

SOUTHBANK NEWS

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100TH EDITION

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▲ The Southbank community rallied in 2016 to call on the City of Melbourne to build a park at the Boyd Community Hub.



▲ South Melbourne Primary School opens in Southbank in 2018.



▲ Southbank Police Station opens - 2016.



▲ Fishermans Bend's first park is opened in the Montague Precinct in 2018.



▲ Joe Bagnara and Tony Penna - SRA's two longest-serving presidents.

Welcome to our 100th edition

“

Given the milestone and the journey it's taken to get here, I thought I could get away with one photo without my mask to celebrate!

”

Who would ever have thought that's how the opening of my editorial comment would start to mark our 100th edition of *Southbank News*, but there you have it.

While a global pandemic and scenes of a struggling city don't provide an ideal backdrop to celebrate, from our perspective, the adversity makes this achievement just as special.

It's been a great journey to 100 editions of this newspaper and, for me personally, Southbank is where it all began.

While today I now have the honour in publishing both sister publications *Docklands News* and *CBD News* as director of Hyperlocal News, I assumed the role as editor of what was then *Southbank Local News* after its 32nd edition in 2014.

Back then, the newspaper, much like the community, was still finding its feet in so many ways. As I physically began walking the streets and delivering the newspaper myself off the back of a trolley over the next 50 odd editions and connecting with so many locals in the process, I was able to learn and discover so much about Southbank, South Wharf and eventually, Montague.

While those new to the area are often surprised that a local paper exists in a place like Southbank, I've learned over time that its role in building that sense of connection is especially important in new, high-rise communities, where, as COVID-19 has proven, life can be isolating at times.



I'm proud of what the paper has been able to achieve and while times are very tough right now, we hope the milestone, complete with a special cartoon wrap illustrated by the enigmatic Michael Lindell and pieced together by the lovely Georgia Camden, gives you a reason to smile.

There are so many people to thank, but I might save that for when lockdowns end and we can celebrate in person! In the meantime, enjoy a few images above and on page 31 of some highlights from over the years.

But in short, thank you to the newspaper's founders Shane Scanlan and Sean Rogasch, our contributors, advertisers, my team, and you, the local community, for making *Southbank News* into what it has become over the past 100 editions. We look forward to bringing you many more ●

*Sean Car - Editor & Publisher
Southbank News*

A message from the Lord Mayor ...

Southbank is a suburb that demonstrates the powerful transformation of inner Melbourne – from a rich Aboriginal history of thousands of years to a more recent industrial past to today's mini modern metropolis of more than 20,000 residents.

Southbank today is almost unrecognisable compared with the area just a few decades ago. The industrial buildings have been replaced with skyscrapers and, instead of finding a brickworks, you'll discover boutique bars and even a microbrewery.

A concerted push to revitalise the area has led to great progress and change, and a boom in residents and workers moving to Southbank. And the City of Melbourne has played its part in transforming Southbank.

Boyd Park was recently completed and there are more changes planned to enhance the liveability of Southbank and showcase the Yarra and the Arts Precinct. These include completing (finally) the Southbank Boulevard upgrade and commencing the new Southbank Promenade. More parks and open spaces will continue to provide shared zones for residents, workers and visitors to enjoy and activate.

Importantly, this evolving area has been well served for more than eight years by its local newspaper, *Southbank News*. *Southbank News* has developed alongside the local community and is a critical outlet to tell important local stories and profile priorities for the neighbourhood. This outstanding local paper has a strong connection with the community, as demonstrated by the publication of its 100th edition. Well done.



More than ever we need to continue building our sense of community as our city overcomes a once-in-a-century pandemic that has caused so much devastation. It will take our combined efforts and support for each other and local businesses, to revitalise and rebuild our great city.

Southbank News plays a big role in reflecting the struggles and successes of the local community and mobilising action; these are a key part of the bigger story of our Melbourne.

Congratulations to *Southbank News* on reaching such a major milestone and here's to another 100 editions! ●



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Artemis enters the race for council

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*
ELECTIONS

Southbank resident and renowned leader of the Southbank Sustainability Group (SSG) Artemis Pattichi has thrown her hat into the ring for local council.

Ms Pattichi, who has also served in a number of roles with the Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) in recent years, will run as an independent candidate in the City of Melbourne postal elections on October 24.

Born and raised in Cyprus and having worked in a number of high-ranking corporate roles in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, she said she was seeking to bring greater diversity in decision-making to the City of Melbourne.

And having whole-heartedly embraced the local community since moving to Southbank six-and-a-half years ago, the commitment and tenacity she has demonstrated in achieving positive outcomes shows she's no stranger to getting things done.

Having helped start the Melbourne Award-winning

SSG, which has been responsible for establishing a veggie garden and composting hub at the Boyd Community Hub, she said she hoped to use her experience in business and sustainability to enact positive change.

"I'm very interested in sustainability and the environment but I come from a business and corporate background," she said. "The council has been dealt a very difficult wildcard with COVID-19 but we have a unique opportunity in the rebuild to do things differently."

"If COVID has taught us anything, it's that we can shift habits and do things for the collective good."

"I do respect the council's response so far in terms of getting our homeless off the streets and using the opportunity to advance infrastructure, but I'm also very aware that we're responding to the immediate threat."

"What's next is the rebuild and investments and planning are going to be very important in determining the impact and it's critical that the community is better represented in the decision-making process."

Her campaign, which she said was based on delivering a "future good for all" through community-driven solutions, has largely manifested off the back of her experience in

Continued on page 4.

NGV lightboxes: Public art or advertising on heritage-listed land?

A proposed plan to allow The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) to build 29 lightboxes of art on heritage-listed land on St Kilda Rd has caused a stir in the local community.

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*
HERITAGE

The illuminated lightboxes featuring images of birds will be part of the NGV's *Triennial* exhibition set to open in December and will be in place for 25 years if approved.

Long-term Melbourne resident Dr Stan Capp said the proposal had not received the scrutiny required to protect one of Melbourne's greatest heritage sites.

"I think St Kilda Rd is the greatest boulevard we have in Melbourne and it ought to be protected at all costs," Dr Capp said.

"To look at allocating this area of land for the exclusive use of NGV notwithstanding that this for a piece of artwork and not just for advertising or promotion, my sense is that it's still a poor precedent to set and it would be difficult to reject other applications further down St Kilda Rd as they arise."

Dr Capp also said the proposal was not appropriate as the council had not been "transparent" with the community about the decision.

"I would advocate it be called back to the council for consideration by the Future Melbourne Committee," he said.

The proposal lodged in early August with Heritage Victoria outlines a plan for the lightboxes to feature images of birds such as ibises, herons and pigeons to be drawn up by London-based artist Julian Opie.

Most of the lightboxes would be close to ground level and sit on the median strip opposite the NGV, however five would be on four-metre

poles and measure up to 1.2 metres by 80 centimetres.

The proposal also outlines plans for more floodlighting of the plane trees to enhance how the area looks at night.

Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) president Tony Penna also said that it was "disappointing" the council hadn't consulted residents about the project.

"We've always had a say on proposals that have an impact on our community, but council didn't even inform us despite how engaged we are," Mr Penna said.

"This is a space for residents of Southbank who are passionate about their arts precinct. I would be disappointed if after the application has been assessed by Heritage Victoria, if it doesn't go through council and the Future Melbourne Committee for community consultation."

Friends of the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens member Margaret O'Brien said it was "extraordinary" that a heritage site was being appropriated by one institution.

"At the very least it requires a rigorous process including a referral by the NGV and the City to the federal minister under the EPBC [*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*] Act because of the significant impact to the site," Ms O'Brien said.

"As custodians of our national heritage treasures, they have so much space inside. So why are they going into the public space?"

Ms O'Brien also said that aside from the hazardous distraction it

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HEALTH, PAGE 05

A High-rise not told of COVID cases



PLANNING, PAGE 07

B Heritage topped with hotel on City Rd



ELECTIONS, PAGES 11 & 13

C "An election like no other"



BUSINESS, PAGE 15

D Ponyfish Island revamp



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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

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Arron's in

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
ELECTIONS

The City of Melbourne local government elections got interesting on September 6 after Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood finally announced that he would be running for the city's top job ahead of the October 24 postal elections.

The announcement ends months of speculation surrounding Cr Wood's election bid having publicly gone toe-to-toe with Lord Mayor Sally Capp on a number of contentious issues including a safe injecting room near Queen Victoria Market (QVM).

Speaking to *Southbank News* on September 7, he described this year's election as the "most important" in the City of Melbourne's history with respect to the "crossroads" the city was at in the face of the looming economic rebuild post-COVID-19.

He noted that during his eight years as a councillor, Melbourne had earned the title of the "World's Most Liveable City" for seven of those years, but in recent times, had begun to lose its way.

While he said he was committed to a contest of ideas devoid of "dirty politics", he said he wasn't afraid to call out the Lord Mayor for "draining the resources of council" with her big visions for the city.

"I feel as though the trajectory has been on the way down," he said. "We've lost our way in terms of what council is fundamentally there to do."

"That's the nub of it for me; the grand visions and grand claims have started to drain the resources of council and take away from the day-to-day operations."



“

"I feel as though the trajectory has been on the way down. We've lost our way in terms of what council is fundamentally there to do."

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"She's [Sally Capp] been a good cheerleader for the city but she hasn't been a good advocate for the city and its ratepayers. Her tagline is 'people not politics', but on issues like the safe injecting room near QVM, residents and traders all made their voices heard but because she's so close to the state government, she said 'let's leave it [the site] on the table' and voted against my motion to take it off the table."

"I think I can absolutely mount a significant challenge and I'll roll out some policies over the coming weeks that will resonate with ratepayers. I've got a good story and a strong track record to show voters."

Cr Wood was yet to reveal the names on his ticket by the time *Southbank News* published its September edition, but he said he was "really proud" of the team of current and former business owners he had assembled. He was expected to make the announcement within days.

In early September former Team Doyle member Cr Susan Riley formally announced to council that she would be retiring ahead of the next election. Cr Beverly Pinder, who is understood to be veering in the same direction, was yet to confirm either way but she is understood to be in the mix. So too is former Lord Mayor of Melbourne Peter Clarke.

And while Cr Wood knows he enters the race as the underdog, he said he wasn't perturbed by the weight of history in having to become the first person ever to unseat a sitting Lord Mayor at an election.

"That history is tempered in the fact that the Lord Mayor came in during a byelection," he said.

"It hasn't received a lot of commentary but when we [Team Doyle] ran in 2016 we won in a landslide so in terms of that mandate to implement policy I think in a way that's one thing that tempers that power of incumbency."

"I've been elected as part of the team that won in a landslide, I've been acting Lord Mayor and I've been a sitting councillor for the past eight years."

It's understood Cr Wood's ticket has the support of a number of conservative heavyweights, including former Liberal Premier Jeff Kennett.

For a comprehensive overview of the rest of the field vying for election, read pages 11 and 13 ●



Artemis enters the race for council

Continued from page 3.

dealing with the local council at a grassroots level.

While she has experience in achieving positive outcomes at a council level through her work in the local community, she said she wanted to "open communications" at council in an effort to bring a more holistic approach to decision-making.

"There's definitely space to improve that communication and how people are heard," she said.

While she is new to politics, she is entering the race with an open mind and said she was excited to learn and talk to as many local residents and businesses as possible ahead of the elections.

Pointing to the example set by current Lord Mayor Sally Capp, she said she also hoped that her story as both a female and migrant leader could inspire future generations.

"If someone said you'd be running for council when I moved to Australia six-and-a-half years ago, I would have thought you're crazy!" she said. "I've learnt to go to where the need is and I hope that my story opens up the way for someone else."

"For people like me considering their paths to leadership roles, you never know what this kind of story can do. We need that as women. We have less images of representation of where we can contribute." ●

For more information:
[facebook.com/
ArtemisPattichi4Council](https://www.facebook.com/ArtemisPattichi4Council)

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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/

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Community Hub



High-rise not told of COVID cases

WORDS BY *David Schout*
HEALTH

Central city owners' corporations (OCs) are on high alert after news that managers at one of Melbourne's largest high-rise apartment buildings were not informed by health authorities that residents had tested positive to COVID-19.

After two residents tested positive at Southbank's 72-floor Prima Tower, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) did not inform building management, according to the tower's OC managers Melcorp Strata.

It is believed that privacy is at the heart of the issue, with the department only passing on details about individual cases when they deem there is wider public health concerns or when close contacts needed to be followed up.

Melcorp Strata general manager Donna Rowe confirmed with *Southbank News* that a Prima Tower resident had tested positive last month, something they discovered independently of health authorities.

Soon after, the partner of the positive case was also found to have contracted COVID-19.

The building's biosecurity and outbreak control plan was enacted and the OC committee then decided, by majority decision, to inform all other high-rise owners and residents of the positive case, withholding both the floor and apartment number.

Not all building managers, however, have been kept in the dark when a positive case has occurred.

One building manager at a Docklands apartment tower, who wished to remain anonymous, confirmed he was informed by the DHHS when one of his residents tested positive.

He said that after being told of the positive case, he was able to closely monitor areas outside the relevant apartment and order his cleaners to be extra vigilant with certain touch points.

And while he acknowledged it was a "complicated" issue, he said management needed to know.

"Where the DHHS is concerned, if they know of a case they need to inform management of the person or apartment. It's pretty important," he said.

When asked why some were informed of a positive case and others weren't, a DHHS spokesperson said they were only contacting building managers under two circumstances.

"In high rises, the department may contact management if there are concerns about possible public exposure or close contacts need to be followed up," the spokesperson said.

"People are considered close contacts when they have had face-to-face contact with a



confirmed case for 15 minutes or more or have spent more than over two hours in the same enclosed space."

Head of lobby group We Live Here Barbara Francis, who recently took part in a briefing session with the DHHS, said she while she understood the privacy issues at hand, she too would want to know if a resident tested positive in her building.

"We believe it should be mandatory. The building should be notified of the case in their building so they can manage it properly. Only people that absolutely need to know should know," she said.

"We don't approve of divulging any information that jeopardises privacy but there needs to be a few measures put in place to make sure that there's no chance of any spread of the virus to the rest of the building."

Ms Francis said it was also about managing the spread of unhelpful information.

"I always think you should let people know as much as they can know, rather than them

“

We believe it should be mandatory. The building should be notified of the case in their building so they can manage it properly.

”

getting wind of it and rumours start to spread. That is worse."

But Dr Stan Capp, the president of CBD residents group EastEnders, backed the health authority's discretion.

"I think it's a matter for the DHHS to advise as they see fit," Dr Capp said.

"If nothing changes (by informing all residents) then what's the point? What we don't want to do is get into the environment where people are named and shamed because they have the virus. And that sort of is inherent in wanting to know all the details. I'm not of that mind - I would favour the retention of strict privacy and respect the rights of individuals to deal with it as we would expect people to deal with it in every environment, whether they're in apartment towers or they live in a house in the suburbs. The same rules prevail."

Dr Capp acknowledged, however, that this system relied on COVID-positive residents abiding by the rules.

"One relies upon the infected person doing the right thing. Even if you tell them that a person in the tower has got it, you still don't know whether the infected person will do the right thing ... I would err on retaining the good faith of individuals to respect what they need to do. We have to respect their privacy, too."

As of September 7, the DHHS suburb-by-suburb data revealed that Southbank has had 66 confirmed positive cases throughout the course of COVID-19.

Pleasingly, none of those cases were listed as "active" ●



David Schout

JOURNALIST

DAVID@HYPERLOCALNEWS.COM.AU



▲ A leaked render of Greenline near Marvel Stadium.

Greenline council rift

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

A leak from within the City of Melbourne regarding a "top secret" plan to connect the inner city with new green spaces and cycling paths has highlighted a divide within the senior ranks of council's management ahead of the election.

On August 16, the *Herald Sun* exclusively revealed details and renders of the council's "top secret" project, which would see Royal Park connected with Port Phillip Bay via North Melbourne, Docklands, the Yarra River's North Bank in the CBD and Southbank Boulevard.

In what is sure to be a hotly contested issue at the upcoming council elections, the renders showed pedestrians and cyclists through the streets of West Melbourne and Docklands (featured image). Known as "Greenline", the *Herald Sun* reported that the concept "combined elements of city council planner ideas with Lord Mayor Sally Capp's election pledge for Melbourne to have its own version of New York's High Line Park".

The plans were leaked prior to a council forum in August, and sources within the council said the presentation from senior management delegitimised the Lord Mayor's own Greenline vision emphasising the Yarra River's North Bank. While the source of the leak is unclear, CEO Justin Hanney is understood to have put all councillors and staff on notice regarding leaking information to media outlets.

Former councillor Stephen Mayne said he wasn't surprised by what he described as "professional jealousy" within senior ranks. "I don't think Sally has felt that supported by administration and there is a bit of a 'blow-ins' culture from some who've been there for too long. This is the ultimate manifestation of that concept," he said.

A further presentation on the project is understood to have since been made by management at another council forum. Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood told *Southbank News* that council officers had been unable to share how much of council's resources had been invested in the project over the past six months and he feared much of the proposal was "beyond the remit of council" ●

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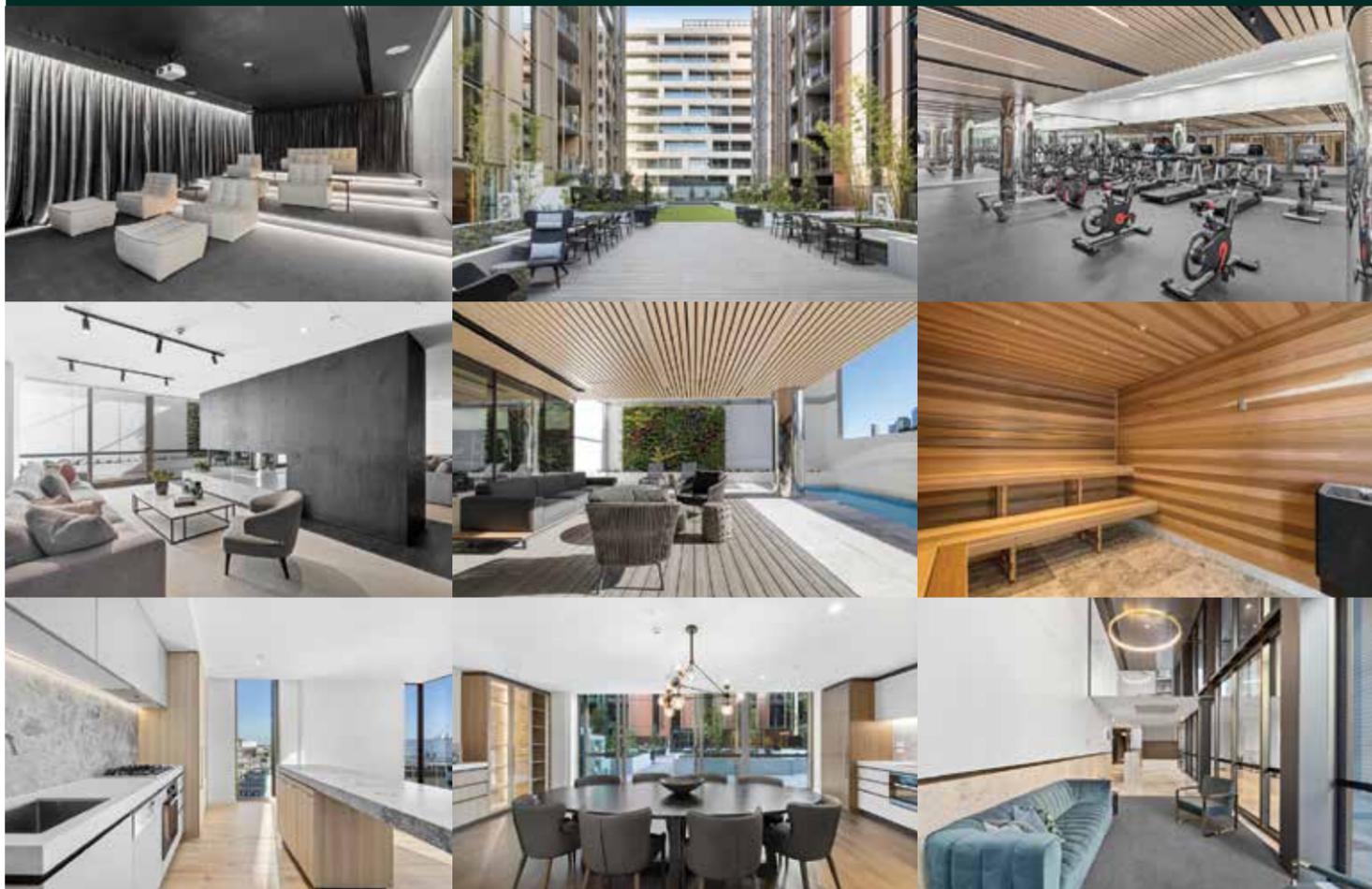
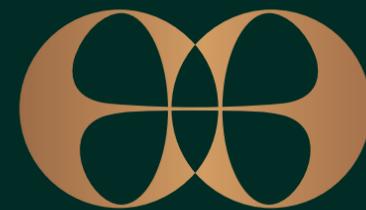
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QB Square delay “extremely frustrating”

WORDS BY *David Schout*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

The City of Melbourne’s planning chair has labelled Crown’s ongoing delay of upgrades to Queensbridge Square as “extremely frustrating” following reports of a revised vision for a proposed high-rise tower on its One Queensbridge St site.

Crown Resorts chief executive Ken Barton told investors in August that it “continued to look for options” on what it could do with the One Queensbridge site.

The state government previously issued a permit under “state significance” to Crown and former venture partner Schiavello for what would have been Australia’s tallest building back in March 2017, but that permit expired after construction failed to start within two years.

At the time, Crown promised delivery of a \$100 million “public benefits package” to help get the controversial project over the line.

The package contained long-awaited upgrades to Queensbridge Square, Sandridge Bridge and Southbank Promenade – works all previously flagged by the City of Melbourne.

Demolition of the “red steps” amphitheatre was also mooted as part of the works, however the council invested \$10,000 last year to refurbish it awaited confirmation of the developer’s plans.

But now, more than three years later, these public benefits to the local Southbank community still remain up in the air.

“It’s disappointing that the Crown development will not deliver the planned upgrade for Queensbridge Square as we had hoped,” the council’s planning chair Nicholas Reece said.

“The delay is extremely frustrating but the process has now run its course.”

Cr Reece, who is expected to run as Lord Mayor Sally Capp’s deputy in October’s council election, said it was now up to the next council to look into funding much-needed upgrades itself.

“This is Melbourne’s busiest promenade, it is such an important public space for Southbank residents, workers and visitors,” he said.

“In my view, an upgrade of the square must be delivered for the benefit of our city and I will continue to be a champion for that. But any decision about whether council will fund the upgrade will now be subject to a decision by the new council.”

The Australian reported in August that Crown proposed reimagining the development with a significant “commercial” component, and that a new application being undertaken included 40,000sqm of office space.

The original 323-metre building was touted as a six-star hotel and residential development.

However, approval for the project expired last year and planning minister Richard Wynne refused an extension.

Now, Crown was seeking new ways to develop the site in a post-COVID world, having bought joint venture partner Schiavello Group’s 50 per cent stake in the site.

“For us, it’s about a hotel,” Mr Barton told investors on August 19. “The question is what else can be economically and sensibly, with minimum level of risk, added to that site beyond a hotel aspect, whether it’s residential or commercial.”

“Those are the things we’re looking at, but for us, it’s about getting a high-quality hotel offering at the east end of the property, and there aren’t going to be many opportunities for us to get an expansion of the property of the East End, certainly nothing like the opportunity that comes with Queensbridge.” ●

Heritage topped with hotel in new City Rd plans

WORDS BY *Meg Hill*
PLANNING

A 104-year-old heritage-listed warehouse would be topped by a 28-storey hotel if plans for a new City Rd development proposal are approved.

IMG Investments Australia has lodged a planning application for a new Elenberg Fraser-designed tower at 292-300 City Rd, where the two-storey warehouse is currently sitting unused and vandalised.

The development includes a 380-room residential hotel and ground floor retail in an area of Southbank in which locals say street activation is sorely lacking.

Southbank Residents’ Association (SRA) president Tony Penna said heritage and street activation should be the main priorities in assessing the proposed development.

“In short it’s great to see a plan to develop the site, it needs to be developed,” he said.

“It looks exciting, it looks good, as long as they can deal with the heritage properly and activating the street is critical.”

“There’s a real lack of ground level amenities on this part of City Rd and we need the street activated. It needs to be commercial space, we can’t dictate what type but too much of these buildings use their ground floor only as a foyer – we need shops, restaurants, and so on.”

“The building is heritage-listed and we acknowledge the developer has considered that in their proposal but for detailed consideration we will have to wait to hear from council officers, who are the experts, to give their opinion.”

The development proposal outlines ground level retail for the development. The existing heritage-listed building, currently covered in graffiti, would be partially demolished and restored and the heritage-graded façade retained to a depth of five-metres.

The warehouse at 300 City Rd is subject to an individual heritage overlay and a precinct overlay. It was built in 1916 for poultry and bird food supplier White & Hancock.

Its heritage significance was included in the development application: “White & Hancock’s warehouse is significant historically for its representation of the extensive industrial and distribution development that existed at Southbank over a long period, aided by good railway and shipping access, and its long association with the firm

White & Hancock, who were well-known in the poultry industry; and aesthetically for the ornate Edwardian classicism of the façade, particularly the entry bays, judged within Edwardian-era warehouse and manufacturing structures.”

Robin Grow, president of the Art Deco & Modernism Society of Australia, said the proposal seemed to meet technical requirements but raised subjective questions about heritage retention.

“The proposal seems to meet the objectives and requirements of the relevant planning schemes,” he said.

“A number of other nearby buildings – notably Bank Apartments, on the southern corner of City Rd and Clarke St – have been subject to a similar treatment, and the height of the proposed building is consistent with the area.”

Mr Grow said the heritage retention was an example of facadism, with the demolition of the building beyond the depth of the “structural bay”, a controversial development strategy where heritage was concerned.

“It raises the questions of, firstly, whether facadism is acceptable in the City of Melbourne and, secondly, what other options exist for the current usage of the space proposed to be demolished if this proposal does not proceed,” he said.

“The existing buildings at 292-300 are currently in a state of disrepair. While they could, and arguably should, be retained fully and restored for other functions, there may not be an economic argument for this treatment, and the buildings may continue to deteriorate.”

In February, heritage policies in the City of Melbourne were updated and a contemporary heritage category system was introduced under Planning Scheme Amendment C258, which approved by Minister for Planning Richard Wynne in July.

Following the changes, chair of the council’s heritage portfolio Cr 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.

It was yet to be confirmed when the application would be presented to councillors for consideration at a Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting by the *Southbank News* September edition deadline ●

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MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2020

Get ready to vote

Did you know it's a Melbourne City Council election year? This year's election will be held by postal vote in October. Ballot packs will be mailed to everyone on the Melbourne City Council voters' roll from Tuesday 6 October.

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CITY OF MELBOURNE



▲ A render showing three of the proposed LED screens for the median strip in front of the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV).

Extension for cladding claims

BUILDING

Victorians will be given an extra two years to pursue legal action against builders responsible for installing combustible cladding on their homes under legislation being introduced to the Victorian Parliament on September 3.

The *Cladding Safety Victoria Bill 2020* will give homeowners more opportunity to recover the cost of removing the combustible cladding by increasing the time limit on compensation claims from 10 years to 12 years.

This extension applies to all claims where the claim period expired or was due to expire between the date of the government's announcement of the cladding rectification program on July 16, 2019 and 12 months after the new Bill commences.

Minister for Planning Richard Wynne said the government was also chasing wrongdoers through the courts on behalf of owners in the most serious cases, where the state paid for rectification costs and the builder was found to have a case to answer after a thorough investigation.

The Bill will also formally separate Cladding Safety Victoria (CSV) from the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) and establish it as the responsible authority for delivering the Cladding Rectification Program.

"Establishing CSV as a stand-alone entity will ensure it is best placed to deliver the Victorian Government's world-leading cladding rectification program," Minister for Planning Richard Wynne said.

In July last year, the Government announced a \$600 million package to fix buildings with combustible cladding and establish CSV to oversee the world first program.

CSV provides information and funding to building owners, owners' corporations (OCs) and the building sector to rectify buildings and make them safe. Funding for rectification works are prioritised based on risk ●

NGV lightboxes: Public art or advertising on heritage-listed land?

Continued from page 3.

posed to traffic on St Kilda Rd, it also set a dangerous precedent for private institutions wanting to build on heritage land.

"Art can be very controversial, so who's to say what the subjects of this lease are? Once they are approved they could choose to display whatever they like, including advertising," Ms O'Brien said.

"Other private companies who want to take over the public space will also take this as a green light, and from a national heritage perspective I think this is irresponsible."

Councillor Rohan Leppert said that while he could not comment on the status of the application as it was under assessment, the lightboxes would be installed solely for the purpose of

public art.

"The application before Heritage Victoria refers to a work of public art and is not for signage or any promotional material associated with the National Gallery of Victoria," Cr Leppert said.

"The artwork is a commission from the NGV and City of Melbourne for the 2020 *NGV Triennial*. More details on the artwork will be announced later this year."

Under the agreement outlined in the proposal, the city would manage the lightboxes while the NGV would provide the art.

The heritage impact statement said that aside from the risk of damage to the roots of 11 plane trees along St Kilda Rd, the installation would have an "extremely limited" impact on the whole of the road.

"[The installations] are considered to be an appropriate balance of artistic expression and respect for the heritage place that will not compromise the use and recognition of St Kilda Rd as a major public boulevard," the statement read.

The NGV would not comment on the potential heritage impact, however a spokesperson said that the artwork would be displayed as a "potential project in development for *NGV Triennial*".

A Heritage Victoria spokesperson said the application was still under assessment and it was considering the potential impact to the "cultural heritage significance" of St Kilda Rd, as well as the public submissions received last month ●

the 100th Edition!
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Southbank Residents Association would like to thank Southbank News for continued support to our local community.

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“An election like no other”

While candidate nominations are officially due to open on September 17, much still remains unknown about the makeup of the October 24 City of Melbourne council elections.

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
ELECTIONS

In what Cr Jackie Watts has billed as an “election like no other” and Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood has described as the “most important election in history”, the stakes for those elected are incredibly high as the city looks towards a post COVID-19 future.

With some teams having revealed their full tickets and news of other surprise candidates circulating in the mainstream media, the bulk of the race was still yet to be confirmed when *Southbank News* published its September edition.

However, August had seen a spanner thrown in the works by the state government after a great deal of indecision around whether to postpone local government elections amid rising concerns around COVID-19 in Victoria.

While the way in which candidates can campaign wouldn't change whether Victoria was under stage 3 or 4 lockdowns, with door-knocking, leaflet dropping and public meetings all banned, the indecision was understood to be centred around voting.

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) had expressed concerns to the state government around a “COVIDSafe election plan”, which was eventually released on August 19 with Minister for Local Government Shaun Leane reaffirming the October 24 election date.

Electoral Commissioner Warwick Gately reassured Victorians that postal voting was safe and of “high integrity,” and that the VEC was ready to respond to the changing environment.

“The situation remains dynamic and the VEC continues to actively monitor conditions and restrictions,” Mr Gately said.

“Additional measures in place include increased distancing in election offices, limiting face-to-face contact, enforcing mask wearing where mandated by the Victorian Government, and moving operational activity online whenever possible.”

Measures to further safeguard voters and VEC staff include the removal of counter service for replacement ballot packs and un-enrolled votes for these elections. Mr Gately said requests could be made over the phone and replacement packs would be sent by mail.

Voters will still be able to hand deliver completed ballot papers to the election office if they miss the mail collection times with “strict social distancing measures in place.”

“

It takes more than a Lord Mayor to run the City of Melbourne. If people aren't prepared to tell us who's on their team voters have a problem.

”

The indecision drew criticism from the likes of Greens councillor and board member of the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Rohan Leppert, who said the move was “reprehensible” and had proven paralyzing for many candidates.

But while the uncertainty of a possible postponement wouldn't have instilled confidence in many campaigns, the lack of disclosure surrounding who was running drew criticism from Labor's Lord Mayoral candidate Phil Reed.

Spearheading a ticket announced in July, Mr Reed said voters should be rightly upset that many candidates, including Lord Mayor Sally

Capp and Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood, still hadn't disclosed their full tickets.

“We've now got two people regarded as frontrunners. Still we get closer and closer and we know nothing. It takes more than a Lord Mayor to run the City of Melbourne. If people aren't prepared to tell us who's on their team then voters have a problem,” he said.

Labor's team includes Wesa Chau for Deputy Lord Mayor, while former Melbourne MP Jennifer Kanis's partner Davydd Griffiths, Glen Eira councillor Mary Delahunty and Carlton Legal Service coordinator Hamdi Ali fill the councillor spots.

Its campaign was officially launched by former federal Labor leader Bill Shorten on September 6, who likened the party's local government bid to former Premier John Cain's legacy of bringing Labor “out of the wilderness” in the City of Melbourne.

As part of a campaign calling on “cultural change” at Town Hall, Mr Reed said his team was looking to create a “real city government”, something which drew concern from Cr Arron Wood about a growing “Labor influence” in local government.

“What's interesting to me is that the Lord Mayoral challenge is so important this year, but the important part is that ratepayers and voters have a say and they [Labor] rolled out a former leader Bill Shorten. I think there are bigger interests at play here,” he said.

While Cr Wood finally announced his own bid for Lord Mayor on September 6 (read details on page 4), here's what we know about the rest of the field ...



Sally Capp

The Lord Mayor has made no secret of her intention to seek re-election after her by-election success in 2018 following the demise of former Lord Mayor Robert Doyle.

While the council has rightly had its hands full dealing with a raft of incredibly challenging issues, namely a once-in-a-generation pandemic, many are still surprised by Capp's delay in revealing who will join her on her ticket.

What we can say with near certain confidence is that you can put your house on Labor Party member Cr Nicholas Reece running alongside Capp as deputy. There has also been strong evidence to suggest that former Team Doyle councillor Kevin Louey will feature first on the ticket but there was growing speculation that his place was still far from settled when *Southbank News* published its September edition.

While other names have been thrown around behind-the-scenes, the remainder of Sally's ticket remains a mystery and there is a growing sense of frustration in her delays.

But what is fair to say, is that it's her election to lose.

No sitting Lord Mayor has ever been beaten in the City of Melbourne and Capp has won many fans in helping rebuild the council's battered reputation since the resignation of Robert Doyle.

As Rohan Leppert said, COVID-19 also suits incumbents heavily and Sally's apolitical nature will likely prove a strength among voters.



Arron Wood

Now that he has announced himself as a candidate, the conversation now turns to how Wood “engineers” a possible victory.

There is no doubt he presents the biggest threat to the Lord Mayor but he acknowledges he has a monumental challenge in doing so without the connections and influence in the “big end of town”.

His success will depend on preferences and while he is billing a quasi-Malcolm Turnbull-left, business-centric ticket, a seemingly unlikely preference deal with the Greens could make the Lord Mayoral race interesting.

The Greens have made no secret of their lament for the controlling nature of the Andrews Labor government and while Wood appeals to a conservative base, his environmental credentials might place him ahead of the Phil Reed Labor ticket in Greens terms.

A positive working relationship between Cr Leppert and Sally Capp, however, should play favourably for the Lord Mayor. However, with Cr Capp likely running alongside Labor puppet master Nicholas Reece, anything is possible!



Jennifer Yang

The Labor Party's political gun for hire is no stranger to Melbourne, coming incredibly close to becoming Lord Mayor at the 2018 by-election after harnessing the support of the city's Asian community.

Having come within a whisker of claiming the federal seat of Chisom in 2019 election, which was eventually won by fellow Chinese-Australian Gladys Liu from the Liberal Party, it was widely believed her shift to the national arena meant council was no longer on her radar.

But in August, Ms Yang reemerged suggesting to the *Herald Sun* that she was considering running for council again off the back of the Lord Mayor and City of Melbourne's handling of parking infringements during COVID-19 lockdowns.

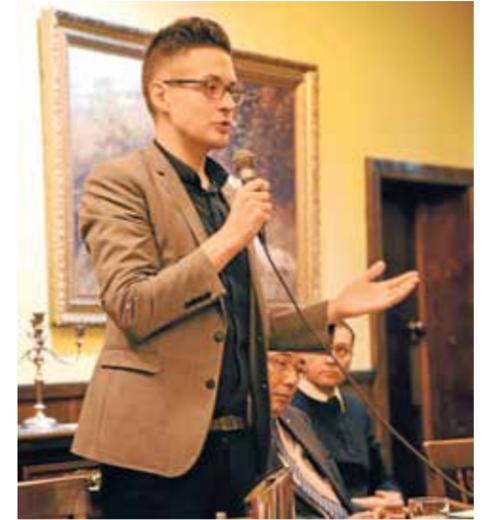
The former Manningham mayor highlighted the case of ICU doctor Katarina Arandjelovic who got a fine due to parking in a red zone after a long shift at Royal Melbourne Hospital, which was later revoked following a long Twitter exchange (see full story at cbdnews.com.au).

While the policy platform of parking seems somewhat dubious motivation for an election campaign, Ms Yang is believed to have the backing of Labor's “industrial left”, which includes a number of unions.

As talk of an “unofficial” Labor Party ticket spearheaded by Yang continues, she was still yet to confirm her intentions by deadline. What

is interesting to note is that Dr Arandjelovic is understood to be a Labor Party member ... coincidence?

Nevertheless, her entrance to the discussion should present some concern for Sally Capp.



▲ Rohan Leppert.

The Greens

While the grassroots political experts know they don't quite wield the power and influence for a serious Lord Mayoral push, they will once again be going around in an effort to get two councillors elected.

The experienced and classy operator in Rohan Leppert will once again sit as number one on the ticket, and will likely be re-elected. Leppert has proven to be an undisputable asset to the City of Melbourne over his two terms on council.

His fellow colleague Cathy Oke will not be recontesting, having gone a three-term journey on the council. It's understood that Dr Olivia Ball, who ran as the Greens Lord Mayoral candidate in 2016, will assume her position on the ticket.

An announcement on the identity of their Lord Mayoral candidate is expected to be revealed in the coming weeks, but who the Greens preference could have a telling impact on who ends up in the Lord Mayoral robes.



Philip Le Liu

The Liberal Party member represents one of the only conservative voices on the current council and he is keen for that to be reinstated after the election for the sake of a “diversity of views”.

Unlike the Labor Party, the Liberals don't endorse local government candidates, however Cr Le Liu has formed an unofficial “moderate conservative” Liberal Party ticket for the upcoming elections with himself running in the first councillor spot.

Speaking to *Southbank News* prior to the state government's final confirmation of the October 24 election date in early August, he like many lamented the indecision as being “bad for democracy.”

“There will be less and less people voting. I think it goes against democracy,” he said.

While we won't know the names on his ticket for another few weeks, he said it consisted of some “seasoned campaigners”

Continued on page 13.



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".

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Nestled between the large, shiny motor yachts in Marina Yarra's Edge sits a little bit of Venice, Italy.

The man behind Melbourne's Yarra River gondola fleet is Paul Sullivan. He has been at the helm – or should we say on the end of the 'punting pole' – for 20 years. Not that he does much punting these days; he leaves that to much younger arms, and, no, he doesn't serenade his guests either. However, roses, French champagne and delicious cheese platters are all essential parts of the Venice on the Yarra romance offer.

Paul took over the business in 1999, following a long career in the sales industry. From selling to handling a rudder was quite a career change, but it was something he could do initially from the kitchen table, while helping his wife to raise their young family.

Travelling slowly up and down the Yarra in a gondola provides plenty of time to appreciate the idiosyncrasies of the waterway – both good and bad.

"In the warmer weather you notice some very interesting things going on along the riverbanks", he says.

"You also get to see Melbourne at its most beautiful. Even if you live on the 40th floor of an apartment tower, the city's evening skyline is not nearly as beautiful as it is when seen from the river, and when it's reflected in the water.

"Even long time Melburnians say that they haven't properly appreciated our city until getting out onto the water".

Paul's other passion is community lifesaving. He is president of a local life saving club, which last year, with Life Saving Victoria, piloted an experimental floating swimming pool for the inner bay - a first in Australia. It's experience that might come in useful on the Lower Yarra if a group of people manage achieve their long-held ambition to install a river swimming pool.



yarrariver.melbourne



South Wharf Restaurants

South Wharf Promenade, South Wharf

www.southwharfrestaurants.com.au



It can be hard to pin down Sam Shaw - the man with his hands on the steering wheel of many of the restaurants along South Wharf Promenade, as well as the successful online hospitality experience hub 'SWR Connect'.

When not consulting to clients on matters of food and beverage, you might find him on any surf beach between Point Leo and Torquay, or possibly snowboarding, skateboarding, or just romping with his kids and his Great Dane Kruezer.

A good range of outside interests is helpful when working in the cut and thrust of the restaurant industry. Sam is notching up his 20th year in the business. He moved from Tassie in 2004 and apart from 18 months working in the pub scene of the UK, he has been here ever since.

South Wharf's eclectic mix of riverside restaurants can cater for groups of 25 to 350, but when combined together they can throw a party along Dukes Walk for more than 5,000 people, usually as an adjunct to a conference next door in MCEC.

South Wharf feels like a little village within Melbourne. Sam says the residents have been extremely supportive of their venues during lockdown and the company is seeing great success with its range of online classes and experiences

"All of the attendees to our classes and experiences are enjoying not only learning, but also interaction with others sharing the same experience."

And with such an array of great food to choose from, what is Sam's favourite South Wharf dish?

"It would be a 50/50 split between BangPop's Jungle Curry and the Bone In Campfire Rib Eye with Patagonian potatoes and chermoula, which will be part of Meat Market's reimagined menu. It's a phenomenal mix of Middle Eastern, South American and Eastern European flavours that work amazingly well together".



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.

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“An election like no other”

Continued from page 11.

who had experience at both federal and state level. It's understood Lauren Sherson, who ran for Melbourne in the last state election, is on the ticket.

Le Liu also wields strong influence in Melbourne's Asian community and that combined with the experience of four years on council places him personally in a strong position to be re-elected as a councillor.



▲ Jackie Watts.

Gary Morgan

The prominent Melbourne businessman and head of Roy Morgan Research will again lead a ticket, largely for the sake of getting long-time Cr Jackie Watts re-elected for another term.

What is interesting this time around is that Mary-Lou Howie, the vocal and well-known president of lobby group Friends of Queen Victoria Market, will run alongside Mr Morgan as deputy.

The president of the Coalition of Resident and Business Associations (CoRBA) Michael Kennedy will follow Cr Watts in the second councillor spot on the ticket, while logistics engineer and North Melbourne resident Haya Al-Daghlis and Docklands academic Dr Dashi Zhang will follow in third and fourth spots, respectively.

While Cr Watts fate in being re-elected as a councillor will rest largely on preferences, Gary Morgan told *Southbank News* he wanted to become Lord Mayor and tackle the state government “head on”.

“This Premier has gone crazy,” he said. “I’m the only business person standing. Victoria is in a very bad state at the moment and the issue is we need to go back to stage 2 restrictions.”

“We need to copy what they’ve done in Taiwan. If not saying get rid of face masks and allow rock concerts, but there’s no reason why cafes, bars and restaurants can’t stay open with social distancing.”

“There are a lot of amateurs in council sucking up to the Premier. Sally Capp is a wonderful person but she hasn’t stood up to the state government. It’s not right.”

Mr Morgan said he would be preferencing Sally Capp ahead of Labor and the Greens, who he accused of wanting to control the council.

“I don’t want that to happen,” he said.

“Jackie [Watts] is so sensible. The heritage work she has done, and with the waterways and the maritime museum, IT and knowledge, is just remarkable.”



The rest ...

In addition to Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) member and Southbank Sustainability Group leader Artemis Pattichi, who has nominated as an independent candidate, reports have suggested ex-politician Phil Cleary is weighing up a nomination.

Cr Nicolas Frances Gilley told *The Age* that he was not standing but said he was in conversations with a number of potential Aboriginal candidates he hoped to support to run.

The Victorian Socialists (VS) (pictured) have also launched a campaign with candidates for Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and councillor positions – promising to “challenge big business and fight to give workers a say in how their city is run.”

Lord Mayoral candidate Kath Larkins, a worker at Flinders Street Station, will be joined on the ticket by Daniel Nair Dadich for Deputy Lord Mayor and Chris di Pasquale for a councillor position.

In a Sam Newman-esque announcement, the *Herald Sun* also reported on September 4 that hospitality entrepreneur Nick Russian was weighing up a late nomination for Lord Mayor.

Transparency motions – Hyperlocal News

Hyperlocal News Pty Ltd, which is responsible for publishing *CBD News*, *Docklands News* and *Southbank News* has agreed to host donation and personal interests registers for all candidates on its website (hyperlocalnews.com.au) for this year's elections.

Under the motion raised by Cr Jackie Watts at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on August 25, candidates will be asked to voluntarily disclose all donations of \$500 (cumulatively or more) and gifts during the calendar year 2020 within five business days of the election, with current legislation only requiring it be disclosed 40 days after the election.

On a separate register candidates will be asked to voluntarily disclose any position as an office holder of an institution (currently or in the previous two years), political party memberships or financial interest valued at more than \$10,000 excluding superannuation but including self-managed super funds.

The motion on August 25 was passed by six councillors in Watts, Wood, Pinder, Riley, Oke and Leppert, with five councillors Capp, Reece, Le Liu, Frances Gilley and Louey all abstaining.

While abstaining councillors all said they were for “greater transparency”, Cr Oke said it was disappointing that they were for transparency but “not quite for transparency” ●

For more information:
vec.vic.gov.au

“Open and stay open”: Slow road out for businesses

WORDS BY *David Schout*
BUSINESS

Most Southbank businesses will remain under heavy COVID-19 restrictions until late October at the earliest after the state government announced its roadmap for reopening.

Local businesses were left disappointed on September 6 after the Andrews Government said cases weren't low enough to reopen in the short term.

Under the announcement, Southbank's many small businesses would remain either closed or under heavy restrictions until at least October 26.

If the statewide average daily case rate remained higher than five and there were more than five cases with an unknown source over a 14-day period, however, the re-opening date would be later.

The Premier said he wanted to avoid opening and going back into lockdown, as Melbourne had already done in early July.

“The key point is to open and stay open, not to be bouncing back and forth, [with] lockdown on and off,” he said.

“That is not an answer. And when the data is so clear, when the analysis and advice is so clear, you've only got one choice.”

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said while she acknowledged the Premier's plan, the extended period of lockdown was set to be catastrophic for many businesses, and said more support was needed.

“While the roadmap provides clarity for the staged reopening of businesses, we know these timelines will continue to have a devastating impact on businesses within the City of Melbourne, particularly hospitality and retail, many likely to shut permanently before restrictions lift,” Cr Capp said.

“I am calling for more direct financial support from the state government and more flexibility for business to reopen sooner if case numbers go down faster than anticipated.”

Deputy Lord Mayor and council's finance chair Arron Wood was more critical of the move.

“Sadly, the only certainty today's ‘roadmap’ delivered was the certainty we'll lose thousands more hospitality, retail, tourism, events and a long list of other small businesses. Is anyone in a decision-making position a current or former small business owner? Staggering!” he said.

The government provided some hope, however, that once re-opened the hospitality sector could operate in a completely new way.

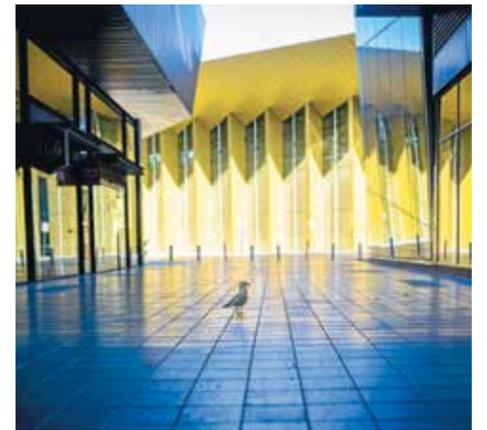
Mr Andrews said after discussions with Cr Capp, he was hopeful new rules could be quickly pushed through to help the struggling sector.

“I think the hospitality sector is going to look very different,” he said.

“We may close streets, we may remove parking, we may go to those dividers, we may move quite a significant amount of activity outside the venue but it will still be able to happen. I think we can make that work. There are a number of cities in the world that are doing that.”

Earlier, Cr Capp announced the city would look to adopt an “open restaurants” initiative similar to that being used in New York.

The council and state government were reportedly looking at ways to amend liquor licensing and dining permit rules to fast-track the initiative that would allow socially-distanced



▲ A lonely shopper at DFO South Wharf.

dining on footpaths, laneways and streets.

Mr Andrews said there were examples that showed this could work.

“If you look at some cities around the world, the kerbside car parking is gone, the footpath has been restricted, they'll put plastic dividers between tables and they are seating more people than they could ever seat inside.”

The Premier announced that there would be further business support on top of current grants, which would be announced at some point in September.

In August, the government confirmed that small businesses in the CBD, Docklands and Southbank would benefit from grants ranging \$5000 to \$15,000 in the latest round of support.

The \$20 million package has been divided into two, with \$10 million dedicated to small hospitality operators and the other \$10 million for what has been termed “bricks and mortar” traders.

Business owners in postcodes 3000 (Melbourne), 3005 and 3008 (Docklands), and 3006 (Southbank) will be eligible under the package.

The \$5000 grant was available for hospitality venues with a food service capacity of 11 to 100 seats, and all others small businesses that employ up to 50 full-time equivalent staff.

They must also be a participant in the federal government's JobKeeper payment scheme.

The larger \$15,000 grant is available for hospitality venues with a food service capacity of 101 seats or more.

Non-employing sole traders, political organisations, fundraising groups and government departments were ineligible, along with venues seating 10 or less.

Grants for larger hospitality businesses within the inner-city (with a payroll of more than \$3 million but less than \$10 million) were eligible for assistance under a separate grant.

Foot traffic within central Melbourne has plummeted under stage four restrictions.

Recent data revealed a drop of around 90 per cent, a figure that has had a significant impact on many small businesses and concern from the council that they could remain shut forever ●

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Melbourne City Council postal elections

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Two simultaneous elections will be held for Melbourne City Council this October—one to elect the Leadership Team (Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor) and the other to elect nine councillors.

Voting

Ballot packs will be delivered to enrolled voters from Tuesday 6 October 2020. Your completed ballot papers must be returned in the mail ASAP or hand-delivered to the Election Manager by the close of voting at **6 pm** on **Friday 23 October 2020**.



If you will be away

If you will be away when ballot packs are mailed, or your address has changed since Friday 28 August 2020, your ballot pack can be redirected by writing to:

Election Manager
Melbourne City Council elections
C/- Victorian Electoral Commission
Level 11, 530 Collins Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Alternatively, you can email your request to:

redirections@vec.vic.gov.au

Please include the address for redirection. Each voter requesting redirection must sign their request.

Requests for redirection must be received by **Thursday 17 September 2020**.

Large print and braille ballot papers

Large print or braille ballot papers are available for voters who are blind or have low vision—please register by **Tuesday 15 September 2020**. To register, call (03) 8620 1222 during business hours.

Request an early postal vote

To apply for an early postal vote, contact the Election Manager from **Wednesday 23 September 2020** on (03) 8619 1444 and make an application. You must provide a valid reason.

How to nominate as a candidate

Candidate requirements have recently changed. To nominate as a candidate, 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.

To nominate, complete the nomination form and lodge it with the Election Manager together with the \$250 nomination fee. Nomination forms can be lodged by appointment during business hours from **Thursday 17 September 2020** until **12 noon** on **Tuesday 22 September 2020** at:

Drill Hall Multicultural Hub
51-57 Victoria Street, Melbourne

Candidates for the Leadership Team must nominate in pairs. Candidates nominating for a councillor position must nominate as individuals, but can request to be grouped with other candidates under a group name.

Visit vec.vic.gov.au for more information and to pre-complete your nomination form using the online Candidate Helper. The online Candidate Helper will be available from **Thursday 3 September 2020**.

If you use the online Candidate Helper, print your pre-completed form and make an appointment to lodge it with the Election Manager along with the nomination fee.

Call the Election Manager from **Monday 7 September 2020** on (03) 8619 1444 to make a nomination appointment.

Online candidate information sessions

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Victorian Electoral Commission's candidate information sessions will be conducted online at:

- **7 pm** on **Thursday 10 September 2020**
- AND**
- **1 pm** on **Monday 14 September 2020**

To watch an information session, visit vec.vic.gov.au

Nominations close

12 noon Tuesday 22 September

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

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Ponyfish Island revamp set to add more sparkle to Southbank

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*
BUSINESS

To make the most of the lockdown closure, the iconic Yarra River bar Ponyfish Island is getting a once-in-a-lifetime makeover.

Owner Andrew Mackinnon said that the revamp would completely transform the space and be a “positive thing for the people of Melbourne to look forward to.”

“We’ve taken all of the elements that make Ponyfish great and improved them,” Mackinnon said.

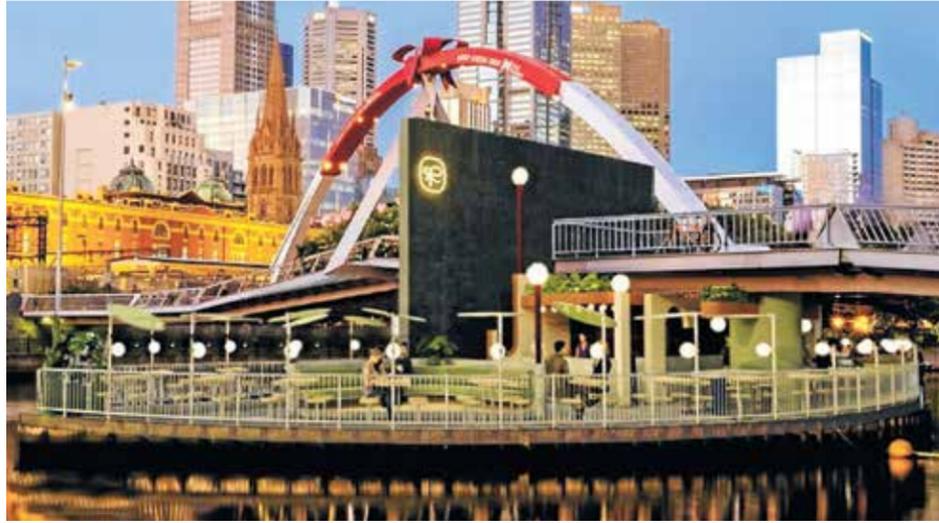
“Better food, better cocktails, faster service, and a more dynamic space so that you feel like you’re right in the heart of Melbourne.”

The team is currently in the process of overhauling the semi-nautical theme in favour of a warmer colour palate, Sunbrella shades, comfortable custom-made furniture and a larger bar for faster service.

“It’s a really unique, sophisticated look. I’d say it’s Melbourne underground meets Miami,” Mackinnon said.

Mackinnon and co-owners Grant Smillie and Jerome Borazio have been wanting to give the weather-battered bar a makeover for the past few years.

But with Ponyfish being such a busy venue, Melbourne’s lockdown afforded them a rare opportunity to start the process in collaboration with design firm, Studio Gram.



▲ A render of a revamped Ponyfish Island.

“We were always aiming to do it in winter because it’s not as busy, and low and behold this year we had to close anyway so we’re making the most of the situation,” Mackinnon said.

“We’re taking our time, doing things properly, and hoping to come out with something really special when lockdown ends and the summertime comes around.”

So far, the demolition has been completed, and the steel tree seating statue in the middle

of the bar has been removed to make room for more guests.

The new space will be able to host 150 people up from 110, have more bathrooms, a larger kitchen with a chef, and also include areas that can be cordoned off for private events.

“Over the years the bar has been exposed to a lot of salty air, rain and sunshine—so we want to ramp up the beauty of the venue and increase the comfort,” Mackinnon said.

“We’re also experimenting with a new ordering system so people can order and pay through their mobile phones and have food delivered right to their table.”

Renovating the bar under COVID-19 restrictions has been difficult—with limits on the number of people allowed on site slowing the process down.

But behind the scenes the original staff have been working hard to create unique new cocktail lists, social media concepts and merchandise.

Currently the team is working on creating a seafood-focused menu, as well as a new Ponyfish lager to replace the one they’ve had for seven years.

“We really wanted to maintain the same price point but improve the quality of our food, which we’ll be able to do with the larger kitchen,” Mackinnon said.

As Ponyfish is such an iconic Melbourne bar, Mackinnon said that it was vital Ponyfish retained the “welcoming, eclectic and multicultural atmosphere” that it’s had for the last decade.

“Ponyfish was never broken, and you could argue that if it’s not broken then don’t fix it,” Mackinnon said.

“It’s just a newer, more improved, sparkling Ponyfish.”

Ponyfish Island is due for re-opening at the end of October, pending government restrictions ●

Movement at Waterfront Place

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
PLANNING

The owner of a site at the centre of an ongoing bureaucratic saga has submitted a new planning application to the City of Port Phillip for a mixed-use 10-storey development.

While the height, compliant with planning rules, and proximity to nearby Station Pier will no doubt undergo further scrutiny, developer Action Group Australia could be edging towards a long-awaited finale at its 1-7 Waterfront Place site in Beacon Cove.

The application includes 126 dwellings, incorporating a mixture of townhouses and apartments of varied one to four bedrooms, 732 sqm of retail space, 1170 sqm of gym and wellness space, community workspaces/meeting rooms, a public toilet and arts studios.

Action Group Australia director Andrew Nehme said the submission of the application followed extensive consultation with community and government stakeholders over the past four months.

Mr Nehme said that the development had a strong emphasis on providing “community benefit” and much-needed activation of the broader precinct, and included “significant” areas of open space such as public laneways and courtyard spaces.

Having consulted with the likes of the Beacon

Cove Neighbourhood Association (BCNA) and the City of Port Phillip, he said he was hopeful of finally delivering a positive outcome for the site, which his company has owned for 14 years.

While the application is currently before the City of Port Phillip for consideration, the BCNA is expected to facilitate a community webinar between the developer and its members in the near future.

Formerly home to a community centre incorporating a gym and childcare centre, the site has been marred in controversy having long sat idle under restrictive covenants which apply to the land.

Following a fire which broke out at the site in 2014, the developer would eventually submit a 10-storey application in 2017, which was knocked back by the City of Port Phillip due largely to concerns regarding overshadowing and scale.

This application was later called in by Minister for Planning Richard Wynne in 2018 after the developer took the matter to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and the submission of its revised application last month marks the latest chapter in the story.

While the proposal is compliant with Port Phillip Planning Scheme amendment C104, local residents have long argued that the planning controls for the site aren’t consistent with the low-rise nature of the surrounding precinct.



▲ A render of the application currently before the City of Port Phillip.

Image credit: Action Group Australia.

The operator of Station Pier – the Victorian Ports Corporation (Melbourne) (VPCM) – have also previously expressed concerns regarding the proximity of residential development to its operations.

The BCNA continues to prosecute the case for a master plan for the struggling precinct and the demise of the cruise ship industry, in conjunction with the *Spirit of Tasmania’s* move to Geelong, has heightened calls from locals for the government to revisit the issue.

The state government announced in September 2019 that it was providing \$50,000 to help the City of Port Phillip develop a precinct plan for the redevelopment of Waterfront Place and Station Pier.

The VPCM also received \$5.8 million in the

2018-19 state budget for planning and design for the Station Pier Redevelopment Project, as well as to provide minor upgrades to improve passenger experience.

While she wasn’t in a position to comment on the live planning application at 1-7 Waterfront Place, VPCM CEO Rachel Johnson said it was looking forward to investigating a range of options for the Station Pier precinct.

“This pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on many businesses and industries, including the cruise ship industry,” she said.

“We have accelerated our maintenance program to make the most of the slowdown and ensure Station Pier is ready when the industry rebounds.” ●

SALVATION ARMY’S MAJ BRENDAN NOTTLE LAUNCHES SPECIAL PHONE SERVICE FOR THE LONELY AND ISOLATED

Major Nottle and his wife Sandra, who run the Salvos’ Project 614 program in the CBD, will be available to take calls from 8pm to 10pm weeknights during the pandemic.

“It’s not a crisis line, it’s not a counselling service. It’s simply an opportunity for lonely people to have a chat with a friend,” Says Brendan Nottle.

Call the Salvos Friendship Club, we’re up for a chat!
03 9653 3277 8pm to 10pm Weeknights.



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Your City of Melbourne Community Update



The City of Melbourne is working with the Victorian Government to roll out a \$10 million support package for businesses

BUSINESSES GIVE BACK

Local businesses – from tiny cafes to major corporations – have come together during COVID-19 to donate goods and funds to agencies that support people experiencing homelessness.

Donations have included more than nine tonnes of food, 750 meals per week, 160,000 face masks, 500 hand sanitiser pumps, 100 laptops and 50 mobile phones.

This goodwill shows how Melburnians step up to support each other in times of crisis, even when so many of us are facing great challenges. Thank you for your generosity.

To find out more about supporting people in need, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/homelessness or subscribe to Melbourne magazine at magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au to read more good-news stories.



BUSINESS NEWS

NEW BUSINESS TRANSFORMATION GRANTS

More support is on the way for small businesses doing it tough in the CBD, Docklands and Southbank, where foot traffic has fallen up to 90 per cent due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Earlier this year, the City of Melbourne launched a local economic package to support businesses with grants and rate relief. Now, the council is working with the Victorian Government to roll out an additional \$10 million in support for central-city businesses.

The funding includes \$8 million in transformation grants of up to \$5000 to help businesses adapt and create new revenue streams, and \$2 million to provide mentoring and other support services through the City of Melbourne's COVID-19 Business Concierge Hotline.

Grant applications are now open and close at 11.59pm on Thursday 3 September.

The transformation grants are part of the Victorian Government's \$534 million business support package, which also includes grants specifically for hospitality businesses in the CBD.

If you're a business owner or employee and need information or advice to navigate the business support options available, contact the COVID-19 Business Concierge Hotline on 9658 9658 (press 1 for business).

Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/business

QUICK TIPS FOR BUSINESSES

Diverse sectors are rallying together to offer all kinds of practical support to businesses affected by COVID-19 including one-on-one advice about funding opportunities, work safety guidelines and wellbeing resources.

Here is a snapshot of some key support on offer from the City of Melbourne and other leading agencies.

City of Melbourne support

COVID-19 Business Concierge Hotline

The City of Melbourne's 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 anytime online at melbourne.vic.gov.au/business

Business in Melbourne e-newsletter

To receive the latest news in your inbox, subscribe to the City of Melbourne's business e-newsletter, which includes timely information about funding, support, training and ways to connect with the business community. Subscribe at melbourne.vic.gov.au/businessnewsletter

Free promotion

Do you know of a business located in the City of Melbourne municipality that is operating in a new or innovative way during COVID-19 restrictions? What's On Melbourne might be able to offer free promotion through its popular blog and social media channels. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/marketingsupport

Rates Financial Hardship Policy

The City of Melbourne is supporting ratepayers within its municipality who are experiencing difficulty paying their rates, fees and charges due to COVID-19. If you are experiencing financial hardship, you may be eligible for a waiver, suspension or reduction of these payments. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/rates

Other key support

Victorian Government support

Read about funding opportunities, operating guidelines for restaurants and cafes, how to develop a business continuity and recovery plan and more on the Victorian Government website at business.vic.gov.au/coronavirus or call 13 22 15.

Australian Government support

Find the latest information on financial assistance and other federal support for businesses, tenants, employers, sole traders and more on the Australian Government website at business.gov.au/coronavirus or call 13 28 46.

Safe Work Australia

Make sure your workplace is COVID-19 safe. Find industry-specific information about work health and safety, mental health resources, downloadable posters and much more on the Safe Work Australia website at safeworkaustralia.gov.au



La Petite Crêperie

IN YOUR COMMUNITY

SIX WAYS TO STAY WELL WHILE YOU STAY HOME

Restrictions in place in Melbourne due to COVID-19 affect each of us in unique ways. As we stay home to help stop the spread, it is important for us to take care of ourselves and each other.

Here are a few tips and resources from the City of Melbourne to help you focus on your wellbeing.

1 Make healthy food choices

Eat plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables, and avoid processed foods that are high in fat, salt and sugar. Queen Victoria Market is one great place to access seasonal produce, with some traders offering home delivery.

Many of Melbourne's food businesses have adjusted their operating models due to COVID-19. For help finding healthy and affordable food in your local area, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/communityfoodguide



2 Stay connected

Social isolation is unsettling for most people, and some will feel this more than others. Be sure to check in with family and friends regularly by phone or online, and keep an eye on vulnerable neighbours.

The City of Melbourne is also running a range of activities online and over the phone for older people, including a community call club, live music and gentle exercise classes. To find out more, call 9658 9190 or visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/olderpeople

3 Exercise daily

Keep moving while the City of Melbourne's recreation centres are closed by using the Active Melbourne app and attending virtual classes, such as yoga and pilates.

Trainers from Melbourne City Baths and North Melbourne Recreation Centre are also running virtual experiences throughout the week, from cooking classes to yoga. Learn more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/activemelbourne



4 Get free entertainment

Enjoy free access to e-books, audiobooks, music, films, online courses, conversation clubs and storytimes (for children and adults) using your City of Melbourne library membership. Find out more and sign up online at melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries

To keep kids entertained at home, the City of Melbourne has also published a series of videos and activities prepared by local artists. To dive into some creative adventures, including circus skills and juggling, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/artplay



5 Bring Melbourne to you

Even amid Stage 4 restrictions, much-loved businesses and events across Melbourne are launching innovative offerings, such as virtual concerts and home-delivery of high tea and jigsaws.

To keep up-to-date, visit whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au and subscribe to the What's On newsletter to receive weekly updates in your inbox.



6 Prioritise your mental health

While it's important to stay informed, it's easy to feel overwhelmed by news about COVID-19. Make sure you only get information from trusted sources, and switch off to give yourself time to relax and recharge.

If you need support, contact Beyond Blue on 1300 22 4636 for short-term counselling and referrals, or Lifeline on 13 11 14 for 24-hour crisis support and suicide prevention services.

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

COMMUNITY CORNER

While many of the City of Melbourne's community facilities, social groups and multicultural festivals are on hold due to COVID-19, Melburnians have found creative ways to stay connected.

In North Melbourne, women from a Spanish-speaking art and craft group have been working from home, sharing photos of their beading, crochet and painting using their mobile phones. They even knitted 30 beanies for people experiencing homelessness, to donate to the Vinnies Soup Vans.

Have you got a good news story to share? Tag the City of Melbourne in your posts on social media, or visit magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au to read more community stories and subscribe to our newsletter.

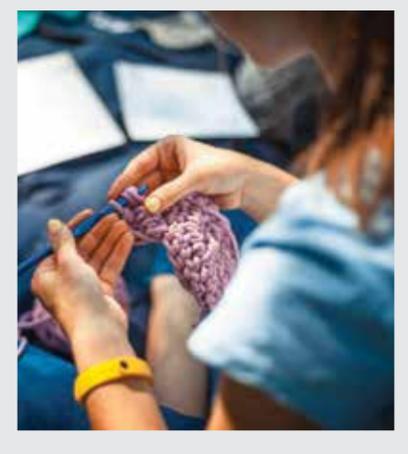


Photo taken before social distancing restrictions

YOUR COUNCIL

◀ Melbourne City Council (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, Cr Jackie Watts OAM.

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

Council's vision

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

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The Arts Precinct



Fair Play

WORDS BY *Marco Holden Jeffery*

The state government has announced this year's participants in its Fair Play initiative; a six-month program designed to promote diversity and inclusivity in the arts.

Ten arts organisations, including the Arts Precinct's Malthouse Theatre and dance company Chunky Move, will receive mentorship from Diversity Arts Australia to improve access and representation and help the organisations meet their equity goals.

Diversity Arts Australia executive director Lena Nahlous said the program was "truly groundbreaking" at a time when conversations about diversity in powerful institutions were at the forefront of public discussion.

"Fair Play encourages systemic change by empowering and supporting organisations to develop the foundations and strategies they need to participate in more equitable creative industries," Nahlous said.

Mentors, drawing from their lived experience as creative practitioners, will work closely with the organisations to develop strategies for greater engagement with marginalised groups, particularly from indigenous Australians, culturally and linguistically diverse groups and people with a disability.



▲ *Sarah Neal.*

Malthouse Theatre executive producer Sarah Neal said the theatre was "thrilled" to be selected for the Fair Play initiative and believed the lockdown was the perfect time to "reflect on structures and power" within the organisation.

"It's an opportunity to look much more closely beyond the programming side and think about the structures at play that are preventing full inclusion of people who are not currently engaged in Malthouse," she said.

Inclusivity had been high on the agenda at the Malthouse in recent years, however Neal recognised there was always room for improvement and hoped to use the initiative to work towards a full equity plan.

"My feeling is that plans are great but actions

are the most important thing," she said.

Although the shutdown was providing time for development and reevaluation at the Malthouse, Neal said they were itching to get back to presenting shows as soon as possible, with an outdoor stage planned for COVID-safe performances over summer.

"We're not an orchestra, we can't just jump on stage and pull our instruments out, so we're doing a lot of work in creative development so we're good to go when we can get back," she said.

And one of the best ways to promote inclusivity was to "get the community back to connecting with the company and the artists we work with".

Chunky Move executive director Kristy Ayre said the Fair Play inclusion had come at the perfect time, when the dance company was celebrating its 25th anniversary and reflecting on what sort of organisation it wanted to be going forward.

"There has always been good intent at Chunky Move and there certainly is a history of some kind of representation, but it's not enough, and I wouldn't say we truly reflect the community we're a part of," she said.

"But we are really committed to having a safe and equitable space for our employees, our community and our audience."

The time for change felt right, and the disruption of the pandemic was allowing organisations across the arts sector to reassess their approaches to programming, hiring and their

internal power structures.

"It's all well and good to say you're inclusive and accessible but is that the way you're perceived externally?" Ayre said.

While the company couldn't put on a season of productions, Chunky Move was continuing to engage with creators in the dancing community, funding a \$6000 three-month home residency for 12 independent choreographers.

The project was more framed around research, development and experimentation than delivering a final outcome, with presentations expected later in September to be in whatever form the choreographer liked.

"To keep people working was the idea, because for some creators part of their way of staying healthy and feeling good is continuing their creative practice," Ayre said.

A former dancer with the company herself, Ayre and the rest of the Chunky Move team were taking the time to celebrate the company's anniversary.

Although plans to bring together their most illustrious alumni were thwarted, the company was putting together an online archive and appreciation of their previous work.

"We wanted to make sure we could bring the full, rich history of the company's work and people to the forefront," Ayre said.

"I felt like there was this danger of all that getting forgotten and buried."

For more visit diversityarts.org.au/project/fair-play ●

CRITIC

The joyful art of sedition

Screen shots don't offer the best images of an artist's work but they are slowly entering the culture as their own art form.

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*

Take this image from Greg Creek's recent art seminar at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).

It's a photograph of an installation of work from an exhibition Creek held in Vienna before the pandemic.

The exhibition comprised an installation of print transfers of 183 Austrian politicians. "Fun portraits," Creek called them.

The photographs, mostly publicity shots off the internet, were doctored by Creek in Photoshop and visitors were invited to add their comments to the butcher's paper mounts.

Some added speech bubbles such as, "I've got a small dick". One visitor wrote, "no way" beneath a picture of the future Prime Minister and another added horns.

Creek said the responses showed how "banal and unknowable these people (the parliamentarians) were."

Works such as these do not depend on faithful reproduction. Quite the opposite. They show the wear and tear of being part of a dialogue between the public and the artist.

In this case, the exhibition provided opportunities for the public to engage in the tribal joy of sedition and the portraits had strong historical antecedents in the art of caricature.

At the beginning of the talk, Creek showed a drawing of Marie Antionette's decapitated head done in 1793, followed by four caricatures of King Louis-Philippe in which his head was slowly transformed into a pear.

Caricaturist Charles Philipon was jailed in 1831 for his irreverent pear-head drawings.

"The viewer is complicit in this satire," Creek said. He or she internalises the seditious image, as thoughts are dismembered from the body.

"We internalise 200 years later the fundamental image idea that the king can be transformed away from his authority state," he said, but in fact the drawing was "just a squiggle of lines."

He said this example demonstrated the way



drawing processes internalised elements in the viewer through an encounter. The homunculus in medieval times was the model of the little figure that was internalised through a cognitive image such as this.

Artists had also reversed the idea of the homunculus, Creek said. Claude Gandelman suggested in 1989 that behind any potential political action there was an image of a huge political body as a watermark.

In a work called *Bodies Politic*, Creek used these ideas to make prints off his own body and combine them with small doctored photographs of notorious heads of state, most with missing

eyes.

Art provides a commentary of the political process, allowing the viewer to decode some of the artist's markings. The talk ended with a quote that supported the idea of art as a means of remaining critical.

Greg Creek works in the drawing department at RMIT University. He tried twice to show his latest paintings at CBD gallery Sarah Scout in April and June but the openings were cancelled because of the pandemic.

Art Forum, Victorian College of the Arts, 12.30pm every Thursday: finearts-music.unimelb.edu.au/events ●



GUILLERMO CARVAJAL



National attention for anti-tourism campaign

As a professional art director who creates bespoke, creative campaigns for companies, Guillermo Carvajal has always gravitated towards the art of visual storytelling.

WORDS BY *Katie Johnson*

But with much of his advertising work constrained by the client's wishes, the part-time advanced diploma student at Photography Studies College (PSC) presented the perfect opportunity to explore his creative freedom.

"I was trying to find a creative outlet outside of work, something that wasn't controlled by clients and deadlines," he said.

"I'm a very visual person so photography fitted quite well with me and helped me with the current work I'm doing."

So far Guillermo has enjoyed great teachers who have nurtured his creative side and helped to bring his visions to life.

"At the beginning I started with mostly commercial stuff because I had that advertising gene within me. But slowly it has transitioned into a more artistic approach, more conceptual," he said.

Right now, Guillermo is working on a project about the role of technology in society and how it has become so ingrained in our lives.

"As social creatures, we need to connect, communicate, interact and above all be touched," he said.

"But we've replaced human touch with a pixelated version of ourselves. I'm fearful that

a future where intimacy relies on technology, replacing the physical, could lead us to a disconnection from our human essence."

When he's not at PSC, Guillermo works as a freelance art director and has directed campaigns for companies like iSelect, Telstra and Pointsbet.

Recently he received national coverage for an anti-tourism campaign he designed which features postcards of popular Victorian tourist destinations with messages like: "Stay the absolute f**k away from Apollo Bay".

"I was getting frustrated by the situation and had two to three weeks off uni so I was looking for something else to keep me busy. So, I wanted to do a commentary on social distancing," he said.

"We had the idea for postcards because that's the main thing tourists gravitate towards when visiting a town. We only made four to start but once we released them people went crazy for it so we ended up doing 10 towns."

Since then the postcards have been covered by *The Age*, Channel 7, the ABC and are now being featured in Melbourne Museum's virtual showcase of life during the pandemic.

"After getting the media attention someone



from Melbourne Museum got in touch with me who was curating a pandemic collection for future generations. It was pretty surprising actually," he said.

As school and work are now remote, Guillermo said it can often be challenging to discuss visual projects with clients over the phone.

But this is a challenge he has chosen to draw on in his own work.

"During this time when we're doing everything from home, relying on technology can be intense," he said.

"You come to really appreciate the value of face-to-face communication."

See more of Guillermo's work at gc-ad.com



PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIES COLLEGE



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Join Our Part-Time Information Session | 16 September at 6pm

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SOUTHBANKER

Dancing against the odds

When Jesse Teichelman appeared virtually at this year's World Championships of Performing Arts, it was a different experience to his first appearance in 2015, when he flew to Los Angeles and won gold in the junior dance category

WORDS BY Marco Holden Jeffery

But if you've seen the 22-year-old Southbank resident dance and heard his long list of achievements, you wouldn't know dancing was something he was told he would never be able to do.

"When I was a kid, doctors said I would never be able to do any type of sport, let alone dance," Jesse said.

"They said I'll never be able to go to the Olympics or compete in anything, so it's best to find something to do that isn't physically moving."

Jesse was born with a rare heart condition where he had just one coronary artery, restricting the flow of oxygenated blood into the heart, and had four open heart surgeries before the age of 16.

But that didn't stop Jesse from pursuing his love of dance, starting in 2009 when he learned to moonwalk for a school assembly performance in his hometown of Perth commemorating the death of Michael Jackson.

"When I discovered dance, it was something that came so naturally to me, so I've grown to know my limits and know when to stop," he said.

"So many kids are told 'you can't do this' - if anything my condition inspired me to push and do more."

Jesse kept dancing for fun - an improvised blend of hip-hop and freestyle dance - and started posting videos on Facebook for his friends and family.

After a few videos spread beyond his immediate circle, Jesse appeared on *Australia's Got Talent* in 2013, making it as far as the second round.

"I was so young back then and looking back at it there was no way I was going to win - but it was the first real competition I ever went in and it was a great experience," he said.

And it wasn't the last time Jesse would dance competitively - in 2015, a scout reached out to him to represent Australia at the World Championships of Performing Arts, flying him and his mum out to LA and the glitz and glamour of Hollywood.

"Everything in LA was in your face, big, out there," Jesse said.

After placing first in the junior solo dance category, Jesse spent a day talking to agents and scouts from all across the industry including a producer from the *Step Up* series, Janet Jackson's backup dancer and Missy Elliot's manager.

"When I came back to Australia from LA, it felt like a ghost town - I felt like nothing was here and if you wanted to achieve something, you had to go to LA," he said.

But if a professional dance career was out of reach, Jesse wasn't too fussed - his other passion was working with children with disability, a sector he had been in for seven years.

"I guess the passion for it comes from my childhood - having a heart condition I was hardly at school, I was having four appointments a week and there were a lot of gaps in my learning," he said.

"And then in high school I unconsciously surrounded myself with the kids who needed help and it just sprung from there."

Jesse moved to Southbank from Perth less than a year ago, but there was one with which he already had a connection.

"When I was in Perth, I used to travel to



Melbourne three times a year for a holiday, and I would always stay in Southbank," he said.

"I love it - it's bustling, it's busy and there's always something happening."

The pandemic meant Jesse had been stuck at home - his "safe haven" - rather than out and about dancing or helping others.

But before long he hoped to back to his

charitable dancing self - he regularly performed on the Channel Seven Perth Telethon and danced at the Perth Children's Hospital and Royal Children's Hospital here in Melbourne. "I try to give back as much as possible and use my talent as a tool to entertain and inspire," Jesse said.

"It's all about not taking life for granted." ●

HOUSING ALL AUSTRALIANS

Housing for all makes "good business sense"

Welcome to the second of our 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.

This month we have asked Peter Mares, author of *No Place Like Home* and lead moderator at the Cranlana Centre for Ethical Leadership, to share his thoughts around why the objective around housing all Australians should be considered an economic imperative for Australia ...

Homelessness takes many forms and has many causes: an abusive partner forces a mother and her children to flee to a refuge; a teenager couch surfs because his parents won't accept that he is gay; a casual worker gets injured and is evicted for rent arrears; an older woman sleeps in her car after a marriage breakup leaves her destitute; an older man with a mental illness ends up on the streets.

Yet despite its diverse manifestations, homelessness is a problem with one simple solution - a decent, safe, affordable home.

To reduce homelessness, Australia needs an increased supply of long-term rental housing at prices people on low incomes can afford. Key workers in low-wage sectors like childcare or aged care need a discount on prevailing market rates; tenants on government payments like the aged pension need rents set at no more than 30 per cent of their income so they have still enough money for essentials like food and heating.

We know from Anglicare's rental affordability snapshot that the private market doesn't provide sufficient housing of this kind, and we cannot expect it to. Landlords won't lease properties at rents that don't cover costs like rates and interest payments. Developers won't build apartments that don't generate enough rent to turn a profit.

This is not a new insight. It was recognised in 1942 by two Melbourne social reformers, accountant and lay Methodist preacher, F. W. Barnett and solicitor and company director Walter "Ossie" Burt. Their book *Housing the Australian Nation*, remains remarkably relevant almost 80 years later.

"Everyone knows there is a housing shortage," they wrote. Today, we might say, "everyone knows there is a housing shortage, for Australians on low incomes".

From this Barnett and Burt drew two conclusions. First, that private enterprise had been "unable to overtake the housing shortage" and second that if people are too poor to give private enterprise the financial inducement to build homes, "then the government must come to the financial aid of the people ..."

We can draw same conclusions today. Business cannot end the current shortage of housing shortage for Australians on low incomes because they cannot pay enough rent to give the private sector the incentive to build.

Where the market fails, government should intervene. Barnett and Burt called for a national housing scheme, which is what we got after World War II. The current crisis demands a

similar level of ambition.

But tackling homelessness is not just a worthy cause - it is sound economic policy that benefits the entire society.

Large-scale public investment to build homes people can afford is an ideal way to help the economy weather the COVID-19 downturn. The federal government's Homebuilder package may assist tradies and contractors who do renovations or build new houses on city fringes, but it will do nothing to save jobs in higher density residential and commercial development, a sector that is facing collapse. Master Builders Australia and the construction union CFMEU don't agree on much, but both think that government investment in social housing is the right policy for our times.

The not-for-profit community housing industry has a detailed \$7.7 billion plan to build 30,000 new affordable homes for renters. SHARP (the Social Housing Acceleration and Renovation Program) would create 18,000 full time jobs every year for four years.

While Canberra says housing is a state issue, only the federal government can finance a package of this size.

Besides, funding for affordable homes should be seen as an investment, not a cost. Finland, for example, has all but eradicated homelessness, partly by converting crisis accommodation into permanent housing. Why go to the expense of putting people up in overnight shelters or hotel rooms, when it's cheaper to find them a permanent home? According to a recent study, moving someone out of homelessness in Finland saves

an average of €15,000 (A\$25,000) per person per year, including through reduced spending in the health and justice systems, and pays for itself in seven years. If secure tenure in an affordable home helps people into the workforce, the savings are even greater.

Now that makes good business sense.

I hope you found the above perspective by Peter interesting and insightful. While what was said may not align with our view of the world, we all need to listen and digest what is said by others in order to find common ground. This is why we are focusing on the fact that the provision of shelter is a fundamental human need (not human right) and without that need being met, we have unintended social and economic consequences that will span generations. As I said in my first article, doing nothing 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: info@housingallaustralians.com.au ●



Rob Pradolin

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

INFO@HOUSINGALLAUSTRALIANS.COM.AU

Congratulations, *Southbank News*

“

I want to start my column with a big congratulations to Southbank News which is printing its 100th edition this month.

”

This is a remarkable milestone and one that truly needs to be applauded and recognised. I think you would all agree this newspaper is certainly our local voice for the community.

I personally cannot fathom to imagine our community without it. I particularly want to acknowledge Sean Car, the *Southbank News* editor and owner of the paper. Sean is dedicated to Southbank and has done a superb job with telling the Southbank story over the years. Bring on the next 100!

So, as I expected, an extension to Stage 4 came to fruition. As hard as it is to accept, I believe we had to have the extension. The numbers are coming down considerably, but I agree they are not low enough to ease restrictions. I think we will only get one go to get this right and we have to do it properly.

Having said that, I noted in last week's figures that Southbank now has zero cases. By all accounts, from my interaction with the community and the many building Facebook pages I am on, it seems our community is holding out well. Keep your neighbours in mind and check if they need a hand, but certainly say hello. Stay focused and positive and the extra two weeks will be over in no time. Thank you to all those who have been doing the right thing.

Our annual general meeting (AGM) was held last month, and despite our first foray into Zoom for such an event, it was a success. It is with great pleasure to announce that we had nine nominations for our committee. All nine are previous members of the committee from the previous year. I have been retained as the president.

I would like to acknowledge Joanne and Artemis for their valuable contributions to our committee over past years – thank you! So, your local not-for-profit volunteer-run community organisation will continue for at least the next year. If you have any interest in what our committee does, or would like to offer to help out, then please reach out to me at president@southbankresidents.org.au.

Considering the success of the Zoom AGM, we are considering the feasibility of also holding our bi-annual New to Southbank event via Zoom in October. This will still allow us to reach out to the new members of our society and maybe even some of our longer residents too. From past experience, feedback received from longstanding residents who have attended is that they have all learned something new. So, I encourage new and old residents to join us in October. More details will be announced then.

If you would like to support your local residents' association and our work, you can join via our website – southbankresidents.org.au, we would certainly welcome your interest.

Until next month, stay safe and make the most of the extra hour of exercise that is now allowed ●

More information:
southbankresidents.org.au



Tony Penna

PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT@
SOUTHBANKRESIDENTS.ORG.AU



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Practicing divergent thinking

What is divergent thinking?



Sometimes we get stuck thinking in the same way as we've always done, and wonder why we are achieving the same results we always have. Does the concept of divergent thinking go some way to getting us out of this "stuckness" and into creativity?

Divergent thinking is a thought process used to generate and explore creative ideas. It is the ability to see many different possibilities and answers to questions, rather than taking the obvious route, all aspects of the situation are evaluated to create different results. Divergent thinking is typically considered free-flowing and non-linear thinking.

Four positive traits and outcomes of divergent thinkers:

1. **New solutions and opportunities:** Bringing new, creative solutions to problems breeds confidence, and there will be a rise in demand for divergent thinking if it provides the best solutions possible.
2. **Customer focused:** Divergent thinkers evaluate situations in a new light, often asking the tricky questions themselves before customers do, and already being able to provide a solution.
3. **Broader outlook:** Divergent thinkers do not approach situations analytically, instead, their approaches bring unique solutions to problems and encourage challenging responses to produce better results.
4. **Enthusiastic learners:** Divergent thinkers often bring a dynamic, flexible nature to situations; they bring enthusiasm to engage in challenges and to find the best solution to a problem.

How do you practice divergent thinking?

The goal of divergent thinking is to generate a multitude of different ideas about one topic in a relatively short period of time. Breaking the topic down into various components to gain insight about it is, therefore, important.

Two of the most common and widely known practices of divergent thinking include "the Six Thinking Hats" and "brainstorming".

The Six Thinking Hats encourages the viewing of problems from many different perspectives depending on which "hat" you are using. There are six hats that correspond to a different category or thinking prompt: White is facts, red is emotion, yellow is positive, green is creative, blue is decisions and black is negative. Try these six hats "on" next time you are trying to find a solution to a problem.

Brainstorming involves writing down all possible ideas and solutions that come to mind for a particular problem or topic, and often these original ideas can then generate more ideas. If it is hard to get started with brainstorming, SCAMPER is an excellent technique to make it more interesting and produce further ideas:

- **Substitute:** What alternatives are available to the materials, processes and methods already in use?

- **Combine:** How can you combine different ideas?
- **Adapt:** How can you adapt an idea already in use?
- **Modify:** What materials, processes or methods could be modified to solve the problem?
- **Put to other use:** Can any materials, methods or processes be used elsewhere?
- **Eliminate:** What materials, methods or steps can be eliminated to remove problems or inefficiencies?
- **Rearrange:** How can materials, methods or processes be moved to solve a problem?

So, many organisations are seeking to think differently and pivot in order to stay afloat or thrive during this pandemic, so why not try some of the above ideas on your own or with your team – you just might come across your next big idea! ●



Rajna Bogdanovic

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

BODGDANOVICRAJNA@
GMAIL.COM

YARRA RIVER BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



Farewell

This is my last column as President of the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA).

After six years in the role, I am stepping down at the September 17 annual general meeting (AGM) to pursue business interests outside the precinct.

My links to Southbank go back a lot further than my current role. From the early 2000s I was a local resident and was managing restaurants and bars along the river. From 2008 I was general manager of Eureka Skydeck and Eureka 89 Events & Dining. It has always been great fun and very exciting to be part of the maturing of the Yarra River business precinct.

Some highlights of that time have been bringing Lunar New Year celebrations to the lower Yarra, seeing the growing activation of the waterway through venues such as Arbory Afloat and the opening and flourishing of South Wharf.

It's sad to finish my term amid such an economic downturn and, undoubtedly, there will be business casualties. However, the precinct's underpinning patronage of Melburnians and Southbankers should keep things afloat until the corporate market returns and tourism resumes.

The most encouraging change during recent years has been the upswing of interest and attention shown by the precinct's two major custodians, the City of Melbourne and Parks Victoria.

Under Lord Mayor Sally Capp, the river has gained the status it deserves from Town Hall. Sally's personal interest and the release in December 2019 of the council's Yarra River Strategy means that there is, at long last, some master-planning for the corridor. The Lord Mayor talks about a "greenline" connecting Birrarung Marr and Docklands. This will also improve access to Northbank from the CBD, meaning that city life can flow down unimpeded to the waterline.

With the arrival of Matthew Jackson as CEO of Parks Victoria there was an immediate change of attitude to governance of the river itself. Parks Victoria moved from seeing itself as merely a policeman of the waterway to being an active partner in bringing the river to life. The market demographic for river-based experiences has changed dramatically over the past decade. Canoes, kayaks, dragon boats, paddle

boards and small hire boats are now all part of the "democratisation" of the river, while the traditional tour boats will always have a major role to play.

While the current lockdown and post COVID-19 environment will be a challenge for most of our businesses, the chance to build better connections between residents and local businesses is a challenge that has been taken-up by YRBA. I encourage local residents to get to know their neighbourhood businesses better, and I urge our businesses to embrace the 25,000 Southbankers as part of their ongoing business strategies, rather than falling back to almost total reliance on tourists and office workers.

Finally, I would like to thank YRBA's executive officer Tim Bracher, the YRBA board and our members for their support over the years. The precinct will bounce back and flourish in years to come. I strongly recommend all local businesses join YRBA. These times we currently face require togetherness and collaboration ●

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

What an achievement ... 100 editions!



Firstly, thank you to Sean Car for his encouragement and foresight to include coverage of Montague (South Melbourne) and Fishermans Bend as part of Southbank News.



And secondly, and most importantly, thank you for supporting the Montague Community Alliance and its role in providing information and debate on how Montague is being developed, to and for the local businesses and residents.

Without the support we have received from Sean, and Shane before him, we would not have been as successful in engaging with the state government and local authorities.

And speaking of local authorities, the City of Port Phillip local government elections are coming up and new councillors and existing ones are vying for your votes and support. If you want to get involved, there is still time for you to nominate as a candidate. Just check out the details on vec.vic.gov.au.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the election will be held via postal vote and all your votes will need to be returned by 6pm on Friday, October 23.

Please vote wisely as we need councillors who firstly read this paper! Secondly, ones who engage and listen to the existing community of businesses and residents in the Montague Precinct. And thirdly, act to ensure that during

the next 20-plus years the existing community is front and centre of mind, while massive construction and development continue in this area.

We have been contacted by three candidates for the Gateway Ward and they have responded to questions put to them about Montague. We will cover the responses to these questions in this and next month's edition.

Montague Community Alliance is not aligned to any political party, although individual members may be.

We look forward to another 100 editions of *Southbank News* and once again congratulate Sean and his team for thoughtful and considered journalism that's been binding the community together for 99 past editions! ●



Trisha Avery

TRISHA AVERY IS THE CONVENER OF THE MONTAGUE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

TRISHAVERY@ME.COM



Heather Cunsolo – independent candidate

Heather has lived in Port Melbourne for eight years, she has worked in the Montague Precinct and knows the area well. She started the very popular Facebook page Port Melbourne Focus (formerly Port Melbourne Families) and has been an active member of the community. In talking to Heather, she seems energised by the opportunity to engage with the community and is clear about the challenges we face by living in a continual construction zone. Heather was keen to hear from everyone: hello@heathercunsolo.com.

Marcus Pearl – current councillor and Liberal candidate

Marcus has been quite innovative and has posted a video to our Facebook Page @ [MontagueCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/MontagueCommunity).

Marcus has been an outstanding local councillor; here are some examples ...

When we had no distribution of the City of Port Phillip magazine *Diversity*, Marcus would personally come by and deliver them. He has attended building sites working out of hours to see for himself the challenges we encounter, and he took up the mantle of having this area formally named Montague, something that most locals wanted at the time.

He is very popular locally and you can reach him at: Marcus.Pearl@cityofportphillip.vic.gov.au

Peter Martin – Labor candidate

Peter is well known to very many people in Port Melbourne, but perhaps a few less in Montague. Peter is the recently retired principal of Port Melbourne Primary School and has proven to be a popular and effective leader of the community for many decades.

Peter has lived in the municipality for 30 years and is passionate about local community activities having been a long-time leader and supporter of the Port Colts Junior Footy Club among many other roles with local community organisations. He is very interested in understanding our concerns and ensuring the community has a voice at council.

Peter.martin@vic.alp.org.au

There are two other candidates that we are aware of, but have had no contact from:

Earl James – Greens candidate

greens.org/Vic/candidates/local

Sami Maher – Ratepayers of Port Phillip

ropp.org.au/gateway-ward-candidate

And finally, a new organisation has been created in Progressive Port Phillip, which is providing a platform for the community to ask questions and influence the current candidates for the City of Port Phillip. They too would be happy to hear from you: progressiveportphillip.org.

SKYPAD LIVING

Do COVID-19 clouds have a silver or red lining for vertical villages?

During the past four months Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) has registered nearly 26,000 reduced rent agreements.

Now the timeframe for the supporting moratorium has been extended, with the state government announcing that rental increases and evictions (for both residential and commercial tenants) are suspended until December 31, 2020.

However, while this brings relief for many tenants, the Property Council of Australia cautions that this extension “will push many landlords to their limits or beyond”.

This is of concern to our vertical villages as typically more than half of all apartments are rental properties, which means a significant number of owners may be severely financially impacted. Add to this the financial challenges that owner-occupiers are encountering, and it is unsurprising that apartment owners are asking that if they, too, can have some relief - such as a discount on their owners' corporation (OC) fee. After all, pools, gyms and other facilities are closed.

The short answer to requests for OC fee discounts is a (qualified) “no”.

And the reasons for this are:

First, the harsh reality is that while we can't access our gyms, pools or courts, our vertical villages continue to incur major operational expenses. In fact, closing these facilities yields few, in any, savings. Equipment leases, for instance, still need to be paid and cleaning staff have typically been reassigned to other high-touch areas. Indeed, some buildings will likely have incurred additional costs during

COVID-19, such as increased cleaning (including deep cleans), installation of new hand hygiene stations (and their contents) and additional security (with some buildings opting for 24-hour concierge coverage).

Secondly, regulations do not support “fee discounts”. As we know well, our OCs are not-for-profit entities, with OC fees set at a level to meet the budget. These budgets are presented and voted upon at the annual general meeting (AGM). This means that there is little scope to vary fees as the budgets (upon which OC fees are based) have been passed by resolution at the AGM.

However, reality trumps all and if finances are tight and there is not enough money to pay for contracted goods and services, then other options need to be considered.

Here are four.

1. Negotiate owner's payment plans - while discounts can't be given or fees waived, OCs can enter into agreements for scheduled payments. This is a win-win as it decreases owners' stress and the OC receives some funds (albeit over an extended period).
2. Reschedule planned maintenance - to the extent that it is safe to do so, works can be delayed to better match cash flow. However, there may be some impending large expenses (such as cladding removal) that may throw a spanner in these works!

3. Access external funds - OCs have the power to borrow money (with approval) or access a line of credit which could cover unpaid levies until received. However, this does mean that owners (who pay on time) will contribute to the interest charged for these loans (although penalty interest could be charged solely to the late payer).

4. Renegotiate existing agreements - similar to the advice given to residents, OCs need to talk to their suppliers, including insurers, utility providers and management companies, about better offerings. You might recall I reported upon the experience of an inaugural chairperson, Jamie Tarling, who, with the committee, had to deal with contractual arrangements put in place prior to the committee's formation. This included long-term contracts (up to 90 years' duration) and some with annual increases three times higher than inflation. This committee was able to negotiate a decrease in their annual fixed costs by \$120k without compromising amenity.

Tom Bacon from Strata Title Lawyers sees great merit in this strategy to renegotiate, making this point strongly at the Docklands Representative Group's (DTG) June webinar when he noted that many OCs were locked into non-competitive service agreements.

Mr Bacon said high-rise dwellers would often discover they were caught up in lengthy

contracts they did not know existed. His advice was that now was the time to start renegotiating as service providers were primed to engage around financial hardship.

As regards how to start, here are some steps.

- Form a sub-committee and identify your big-ticket items.
- Draw up a renewal schedule for the next 12 months, taking special note of multi-year agreements (any 25 year contracts?). Review contracts falling due, taking particular care to investigate fees and commission payments, including identifying relationships between the organisations receiving these payments (i.e. are they associated with your other suppliers?).

Talk to your peers (i.e. other OCs) and discuss their experiences. Get quotes, at least three if possible. Then start to negotiate. And finally, share your insights with your peers in other vertical villages.

Who knows, maybe this could be the start of vertical village group procurement! ●



Dr Janette Corcoran

APARTMENT LIVING EXPERT

LEARN MORE ON FACEBOOK.COM/
[SKYPADLIVING/](https://www.facebook.com/SKYPADLIVING/)

Investing in the future

WORDS BY Rhonda Dredge

Home schooling is a creative endeavour requiring plenty of props for sports training and a casual approach by parents even when they're on their laptops.

Campbell Walker has three kids at home, and he is often seen with his daughter, hitting a tennis ball against a nearby brick wall.

The Southbank investment adviser is also running the business from his Richmond cottage.

While the recent winds have created brutal conditions for ball sports, a conservative investment strategy has given Campbell the mental space to be able to handle them.

His Morgans branch earlier in the year won the Branch Performance award – due to increasing its asset base and overall portfolio performance during the past two years.

The portfolio of underlying investments he has chosen for his clients has weathered the storm of the COVID-19 crisis, not only coping with the economic downturn but increasing in value.

The portfolio is now worth more than it was in mid-January, while the Australian ASX200 index has fallen 15 per cent.

Campbell puts the success down to his researched strategy which he developed after the Global Financial Crisis (GFC) when he was working at Macquarie Bank.

He and three bank colleagues were invited by Morgans to open up the Southbank Branch on Riverside Quay in 2015.

Each of the advisers has built up a solid client base and generally follow similar strategies of investing in the leading one or two stocks in several key sectors, depending on each individual client's personal circumstances and preferences.

Three areas that have been successful during the crisis have been technology, health care and the exposure to the rising Asian / Chinese middle-class.

“

Most of his investors have self-managed super funds and that has meant selecting stocks that maintain or increase their dividends such as BHP which has done well during the pandemic, due to rising iron ore prices.

”

“The Chinese middle-class is expected to increase in population from 350 million to 700 million by 2023,” Campbell said.

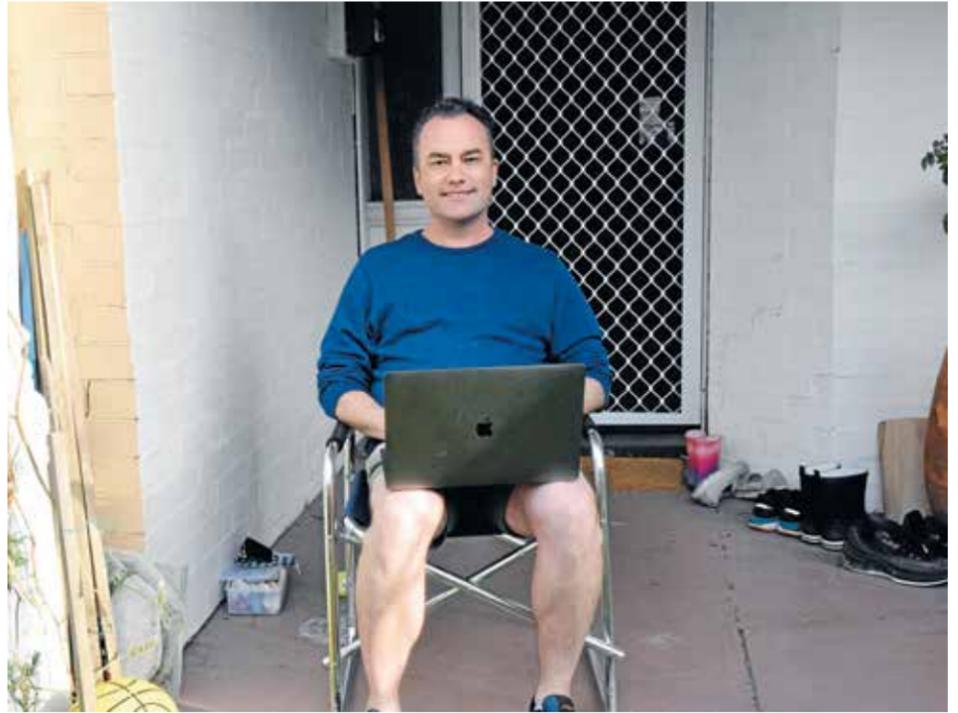
“They [the Chinese] are now buying their own products rather than US products,” he said, “because of what Trump is doing, they are seeing a recovery quickly.”

The technology stocks include global payments such as Zip and Afterpay, data and cloud stocks, and basically anything about going online.

“This [COVID-19 crisis] makes my job very interesting. This is a stock-pickers' market, more than any time in my life.”

Most of his investors have self-managed super funds and that has meant selecting stocks that maintain or increase their dividends such as BHP which has done well during the pandemic, due to rising iron ore prices.

▼ Investment adviser Campbell Walker working from home.



“I don't like stocks where external factors like a recession can affect performance.” He cites hotels and travel. “But is it worth getting some if a vaccine comes?”

“The stock market looks nine months in advance. It was smashed in March, but the market has since been rallying, looking forward to a vaccine. When we had deaths in Italy and New York it was close to the bottom of the market.”

Campbell is not after a quick gain but a safe portfolio. “We've had good returns, compared to the market and we aim to get the best possible outcome, depending on the individual's risk profile.”

He misses going into the office, the social interaction with the team, going out to lunch and talking about ideas. It's only a 12-minute ride along the river from his home.

“I love it in Southbank but it's as dead as a doornail at the moment. We're applying for a grant from the City of Melbourne to help bring people back. We'll get clients in for meetings and take them out to lunch.” ●

For more visit:
morgans.com.au/southbank

General Advice warning: this article is General advice only and doesn't consider any individuals personal circumstances.



Familiar faces doing things differently at Southgate

WORDS BY Jack Hayes

If the past six months have taught us anything, it is that life can be unpredictable.

Following successive lockdowns and innumerable government restrictions, few businesses have felt this unpredictability worse than our restaurants along Southbank Promenade.

Although you can't sit above the Yarra and enjoy a bowl of mouth-watering pasta, or a piece of King Island scotch fillet, you can have those same experiences from the comfort of your own home with take-away and delivery options from your riverside favourites at Pure South, La Camera, Waterslide and The Deck.

From being the first restaurant in Melbourne to check temperatures to avoid COVID-19 transmission, to evolving to a take-away and provodere service, the team at La Camera has continued to bring locals its authentic Italian taste throughout.

Now La Camera and Waterslide owner and Southbank icon, Lino Scidone and his team, have added another string to their ever-growing bow with a new range of take-home boxes.

The delicious hampers are priced at \$100 and \$200 respectively and are packed with cryovaced meals including the restaurant's famous Roman-style pizza, hearty lasagna, an

assortment of cured meats, as well as wine and premixed cocktails for those with a thirst.

“I had a meeting with my team about a month ago and said we might have to shut. But I had one more idea up my sleeve, and it was putting together these boxes,” Mr Scidone said.

“We've had a great response, selling out our first batch of boxes in two days. We cook it ourselves, package it up with cryovac bags and deliver for free. These boxes have taken me from Gisborne to Belgrave.”

For Pure South owner, Philip Kennedy, the dream of creating a premium fresh produce provodere was one 10 years in the making. Now, a decade on, that dream has come to fruition, albeit in the most unintended circumstances.

Pure South Food Co. is a new online premium fresh produce and pre-cooked meal delivery service designed by their chefs which showcase some of the finest, most sought-after food sourced from farmers, fishermen and women, and producers from around Tasmania, King Island and Bass Strait.

“Pure South has always been designed around relationships with farmers and fishermen from Tasmania to bring beautiful produce over here,” Mr Kennedy said. “The word ‘pivot’ may be overused, but that is just what we have done. We've created a third column in our business

model to deliver to homes while you can't come to us.”

“We've got access to a product that no one else has. We have King Island beef that is graded and classed to an international standard as the best in Australia. People want that premium product, and when you break down the price, there isn't much difference.”

As he has seen his industry decimated over the past six months, and no clear future in sight following a cautious road back to “COVID normal” from the Victorian Government, it would be easy to excuse Mr Kennedy for feeling a sense of deflation.

His attitude, however, is one of infectious optimism. Not just for him and the future of business, but for his team that relies on Pure South remaining open to live.

“It has been a really tough time for some of our staff. Some people that have been here for years, now see themselves on a plane home. That being said, the help they've had from their teammates here and the people around here and the support we've had – it has been great. That shouldn't be forgotten.”

With your mains meals handled, The Deck has your grazing plate sorted with the Aperitivo at Home package.

It consists of a batched cocktail for two, as

well as a bottle of La Zona Prosecco to help wash down a healthy assortment of nibbles which includes whipped cod's roe, smoked eggplant dip and pork, veal and chicken terrine, delicious ocean trout pastrami, house pickles, fennel salami, pickled mussels, cheese selection, and topped off with house-made bread.

The Aperitivo at Home bundle is perfectly suited for two people and costs \$135.00. All orders are submitted via The Deck's email at info@thedeckrestaurant.com.au

Here's your chance to win one of a La Camera feast box, simply send an email to eat@lacamerasouthgate.com with your name, phone number and address. The winner will be announced via both venues' social media pages on September 28. Mention this article at your next visit to the Waterslide Bar and enjoy a FREE icy cold pot of Furphy when re-opened [Offer valid until the November 23, 2020] ●

For more information, visit:
lacamerasouthgate.com,
puresouthfoodco.com.au or
thedeckrestaurant.com.au

HISTORY

Forward Surge

One of the pleasant aspects of living in Southbank is the range of sculptures in the streets and gardens.

Walking south from Flinders St towards the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) takes pedestrians past a remarkable group of sculptures called *Forward Surge*. There are four in the group and kids enjoy clambering over them – unfortunately they attract skateboarders as well!

Constructed of black metal, the dramatic series of four wave-like structures are five metres high and set into a concrete plinth covered with earth and bluestone. The works give out a lot of energy and provide a powerful sense of motion. They were the work of sculptor Inge King and were installed on the lawn between Arts Centre Melbourne and Hamer Hall. Collectively they link the buildings together against a backdrop of tall city structures.

King (nee Neufeld) had a remarkable career. Born in Berlin in 1915 to a well-off Jewish family, she studied at the Berlin Academy of Fine Arts until 1937 and then at the Royal Academy in a very conservative London from 1940. Following WWII, she married Australian artist Graeme King and they settled in Melbourne in 1951. What a shock the Australian sculptural scene must have been to her! But she grew to love the local landscape and began producing works inspired by the Australian bush.



In 1959 she learnt to use an arc welder and began welding her work in steel, becoming one of the first sculptors in Australia to work in that medium (and probably the only woman!). Over the years she produced a number of highly regarded works and was one of Victoria's most celebrated and critically respected sculptors. *Forward Surge* is regarded as her major work. She passed away in 2016 at the age of 100.

The architect primarily responsible for the NGV, Roy Grounds, was a keen supporter of

including sculpture within his designs and wanted a modern sculpture to catch the eye of those approaching the NGV from the city. He and King also wanted the sculpture to be visible from cars and trams on St Kilda Rd, which was later hampered by the construction of an overhead footpath structure. He may not have envisaged that the sculpture would become used as a skate ramp and a site for wedding photographs and jazz concerts. Let's hope he approved. *Forward Surge*, conceived in 1973, was installed

in 1981, the year that Grounds passed away. The sculpture is now included on the Victorian Heritage Register ●



Robin Grow

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

ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE

Affirmation of 100

I'm a little embarrassed to admit it, but I recently found myself googling to find out what the 100 emoji meant.

Unless you're even further out of the loop than I tend to be, you'll know the emoji I'm talking about. It's simply a red "100" in a handwritten style, and it's underlined twice. As with many things that have me scratching my head as I scroll through social media, I couldn't for the life of me figure out what people were trying to say when they would wheel out this wordless communicator. It turns out that it means 100 per cent, or full marks – which is the reason it is written in red and underlined twice, being reminiscent of an enviable mark on an exam paper. So, when someone responds to something with a "100", they're giving an affirmation – an unequivocal one at that. Yes, go ahead and laugh, maybe it is obvious!

I thought of this knowing that this edition of *Southbank News* was its 100th. It seemed more than appropriate to bring it up, because this publication, from me as a reader and a contributor, gets full marks. Sean Car and everyone at Hyperlocal News provide a valuable local news source, but just as, if not more significantly, they play a big part in building a sense of community this side of the river. It has been an honour to write for the paper and I wish Sean and the crew every blessing for 100 more.

As with anything that reaches a three-figure milestone, I'm sure *Southbank News* has faced its challenges – has had its lows as well as its highs – which, of course, is to be expected. But the good thing about milestones is that they remind us that whatever hardships we've met, whatever obstacles have been presented before us, they have ultimately been overcome, and thus, the journey continues.

In the Hebrew scriptures we read of the faith father, Abraham. He is one of the greatest biblical exemplars of keeping faith through ups

and downs. We're told that when he reached the age of a hundred – yes, well before emojis were a thing – he didn't yet have a rightful heir. The thought of raising a child at that point was for Abraham and his 90-year-old wife, Sarah, laughable! And yet, just as they had come through challenges before, and would again, they welcomed Isaac into their family. After long lives, with their inevitable mortal ponderings, they were presented with new life. In Abraham and Sarah's son, Isaac, the promise that life goes on was not just a pleasant thought or an abstract concept, it was made manifest.

We've all been counting the weeks of Stage 4 restrictions and we've been aware of unpleasant milestone figures in lives lost being reached. These things wouldn't have anyone tapping on the "100" emoji in celebration, but when we find ourselves overwhelmed by these figures, perhaps we can be comforted by simmering down to a reduction in our quantification. One.

Right now, one baby is being born across the river. Right now, one older sibling is meeting their little sister for the first time. Right now, believe it or not, doors are being opened artistically, creatively, or professionally for someone.

And right now, one God – as written of in those Hebrew and Greek scriptures – can remind us that even when it seems hopeless, pitiful and laughable, that life goes on – and not just that, but that it will be good.

2-0-2-0 may be four figures that when conjoined will forevermore raise an eyebrow, or force a frown or nervous laugh, but the grace of God and the blessedness of humanity that we've seen on display through this COVID-19 crisis are worthy of that "100" emoji. If, indeed, I do understand its meaning correctly. If not, I've still got Jesus who'll love and forgive even this clueless social media user ●



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!

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

METRO TUNNEL

Metro Tunnel marks Parkville milestone

The Metro Tunnel Project now has all four tunnel boring machines (TBMs) hard at work digging deep under Melbourne.

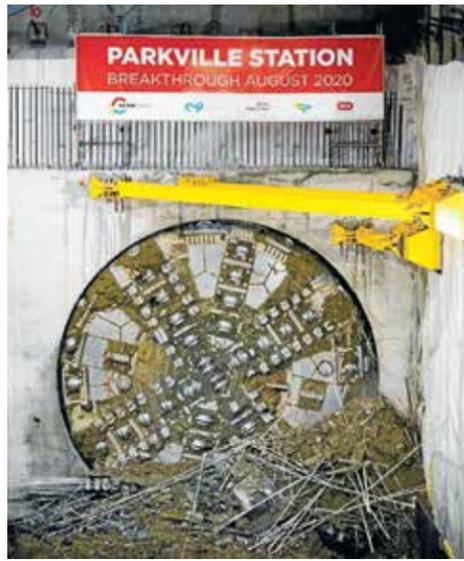
In the east, TBMs *Millie* and *Alice* are on the home stretch of their journey between the new Anzac Station on St Kilda Rd and the Metro Tunnel's eastern entrance in South Yarra.

In the west, TBM *Joan* has completed the 1.4km leg from the Arden Station site, breaking into the Parkville Station box in August.

TBM *Joan* will now be recommissioned and relaunched towards the State Library Station site in the CBD. TBM *Meg*, digging the parallel tunnel from Arden to Parkville, is expected to break through in coming weeks.

This marked the second breakthrough for *Joan*, following the completion of the first section of the Metro Tunnel from Arden to Kensington in February this year.

Construction continues on the Metro Tunnel Project in accordance with strict health and safety measures.



Metro Tunnel stations showcase world-class design

Melburnians can expect world-class design to rival the transport systems of London and Moscow, as new stations for the Metro Tunnel Project take shape over the next few years.

Rail Projects Victoria's Linda Cantan has five new stations to watch over as package director, tunnels and stations for the massive project.

"Our project and London's Jubilee Line extension share the themes of generous space and natural light," Linda said.

"There are also similarities with Crossrail's Elizabeth Line in London, and the trinocular design is reminiscent of the Moscow Metro transit system."



Ample natural light is a feature of station designs, along with generous platform size.

"We don't want commuters to face gloomy, confined stations. We want the spaces to be light and airy," she said.

"At 18 metres wide, the Town Hall and State Library platforms will be among the widest in the world, ensuring enough space for growing passenger numbers long after they open."

As commuters travel through the tunnel, there'll be no doubting which station they're in.

"The design for Parkville will reflect medicine and knowledge," Linda said. "Anzac's design will incorporate the Shrine of Remembrance and the Royal Botanic Gardens."

The benefits of the project will go way

beyond functional, accessible stations.

"It'll have a profound impact on the way we move around our city, untangling the City Loop and opening some of Melbourne's most important health and education precincts to rail commuters."

"It will increase the peak capacity of the entire metropolitan train network." ●

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

OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

COVID Q&A: Private renovations, cladding rectifications and nuisance from pets

Question: The apartment next door to me is being renovated during COVID-19...

The builders are there all day banging on their tools and using their power tools. Maybe this wouldn't be a problem during normal times, but myself and my partner are working from home, with our toddler. The building manager says the renovations may proceed because the works started before Stage 4. What can we do?

Answer: A lot within a residential tower is not permitted to undertake renovations, unless the entire residential tower is vacated for the tradespeople and builders to undertake their works during the period of Stage 4 restrictions.

Therefore, the building manager is incorrect, and it does not matter that the renovations started before the Stage 4 lockdowns.

At present, trades people and builders can only enter the building and attend a lot to make emergency repairs. More information can be found about this at the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions website.

Question: In the building where I rent, we are having cladding rectification works done. One entire side of the façade is covered in scaffolding, and builders are on site carrying out cladding rectification works while people are still living inside. Is this legal and do I have to let them into my apartment to do works?

Answer: Cladding rectification works have been classified as permitted by the Victorian Government during Stage 4. As such, the building works on the neighbouring building may continue, even with residents still living in the building.

Cladding Safety Victoria (CSV) has a COVIDSafe Plan in place and all staff and contractors on authorised sites are required to have a permit under the state government's permit scheme. The contractors are also required to have their own COVIDSafe Plan.

The COVIDSafe Plan includes requirements for hygiene and face coverings on site, physical distancing, precautions around shared facilities and the use of shared tools, plant and equipment and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).

The contractors are only entering apartments where the occupier has given their consent and it is safe and absolutely necessary to do so. The contractors are also ensuring that workers wear appropriate PPE when they carry out this work in line with a COVIDSafe Plan.

For buildings with construction works underway, workers are required to maintain appropriate physical distancing on worksites, as is the case with all construction sites

Question: There is a dog that is kept on the balcony above my apartment. It barks and howls frequently during the day and seems distressed. How do I escalate this with the owners' corporation (OC), as my emails and phone calls are ignored?

Answer: Under the model rules for an OC, there are restrictions placed on all owners and occupiers to not make unreasonable noise and nuisance which is likely to interfere with the peaceful enjoyment of other owners and

occupiers.

Your particular building may also have registered other specific rules that might deal with dogs and pets.

In any event, the next step is to make a complaint to the OC using the approved form downloaded from the Consumer Affairs website. The committee of the OC will then be required to decide about whether to hold a grievance committee meeting to seek to resolve the matter with the occupier of the lot that owns the dog. Otherwise the committee could decide that it will not do anything about the noise and nuisance. The committee must give notice to you that it has decided to do nothing about the complaint. If it does, then you are able to take this to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to seek a formal order in respect of the barking dog and the resulting nuisance ●



Tom Bacon
TOM BACON IS THE PRINCIPAL LAWYER OF STRATA TITLE LAWYERS.
TOM@STRATATITLELAWYERS.COM.AU



JENNETTE HALL
 Jennette was born in London, brought up in Switzerland and been a Southbank resident for the past 27 years. She got her mask from a friend who stitched up two for her. Both are colourful and she said she was glad to have a spare one if one of them needed a wash and a dry.



KRYSTLE EMILY
 Krystle bought her face shield from Ebay to cope with her medical condition. In addition, she said she saw the importance of facial expressions for human connection. She said she felt "connected and expressive".



LAUREN ELSTON
 Bought the mask online just because she likes its contrasting colours. She said for her, wearing a mask was not such about safety, but rather how interesting one could be! "I thought if I'm doing it, I'd rather make it more interesting than wearing a surgical mask," she said.



WILL HUNT
 Bought his mask on eBay and he said it made him "feel cool". He said he enjoyed listening to electronic music house festivals and going for walks to help him get through lockdown.

Masks of Southbank

Photos by John Tadigiri.

SAFETY & SECURITY

Bicycle security and safety

Bicycle makers and retailers in Melbourne and the rest of Victoria have reported a huge surge in sales during the lockdown period as people look for ways to stay fit and commute safely.

This is replicated in an increase in trips taken into the city by cyclists. Police in Southbank and the CBD have seen an escalation in bicycle thefts during previous months, particularly from residential streets and community locations. What actions can you as a bicycle owner and rider do to prevent the theft of your bicycle?

- Always lock your bike and use a good quality lock. Many bike thefts are crimes of opportunity. The best lock to keep your bike safe is a D lock (also known as a U lock). The D lock is a solid, curved metal lock that generally provides higher levels of security and deterrence than cable or chain locks.
- Lock your bicycle properly. Utilise bicycle parking infrastructure where possible. Check your bicycle can't be removed or lifted off/over what you've locked it to. Park in well-lit public areas with CCTV coverage where possible. Don't forget to take your lights, trip computer and accessories with you. If you have a high-end bike refrain from storing it in a storage cage in your apartment complex, keep it in your apartment.
- Make your bicycle identifiable. If your bicycle is lost or stolen, the chances of it being returned are improved if your driver's licence number is engraved on the frame and you retain a record of the serial number. Having a photograph of your bike assists if posting on social media sites.

Locating the owners of bicycles that have been found or seized by police is often difficult. If you are unlucky enough to be the victim of bicycle theft, the more details you can provide to police about your stolen bicycle will improve your chances of being reunited with it. Southbank Police will be holding another bicycle engraving event in the not too distant future. Keep an eye out in *Southbank News* for dates.

Congratulations to *Southbank News* on 100 editions. I'm glad to be a part of such an informative newspaper which connects Southbank Police to the local community ●



Senior Sgt Alex O'Toole
 STATION COMMANDER AT SOUTHBANK POLICE STATION
 SOUTHBANK-UNI-OIC@POLICE.VIC.GOV.AU

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 S O U T H B A N K replacing numbers.

The rules are the same as regular Sudoku, each line must contain the letters "SOUTHBANK" 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		

SOUTHBANK SUSTAINABILITY GROUP



A local treasure

A local treasure, that's how we describe the gem of our community's local voice, *Southbank News!* We are honoured to be a part of and celebrate with *Southbank News* its 100th edition. A consistent voice for our local communities, it helps us to get to know our neighbours, our neighbourhood, and our city. It certainly gave our group its voice in the Southbank community.

Sean Car's very open attitude to support the local community, and our small group at the time, comes through in all the stories we see across this newspaper, edition after edition, giving us a great insight to what is happening around us. This newspaper was my first look into my new neighbourhood when I moved to Southbank (and Australia) more than six years ago, as I am sure it has been for you, too. I know many of you got to know our group and its amazing volunteer work through this newspaper. You have told us so and we are always delighted to hear it.

Staying on the topic of local treasures, I want to acknowledge our incredible volunteers Faye and Huguette for the amazing work they've put into keeping our neighbourhood's veggie garden in great shape. As many of you may have noticed, broad bean leaves are ready for harvesting and there are plenty of them. You will see them rising high and plush with green. They are very high in antioxidants, reduce stress, and have all sorts of other benefits (just google "fava bean leaves"). Harvesting their leaves is also very beneficial for the plant.

On the practical side of things, there are two more matters we need to cover ...

We need watering volunteers to help keep the garden we all love alive and healthy. We have a watering roster going, with instructions and all. Please email us if you'd like to volunteer 45 minutes of your time to the garden, alone or with a partner. We're permitted to have two people gardening at a time, while social distancing, for a maximum one hour, as gardening falls under the outdoor exercise category.

Composting ...

I know a few of you are eager to reduce your waste by composting, which is great. Only we've lately found ourselves with mountains of food waste on the two trial concrete planters we use solely for our group. We do not have

any capacity to take more organic waste at the moment, but we recommend jumping on sharewaste.com to find neighbours who can take food waste for composting. We will announce it here once the community composting hub is up and running.

Lastly, inspired by the great work our group has managed to accomplish for the good of our community, changes we never thought we could make happen, and motioned by the great crises we are currently facing, I have decided to run for council.

I will be running to be elected as an independent City of Melbourne councillor so that I can serve our community on a wider scale. This group has been very supportive both of my leadership and my call to run for council. I am honoured to be allowed to continue leading and serving this amazing group of supportive neighbours that want to leave the world a better place. I hope to eventually win your support and vote in representing our community on council.

About the group:

A solutions-focused group of Southbank residents working to bring positive change in sustainability practices and education to our neighbourhood, 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

Airbnb CEO "has mucked it all up"

Airbnb has reportedly taken a \$1.5 billion hit in the COVID-19 pandemic. Embattled CEO, Brian Chesky, is reported to be living with his mum again, bemoaning, "it felt like everything was breaking at once".

Perhaps the short-stay behemoth's financial predicament prompted a sudden awakening in the uncharacteristically morose Mr Chesky, who mused wistfully about regressing Airbnb to its genesis as a couch-surfing platform.

In an interview published by *The Sunday Times* this month, the Airbnb CEO was reported as saying, "We grew so fast, we made mistakes. We drifted. We really need to think through our impact on cities and communities."

Chesky was further quoted as saying the COVID-19 pandemic is "a reset for everything and everyone. Airbnb needs to change. We need to go back to basics - to what really made us successful in the first place."

Sadly, this illuminating insight is unlikely to reset Airbnb's moral compass.

High-rise apartments "vertical cruise ships"

Julian Rait OAM, president of the Australian Medical Association Victoria, has described how COVID-19 can spread easily through high-rise towers and apartment blocks.

This enormous epidemiological risk has given rise to the expression "vertical cruise ships of pandemics".

Recalcitrant short-stay operators are therefore compromising the safety of residential buildings by continuing to advertise during the Stage 4 lockdown.

Most commercial short-stay operators have closed shop, with many apartments reverting back to long-term leases or have been sold; with residents in many high-rise strata communities throughout Melbourne rediscovering the "quiet enjoyment" of their homes.

Just a few diehard rogue operators are flagrantly breaching COVID-19 restrictions that are arguably the most important safety protections that high-rise buildings could have.

The government has said it is working on this loophole and we are impatiently awaiting meaningful action.

If you see any illegal short-stay activity in your apartment building, report it immediately to the Police Assistance Line on **131 444** or online at onlinereporting.police.vic.gov.au

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

Short-stays will endanger the COVID-19 recovery phase

It has become axiomatic that there will be a "new normal" following the lifting of Stage 4 lockdown restrictions.

Undoubtedly, the putative new normal will not be able to accommodate the return of commercial short-stay operations in high-rise residential buildings.

In this pandemic-afflicted era, common areas and compact spaces in busy lifts are simply incompatible with a high-volume turnover of "guests" in whole-apartment short-stays.

The state government needs to act now to frame regulations to mitigate the very real possibility of apartment short-stays triggering another pandemic outbreak.

Nobody wants another lockdown. Don't let apartment short-stays cause the next outbreak.

Cladding: building tally reaches 550

Cladding Safety Victoria (CSV) has advised We Live Here that more than 550 buildings across Victoria have now been referred to CSV, an increase of about 60 in the past three months.

CSV has met with more than 400 individual owners' corporations (OCs) who have entered the program to discuss how they can assist in the process of cladding removal on their building.

More than 250 buildings have now been inspected and more than 100 independent project managers (IPMs) appointed to manage individual projects.

CSV told We Live Here that it was confident of having 100 buildings with rectification works in progress by the end of the year.

Fast-tracking of program

The Victorian government announced in June that it would bring forward funding to fast-track the rectification works to remove more cladding from apartment buildings sooner and support the construction industry in the wake of COVID-19.

To achieve this, CSV has reached out to a number of original builders that represent a substantial number of buildings already in the program; to date, there has been no indication of how many original builders have been approved for the program.

Stage 4 COVID-19 restrictions

Cladding rectification works have been classified as permitted works by the state government under critical state works throughout the

Stage 4 lockdown.

CSV has a COVIDSafe Plan in place and all staff and contractors on their sites will have a permit under the state government's permit scheme. Their contractors are also obligated to have their own COVIDSafe Plans.

Comment from We Live Here

While it is reassuring to learn that the cladding rectification work is proceeding according to plan and not unduly affected by the current stage 4 restrictions, we are concerned that there is no published information about when or how funding will be allocated.

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 make a 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



公共艺术还是广告？

撰稿：Katie Johnson

维多利亚国家美术馆(NGV)计划在St Kilda 路上建造29个艺术灯箱，St Kilda 路是列入历史遗产目录的土地，这个计划在当地社区引起了轰动。

这些以鸟类图像为特色的照明灯箱将是NGV三年一度展览的一部分，该展览将于12月开幕，如果获准，将持续展出25年。

长期居住在墨尔本的居民斯坦·卡普(Stan Capp)博士说，该计划提案没有得到保护墨尔本最具意义的遗产之一所需的审查。

卡普博士说：“我认为St Kilda路是我们墨尔本所拥有最伟大的大道，应该不惜一切代价保护它。”

“将这片土地分配给NGV独家使用，尽管是为了艺术展览，而不仅仅是为了广告或促销，但我的感觉是，这仍然是开了一个糟糕的先例，今后St.Kilda路的其他申请出现，很难拒绝。”

卡普博士还表示，该计划提案不适当，因为市做此决定对当地社区并不“透明”。他说：“我主张市政应该召回这个提案计划，由未来墨尔本委员会审议。”

8月初提交给维多利亚遗产局的这个提案概述了灯箱计划，该灯箱将以朱鹭、苍鹭和鸽子等鸟类的图像为特色，由伦敦艺术家朱利安·奥皮(Julian Opie) 绘制。

大多数灯箱将靠近地面，并位于NGV对面的中间地带，但是五个灯箱将安装在四米高的杆子上，尺寸可达1.2米 x 0.8米。



该提案还概述了对路面树木进行更多照明投影灯光的计划，以增强该区域在夜间的景观。

南岸居民协会主席托尼·佩纳(Tony Penna)也表示，市政没有就该项目咨询居民，这令人“失望”。



高楼公寓新冠确诊 管理人员全然不知

有消息传出，墨尔本最大的高层公寓楼之一有居民确诊新冠阳性，而大楼管理人员并没有得到卫生部门的通知，Central city的物业管理处于高度警戒状态。

撰稿：David Schout

据Melcorp Strata物业管理公司称，南岸72层的Prima大厦有两名居民新冠检测呈阳性，卫生与公众服务部(DHHS)并没有通知大厦物业管理。

人们认为，隐私是这个问题的核心，卫生部门认为当病例个案存在更广泛的公共健康问题或对密切接触者需要跟进时，才会告知病患的个人信息。

Melcorp Strata公司总经理唐娜·罗(Donna Rowe)向本报证实，Prima 大厦的居民在上个月新冠测试呈阳性，该信息并非由卫生当局告知。

不久之后，那位阳性病例的伴侣也发现感染了新冠病毒。

大楼物业管理委员会启动了该建筑的生物安全和疫情控制计划，然后以多数票决定，将阳性病例通知所有其他高层业主和居民，但没有告知病患的楼层和公寓号。

然而，在有阳性病例出现时，并不是所有大楼管理人员都蒙在鼓里。

在Docklands 的一个公寓大楼，一位不愿透露姓名的大楼经理证实，当他所管理的一名居民新冠检测呈阳性时，DHHS通知了他。

他说，在获悉阳性病例后，他能够密切监视相关公寓外的区域，并命令清洁工对某些接触点格外警惕。

他承认这是一个很“复杂”的问题，但他表示管理层需要知道。

他说：“就卫生部门而言，如果他们知道有确诊病例，他们需要通知该病患或所在公寓的管理人员。这非常重要。”

在问及为什么有些人告知确诊病例，而另一些人没有被告知时，DHHS发言人说，他们只是在两种情况下才联系大楼管理人员。

这位发言人说：“在高层建筑中，如果担心可能的公众暴露，或对密切接触者需要跟进，卫生部门可能会与大楼管理层联系。”

“当人们与确诊病例面对面接触15分钟或更长时间，或者在同一封闭空间内接触超过两个小时，则被视为密切接触者。”



联邦广场的升级改造

撰稿：Meg Hill

8月22日，州政府公布了去年启动的对联邦广场审查所做出的改造建议，并宣布对联邦广场进行升级改造。

参与这次审查的人数超过了1800人，调查结果显示，联邦广场是一个体验艺术和文化的广场，举行欢乐活动和节日的广场，为社区聚集庆祝的广场。这次的改造建议和主要的初步行动包括：

进一步认可和庆祝原住民文化，并始终与该遗址保持联系；

采用以社区为主导的愿景，强调联邦广场的文化和公民影响力，并需要通过引人入胜的体验来丰富广场空间；

致力于包容整个雅拉(Yarra)区域，更好地连接邻近的艺术和运动区；

遵守设计原则和策略，以确保将来进行的任何具体改变“都必须与原始质量相匹配”，为确保实现这一点，可以建立一个设计咨询委员会；

将联邦广场纳入政府的创意产业组合中，与其他文化和城市图标一起，如维多利亚国家美术馆、墨尔本艺术中心和维多利亚州图书馆。

政府表示，这是联邦广场历史上最大的一次升级改造，包含了“一个新的愿景，即把这个具有标志性的地方打造成一个市民和文化中心，将雅拉区域和维多利亚的精华展示给当地市民和来访游客。”

州政府将从其建筑工程刺激项目里拨款2000万元用于联邦广场的改造，并包括一个新的“身临其境的城乡体验中心，展示本州最好的美食和葡萄酒。”

创意产业部长马丁·佛利(Martin Foley)表示，联邦广场作为墨尔本文化和市民中心的重要性，今年已经得到了提高。

河中酒吧改造 南岸活力增加

撰稿：Katie Johnson

为了充分利用疫情的封锁关闭，标志性的雅拉河中酒吧Ponyfish Island将进行一千载难逢的翻新改造。

酒吧业主安德鲁·麦金农(Andrew Mackinnon)表示，此次改建将彻底改变这个空间，成为“墨尔本人民所期待的美好事情。”

麦金农说：“我们吸取了所有使Ponyfish酒吧出色的元素，并对其做出了改进。”

“更好的食物，更好的鸡尾酒，更快的服务和更富活力的空间，让您感觉身处墨尔本都市中心。”

工作团队目前正在改变原来的半航海主题，以更温暖的色彩品味、遮阳伞面、舒适的定制家具和更大的酒吧为顾客提供更快捷的服务。

麦金农说：“这是一种非常独特，精致的外观。这是在墨尔本桥下的迈阿密。”

麦金农和其合作伙伴格兰特·斯迈利

(Grant Smillie) 和杰罗姆·博拉齐奥(Jerome Borazio)在过去的几年里一直想给这家饱经风霜的酒吧改头换面。

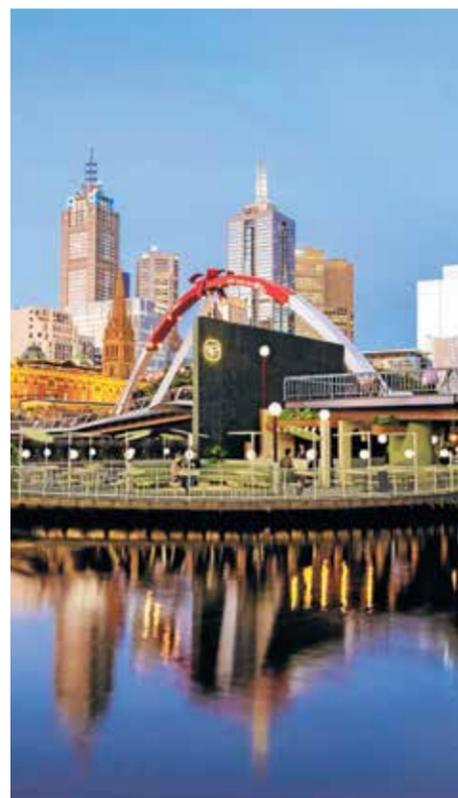
但是由于河中酒吧如此繁忙，这次墨尔本的疫情封锁为他们提供了难得的机会，与设计公司Studio Gram合作启动这一改造工程。

麦金农说：“我们一直计划在冬天做这件事，因为不那么忙，而且低落，正好今年我们又不得不关闭，所以我们就充分利用了这种状况。”

“我们会按部就班，把事情做好，希望在封闭结束和夏季来临之时推出一些特别的东。”

到目前为止，拆除工作已经完成，酒吧中间的钢制座位雕像已经拆除，腾出空间可容纳更多客人。

新的空间将能够容纳从原来的110人至150人。有更多的洗手间，一个更大的有厨师的厨房，还包括可用于举办私人活动的区域。



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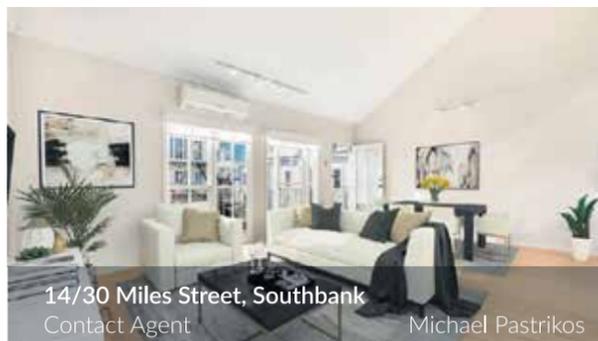
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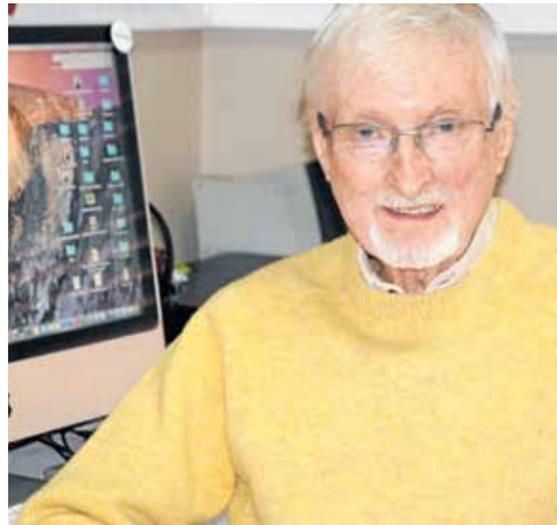
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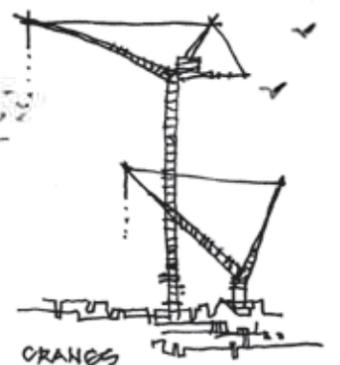
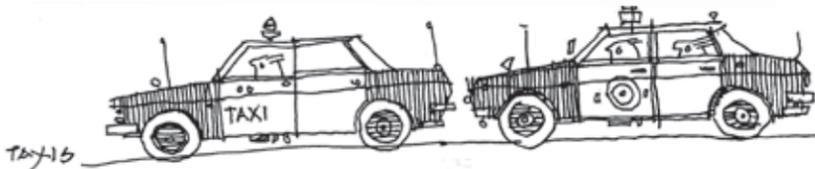
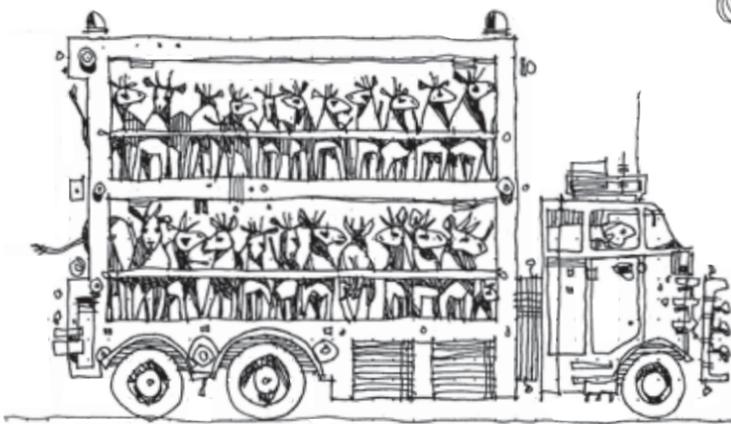
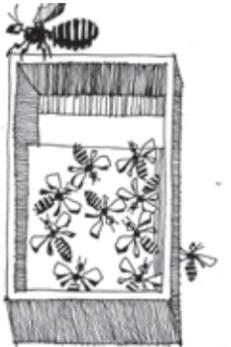
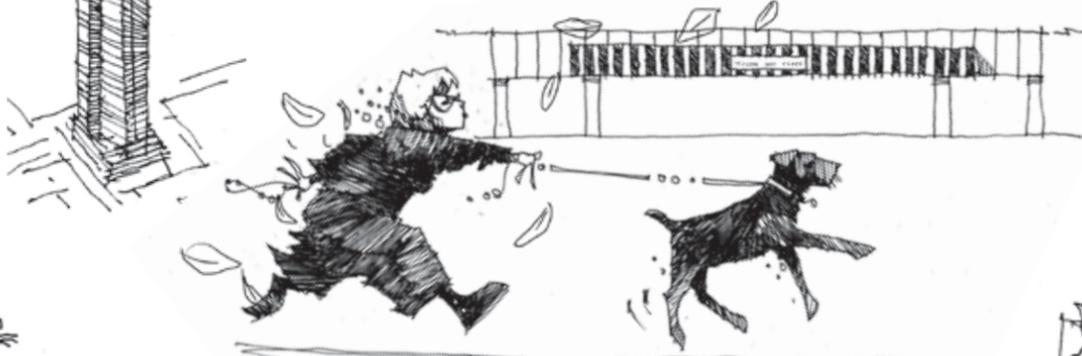


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