote?

You are already enrolled for this election if you own or occupy rateable property within the municipality and live in Australia, but you are not a resident of the City of Melbourne. A maximum of two owners and two occupiers can be enrolled as Council-enrolled voters for any one property.

Who else can enrol & vote?

You may also apply to enrol if:

- you own or occupy rateable property in the City of Melbourne and reside in the council area, but are not on the State electoral roll (includes non-Australian citizens) **OR**
- you own rateable property in the City of Melbourne but live outside Australia **OR**
- you are a director or company secretary of a corporation (or hold an equivalent position in an Association) that occupies rateable property solely or jointly within the council area*.

*If a corporation that solely owns or occupies rateable property in the City of Melbourne does not validly appoint two voting representatives by **4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020**, Melbourne City Council is required by law to enrol the first two of the following (to be taken in alphabetical order):

- the company secretaries whose postal addresses are in Victoria
- the company secretaries whose postal addresses are elsewhere in Australia
- the directors whose postal addresses are in Victoria
- the directors whose postal addresses are elsewhere in Australia.

How do I apply to be a Council-enrolled voter?

If you meet any of the mentioned criteria and wish to enrol, contact Melbourne City Council on 1300 735 427 or visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/elections for a council enrolment form. Council enrolment forms must be received by Melbourne City Council by the close of roll at **4 pm on Friday 28 August 2020**.

How can I check if I am Council-enrolled?

You can check your enrolment details online from mid-August at melbourne.vic.gov.au/elections or anytime by contacting the Melbourne City Council election helpline on 1300 735 427.

Enrolment closes

4 pm Friday 28 August

State-enrolled voters can register for free VoterAlert SMS and email reminders at vec.vic.gov.au

vec.vic.gov.au | 131 832

@electionsvic   

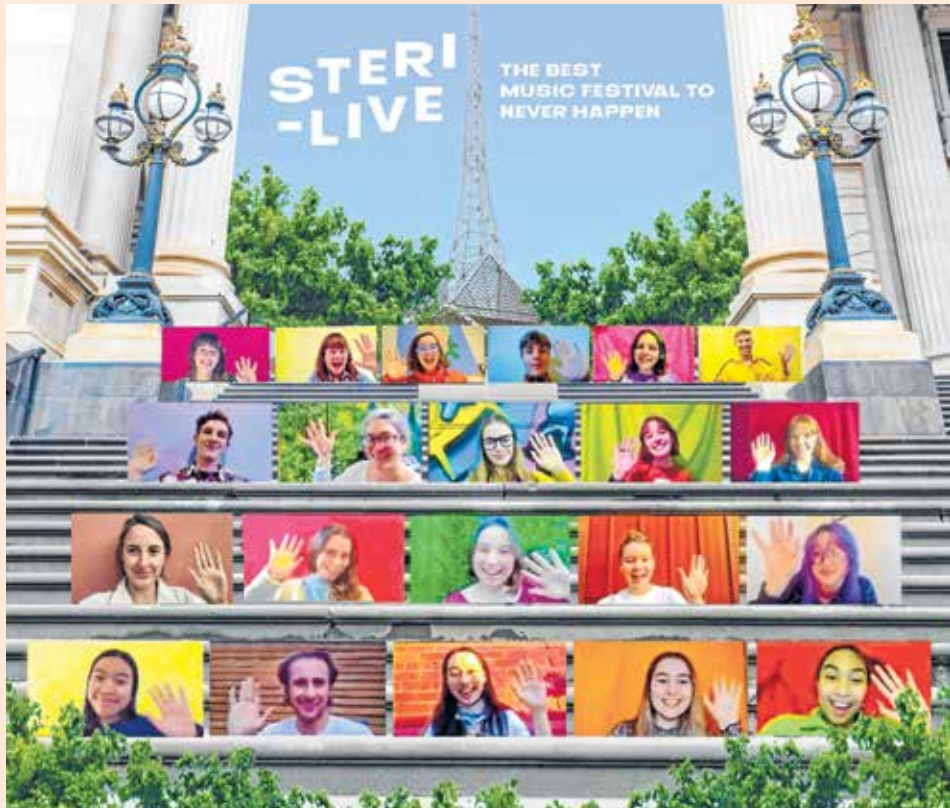
For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting service:

• በአማርኛ 9209 0190 Amharic • عربي 9209 0100 Arabic • **Bosanski** 9209 0191 Bosnian • 粵語 9209 0101 Cantonese • **Hrvatski** 9209 0102 Croatian • دري 9209 0193 Dari
• **Dinka** 9209 0119 Dinka • **Ελληνικά** 9209 0103 Greek • **Italiano** 9209 0104 Italian • ភាសាខ្មែរ 9209 0192 Khmer • **한국어** 9209 0194 Korean • **Македонски** 9209 0105 Macedonian
• 國語 9209 0106 Mandarin • فارسی 9209 0195 Persian • **Русский** 9209 0196 Russian • **Српски** 9209 0107 Serbian • **Soomali** 9209 0108 Somali • **Español** 9209 0109 Spanish
• **Türkçe** 9209 0110 Turkish • **Việt-n** 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other **non-English** languages 9209 0112

Authorised by W. Gately, AM, Electoral Commissioner, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne, Victoria.



The Arts Precinct



▲ *Steri-Live.*



▲ *Moira Finucane.*

Keeping the arts alive during lockdown

WORDS BY *Marco Holden Jeffery*

It's the perfect live performance: indie singer-songwriter Alice Skye, at her most raw and intimate, sits at a piano on a stage adorned with house plants, candles and an old telephone - as if in the artist's own home.

"Sometimes it feels like I'm swallowing my own tongue," Skye sings on an unreleased track titled *Wurega Djalín*, and between the decor, her breathless vocals and the familiarity between her and guitarist Sam King make you feel as if you're right in the room with her.

But as soon as the volume and intensity of the performance ramps up, the listener is treated to the beautiful, full acoustics of an empty Hamer Hall, where Skye recorded the performance with King and a special guest appearance by singer Jen Cloher.

In a way the performance did take place in front of thousands of people - on July 23, Arts Centre Melbourne streamed the show to homes across the country as part of *Vault Sessions*, a collaboration with the Australian Music Vault showcasing Australia's best homegrown musical talent.

Alice Skye, a Wergaia and Wemba Wemba woman and a rising star in the Australian music scene, was the first of three artists recorded at the revered Hamer Hall in June.

Her performance was the opening salvo of the Arts Centre's wide-ranging program to connect with Victorian art lovers during the state's second lockdown.

It was a special treat for fans of Skye as she treated the digital audience to a slew of tracks from an unreleased album.

Following Skye on July 30 was rapper Ziggy Ramo who delivered a biting and timely performance full of his characteristic razor-sharp lyricism on racialised discrimination and injustice, with an energetic showing by country/rock/punk outfit Cash Savage and the Last Drinks scheduled for August 6.

All three performances are made available to watch online for two weeks after the original stream.

For locked-down lovers of Australian arts and culture, Arts Centre Melbourne isn't stopping



▲ *Vault Sessions.*



▲ *Take Over.*



▲ *Ziggy Ramo.*

with *Vault Sessions*.

Ordinarily, the annual *Take Over!* program commissioned and produced one creative performance project to be presented at the Melbourne Fringe Festival.

But creative producer Daniel Clarke said the pandemic had allowed them to include 10 projects in this year's edition, spanning dance, theatre, spoken word, music, live art and installation.

"We made a decision to invest across more artists and support them to have a couple of weeks of creative development in their homes, also asking them to think about how they might want to engage with audiences online," Clarke said.

Out of 94 applications, *Take Over!* selected artists based on how the program could extend their creative practice and give them room for experimentation, while encouraging a diverse and equitable cast of voices.

As part of the project, one of the artists would be inviting audiences into their home every Saturday to engage with their work-in-progress via livestream.



▲ *Alice Skye.*



▲ *Cash Savage.*

"The first preview presentation was very laid-back and very conversational - each of the artists are doing something quite different and they're not locking down what they're doing until they do their residencies," Clarke said.

"This unique opportunity of engaging with audiences online might have an impact on the final work."

Moira Finucane - whose work blends provocative burlesque performances with themes of conservation and humanity - was thrilled to be one of the artists selected to take part in *Take Over!*.

"It springs out of my great love of Arts Centre Melbourne - I've had some of my best nights aspiring under that spire, so I really loved the idea of them throwing open the doors to 10 outfits and getting these amazing ideas and artistic sparks," she said.

"Through art if people are welcomed and you take their hands and hold them tight, you can show them these beautiful, exciting worlds - you can take them anywhere, you can talk about anything, you can explore any issue and topic together."

Finucane - a former environmental scientist - was developing a performance titled *I Miss You Antarctica*, exploring "hope, melting and dreaming of the future in the only place in the world that has no history of permanent human habitation".

Inspired by a recent trip to Antarctica, the piece would form a part of her globally acclaimed *Art vs Extinction Suite*, and be supported by a team of iconic collaborators including Mudburra singer/songwriter Ray Dimakarra Dixon, visual activist Eugyene Teh and paper artist Louise Seymour.

For an artist used to getting up close and personal with audiences and feeling their visceral reactions, working from home wasn't coming naturally to Finucane.

"Last year I took my work all over the world - I hugged people in China, I walked through audiences naked in Denmark and Berlin," she said.

"When you feel and you feed on the sweat and excitement of people, it's really weird to sit in a room and imagine things by yourself."

But by her reckoning, Finucane's work-in-progress on September 5 would be one to hold out for - she would be recreating a piece of Antarctica in her bathtub and asking each audience member to hold a piece of ice in their hands to immerse themselves in the performance.

The works have been tentatively scheduled to be presented at the Fringe Festival in November, with a digital offering on the cards if the festival wasn't able to go ahead.

"That being said, if there's a live outcome there will still be a digital outcome," Clarke said.

Figuring out a live outcome was also on the minds of another group of creators working with Arts Centre Melbourne.

The *New Slang* program - a group of teenagers with a passion for live music and event management - had been working with the Australian Music Vault and Arts Centre's The Channel to develop *Steri-LIVE*, an imagined festival for a post-pandemic Australia.

The online experience - subtitled "the best music festival to never happen" - would journey through all the ins and outs of a live event that prioritised sanitisation, sustainability and a lineup celebrating diversity.

The Channel venue and program manager Zoe Rinkel said the program was key to keeping young people engaged with the arts throughout the lockdown.

"Innovation is important, now more than ever, and the aspiring artists from our *New Slang* program have displayed the divergent thinking that will be required for the arts to adapt in the future," she said.

"We are dedicated to ensuring that Arts Centre Melbourne is a place where young, aspiring creatives can learn, grow, contribute and realise their ideas."

Steri-LIVE is now live on the Australian Music Vault's website: australianmusicvault.com.au artscentremelbourne.com.au ●



▲ Centaur Nurse 2013



▲ Stalking the Centaur 2020



▲ Sharks Circle the Life Raft 2020

The pathos of Nurse Savage

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge

Pathos is defined as pity shared between friends. It can be used in an artistic sense to make tragedies less horrifying by focusing on small details or moments in a story.

An exhibition mounted at the Shrine of Remembrance in July was prompted by footage of a 60-year-old nurse's shoe on the ocean floor.

The eerie footage of the shoe and a torpedoed hospital ship appeared on the news in 2009.

Melbourne artist Dean Bowen was watching, and he began doing charcoal drawings, not of the underwater remains, but of the incident that led to the sinking.

The result is an exhibition *Dean Bowen's Imagining Centaur*, including drawings and an animation, that demonstrates the power of a story to sweep up all those who come in touch with it.

The star of Bowen's telling of the tragic sinking of the *Centaur* in 1943 by the Japanese is Sister Savage, the sole surviving nurse from the ship who had just a seawater salve to administer to those left floating in the ocean beside her.

The Shrine commonly commemorates battles with historical exhibits of uniforms, photographs and testaments but this exhibition is different.

It is a survivor story, but one that does not need a "graphic material" warning because even though there were deaths and war crimes this is not a simulation but a re-imagining.

Curator Neil Sharkey has respected the materiality of the work by floating the drawings on the wall and keeping the didactic boards to a minimum, allowing Bowen's lovely charcoal sensibility to filter through like a trace of something that might be remembered somewhere.

Sharkey conceded that facts were important. "This is not an art gallery," he said, and there are photographs of the *Centaur* and the nurse but these exhibits recede beside the little piece of ocean off the coast of Queensland where the action took place.

Did Sister Savage actually ever see the enemy submarine? Probably not, so she might have imagined it to be like the strange, tuber shape Bowen has depicted with a periscope shooting up like a sensitive snout.

The ocean was filled with bodies after the torpedo hit and Sister Savage would have been happy to see a couple of sailors clinging onto a piece of timber. Sharks were circling and the day was long while they waited to be rescued.

The *Centaur* sank to the bottom of the ocean and it wasn't until 2009 that a team was sent to find it somewhere near Moreton Bay. That was just the beginning for the story is still unfolding to

those close to it. For Sharkey, the fact that the captain of the submarine was never charged is puzzling for it was clear that the *Centaur* was a hospital ship with large red crosses along its length.

"He was a war criminal," Sharkey said.

But histories like this can easily be forgotten. For Sue Burgess, director of public programs for the Shrine, the story might prompt people to find out more about the incident.

There is an animation on the Shrine website based on Bowen's drawings and Burgess said that seeing the work from the perspective of Sister Savage was particularly moving now that medicos "are front of mind."

When Sister Savage was confronted by all that death and suffering after the explosion, "her nurse's training kicked in", Burgess said, and she reassured those who were floating in the ocean even though she was badly injured herself.

Dean Bowen's Imagining Centaur, Shrine of Remembrance, from August ●

For more information:

shrine.org.au/exhibition-dean-bowens-imagining-centaur

CRITIC

Being vulnerable in the COVID-19 era

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge

Once again, the Assembly Point vitrines down at the Guild building on Sturt St are reading the culture of Melbourne as it evolves.

At the beginning of the first lockdown, an exhibition of drawings reimagined the beauty of the banks of the Yarra River during first settlement.

Against this the artists juxtaposed the developer's hammer of the contemporary construction scene.

This exhibition captured the mood of the times when people were out exercising and rediscovering the geography of their city.

In the current exhibition, *BOOBOO*, three feminists are making a striking tribute to the ins and outs of the female body.

There is always something new to be said about biology and its spatial and hormonal wonders but are viewers still receptive, given that social constructs such as gender have taken over as hotter topics in the public domain?

Ian was down getting a coffee and was happy to talk to *Southbank News* about his responses to the exhibition.

"I'm trying to figure out what the yellow is," he said, looking at Stephania Leigh's piece *Partial Figure (RYB)*. "It's a womb."

"I'm interested in what the blue is. Blue is usually the colour of peace. The fact that the yellow is off the ground and held up by blue suggests a tranquil, peaceful holding of a womb."

The *BOOBOO* girls, Karryn Argus, Stephania Leigh and Caroline Phillips, should be happy with this receptive reading of their feminised space within Melbourne's coffee culture.

"Leigh's work explores the visibility of the female form through opaque and abstracted planes of acrylic and wood, with a reductionist approach to colour," *BOOBOO* said in its artists' statement.

“

They say the work aims to play with the viewer's ideas and emotions and it certainly does in Female, in which two floating shapes seem to capture the more maudlin mood of the city as it goes further into lockdown.

”

One large red teardrop shape hovers in space while another dark blue full stop hovers in front. This could be a way of saying: "stop your crying."

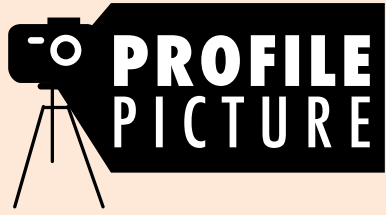
Female artists are offering comfort as people adjust to the fear and isolation of the COVID-19 era of physical distancing.

Feelings of vulnerability are brought forward in this collaborative project and *Blobbing* by Caroline Phillips is visceral in its use of soft materials in tortured forms while lovely knitted blobs in muted colours by Karryn Argus invite you into her room.

BOOBOO, Caroline Phillips, Stephania Leigh and Karryn Argus, Assembly Point, Sturt Street until September 27 ●



▲ Female by Stephania Leigh captures the teary mood of Melbourne as it goes further into lockdown.



Student wins major award

After a colourful career in more industries than you can count, Anna Luscombe decided to make a leap and pursue a passion which had been lying dormant for some time—photography.

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*

Beginning her part-time advanced diploma at Photography Studies College (PSC) in 2016, she's now in her final year and hasn't looked back.

"I'm dyslexic so I get bored easily and tend to jump around. I started off in nursing, then did a

business degree, then midwifery, then recruitment," Anna said.

"But photography has been my main interest behind it all, so I decided to go for it."

Although she had always done photography in the background, Anna wanted to hone her skills for artistic portraiture.

"When I was finishing school, I wanted to be a photographic journalist and had great aspirations of going to war zones, but my dad was horrified and talked me out of it," Anna said.

"So, I ended up doing something completely different, and I've come full circle."

It's clear that decision was the right one, as Anna has already won the Australian Institute of Professional Photography's (AIPP's) Silver Lining award for student of the year with her picture of the ski-patrol hut at Mt Buller taken during a snowstorm.

"I trekked out there one day in a snowstorm and started taking photos of it," Anna said.

"It's something that I've always loved up here because depending on the amount of snow, or amount of sun, it's always got a different look about it."

Another image Anna submitted was from a series she produced called *Dyslexia*, which was inspired by her own experience with the language disorder.

"I'm dyslexic and my son is dyslexic, and I noticed that when he started school back in prep, I walked into the classroom and thought, 'My god, nothing has changed in 30-odd years,'" Anna said.

"So, I feel very strongly about the way that the education system still doesn't cater for 20 per cent of the population, because one in five people is dyslexic."

The series drew inspiration from the experience of her young son and her current profession as a dyslexia educator, with one of the images making it to the semi-finals of the AIPP awards.

"The images are quite surreal and have a lot of metaphor and symbolism. It's a representation of the emotions of being dyslexic," Anna said.

"I remember when I was at school, I had to wear the Dunce's hat because I got something wrong. You do feel very isolated in the school system, so the images that I did represent how I felt and how I see my son reacting to things that



go on at school."

In Anna's other work at PSC she does a "bit of everything", but is particularly drawn to landscapes, whether they're natural or created using post-processing.

"My style is minimalistic, clean lines, strong narrative. When I do the portraiture, it's got more of an artistic flair to it," Anna said.

"I can't be pigeon-holed. So, the art major at PSC has been great for that." ●

PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIES COLLEGE

Feeling Low in Lockdown? Thinking of a Career Change? Want to Upskill for Your Future? Yes, then it's time to follow your passion for photography! Learn from industry professionals, upgrade your skills, give yourself something rewarding and positive to engage in!

New Part-Time Night Intake | Starting 25 August!

For a \$150-\$500 COVID Discount off any of our 3 part-time courses, contact us today and quote the following code: **SouthbankNews** (valid till 18 August).

WE OFFER

MASTERS | BACHELORS | DIPLOMAS | CERTIFICATES | SHORT COURSES

Find out more

PSC.EDU.AU +613 9682 3191



info@psc.edu.au | 37-47 Thistlethwaite Street, South Melbourne VIC 3205

Remember the days of espresso martinis?

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge
PHOTOGRAPHY BY John Tadigiri
BUSINESS

If we ever get out of this awful pandemic, at least we'll have seen some brassy moves by some of the well-known characters along Southbank.

For the last two weekends in July, the presence of Left Bank proprietor Eddie Muto has cheered up a few passers-by.

Eddie got his second wind and opened a weekend market on Southbank Promenade inside his cocktail bar.

This was no desperate attempt to tap into the farmers' market concept but a full-blown Parisian-style pop-up with specialty products dripping in truffle oil.

Customers entered via a red carpet and followed the arrows past small stands, including a cocktail bar lit up in neon, a chef with plates of seafood, a DJ and the bar's regular suppliers with delicacies such as cheeses and black truffle tagliatelle.

"You don't have to suffer," Eddie was telling locals with his offering of well-priced luxury items. "We've put a lot of our experience into the market."

This was Left Bank's second attempt at dealing with the crisis and one more suited to their personality.

For the first lockdown they tried selling takeaway food like everyone else but Eddie baulked at the 35 per cent delivery charge.

"We tried takeaway food," he said. "It was very difficult. We weren't known for it. There was no-one in the city and the locals have got so many options. Uber Eats was too expensive."

For the second lockdown, he pivoted the

business and decided to inspire the locals as well as feed them and it appears to have worked with customers returning wearing masks.

As Southbankers plodded on their weekend walks beside the river, depressed by the spread of the deadly virus, here was a distraction they could understand.

Eddie was out there in front of the market, irrepressible behind his mask and he wasn't waiting until COVID-19 disappeared to launch this latest enterprise.

"We've got Veuve Cliquot at \$74 a bottle. That's \$5 cheaper than Dan Murphy's," he told *Southbank News*.

Most concoctions were in cute little takeaway bottles, gin blossom and espresso martini, drinks staff used to mix for the non-casino crowd around in the evenings on the riverbank.

"It's very girl-focussed," Eddie said of the market with its pink bottles arranged in displays. "You have to keep going, keep introducing new concepts."

The willingness of customers to step into his new venture along the carefully directed avenues was a sign of the influence of masks.

The fact that Melbourne got to them so late is understandable according to Eddie because "it was really difficult to assume what happened overseas would happen here. We were all sitting back with our fingers crossed."

In July Eddie began fighting back instead of sitting back but he said that if the crisis went on much longer he didn't think the business would survive.

"Our landlord is good. Mirvac put the rent down to zero," he said.

Left Bank is located at 1 Southbank Boulevard. leftbankmelbourne.com.au ●



▲ Locals with fresh produce in hand on August 1.



▲ Michael McFayden offers fresh oysters.



▲ Eddie Muto.

An end to facadism

WORDS BY Sean Car
HERITAGE

A move to modernise Melbourne's heritage system has been approved by the Minister for Planning Richard Wynne, which ends the city's controversial love affair with facadism.

Heritage policies in the City of Melbourne will be updated and a contemporary heritage category system introduced under Planning Scheme Amendment C258, which was adopted by the council in February and approved by the Minister for Planning in July.

Chair of the City of Melbourne heritage portfolio Councillor Rohan Leppert said the new policies would better protect heritage buildings and discourage facadism, where only the façade of a heritage building was preserved, while the rest of the building was replaced.

"We've modernised and updated the existing heritage protection system so it's consistent with contemporary best practice and the system used by the majority of other councils in Victoria," Cr Leppert said.

"This will provide more guidance, clarity and certainty for community, landowners and developers."

Local heritage planning policies will be revised, and the A to D grading system will be replaced with the "significant/contributory/non-contributory" category system.

While the changes come too late for much of Southbank, which already has a number of facade-based high-rise towers, Cr Leppert said the new policies would require any additions to a building to be setback to maintain the prominence of the building's heritage.

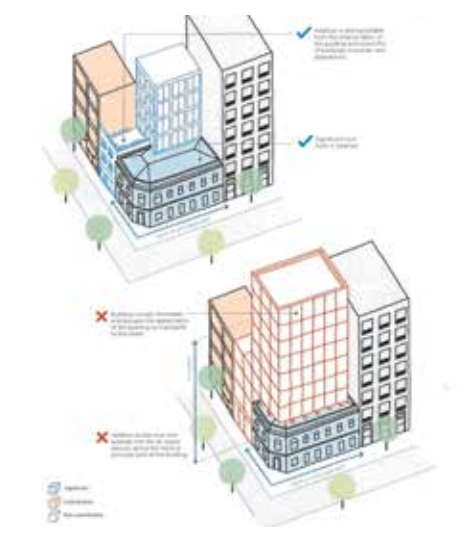
"We've seen so many examples of facadism where heritage buildings are gutted and only the shell remains. We don't want to see facadism become a style of this city," Cr Leppert said.

"Under the previous system the mantra had set in that D means demolish. Those days are gone."

"The buildings within the heritage overlay include everything from early Victorian houses and shops to grand commercial art deco buildings in the central city."

"The amendment also completely reviewed heritage places within the suburb of West Melbourne.

"Seventeen new significant places have



▲ (Top) New rules and (bottom) old rules.

“We don't want to see facadism become a style of this city.”

been included in individual overlays in West Melbourne, and hundreds of other places have had their statements of significance and grading updated.

"And at long last we are making it easier to install solar panels on the roofs of heritage buildings, so long as efforts are made to preserve the character of heritage places."

Amendment C258 was placed on public exhibition from March 30 to May 12 in 2017. An independent panel then considered more than 100 submissions.

To assist landowners and the community understand the new policies, City of Melbourne also developed a Heritage Design Guide and Heritage Owners Guide which went to the Future Melbourne Committee as a draft in February 2020. The guide will now be finalised following the gazettal of C258 on July 10 ●

More empty spaces

WORDS BY Meg Hill
PROPERTY

Property vacancies in Southbank have reached a long-term high as the industry has been hit by compounding factors related to the pandemic.

According to SQM Research, vacancy rates in Southbank reached 16.8 per cent in May and 16.2 per cent in June. The recorded rate in June 2019 was 3.9 per cent.

Loic Mamet, a property manager at Belle Property Melbourne, said the real rate could be well above that figure.

"The way vacancy rates are calculated is by counting properties that were already under management, where the tenants have moved out and new ones haven't been found," he said.

"But any property that used to be a short-stay, for example, or where a landlord is moving out of their home, any property that is going on the rental market for the first time isn't included."

"If you're looking into how many of those properties are out there, I think there may actually be more of them than the ones with tenants moving out."

In May, *Southbank News* reported on the collapse of the short-stay industry and a flood of short stay properties onto the rental market. Mr Mamet said the situation had worsened since then.

"It's a bit like what we had a few months ago but everything is on steroids now, where things were tough its even tougher," he said.

"Some areas near the city are still doing okay, they aren't booming like they were pre-COVID, but they're still leasing, there's still tenants around, the prices are down maybe 5 per cent in."

"But then if you go into Southbank and the CBD, because of the oversupply, I've seen some properties come down by 30 or 35 per cent in their rental value, and that's a lot."

Mr Mamet said the situation was "completely unprecedented".

"Usually we're talking about how much rental prices increase every year and now, for the first time, were back to rental prices sometimes from 2014 or 2013 which is a big drop," he said.

"If it were sales prices people would say it's catastrophic, but with rental it's more volatile, it could be back to normal next year if this is

over."
"We know that things would change and people would want to come back to the CBD and work and travel to Melbourne when this is over."

Mr Mamet said the over-supply was due to the continuing impact of border closures and lack of travel but was compounded by other factors.

"Underemployment is definitely one part of it, there's a lot of tenants moving in with friends or into share scenarios where it might be cheaper," he said.

"There's also the people who are moving for more space, they realise they don't need to be in the CBD anymore and everyone's working from home, so they're moving out for a better lifestyle."

David Anderson, a property consultant at Nelson Alexander, said it would be a while before the effects on the commercial market could be properly seen and assessed.

He said this was due to help given to tenants and owner-occupiers through short-term assistance from banks and governments and private arrangements with landlords, as well as the longer leases in the commercial market compared to residential.

"There's been government directives to enable private negotiations between tenants, owner-occupiers, landlords and banks and that information doesn't get reported, so it's hard to measure exactly what is happening," he said.

"We might not be able to see what's going on until well after Christmas, once that initial six month period of government direction is up, and that is going to be a bit like what people were foreseeing about job keeper ending – will the government put in further directives? Will the banks extend loans?"

"If there's a shift to move it all back to normal, pre-pandemic rates, it could hit the industry quite hard."

Mr Anderson said the effect of moving to work-from-home arrangements would also likely be delayed.

"People are saying we don't need this level of office space that we've had in the past, but commercial lease are generally of a longer nature and you can't necessarily change mid-stream," he said ●

An unbeatable lifestyle and location

Arguably one of the most sought-after locations in Southbank, bordering three postcodes including South Melbourne and South Yarra, with a transit score of 100/100 and walk score of 97/100 it's so easy to see why so many are already calling The Evermore home.

Comprising two shimmering metallic towers sitting atop a classically elegant podium, your first instinct is of a high-end hotel, your second is knowing that once inside, through the grand lobby, you are about to be encapsulated into a world of understated sophistication.

An exemplary design inspired by 6-star resorts and luxury hotels, The Evermore is focused on providing an upmarket residential experience via the public and private spaces spread throughout the building.

With a host of world class amenities which include fully equipped gymnasium, open-air heated inground pool, two sauna rooms, your own gold class cinema, resident dining rooms, a dedicated study room/library, resident lounge with open fire place offering access to a private terraced area with vertical garden you'll wonder how you ever lived without.

A central garden courtyard complete with outdoor designer furniture and built in seating runs between the East and West tower in its entirety. The large open area complete with grassed areas and landscaped planter boxes is an absolute relaxation haven for all to enjoy – and yes, pets are welcome too.

The Evermore interiors are anything but common. Natural stone and timber materials feature in the kitchens, as well as feature LED lighting and the latest in Miele appliances including gas cook tops, electric ovens and integrated dishwashers. Double glazing throughout,



split system heating/cooling, soft close cabinetry, stunning timber flooring, concealed fridge cavities and concealed pelmets.

The bathrooms are impressive with ample storage, fully tiled shower bases, stone benches, mirrored vanity storage with concealed power outlets and feature LED lighting.

Large balconies to all apartments help optimise access to brilliant views over Port Phillip Bay, Melbourne's CBD, Albert Park Lake or the Royal Botanical Gardens.

The Evermore apartments have been designed

around the idea of a sophisticated retreat with a refined material palette and optional dark or light colour scheme making it easy to add your own personality and blend it all in to make it as individual as you are; relaxed, flamboyant, classically luxurious or simply elegant.

Lush tropical gardens are interspersed throughout the development, landscaped with flourishing fronds and plush foliage to soften the space and calm the soul.

1, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments available to inspect by appointment only. Enquires can be

made on 1300 383 766.

Inspection available by appointment only 7 days a week. 24hrs notice is required for all inspections. COVID-19 policies and procedures are now in place ●

For more visit:
theevermore.com.au



Making life of lockdown

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

The thought of another COVID-19 induced lockdown is enough to turn even the calmest mind into a frenzy, and now with metropolitan Melbourne in a "state of disaster" and stage 4 restrictions in place for the next six weeks, many are looking for ways to fill their time.

Tim French and his colleagues at South Wharf Restaurants (SWR) are providing locals with something "a little different" from other COVID-19 hospitality ventures.

SWR Connect is a new online platform bringing together the culinary nous of South Wharf favourites Meat Market, BangPop Thai, Plus 5 Cocktail Bar and The Common Man Restaurant.

They offer a wide range of services including takeaway, pre-prepared meals, Thai cooking classes with BangPop and online wine, or whisky, and cheese tastings.

"You purchase the online package; then we deliver the event online through Zoom. It means people can catch up and socialise while feeling like they are doing something together," Mr French said.

"For the cheese and wine tastings, we create a package with five wines and cheeses. We are also offering vegan wine and cheese tasting night, where people can learn to make their own vegan cheese."

"I bought it for my friends last week and had a ball. It's about keeping everyone doing new things at home and keeping everyone engaged with the area."

Although the pivot from restaurant dining to takeaway or prepared meals is nothing new in the age of COVID-19, it is the unification of both restaurants and locals that gives SWR Connect a uniquely different feel.



By not only offering easy meal options but equipping residents with the tools and confidence to cook themselves, Mr French and his teams latest venture does more than just feed customers, it provides them with an opportunity to socialise in a time of isolation.

"The problem we face is if we don't keep in touch with the local community, where are they going to go once this is all over?" Mr French said.

"We need to make sure there are either people coming down to the area, or we are going to them. Then they know we are still active, and we are still going to be there for locals long after this has passed."

"Our local community is what keeps the promenade alive. Tourism can often be a bit come and go, but our locals are always there, and now we want to be there for them."

Mr French said although the usual buzz of activity from the live events area outside The Common Man, or the flow excited diners along the promenade were gone, for now, the

connection between their venues and residents had never been stronger.

"We are getting a lot of people doing their walk along the river that grab a cup of coffee or a bottle of wine on their way through. Or for those still working, we want them to have a great option for lunch," he said.

"We want to continue to show what we are hosting and the community events that are on offer, so people know whenever we do get out of this, we are going to be there to bring life to the area." ●

For more information on takeaway meals and delivery, prepared meals and wine and whisky tastings, visit:
swrconnect.com.au

HISTORY



BANKING on it in Southbank!

One of the characteristics of today's Southbank is the adaptive re-use of some buildings from previous eras and incorporation into multi-level apartment blocks.

The result can range from bizarre to tasteful, depending on the opinion of the observer, and is often controversial, but at least some of the previous fabric has been retained.

One example of this process is the treatment provided to the former Bank of NSW (now Westpac) on the corner of City Rd and Clarke St. Constructed in 1932, the bank was designed by the firm of Godfrey and Spowers, prominent in the architecture of Melbourne in the interwar era. The firm generally produced conservative designs, but this elegant small bank was more adventurous, combining Art Deco flourishes, with Aztec and Egyptian influences in its applied decoration, such as rendered patterning above each window (steel-framed on the ground floor, of course, to discourage robbery attempts).

The two-storeyed bank was located on a wedge-shaped block and featured a bevelled corner and the front door was entered through a bold arch, surrounded by a stylish with bas-relief of chevron-patterned decoration.

Suburban banks preferred to locate branches on corner sites to provide greater flexibility of internal arrangements, particularly providing increased public space (with clear views for the manager) and an uninterrupted view of the front doors and the strongroom door from the tellers' boxes. The 1930s was a very violent era in Melbourne, with numerous armed robberies of banks, so security was always a major concern.

It served the local business community for many years (remembering that most banking transactions relied on customers visiting the bank premises) and was a key commercial building (among generally small industrial concerns) in the Southbank area, as the other major banks were located in the Clarendon St shopping strip. It was well-maintained by the bank until they moved out after the merger with Westpac in 1982 and has been occupied for many years by a charming little café called a Treat of France, which retains the original ceiling decorations from its time as a bank.

It was recognised as individually significant and made an important contribution to the City Rd heritage precinct. However, its location on a corner of City Rd made the site an attractive target for property developers, who integrated it into a large development.

Today, with its original bank name restored, it anchors the 22-storey Bank Apartments building (with 350 apartments), popular due to its proximity to Clarendon St shops, arts venues, the Casino and the South Melbourne Market ●



Robin Grow

PRESIDENT - AUSTRALIAN ART DECO AND MODERNISM SOCIETY
ROBINGROW@OZEMAIL.COM.AU

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE

The organ of emotion

Is it okay to admit to being fully supportive of masking but at the same time being a little bummed out by it?

It is unquestionably the right thing for us to be doing, but I miss seeing people's faces. Yes, we're able to make do – we can sometimes recognise a smile from the lift of the cheeks or the crinkles around the eyes, but not being able to see someone's face does feel like a loss.

It's critically important to promote the public health benefits of masking, but it's important also to, at the same time, acknowledge that we will need to recalibrate our expectations of interpersonal interactions outside of the home. Masking, while being a tiny sacrifice for a massive benefit, is also changing something fundamental to how we perceive one another.

The face has been referred to as the "organ

of emotion". It helps us read the other and, in turn, be read. Our eyes, nose and mouth are those first probes we send out into the universe to gather data, sort the signal from the noise, and represent ourselves to the unknown. We can be attracted, instantly, to someone by a quick glance at their face. Conversely, we can be turned off, troubled, or frightened by a facial expression. The importance of the face cannot be overstated.

All that being said, the scriptures show us that there are times when we won't get to see the faces we'd like to, and that delaying that gratification can be for our own lasting benefit. In the Hebrew scriptures we find the story of Moses and the Israelites in the wilderness. We read of their frustration and impatience, leading to the forsaking of their God to fashion an idol, the golden calf. After this episode, the future of the Israelite community was uncertain, and Moses, seeking reassurance, sought the face of God. But the Lord said, "You cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live." Moses,

as it turns out, was only shown the Lord's back, and was sheltered from the Lord's face in the cleft of a rock. I wonder if Moses was disappointed, even though he was denied the face of the Lord for his own good? But Moses being sheltered and denied was not the end of the story. When Moses went before his people after encountering the Lord, his face was radiant with God's glory – to the extent that the people were afraid. Then, for their own good, one would assume, he chose to put a veil over his face. The spark of the divine was present to Moses and imparted to Moses, and he was able to shine it on to others in the holy messages he conveyed to the people from the Lord. But, incredibly, it was all done with a kind of masking and social distance.

There have been times, like it was with Moses, when being denied the sight of a face, or covering one's own face, has been necessary, and the world hasn't stopped spinning because of it. In fact, in the Christian tradition, Jesus of Nazareth – who, simply put, is God with a human face – is himself not able to be seen by the faithful. Seeing the divine organ of emotion has, for 2000 years, been relegated to the prayerful piety of the mind's eye.

So, yes, in religious practice, interpersonal interactions are important, but Jesus himself, in his present, but invisible, way of being, shows us that times without face-to-face fellowship do not minimise the reality of the divine-human encounter. Perhaps this can be an encouragement to us as we come to terms with this new way of encountering one another. The face, and our reading of it, is undeniably important, but we are capable of adaptation. We can, and must, learn to mask up for the good of our neighbour, and in doing so, also learn that even if slightly veiled, togetherness is still possible, and that it can even be glorious. Who knows, this new way of doing things might even give us some insight into the mysterious hiddenness of God in our lives ●



Tom Hoffmann

TOM HOFFMANN IS THE PASTOR AT ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE CHURCH.
STJOHNSOUTHGATE.COM.AU



Search for the **St Johns Southgate** channel on **YouTube** for our 10am Sunday morning live streams

Connect with us on **Facebook** during these challenging times

Stay safe and well and may **God bless you!**

St Johns
Southgate

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

Metro Tunnel lessons just a click away

The Metro Tunnel Project has stepped into the virtual classroom to help parents tackle home schooling.

The project's online education resources have been refreshed to help students learn from home about the biggest public transport project in Victoria's history.

COVID-19 restrictions mean Metro Tunnel HQ – which hosts school groups – is temporarily closed but students can still complete fun and educational activities through our website.

Check out the virtual tour of Metro Tunnel HQ and videos explaining the new train line and the construction technology used to build it.

There are games, puzzles and challenges that will make you an expert in no time, and exercises are suitable for primary and high school students.

Mini Melbourne is a world-first resource brought to life for the Metro Tunnel Project. Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) partnered with the Victorian Department of Education and Training to recreate 600,000 sqm of Melbourne's city centre in Minecraft. Any Minecraft user can download the map and begin exploring.

A series of themed pages invite children to collect badges as they learn more about aspects of the project on their way to becoming a "Metro Tunnel Mastermind".

metrotunnel.vic.gov.au/education

Millie and Alice on a mission

There is light at the end of the tunnel for tunnel boring machines (TBMs) *Millie* and *Alice* as they move towards the Metro Tunnel's eastern entrance in South Yarra.

The two TBMs were launched from the site of the new Anzac Station on St Kilda Rd earlier this year and have been working around the clock as they construct the eastern sections of the twin nine-kilometre tunnels.

Millie has completed one kilometre of the 1.7km section between Anzac Station and South Yarra. *Alice*, which was launched soon after, has reached the halfway mark.

The two TBMs are expected to arrive at the eastern tunnel entrance later this year. They will then be transported back to the Anzac Station site to be reassembled, ready to start tunnelling towards the CBD early next year.

The Metro Tunnel Project's other two TBMs, *Joan* and *Meg*, are tunnelling from Arden Station to Parkville.

The TBMs were custom-built for this project and travel about 10 metres a day.

Construction is continuing across all Metro Tunnel Project sites in accordance with the COVID-19 health and safety procedures in place ●

For more information visit:
metrotunnel.vic.gov.au



OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

VCAT declares that committees have the power to terminate an OC manager

Many high-rise buildings will be aware of terms embedded within an owners' corporation (OC) manager's agency agreement.

These agreements permit a manager to be appointed for a period of five years (with subsequent options) and require that they may only be terminated by ordinary resolution or special resolution at a general meeting of all owners.

Often enough, it will be impossible to achieve an ordinary or special resolution because the OC manager holds the strata roll (and won't release it) which makes it very difficult to run a ballot or gain sufficient support from the other owners.

However, Member Buchanan of the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) has just delivered a very handy judgment that will assist other OCs to find a way through to terminate the OC manager agreement by way of a committee decision.

The case concerned the Upper West Side development in the CBD, which consists of thousands of apartments and many commercial lots.

In this particular instance, the case concerns only one of the residential OCs (OC6).

In 2016, the developer appointed Australian Property Management (APM) to be the OC's manager for a period of five years, with a further option at its election.

In due course, the developer relinquished control to the lot owners, and a committee was formed. The committee passed an email ballot (and later ratified at a committee meeting) to terminate APM as manager, and acted to

appoint a replacement manager.

APM did not accept that it had been terminated and pointed to the wording of the resolution that the developer used to appoint it at its inaugural general meeting, which required any resolution to terminate it to be done by way of special resolution.

In publishing the decision, Member Buchanan stated, "I find that the answer to the preliminary question is yes. I find that the committee of the OC had the power to terminate the APM management contract."

The proceedings are still ongoing at the date of this publication, and while there may be an appeal filed, at least as matters stand in Victoria, an OC need not find itself "stuck" in an uncommercial or untenable contractual arrangement set up by the developer.

The committee of the OC must act fairly, honestly, diligently, in good faith and exercise

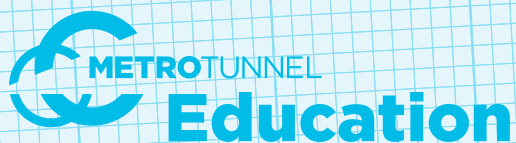
all decisions in the interests of all lot owners. So, as long as committee members take good legal advice from a specialist strata lawyer on the exact circumstances of their case and exercise due diligence, then there are opportunities for the committee to terminate an OC manager agreement before expiry ●



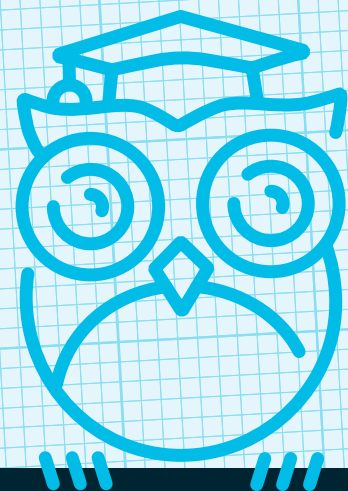
Tom Bacon

TOM BACON IS THE PRINCIPAL LAWYER OF STRATA TITLE LAWYERS.

TOM@STRATATITLELAWYERS.COM.AU



Join us online for fun ideas and activities for kids to learn about Victoria's BIGGEST ever public transport project.



It's a Hoot!

Collect special badges as you learn to become a Metro Tunnel Mastermind!

Available now at metrotunnel.vic.gov.au/education



Housing All Australians – a new paradigm

Welcome to the first of our 12-part series which will attempt to explore the role that housing can and should play within Australian society and why it is important to our economy that we house all Australians, rich or poor.

This series intends to draw on a range of perspectives centred around housing and homelessness. We will hear a range of views from business, the not-for-profit sector and hopefully government, as to why they believe housing is an important social and economic building block for Australia's future prosperity.

Let me start by saying I do not believe that housing is a human right. That is a decision for an entire society to make. And if half the population agrees with that view, there is the other half that doesn't. This causes dissent and arguments and no conclusion. To get action, we need to achieve a consensus. And to get consensus, we need to ask the right question.

However, while housing may not be a human right, no one can deny that the provision of shelter is a fundamental human need. And without that need being met, we have unintended social and economic consequences that span generations.

Based on learnings over my career, I have come to a clear and unambiguous view that we are leaving a future society with a significant economic and social burden as a consequence of not investing in sufficient public, social and affordable housing. These consequences manifest themselves through the development of mental and physical health issues, family violence, policing, justice and then long-term welfare dependency. We need to invest in initiatives that prevent future social and economic consequences.

There is no silver bullet in solving this

housing challenge. That is why, as the convenor of this column series, I am always open to hearing other people's perspectives as I believe we should always be open to new thoughts and ideas while having ours respectfully challenged. And in doing so, we need to be open to having our collective views evolve. No one has all the answers. And when we live in such a diverse society that is rich in opinions, consensus will always involve a degree of compromise.

I will also be approaching this topic with a commercial lens. Having been a residential property developer for my entire career, I have a reasonable understanding of what drives the market to deliver appropriate housing typologies. The shortfall in public, social and affordable housing is so significant that unless the market is involved with the solution, we will not achieve the scale needed to service the entire population and prevent the long-term consequences mentioned above. But there needs to be compromises. The housing needs to be funded.

The coronavirus pandemic has made us all realise that we are equal and all vulnerable to this invisible enemy that has declared war on humanity. The virus does not discriminate. Whether you are black or white, rich or poor, if you are exposed, you get infected.

To their credit, all our governments have reacted quickly and even the homeless that were inhabiting our streets were housed. The business community also responded with Quest Apartment Hotels, through the Salvation Army,

offering access to their serviced apartments at 140 locations, nationally, at cost. No profit. The Master Builders and the Unions issued a joint press release encouraging the creation of jobs through the construction of more social housing. This is a time where ideological differences need to be put aside so we can all work through this crisis together.

On the topic of homelessness, we have all heard that governments around the country are saying that we should not return to seeing homeless people on our streets. That sounds sensible but that means we need to build more housing and that does not happen overnight. So, what is the plan?

As a society we have to face the facts – there is a current chronic failure that results in people being out in the cold, being vulnerable and isolated. The reality is, when an individual faces challenges in their life that tests their purpose of being.

Without a safe place to gather your thoughts and without people around you that care about your wellbeing, those dreams and possibilities have nowhere to go. You become lonely and isolated. Without a stable and safe place to call home, how can an individual form a productive life? How can they work, study or raise a family properly? To continually fund the services needed becomes a very expensive burden for society as a whole. People need to be housed. Whether they are rich or poor.

So, we hope the series will result in different perspectives being presented and potential new

solutions emerging. Nothing significant has been done for decades and doing nothing now is NOT AN OPTION! We need to act and we need to act now. All of us need to be part of the solution so please feel free to write to me with your thoughts.

About Housing All Australians

A private sector for purpose organisation that believes it is in Australia's long-term economic interest to provide housing for all its people; rich or poor. It was established to facilitate a private sector voice and to reposition the discussion with an economic lens. It advocates that the provision of housing for all Australians is economic infrastructure, just as the provision of roads, schools and hospitals.

Any proceeds generated through this column series will be made as a donation to Housing All Australians to help end the fight against homelessness •



Rob Pradolin

FORMER GENERAL MANAGER AT FRASERS PROPERTY AUSTRALIA AND FOUNDER OF HOUSING ALL AUSTRALIANS (HAA)

INFO@HOUSINGALLAUSTRALIANS.COM.AU

HEALTH & WELLBEING

How to combat insomnia

What is insomnia?

Insomnia is a condition where an individual has trouble falling asleep, trouble staying asleep, and/or they wake up too early in the morning.

This can be a short-term (acute) or long-term (chronic) condition. Short-term insomnia usually lasts from one night to a few weeks while chronic insomnia is classified as at least three nights a week for three months or more.

There are two types of insomnia: primary and secondary. Primary insomnia is when the sleeping problems are not linked to any other health condition or issue. Causes of primary insomnia can be things such as big life events including job change or loss, noise, light, temperature or jet lag. Secondary insomnia is when the sleeping problems are due to a health condition. This includes things such as asthma, heartburn, pain, mental health issues or substance use.

Sleep habits

Maintaining good sleep habits can help combat insomnia, the most important sleep habit to get back control of your sleep is to set a sleeping schedule: this means going to sleep at the same time each night, getting up at the same time each morning, and trying not to take naps during the day.

Other sleep habits include:

- Create a bedtime routine, a time before bed where you relax, read a book or have a bath to prepare yourself for sleep.
- Not going to bed too early. Set a time where you feel sleepy and easily drift off each night. Only go to bed when you are sleepy, if you are unable to sleep, get up and read or listen to some music until you feel sleepy.
- Aim to get 20-30 minutes of exercise per day; maintaining a regular exercise routine can help increase the quality of sleep you get, however, do not work out too close to when you want to sleep, it boosts energy levels and may make it harder to fall asleep.

- Avoiding alcohol, caffeine, and nicotine before bed will give you a better chance of having a higher quality sleep, and will make it easier to fall asleep, as well as stay asleep.
- Relaxation therapy may also be very useful to reduce body tension and anxiety, this can include breathing exercises, meditation or progressive muscle relaxation.

Sleep environment

Creating an ideal and consistent sleep environment will have a huge effect on your ability to fall asleep, stay asleep, and have good quality sleep. Always try to create a relaxing sleep environment by:

- Keeping it dark. If light is an issue while trying to get to sleep, try using a sleeping mask, and limit time on electronic devices before bed.
- Making it quiet. Limit any possible noise or distractions such as a TV, computer or pets; to cover sounds try using earplugs or trial white noise.
- Keeping the room temperature cooler, but something that is comfortable for you.
- Making sure you have comfortable bedding and do not use your bed during the day to work or eat.
- Not discussing stressful situations or thoughts before you want to sleep, this can increase tension and reduce the quality of sleep.

If you are concerned that you may have acute or chronic insomnia, speak to your GP or other health professional •



Rajna Bogdanovic

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST
BODGDANOVICRAJNA@GMAIL.COM

Southbank Sudoku

Last month's Sudoku solution

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

A variation of Sudoku, with the letters SOUTH BANK replacing numbers.

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line must contain the letters "SOUTH BANK" as must each 9-square box. This Sudoku is VERY HARD, good luck!

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

The garden is still here for you

There is no question of how challenging these times are.

While our new radius is now set for five kilometres for our basic needs and movements, it's times like these when we are lucky to have an open food garden right in the middle of our very concrete-heavy neighbourhood.

A few of you reached out during the previous lockdown to tell us how you've appreciated having the garden in Southbank and walking to it to harvest vegies, leafy greens, and herbs for your next meal. How it was a chance to relax, destress, while getting some much-needed exercise and direct contact with nature.

The garden is still here for all Southbankers to enjoy, to destress, to eat locally while feeding their environmental conscience, to have an excuse to walk around the neighbourhood for some light exercise. Winter vegies like spinach, broad beans, silver beets, and carrots are almost ready to harvest. So, keep an eye out for the green stones next to these vegies to know when they are ready for you to harvest and enjoy at home fresh!

Gardening is still an available option even while our regular fortnightly meet-ups are currently postponed. We're starting a gardening roster alongside our existing watering roster and we invite community members to join if they are looking for a different form of outdoor exercising. We're permitted to have two people gardening at a time, while social distancing, for a maximum one hour. We've confirmed that gardening falls under the exercising category.

While things are slowing down, we will continue to work on the projects we have on



the go. More particularly, five educational workshops and Southbank's first community composting hub. We've also been in contact with the Melbourne Knowledge Week (MKW) team, about our participation in the 2021 line up. While its format might change, we are likely to keep both of our MKW activities:

1. A guided garden tour ending with an upcycling workshop where participants will walk away with their creation; and
2. a self-guided tour where people can learn more about the group and garden's history while learning how they can create similar action-focused communities in their lives.

Our volunteers are our greatest asset and what makes this group a force of change. People

of all backgrounds and walks of life are always welcome to join our group. If you are interested in gardening, sustainability in general, becoming a part of the community, or are looking for a new exercising activity, you are welcome to volunteer with us. It's free to join and people can put in as much or as little time as they can. No prior experience is necessary.

About the group

A solutions-focused group of Southbank residents working to bring positive change in sustainability practices and education to our neighborhood, while building a wonderful community of like-minded people. 2019 Environment Melbourne Award winner ●

Reach us at:
southbanksustainability@gmail.com or [facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup](https://www.facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup)



Artemis Pattichi
 SOUTHBANK SUSTAINABILITY GROUP
 SOUTHBANKSUSTAINABILITY@GMAIL.COM

WE LIVE HERE

Stage 3 lockdown fines for short-stays

Reimposed COVID-19 lockdown restrictions and massive fines have the potential to damage the entire short-stay industry beyond recognition.

All operators of short-stays, including apartment owners and commercial operators (beyond just Airbnb), can now look forward to fines ranging from \$1652 to \$9913 for each booking, with each guest facing a fine of \$1652.

Prior to the current lockdown, the COVID-19 pandemic had already seen a dramatic collapse of the short-stay industry, especially among commercial operators managing numerous properties in high-rise residential buildings.

Short-stay operations have proven to be incompatible with controlling the spread of this highly infectious virus:

- short-term letting flouts social distancing rules; and
- the continual movement of strangers in and out of buildings increases the risk of spreading disease.

Since COVID-19 began, apartments previously used for short-stays either have been sold to owner-occupiers or have reverted to long-term rentals. Many buildings are now reporting to us that they have zero short-stay apartments.

Despite this extraordinary outcome and perhaps not surprisingly, We Live Here has been made aware of a few operators trying to find a way back into residential buildings.

Police have been in contact with Airbnb over concerns that the short-stay platform is continuing to operate illegally.

Now the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has jumped into the battle, releasing a new directive effectively banning Airbnb ...

The DHHS published the directive on its website. Section 11 (2) of the new directive specifically proscribes "private holiday rental facilities including Airbnb" and "serviced apartments" and only allows limited operations for emergency accommodation.

If you see any illegal short-stay activity in your building, report it immediately to the police assistance hotline on 131 444. Your owners' corporation (OC) should issue a breach notice to the lot owner.

If your OC rules are silent on health and safety, you can breach a holiday-let lot owner under the *Owners' Corporation Act 2006* model rules, which apply to all OCs in this scenario - rule 1.1: "A lot owner or occupier must not use the lot, or permit it to be used, so as to cause a hazard to the health, safety and security of an owner, occupier, or user of another lot."

You can also contact We Live Here if you require any advice or assistance.

Short-stay apartment dodges fines and tries again

If you needed proof that the short-stay industry lacks regulation, consider the case of 15 people who were slapped with \$1652 fines for partying in a short-stay apartment in Southbank just prior to the July lockdown.

Announcing the fines, Chief Commissioner Shane Patton labelled the actions of some Victorians "stupid, selfish and reckless".

Soon after, red-faced police were forced to reverse the fines. It turns out that restrictions at the time allowed for up to 20 people to gather

"at tourist accommodation."

Not content with dodging \$25,000 in fines, the same apartment was used for another potentially COVID-19-spreading party just days after the lockdown started.

With the new DHHS directive, we hope this time the fines stick!

Cladding – speak up

Does your building have combustible cladding and you haven't received a notice of inspection from the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) or a building order from your local council?

If you haven't heard anything, it means that you are not on the list of buildings to get financial assistance. You might be able to change this situation if you act quickly.

Email the VBA at customerservice@vba.vic.gov.au and let them know that you have combustible cladding and you want your building inspected.

In your email you are welcome to say that We Live Here referred you.

You may need to wait for up to six weeks to be advised of an inspection date. Let us know if there are excessive delays.

Minister Wynne's plan to fast-track cladding

In June this year, the Victorian government announced a plan to accelerate the cladding rectification program from 100 buildings per year to 400 over two years.

Cladding Safety Victoria (CSV) was expected to work with a select group of reputable builders to work without profit.

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne said, "only reputable builders will be eligible for the

accelerated program. Those found to have done the wrong thing will not be able to participate."

"This is a chance for the original builders to become part of the solution and keep their workers employed during these challenging times."

No details were provided about costing or processes. It is difficult to see how the program could achieve its stated aim of doubling the speed of rectification.

An injection of funds to CSV to speed up the established program would perhaps be a better way to go.

Since the announcement of the plan no further information has been forthcoming from the government, and it looks as though it may have been quietly shelved.

Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to donate, please visit our website at welivehere.net. We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests ●



Barbara Francis & Rus Littleton

EMAIL: CAMPAIGN@WELIVEHERE.NET
 LEARN MORE AT WELIVEHERE.NET



SOUTHBANKER

Lending a hand through books

WORDS BY Marco Holden Jeffery

It certainly hasn't been an easy few months for kids stuck at home in Melbourne - or their parents who have been working tirelessly to keep them entertained.

But Southbank resident Brigid May is one Melburnian trying to give them a bit of respite.

Working for artist-led community publisher Kids' Own Publishing, Brigid had been featuring in weekly videos of her reading books made by kids from around the country.

"When the lockdown hit, I was thinking about all the kids who were suddenly put out of school and this was a way I could help out," she said.

Brigid moved to Southbank from Western Australia last year, and with a background in children's art education she quickly became involved with the Abbotsford Convent-based Kids' Own Publishing.

Before the pandemic, the publisher would journey to classrooms, communities and festivals around the state and workshop little eight-page story books with children, expanding their archives of children-authored stories.

"It's this major demographic of artists you don't see in galleries or in art books, but it's a whole group of people who are eager makers and create a lot of art," Brigid said.

"To be the person who puts materials in front of a kid - I wouldn't say a lot of teaching is involved - it feels like very important work."

Art and storytelling would come very naturally to most children involved in the program, as they were not yet limited by self-doubt or the perfectionism that would creep in as they got older.

"It's this approach to art as a form of play - you took a piece of paper and a box of textas and the kids would approach them as toys and just explore," Brigid said.

"It's great seeing art before any of those ideas about 'capital A art' come into play."

When the pandemic hit, Brigid and Kids' Own Publishing were no longer able to visit kids in schools and get them creating.



Instead, the publisher uploaded a series of videos featuring local artists explaining how to make the books at home - a very straight forward single piece of paper folded into eight pages - and send them in for submission.



And to further showcase the efforts of kids in isolation, Brigid erected the Book Cubby in her Southbank apartment, where she would put on her "Brigid" costume and read the stories in videos uploaded online.

The program - which would still be accepting submissions till the end of August - was a great success, reaching beyond Kids' Own's usual audience in Victoria to kids around the country, including a submission by two siblings from Brigid's own Western Australia.

Despite this alternative way of connecting with kids, Brigid still missed the thrill of seeing a child creating right in front of her.

"It's hard not being around the kids during the making process - there's that wonderful moment where you receive the book from a kid - but all of the steps before that you're not directly involved in," she said.

Living in a built-up environment like Southbank was a new experience for Brigid,

and she felt the pandemic was quite visible from her high-rise apartment.

"It's in an interesting vantage point to see the effects of lockdown from - you can really see when the number of cars drops and suddenly you can't see people walking around the riverbank," she said.

For her, Southbank was a place that really relied on its community hubs - the galleries, the library, the theatres - and she felt locals would really be missing that sense of connection.

But she said that she could hopefully lend a feeling of community to some through her work in the Book Cubby.

"I always want to be surrounded by children's art, and I'm really glad that we made this online program because I don't think that we would have if not for the circumstances," she said.

"I have seen a lot of art but when I read books made by kids I see different pictures every time." ●

SKYPAD LIVING

Finally, vertical villages are on government's radar – but is the focus right?

Mention was made in last month's column of a COVID-19 silver lining, especially that high-rise living was being recognised as a distinct and increasingly mainstream way of living.

And, over the past month, there has been a flurry of activity around high-rise apartment living.

This started with the Docklands Representative Group's (DRG's) webinar for owners' corporations, ironically entitled "Coming out of COVID-19 for OCs". This was a pragmatic question and answer session where the regulatory aspects of reopening common property and OC funding were discussed.

The next event of significance was the City of Melbourne's virtual session, entitled the Strata Community Workshop, held on June 25. An initiative of Lord Mayor Sally Capp and Cr Nicholas Reece, this session brought together a cross section of local community groups who discussed the challenges encountered in strata living during COVID-19. A follow up session has since been held to translate some of these issues into proposed actions. This marks a

much-needed return by the City of Melbourne to active engagement in the vertical living sector and, most encouragingly, there are signs that the specific nature of residential strata living is being appreciated, including a recognition of the regulatory environment that shapes what can and cannot be done.

Watch this space.

The state government has also awakened to the specific challenges of high-rise living during a pandemic. Provoked into action due to the events in local public housing towers, a hastily convened roundtable was hosted by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) on Monday, July 13. The stated focus on this session was upon the unique risks around COVID-19 infection control in high-rise apartment living. Significantly, the scope of the roundtable included several different types of high-rise living such as student accommodation as well as residential strata. The format of the roundtable was more mutual information exchange with DHHS staff available to answer – or take on notice – specific questions on health protocols.

It was openly acknowledged that DHHS was on a rapid learning curve about the complexity of high-rise living and was taking note that high-rise living was not a uniform sector – public high-rise apartments being very different to student high-rise accommodation which is very different to residential strata living. The point was strongly made that, for their advice

to be useful, the regulatory context must be taken into consideration. This is because how decisions are made and who has the authority to implement and enforce them, differ between these types of high-rise living. For example, the management of a student accommodation building can implement procedures in shared spaces that OCs in residential strata buildings may not have the authority to do (i.e. where lot owners have a legal stake in shared spaces).

Armed with this input, DHHS proposed to consider the material with a view to developing supporting guidelines.

Then, a second quickly convened session was hosted by DHHS on Friday, July 17.

The pace of this second session was not as frantic and more detailed scenarios were put to DHHS staff who, this time, were able to answer procedural questions with more certainty – such as the source of authority to ban short-stays.

The session closed with a commitment by the DHHS to produce guidelines specific to the high-rise sector on issues such as:

- General public health information and directions for high-rise apartment living;
- Specific public health advice for shared accommodation and communal areas;
- Approaches when residents in high-rise apartments test positive; and
- Issues of mental health and isolation.

However, what has been lost between the first and second sessions is an explicit recognition of the differences between types of high-rise living – that dedicated high-rise student accommodation shares little with high-rise residential strata. In particular, there are different ways that decisions are made which are embedded in very different legal structures.

And that, dear DHHS, is where we need assistance – not only in identifying the gold health standard but in translating this in terms of who has the responsibility or authority in relation to these guidelines (a tenant, an owner, a manager?) and to what extent can they / must they implement or enforce these? – or are they more "suggestions".

The devil is in the detail and thought must be given to the specific context for these guidelines – and, in particular, care must be taken not to undermine or circumvent existing ways of operating.

Hey City of Melbourne – perhaps this is something you can help your State colleagues in understanding! ●



Dr Janette Corcoran

APARTMENT LIVING EXPERT

LEARN MORE ON FACEBOOK.COM/
SKYPADLIVING/

Why it pays to be neighbourly in a strata building

It used to be that knowing your neighbours was common. That popping next door to borrow something - or just to say hello - was considered the norm.

However, with technology helping to keep us more connected with those further away, many have neglected the potential social circle which exists around them - their neighbours.

In Australia, more than two million people live in strata complexes such as apartments, units or flats.

These buildings feature shared areas including hallways, stairwells, gardens and even facilities such as gyms, swimming pools and cinema rooms.

These shared areas, known as "common property", can even include a portion of your walls, floors and ceilings.

Considering how many Australians live in strata, and the extent to which their homes are shared, it is remarkable that good relationships with our neighbours isn't considered a necessity.

Close confines can cause conflict: the value of owners' corporation (OC) rules

When people picture strata living, the images conjured up are often of nosy neighbours, restrictive rules and passive-aggressive noticeboards.

Living closely together with others who might have a different lifestyle to yourself can, of course, breed a level of conflict.

Complaints within an OC commonly involve subjects such as misuse of parking spaces, the wafting smells of cooking or smoking and the way noise travels from one apartment to another.

Every OC has a set of rules by which all residents must abide, and these rules are designed to minimise the potential for conflict among residents.

Instead of feeling restricted by the rules, consider that by following them you are helping your neighbours live comfortably in their own homes, just as they are helping you.

The benefits of knowing your neighbours: resolve conflict and increase wellbeing

A formal complaint process does exist to help stamp out inappropriate or inconsiderate behaviour. This process is often time consuming and in the worst cases, expensive. It can also leave a bitter taste in the mouth of those simply trying to enjoy their homes.

Being neighbourly can help ensure this



process is only used as a last resort.

Often, complaints arise because a resident has not considered or is simply unaware of the impact of their actions on those around them.

Knowing your neighbours, while not preventing this completely, means the resolution of these situations is more likely to be a simple hallway conversation the next time you cross paths, rather than a lengthy - often public - back and forth between residents.

You may even find these situations arise less frequently in a community-minded complex. It is much easier to consider the feelings of friends and acquaintances over strangers.

Beyond reducing conflict, a sense of community has been shown to improve mental health and reduce feelings of loneliness.

Furthermore, it can be a factor in reduced tenant turnover, improved property security and increased care of a building and its facilities •

Learn about the "Caretakers of Community" on The Knight's blog:

<https://bit.ly/338zPPK>

Register for the "Being Neighbourly" webinar:

<https://bit.ly/3gaCoVe>

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

Keep in touch

“

As we find ourselves in a "State of Disaster", the Montague Community Alliance is looking at ways of how we can stay connected and engaged with each other.

”

If you are local and concerned about what these new restrictions mean in the first instance please go to dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus, the City of Port Phillip's website (portphilip.vic.gov.au/coronavirus-covid-19.htm) or you can send us a direct message through our Facebook page, @MontaguePrecinct or Twitter @MontCommAlliance and we will do our best to offer what advice we can.

We also know that we have a lot of residents in the Montague Precinct with diverse language needs and we understand that both the City of Port Phillip and Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) can provide assistance in multiple languages.

Please remember that by staying home we are ensuring that the time we are in this lockdown will be lessened and we can all get back to enjoying our wonderful precinct and community.

The Montague Precinct sits wholly within the City of Port Phillip and in October we are going to be voting in councillors for a new four-year term. It is really important that we vote for

those who care about our precinct and who understand what it is like to be living in a continuous construction zone with no third-party rights. It is important that the legacy of our area is not lost to those that just think we are now just an "education hub" and it is crucial that the candidates talk to us and ask for "lived experiences" and deep knowledge of the area.

There are a number of bureaucrats who are positioning themselves as Montague Precinct experts and we would suggest to any candidates reading this column that they recognise that it is we who are living and working here that provided the expertise. This will be a postal vote so look out for the ballots. We have sent some questions about their views of Montague and we will be reviewing those for publication in the September edition of *Southbank News*.

We are now in the fifth month of this awful pandemic and it is clear that those working from home are doing it tough ... we have had ongoing reports of people being so exhausted by not just long hours of work remotely, but by

daily construction noise and dust. We recognise that it is hard to see all the construction workers not socially distancing, and certainly not wearing masks as they work on sites and then walk from these sites to their cars parked near homes and other offices. We do need to see that change. But know we are all in this together and we are happy to help and chat if you need to.

Please take care of yourselves, stay home and wear a mask if you need to leave home.

We wish you all well •



Trisha Avery

TRISHA AVERY IS THE CONVENER OF THE MONTAGUE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

TRISHAVERY@ME.COM



SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Stay safe, Southbank

What a disappointing month August will be with stage 4 lockdowns.

While unfortunate, in my opinion and probably the opinion of most, this is certainly needed. While we haven't had the devastating exponential growth, nevertheless the numbers have still been too high. We are not in a great position and I can only see that this must be the way forward.

It was most disappointing to hear of the 25 per cent of positive cases that were not at home when the authorities door knocked. We must listen to the authorities and take this seriously. Southbank is not immune. The last set of post-code cases that I saw was showing 60 positive cases are in Southbank, however I believe any hotel quarantine cases are included in the statistics and there is a high possibly many of those

60 could be in the Crown hotels which have been used for returning quarantine travellers.

Last month we saw first-hand the risks in high-rise living with the hard lockdown of the social housing towers. While there is a heightened risk in social housing towers owing to the dynamics of their space, there are still many similarities. As mentioned in my June column, because 83 per cent of our electorate is high-density apartment living, the Lord Mayor Sally Capp moved a motion at the council's Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting in June requesting council take more interest in the communication and interpretation we are all receiving with regard to how we can better manage our buildings.

Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) made a submission in support of this motion and through July we participated in a number of round table discussions (via Zoom) with many other representatives of community groups across our municipality to discuss and share our experiences and challenges. In mid-July, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) released a document specifically on this topic - Apartments and Multi-Dwelling Properties - to help guide buildings with how to manage their shared spaces. I urge everyone to read this document as it has a lot of helpful information. A copy can be found on the SRA website: southbankresidents.org.au.

The SRA annual general meeting (AGM) date has been confirmed as Wednesday, August 19, and, as expected, this will be held via Zoom. If you are wanting to join our volunteer committee and assist us with representing the interests of Southbank, we would certainly welcome your interest. It's a great opportunity to give back to your committee and also meet

a great bunch of like-minded residents. All our committee members, past and present, have always found it a rewarding experience. If you would like to nominate or attend our AGM, please send us an email with your interest so we can put you on the email with the Zoom link for the meeting. We can be reached at info@southbankresidents.org.au.

Please stay safe. I am hoping my September column will be talking about the end of the lockdown that will hopefully be scheduled by that time •



Tony Penna

PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT@SOUTHBANKRESIDENTS.ORG.AU



政府资助 受创商家

撰稿: David Schout

由于新冠病毒(COVID-19)对地方商业的“特别冲击”，CBD的商业将受益于州政府所宣布的2000万澳元“救援”补助。

州政府在宣布这次拨款时指出，对CBD商业的资助旨在帮助那些面临“对其商业环境有巨大和持续冲击”的商业。

尽管这个资助拨款的细节尚未公布，但政府发言人证实，该拨款顾名思义将同时向Docklands港区、Southbank区和CBD的商家提供。

墨尔本市政在第二次封锁前进行的一项调查显示，由于这次疫情，约15%的商家不确定自己的未来，或者将永久关闭。

墨尔本大都市区和米切尔郡(Mitchell Shire)的80000多家商业将有资格获得5000澳元的新资助。墨尔本CBD内的中小商企业将会得到更多的支持。



州政府主管“工业支持和恢复”部长马丁·帕库拉(Martin Pakula)表示，政府意识到当地商家面临的独特问题。

他表示：“墨尔本市中心在某些方面受到了独特的冲击，因为居家指令使人们远离市区”。

“CBD街上缺乏行人，这意味着市中心，包括Docklands港区和Southbank区的许多商家，受到州政府限制措施的影响尤为严重。”

第三阶段的封闭限制于7月9日重新实施后，通常充满活力的墨尔本市中心再次变得荒凉。与去年同期相比，行人活动减少了81%。

州政府表示，将特别关注和帮助旅游运营商以及与夜间经济相关的商业。

帕库拉先生说，与夜间经济相关的商业“遭受了巨大冲击”。

空置的短租房 是否应该转换成 经济适用房

由于COVID-19疫情，对国际和国内州际旅行的继续限制，一度繁华的中央商务区现在变成了一个鬼城。

撰稿: Katie Johnson

数以千计的短租公寓通常会被游客所租用，但现在却空置了，对于这些现在无限期空置的公寓该怎么办？

在葡萄牙里斯本，政府试图通过向房东提供激励措施来解决这个问题，鼓励他们短租房转换为当地人负担得起的长租房。在墨尔本，经济适用房问题比以往任何时候都更为紧迫，因此有可能采用这种方案。

根据该计划，里斯本的房东将他们的公寓出租给该市，租期至少为五年，而该市则通过一项针对年轻人和低收入家庭的经济适用房计划来承担寻找房客的责任。

租金也以租户净收入的30%为上限，因为由该市来补贴租户支付的租金和市场租金之间的差额。

全澳大利亚人住房组织(HAA)主管罗伯·普拉多林(Rob Pradolini)表示，里斯本计划具有“很多优点”，并且HAA目前正在与一家对类似交易感兴趣的大型房地产公司进行谈判。

普拉多林说：“我们还没有联系过墨尔本市或州政府，但很明显，如果州或市政府担保租赁，很多人会接受这种保证的收入，而不是让公寓空置。”

“居住者需要提供有关其收入的信息以确保他们有资格，但是使用空置的现有房屋是一个明智的方法。”

除了Airbnbs短租房，普拉多林还表示，该计划也可能适用于对寻求填补空置的长期租赁公寓的房东起作用，以帮助解决城市面临的住房负担危机。

这是一个特别紧迫的问题，由于COVID-19疫情限制导致的失业和旅游业的缺失，导致CBD的空置率目前约为8%，而Southbank的空置率最近达到了16%。

对于CBD的居民来说，短期租赁的缺乏监管是一个持续多年的问题，当地居民正在寻找其他的解决方案。



工党呼吁“改变市政文化”

撰稿: Sean Car

竞选团队由市长候选人菲尔·里德(Phil Reed)和副市长候选人，女商人和多元文化活动家邹慧心(Wesa Chau)率领。里德先生表示，他的团队希望把一个有政绩的“好政府”带入市政厅。

里德先生目前在Slater and Gordon律师事务所担任政府和利益相关者关系主管，他认为墨尔本市政在基本工程方面的支出低于预算的不良记录，是这次改革市政管理的主要动机。

他说：“当你看到安德鲁斯(Andrews)政府在地铁隧道等大型基建项目上的表现与市政南岸大道公园等项目的惨败形成鲜明对比时，显然需要进行改变市政文化了。”

“我们要把这种文化从地方市政议会转变为真正的市政府，让决策者和官僚们对项目的整体表现负责，而不是简单地进行招标，然后他们期望来剪彩。”

“我从自己在行政管理方面的背景得知，在管理中要有适当的问责制非常重要，问责制始于决策，而不是借口。”

“这一点至关重要，因为我们看到墨尔本市计划投入大量基础设施建设资金，而且我们面临着城市劳动力和工作场所的重组。”

在10月24日的地方政府选举中，竞争公职的工党候选人还包括当地居民和小企业主戴维德·格里菲思(Davydd Griffiths)，Glen Eira市市长玛丽·德拉亨提(Mary Delahunty)和社区联络员哈姆迪·阿尔(Hamdi Al)。

里德表示，他的团队正忙于为选民呈现“全面的政策议程”做最后的润色，这是自2000年代初城市治理结构重组以来最全面的政策议程之一。

终止遗产建筑的立面化保护

撰稿: Sean Car

州规划部长理查德·韦恩(Richard Wynne)批准了墨尔本遗产系统现代化更新的举措，结束了这座城市对遗产建筑仅仅立面化的保护。

墨尔本市的遗产政策将得到更新，并根据规划方案修正案C258引入当代遗产分类系统，该修正案已于今年2月由市政通过，并于7月由州规划部长批准。

墨尔本市政遗产组合主管罗汉·莱珀特(Rohan Leppert)表示，新政策将更好地保护遗产建筑，阻止立面化的做法，所谓立面化就是只保留遗产建筑的正面外表，而

其余部分则被替换。

莱珀特议员说：“我们对现有的遗产保护系统进行了现代化改造和更新，使其与当代最佳实践以及维多利亚州大多数其他市政议会使用的系统保持一致。”

“这将为社区、土地所有者和开发商提供更多的指导，更具有明确性和确定性。”地方的遗产规划政策将进行修订，由“重要的/有作用的/没有作用的”类别制度取代原来从A到D的分级制度。

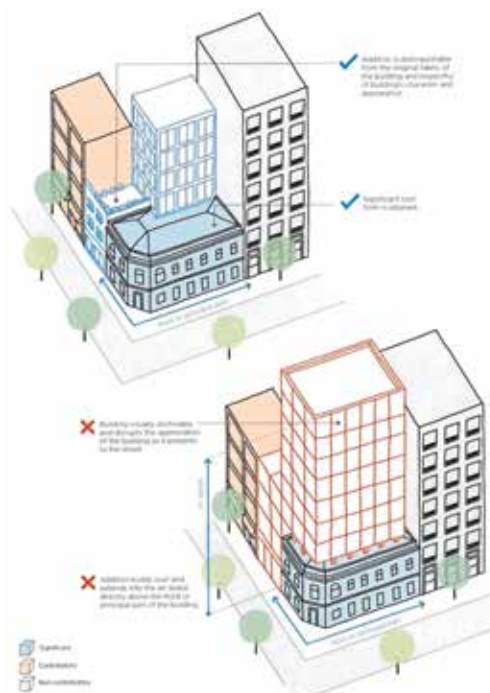
莱珀特议员说，新政策要求对任何建筑的扩建部分都要后置缩进，以保持遗产建筑的突出性。

莱珀特议员说：“我们已经看到了太多

的立面化的例子，遗产建筑被掏空，只剩下了外壳。我们不想看到这种做法成为这个城市的一种风格。”

“在以前的系统中，经常会把遗产建筑里的东西归在D类，即为拆除。现在那种情况已经一去不复返了。”

“遗产保护建筑是包括一切从早期维多利亚时代的房屋和商店，到中心城市的大型商业装饰艺术建筑。”



Business Directory

Church



St Johns
Southgate

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

Photography



PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIES COLLEGE

MASTERS | DEGREES | DIPLOMAS
CERTIFICATES | SHORT COURSES

Find Out More
PSC.EDU.AU + 61 3 9682 3191
info@psc.edu.au | 37-47 Thistlethwaite St, South Melbourne VIC 3205



Thinking of selling?
Contact your Southbank experts today
for a no obligation appraisal of your property.

melcorp.com.au | 9696 8869

Renovation



AROM APARTMENT RENOVATIONS OF MELBOURNE

1300 96 86 07
edgar@arom.com.au
www.arom.com.au


Functions



Facilities hire Beautiful venue for weddings and memorial services Concert venue with excellent acoustic and comfortable seating Spacious function room Meeting rooms Kitchen

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

Physiotherapy



Elite Sports Physiotherapy

Sports & Spinal Physiotherapy
Remedial Massage
Clinical Pilates
Post-Surgical Rehabilitation
Free Injury Assessments
WorkCover/TAC Claims

Mezzanine Level, 13-15/1 Freshwater Place, Southbank
PHONE: 8640 0328 WEB: www.elitesportsphysio.com.au



MELBOURNE SQUARE

THE LARGEST TERRACES IN MELBOURNE

TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL 1300 888 770 OR
DISCOVER A TERRACE STORY AT MELBSQUARE.COM.AU



SOUTHBANK PAINTING & DECORATING

- TRADE QUALIFIED PAINTERS
- COLOUR MATCHING AND ADVICE
- QUALITY PAINT FINISHES AND PLASTERING

Gym



JUSTINTIME
PERSONAL TRAINING

University degree qualified trainers that come to your apartment gym!

Justin Moran
0411 798 934 justintimept.com



PERFORMANCE MEDICINE

Join us with our brand new online clinic!

9686 2373
www.performancemedicine.com.au



Ray White Southbank | Port Phillip
111 Clarendon Street, Southbank 3006
P: (03) 8102 0200
www.raywhitesouthbank.com.au



For friendly advice or a quote contact:
0419 610 993
southbank.painting@gmail.com
southbankpaintinganddecorating.com

Health



OSTEO STRONG

OsteoStrong South Melbourne
378 Clarendon St, South Melbourne
P: 7004 1284
E: sthmelb@osteoststrong.com.au



EAST Tower
Melbourne Quarter

Elevate Your Urban Lifestyle

Learn more and submit an enquiry at:
melbournequarter.com/live/apartments-for-rent/

MQ Melbourn Quarter

Rental legislation is changing in Victoria. *Are you covered?*

Move to Harcourts Move and we will pay your landlord insurance and ensure you are covered.
Call us today on 8672 8664.
Harcourts Move - its more than just property.

Level 3 / 95 Coventry Street
Southbank VIC 3006
P 03 8672 8664
E move@harcourts.com.au
www.move.harcourts.com.au

Schools



www.haileybury.vic.edu.au

HAILEYBURY
WILSONS CREEK BRISTOL BERRICK CITY BELTING

Market



SOUTH MELBOURNE MARKET

Explore the Market

SOUTH MELBOURNE MARKET
Corner of Coventry & Cecil Streets, South Melbourne



hockingstuart **belle** PROPERTY

Contact hockingstuart Belle Property today, as we have plenty of buyers searching in your area.

03 9690 5366
belleproperty.com/south-melbourne



THE EVERMORE
MELBOURNE

Retreat Everyday
call 1300 383 766
www.theevermore.com.au

Services



Stop Noise

ADD ON DOUBLE GLAZING

NOISE REDUCTION SPECIALISTS

1800 880 844
INFO@STOPNOISE.COM.AU
WWW.STOPNOISE.COM.AU

Owners Corporation



The Knight

Owners Corporation Management you can trust.

Experience the difference.
1300 553 613 theknight.com.au



CENTRAL EQUITY
AWARD-WINNING MELBOURNE DEVELOPER

1800 63 8888
southbankplace.com.au



Whittles
Owners Corporation Management Services

For superior owners corporation management services, contact the Docklands dedicated team
Whittles, Level 1, 838 Collins Street, Docklands VIC 3008
T 03 8632 3300 E info.docklands@whittles.com.au



LUCAS

WE KNOW VERTICAL LIVING BETTER THAN ANYONE.
THAT'S YOUR ADVANTAGE.

9091 1400 | lucasre.com.au



SOUTHBANK NEWS

Talk to Southbank News owner Sean Car
t 0433 930 484
e sean@hyperlocalnews.com.au
about how to customise your campaign to our audience every month.

RayWhite



1011/28 Bank Street, **South Melbourne**

3 2 1

- North East corner apartment
- Natural light flowing through each room
- Sweeping views of CBD and Royal Botanic Garden
- Car park with large storage cage on title

Auction
Saturday 22nd Aug 12:30pm
Location TBA

Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864
Zara Ebadi
0410 871 367

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

RayWhite



14/30 Miles Street, **Southbank**

3 1 1

- Boutique low-rise apartment complex
- Enormous 107sqm two level apartment
- Spacious and light-filled living and dining
- High vaulted ceilings

Online Auction
Thursday 20 Aug 6:30pm

Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864
Zara Ebadi
0410 871 367

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

RayWhite



1/55 Kavanagh Street, **Southbank**

2 1 1

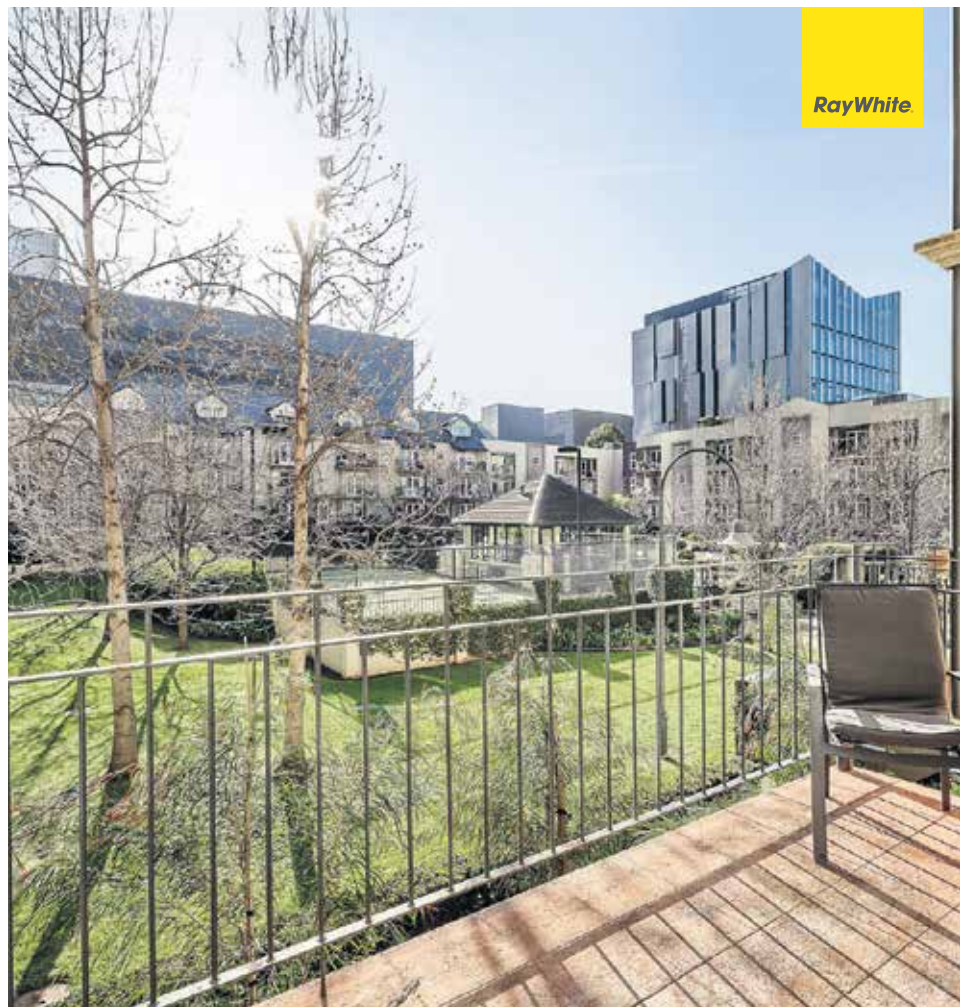
- Premier location in Arts and Culture hub
- Private landscaped front & rear courtyard on title
- Renovated luxury bathroom
- Generous open living/dining area

Online Auction
Wednesday 19th Aug 6:30pm

Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864
Zara Ebadi
0410 871 367

raywhitesouthbank.com.au

RayWhite



60/120 Sturt Street, **Southbank**

2 1 1

- Boutique apartment building
- Northerly aspect with plenty of natural light
- Large front and rear balcony
- Bedrooms privately positioned at rear of property

Online Auction
Wednesday 26th Aug 6:30pm

Michael Pastrikos
0404 282 864
Zara Ebadi
0410 871 367

raywhitesouthbank.com.au