

# SOUTHBANK NEWS

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Puzzles & Trivia - P25



**Cheers to reopening!**  
Photo by John Tadigiri

Ludlow Bar's manager Tom Nevett represents one of many local businesses excited to be welcoming customers back to the precinct. Find out what's on in the Yarra River Business Association's *I'm a Southbanker* brochure in this edition.

## New vision for Tea House site

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
PLANNING

A \$100 million revamp could see the site surrounding Southbank's historic Robur Tea House transformed into a hotel with "world-class" hospitality and retail spaces if approved by the City of Melbourne.

Boutique developer CostaFox, which owns the 134-year-old building after buying the property for \$28m last year, recently lodged plans to "reinvigorate" the warehouse into a 154-room international hotel under a "complete refurbishment".

Under the plans, the iconic six-storey building would feature courtyards, a new laneway, private terraces with views of the Yarra and the CBD, and 21 homes.

New buildings ranging between three and 25 storeys high would be constructed around the heritage-listed Robur Tea House, which is considered "one of the finest and most prominent examples of a 19th century

warehouse in Melbourne".

A proposed "North Building", would include a landscaped forecourt, food and beverage outlets and offices.

A "South Building" would contain shops, lobby, pool, fitness and wellness centre, a rooftop terrace garden, 21 dwellings (up to three bedrooms), and two penthouses.

A "Tea Garden Forecourt" is also proposed, providing an open public space, and ramp access.

A pitch to the City of Melbourne said the "proposal creates a vibrant and interwoven social landscape, with hospitality and flagship retail at the lower levels".

The City of Melbourne's chair of planning and Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said the application was an "exciting" proposal, but noted it would be "very carefully considered by council planning officers and councillors".

"The Robur Tea House is an iconic site in our city and a testament to Southbank's industrial history," he said.

"It also occupies a prime location with close proximity to the CBD, Yarra waterfront and right next to the

*Continued on page 3.*

## Southbankers vindicated as council flags "open space and safety" focus

*Southbankers have made themselves heard on the City of Melbourne's latest budget and four-year plan, as Lord Mayor Sally Capp declared new green space and public safety as priorities for the area.*

WORDS BY *David Schout*  
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Locals were given the opportunity to voice their views on both the council's newly-adopted 2021-22 budget, and 2021-25 plan at a June 29 special meeting.

Among the feedback was hearty endorsement of the new green space commitment, and the need for greater clarity on the City Road Master Plan.

One senior council figure acknowledged that the council could do better in postcode 3006.

"We need to do better in Southbank, and we will. That's my commitment on behalf of the ELT (executive leadership team) here," acting general manager of infrastructure and design Roger Teale said.

Central to discussion from locals was a positive; the council's commitment to providing, by 2025, 1.1 hectares of new open space in Southbank — the equivalent of around one-and-a-half soccer fields.

As one of Australia's most densely-populated suburbs, the \$20 million commitment for the next 12 months (plus an extra \$5 million in forward estimates) was welcomed by all Southbankers who spoke.

Southbank Sustainability Group's Artemis Pattichi said the group "can't wait" for the green space commitment to materialise.

"Finally, we get to see Southbank having a prominent role in this draft budget," she said at the special June 29 meeting.

"We've been feeling like a forgotten child of the City of Melbourne for a while. So, it's good to see an

investment in our much-loved suburb so we can feel that it's a neighbourhood; it's not just a transient place where people live to get to work easily."

Ms Pattichi said they hoped the new spaces would create community-focused places where locals could "meet our neighbours".

"One very important point that we did want to make around that is that we want to see an activated green space, not a passive one, meaning it becomes a space where the community gets to come together and interact."

Fellow Southbank resident Chris Jubb was similarly positive about the open space, but wanted the council to consult with the public about the location and size of the green space.

"I'd like to say how great it is that we're getting some new open space, we really need that," he said.

"I will request, though, that it becomes good quality open space. By that I mean large and protected from traffic, so we have somewhere we can connect with nature and escape from the busyness of the area that we live in once in a while."

Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) president Tony Penna also paid tribute to the council's \$20 million investment in the next 12 months.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the SRA's Community Forum on March 23 had left the council in no doubt as to what the key issue in Southbank was.

"Out of the last forum, one of the elements that was loud and clear was public open space, which is why our council plan and budget includes

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## Southbankers vindicated as council flags “open space and safety” focus

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allocation for that,” she said. Cr Capp said there were two other Southbank priorities for the council; the reimagining of Kings Ways undercroft as a community space, and public safety after five pedestrians were hit by a truck at a notorious Southbank intersection in May.

“We’ll stay focused on delivering those areas in the Kings Way undercroft and, given the tragic accident at the corner of Power [St] and City Rd, the priority is on that intersection,” she said.

“But overall making sure that we’re addressing safety outcomes for residents. [So] it’s open space, recreation and it’s safety and security as priority focus areas at the moment. And I would say that we know we need to do better on delivering on things we make a priority, so that’s going to be a big focus for us going forward.”

### City Rd on the agenda

Perhaps unsurprisingly, City Rd featured prominently at the council’s special meeting.

Delays to enacting a master plan for the road, endorsed in 2016, have led to resident frustrations in recent years.

Cr Rohan Leppert told *Southbank News* earlier this year he “completely understood” discontent surrounding the project.

However, the council, which partnered with the state government on the project, issued a renewed commitment to the project as a “major initiative” for 2021-25.

“As part of the delivery of the City Road Master Plan, the City of Melbourne will design and deliver the upgrades to the City Rd northern undercroft by end of 2023-24 and advocate to the Victorian Government for the full delivery of upgrades to the City Rd East and West,” it read.

“Excellent, finally,” Mr Penna said in response.

“I think four years in a row I’ve been up here complaining that it’s behind schedule and it’s not budgeted — great to see that it’s in there.

After the results of Southbank Boulevard there’s some trepidation in the community as to how that will actually roll out and the delays we might experience.”

The budget included a \$650,000 allocation within the next 12 months for the northern section of the Kings Way undercroft.

Mr Penna hoped a basketball court slated for the area could be delivered before the current court at Boyd Park was removed to make way for an upcoming development.

Mr Teale confirmed the council “had money in the budget for the basketball courts to be delivered”, and works could begin next year.

He also confirmed that plans were on track for a new dog park located at the disused area beneath the Kings Way southern undercroft, set

undertaken on the \$50 million capital works project 18 months ago, which he said had unearthed a “design as we go” approach.

“Those lessons have been applied and introduced,” he said.

“... in terms of how projects are designed and that we don’t design as we go and construct, which might have been an historic case with Southbank Boulevard over multiple years.”

“So, the disciplines that are in place by the capital works team and project management are giving councillors confidence, and me as CEO confidence, that we are delivering on our capital works agenda in a timely way, within budget.”

“Hopefully you’re seeing those changes on the ground because I think we’re certainly seeing them as projects are being initiated, and proof in the pudding is that we’ve had our best ever, as we close out the financial year, percentage delivery of capital works budget.”

### Call for clearer communication

After many years campaigning for increased open space in Southbank, SRA was disappointed to find out about the considerable \$25 million allocation from *Southbank News*.

“We were disappointed council weren’t able to reach out to us and advise us that that was going to be in the budget,” Mr Penna said

“We have probably been one of the most vocal groups in regard to open space, and this council certainly knows that. Yet when they’ve got something so significant to bring to the community’s attention, they failed to reach out to the very people that have been advocating for this.” ●



*We’ll stay focused on delivering those areas in the Kings Way undercroft and given the tragic accident at the corner of Power [St] and City Rd, the priority is on that intersection.*



to be completed in August.

### “Lessons learned”

In responding to Mr Penna in relation to the council’s failures in transforming Southbank Boulevard into a linear park, the council’s CEO Justin Hanney told the meeting that lessons had been learned.

Mr Hanney referenced an internal audit



David Schout

JOURNALIST

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▲ A render of the CostaFox proposal for the Tea House looking from Crown Casino.



▲ Principal of Fishermans Bend Secondary Anne Stout.

## New vision for Tea House site

*Continued from page 1.*

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.”

“It’s exciting to see a development proposal of this scale in the heart of Southbank, however any plans to develop the Robur Tea House at 28 Clarendon St would need to respect the area’s heritage.”

“It must display high-quality architecture and design and would also need to be considered by Heritage Victoria.”

Michael Fox, managing director of CostaFox said it was their plan to “give life” to the Tea House, which sits at the corner of Clarendon St and Normanby Rd.

“The plan was to create an international hotel with branded residences, a complete refurbishment of the old Tea House building that will include world-class retail and hospitality offerings together with a new public realm and forecourt for the city,” he said.

“Our plan is not just about rejuvenating the 130-year-old Tea House building which has been empty for three years but to reinvigorate the whole western end of the city”.

He said the Tea House would be retained as a commercial building but also act as the entrance and lobby to the hotel.

A “world-class team” had been assembled, he said, which would be headed by Norwegian architectural firm Snøhetta, with placemaking by the New York-based ERA-Co agency, together with local firm heritage firm, Lovell Chen and landscape architects Aspect Studios.

Along with the City of Melbourne, Heritage Victoria will also consider the plans.

A 2017 permit application for a 24-storey development on the site, was rejected by Heritage Victoria.

That news came after the developer had



▲ (Top left) Looking north from Clarendon St, (bottom left) front view and (right) a perspective of the towers.

previously attempted to seek approval for a 39-storey proposal. Its ultimate proposal for 24 storeys was knocked back by HV on the grounds that it would have negatively encroached on the Tea House.

“It has been determined that the construction of a 24-storey tower on the Robur Tea Building site would have a substantial detrimental impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place and on the setting and views of the Robur Tea Building,” a letter from HV to former developer RJ International said.

“It has been determined that refusal would not prevent the reasonable or economic use of

the registered place; also, that viable economic use of the Robur Tea Building does not require the level of change proposed.”

Built in 1887, the heritage-listed property is one of the most prominent examples of a 19th century warehouse in Melbourne. The building was designed by Nahum Barnet and built by James Moore and John Grainger for printers and manufacturing stationers, Fergusson & Mitchell.

For many years the former factory and warehouse was one of the tallest buildings outside the CBD, with its height and character establishing it as a Southbank landmark ●

## Principal appointed for new Fishermans Bend high school

EDUCATION

The first principal of the new Fishermans Bend Secondary School (its interim name), which will service Southbank, Docklands, Port Melbourne and South Melbourne, is Anne Stout.

Ms Stout has worked in education for 24 years, both in the UK and in Australia and is well known in the local area.

She has held leadership positions in the Victorian independent schools’ sector, and at The Mac.Robertson Girls’ High School, before joining Albert Park College’s foundation principal team as assistant principal in 2011.

She holds two Bachelor degrees as well as a Post-Graduate Certificate in Education and a Masters Degree in Psychology.

She has led leadership initiatives for emerging school leaders, and worked with a range of schools to support leadership and change within the education system.

After eight years at Albert Park College, Anne returned to The Mac.Robertson Girls’ High School as principal in 2019.

In 2022 the school, known for now as Fishermans Bend Secondary School, will open to students in Year 7 and progress by year level thereafter.

You can find out more about Anne Stout in the August edition of *Southbank News* ●

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# Lessons from Southbank cluster

WORDS BY *Rhonda Dredge*  
HEALTH

Residents of Kings Park in Southbank were happily greeting each other outside their apartment block when the doors opened on June 29 but some hard lessons had been learned while they were in lockdown.

The entire 105-unit apartment block was locked down for 14 days after a COVID outbreak in four apartments.

“I was devastated,” 85-year-old Brian Pollard said, a second-floor resident on Dodds St, when he discovered he had to go into isolation as well.

“They were talking about locking half down then they decided to shut us completely,” he said, despite living in a different section of the complex to the six COVID cases.

Residents believe that the virus was spread in one of the long narrow passages that link Dodds St with the complex’s internal staircases and garden.

“I’m not going to use that passage,” Brian said. “They’re asking people not to walk through that area.”

Residents are now speaking out about their 14-day ordeal in isolation in what was known as the Southbank cluster. More than 200 people were locked down.

“We were let out at midnight last night,” Brian told *Southbank News*. “About 20 of us went for a walk around the block.”

Neighbours texted each other during lockdown and were able to speak from adjacent balconies but they weren’t allowed out of their apartments into the garden or garage.

Kings Park is an idyllic haven close to the city with a swimming pool, heated sauna, and lush gardens, and all units have sunny balconies and plenty of ventilation. The building’s main entrance is located on Wells St and the complex spans through to neighbouring Dodds St.

But for those who live on the building’s Dodds St side, residents need to walk through unventilated passages, less than a metre wide, which lead to staircases, also without opening windows, in order to access their apartments.

“We had a false sense of security,” Kate Sadler, a resident of the fourth floor, told *Southbank News*. She said residents hadn’t been wearing masks because they thought they were in open areas.

“The thing is about the stairwell,” she said. “When you’re in a high-rise you get in a lift. In our situation we have stairwells. We don’t think of these as being enclosed but they are.”

She said that before the lockdown “our neighbours were going up and down the stairwell without masks. Now we put them on.”

Two men who lived in separate apartments adjacent to the positive cases contracted the disease somewhere in these communal areas.

“To my knowledge all of the apartments opened into that stairwell,” Ms Sadler said. “If residents had been wearing masks it wouldn’t have happened.”

Kings Park is not the only Southbank community built in this style. Around half-a-dozen were built in the ‘90s as part of Southbank Village by the same developer Central Equity,



▲ Resident Brian Pollard enjoys some freedom.



▲ A narrow unventilated passage off Dodds St.



▲ Kings Park, Southbank.



▲ The outskirts of ACCA was turned into a testing site last month.

including Coventry Gardens and Sutherland Place.

“We will all need to be more cautionary,” Kate said. “The buildings weren’t designed with the virus in mind.”

She said it would be relatively easy to rectify the problem by creating an air space or vents in the stairwell.

“Normally it’s not a problem. It would be an overreaction to do that. We’d have to wear the cost.”

She said Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) were advising residents to stick to their own passages and to access the garage from the street.

Gregor Evans, president of Strata Community Association (Vic) – the peak body for owners’ corporations in Victoria, said the Southbank cluster had highlighted the increased urgency in which the government needed to better consult strata communities in emergency preparedness.

“Strata managers can play a part in mitigating the risks posed by COVID-19 in these settings by engaging and increasing the frequency of education with owners and occupiers, based

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*The thing is about the stairwell... when you’re in a high-rise you get in a lift. In our situation we have stairwells. We don’t think of these as being enclosed but they are.*

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on receiving timely and accurate advice from government. Ultimately, government has a duty to engage with industry and strata managers to react and respond to the unique needs of strata complexes and make this a reality,” he said.

“The Victorian Government should see to it that strata is given the unity of purpose in regulatory terms that it needs, especially in terms of preventing and responding to emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic”

“On many occasions, private building operators were effectively left to their own devices to respond to public health directives in a crisis without a requisite level of support or attention from government.”●



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▲ Dr Soren Blau.



▲ Nonda Katsalidis.

# Southbank figures honoured with Queen's Birthday awards

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
COMMUNITY

A Southbank-based forensic anthropologist who helped identify the remains of notorious bushranger Ned Kelly is among four outstanding community members to be named in the Queen's Birthday 2021 Honours list.

Dr Soren Blau, who heads the identification services at the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for her decades of service to forensic medicine and to scientific organisations.

Her work has included leading a large team of forensic medical experts involved in the recovery and identification of victims who lost their lives during the devastating 2009 Victorian bushfires.

She also helped families identify missing loved ones in Timor-Leste following the Santa Cruze shooting massacre in 1991 where at least 250 East Timorese pro-independence demonstrators were killed.

But one of Dr Blau's most intriguing cases was in 2014 when her team along with colleagues from the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team identified the skeletal remains of Australian outlaw Ned Kelly, who was hanged and buried at Old Melbourne Gaol in 1880, before his remains were moved to Pentridge Prison in 1929.

"Each individual [prisoner] had a forensic anthropological analysis and where appropriate, a sample of bone was obtained for DNA analysis," she said. "The injuries Kelly sustained at the shoot-out [with police at Stringybark Creek in 1878] were part of what contributed to his identification."



▲ Prof Lynette Clearihan

Dr Blau, also an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Forensic Medicine at Monash University, said the news of her award came "right out of the blue" but was humbled to be recognised.

"The ability to provide an identification to a deceased person, regardless of who they are or how long they have been deceased for, is an important part of my work," Dr Blau told *Southbank News*.

"It is a privilege to have the skills to give families, many of whom sadly have to wait for a very long time, some answers about their missing loved ones."

The honours list also recognised one of Australia's leading architects, Nonda Katsalidis, who has helped shape two of Southbank's iconic skyscrapers.

"I feel incredibly honoured to be recognised along with many others who have made

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*It is a privilege to have the skills to give families, many of whom sadly have to wait for a very long time, some answers about their missing loved ones.*

”

significant contributions in our nation," Mr Katsalidis said after being awarded an AM for his contribution to architecture.

His work has included designing Melbourne's two tallest buildings, the Eureka Tower and Australia 108, as well as MONA in Hobart. He also designed the Melbourne Terrace, one of the first new apartment buildings in Melbourne's CBD.

Born in Greece before migrating to Australia when he was a child with his family, Mr Katsalidis studied at The University of Melbourne and co-founded Fender Katsalidis (formerly Nation Fender Katsalidis) in 1996.

In partnership with Karl Fender, he said his firm's buildings "seek to bring good design outcomes to our cities, communities, and lives, and I am grateful that our progressive architecture is highly valued among design enthusiasts and broader society."

Academic and Monash University Associate Professor Lynette Clearihan was also awarded an AM for her lifetime service to medicine and medical education.

Her achievements, roles, and contributions to medicine are comprehensive including being appointed as a fellowship examiner and life member of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

"It was a surprise, I wasn't expecting it," Associate Professor Clearihan said of her award.

She is now the associate dean of professionalism (practice standards) at Monash University's Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, with a focus on supporting students, particularly during the pandemic which saw "the nature of how we delivered our courses change drastically."

Associate Professor Clearihan was also grateful to have worked as a general practitioner in Mount Evelyn, in Melbourne's north-east, where she and her husband ran a surgery clinic for 35 years.

"It was a real privilege because the community trusted you, and it was like a rural environment where you became very much part of that community," she said.

A further Queen's Birthday honouree included former AFL sports physician and head doctor of the Australian Olympic team Dr Peter Baquie who received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for his decades of service to sports medicine, which he said has been a "humbling" experience.

"It's pretty special. All of us try and do our best and don't think too much about it," he told *Southbank News*.

You can read more about Peter's illustrious career in this month's *Southbanker* profile on page 22. ●



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# Lockdown hits business recovery

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*

BUSINESS

Southbank traders have been dealt a “major psychological blow” after enduring its fourth lockdown, with many saying the road to recovery had been slow and frustrating.

Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) executive officer Tim Bracher told *Southbank News* that without international tourists and workers slow to return to offices, “a complete recovery is still a long way off”.

“Unfortunately, at the moment, with low rates of vaccination, few traders can plan ahead confidently and they will have the fear of more disruptions at the back of their minds,” he said.

“I would say that lockdown 4.0 struck a major psychological blow to precinct traders, who probably thought that the worst was behind them and many were starting to more optimistically move forward.”

However, Mr Bracher lauded the “sympathetic and quick-to-react” City of Melbourne for introducing “some very valuable business stimulants”, including handing \$100,000 to the business precinct to help businesses recover.

“The winter rewards and special offers program for [postcode] 3006 residents is an example of how we are using the funding,” he said, adding major exhibitions at the National Gallery of Victoria and Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre were also helping bring people to the city.

Evan Lavdas, who runs Melbourne River Cruises, said business had been slow to pick up, and he described the latest lockdown as a nightmare.

He said customers dining at his cruising restaurant, the *Spirit of Melbourne*, “was down by half of what it used to be”, and “slowly getting back there but very slowly”, as revenue depended heavily on international tourists.

“Now that we’ve opened... we’re down 70 per cent of our income. Every lockdown we were shut down 100 per cent,” he said.

Functions were also down by 70 per cent, he said, which had resulted in about 40 staff not working.

Mr Lavdas took aim at the state and federal governments for not providing enough certainty around his industry, saying governments were “trying make rules and regulations to cover the best way they can and in a lot of ways it’s proving to be wrong”.

Also left reeling was Stephanie Lin of Sassy Hair and Makeup, who had 10 booking cancellations from the fourth lockdown.

“It’s been tough, it has been picking up slowly due to the fact clients for weddings have postponed or cancelled their wedding because everything is up in the air with the restrictions,” she said, which included clients not being able to travel from Sydney after the city was plunged into lockdown in June.



▲ *Asado chef Oliver Gould.*



▲ *Natasha Smits and staff member Bita of Natashas Skin Spa.*

“It was picking up really well before the previous lockdown. We were super-busy, working five days. Now we have to basically start again.”

In a show of community spirit through the tough times, the team at Asado, an Argentinian and Spanish restaurant in Southbank, banded together to make 1200 to 1500 meals for people in the industry who had lost their income.

Asado executive chef Oliver Gould said instead of wasting food after being restricted

to take away, they decided to cook and donate meals to casual employees or people on student visas who had been left without work.

“We fully loaded for a busy weekend [before the lockdown announcement] so you can imagine \$10,000 worth sitting around but not a good feeling for a restaurant of our size,” he said.

“We did enough to get rid of most of our stock ... [but] we also utilised the time to do a

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*It was picking up really well before the previous lockdown. We were super-busy, working five days. Now we have to basically start again.*

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meal donation initiative.”

“We hope the community of Southbank stays afloat and survives and we all come out the other side stronger.”

Natasha Smits of Natashas Skin Spa said while she was forced to close her doors she counted herself lucky that her business had grown since reopening, after finding clients were “so deeply affected by the isolation that they are really enjoying coming into the spa for massage and human contact for facials”.

The City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government’s Melbourne Money dining program has handed out \$3.5 million in refunds where customers can claim a 20 per cent rebate on their bill if they spend between \$50 and \$500 at restaurants, cafes, and bars.

FOMO Freebies campaign has also been a big drawcard to attract people to the city, with prizes up for grabs including “quintessential Melbourne experiences,” staycations at The Westin or Sofitel in Melbourne, as well as tickets to attractions such as the hit Broadway musical *Frozen*.

It comes as the City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp has vowed to become the “most vaccinated city in Australia”, to move beyond lockdowns and restrictions, and “bring back the buzz and build confidence for local businesses, residents and tourists”.

However, Patrick Coghlan, CEO of credit reporting agency CreditorWatch, said that with no “clear path” to mass vaccination, and issues still emanating from hotel quarantine “we expect substantial increases in external administrations above the norm in the state”.

Innes Willox, chief executive of the national employer association Ai Group, said a common sense approach was needed around future lockdowns and “some forward thinking about what living with COVID will look like when high vaccination levels are reached” ●

**For more information:**  
[money.melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://money.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

# Slow bounce back from lockdown as office return falls

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*

BUSINESS

Office occupancy in Melbourne’s CBD plunged to 26 per cent of pre-COVID levels in June as the city endured its fourth lockdown, new Property Council data has shown.

According to the council’s findings, occupancy rates had risen to 45 per cent in April and May, but took a sudden hit after stay-at-home restrictions were ordered for two weeks in late May.

The fourth lockdown meant Melbourne’s occupancy fell 41 per cent behind Sydney in June.

Hobart led the way in June with 89 per cent of office workers back, followed by Darwin (88 per cent), and Adelaide (80 per cent).

The survey also found that 80 per cent of office building owners and managers had not expected to see a material increase in occupancy levels within the next three months.

Under the current restrictions (as at July 2),

workplaces like offices can increase to 75 per cent capacity or 30 people, whichever is greater.

At a June 29 council meeting, City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp said it had been “working tirelessly to help businesses and workers bounce back”, after conceding the city had been “hit hard” by lockdowns and restrictions.

“Elements such as hospitality, retail, culture, and entertainment are key to bringing our workers back to the city – they are intertwined in a way that makes our city absolutely distinctive,” she said.

“International evidence is absolutely clear that strong, vibrant shopping centres are key to economic recovery following COVID-19.”

Property Council Group executive of policy and advocacy, Mike Zorbas, said the property industry was continuing to entice workers back to the city, including campaigns such as FOMO Fridays in Melbourne, which was held in conjunction with the City of Melbourne and the Australian Retailers Association.

*“Building owners and managers are not waiting for government leadership to drive CBD reactivation, we are proactively making the case for workers to return to their offices...”*



This included prizes, retail discounts, accommodation deals, as well as tickets to attractions such as the Broadway musical *Frozen*.

Visitors had also taken advantage of the Melbourne Money dining program, making rebate claims worth more than \$3.5 million.

“Building owners and managers are not waiting for government leadership to drive CBD reactivation, we are proactively making the case for workers to return to their offices and enjoy all the benefits of face-to-face teamwork,” Mr Zorbas said.

Meanwhile, visitors flocked to the city during the school holidays after a 105.7 per cent jump was recorded in pedestrian activity compared to the previous three-week average as of June 30.

Average pedestrian activity reached 62.6 per cent of pre-COVID levels at the end of June – almost double the level of pedestrian activity seen during the recent lockdown ●



# Peter Ritchie farewells Melbourne Recital Centre

WORDS BY *Sean Car*  
ARTS & CULTURE

After 12 years and no shortage of wonderful memories, Melbourne Recital Centre's (MRC's) original marketing and communications manager Peter Ritchie is moving on from the venue he helped open in 2009.

Well-known and highly respected among Melbourne's arts community, Peter has been central to driving the vision and appeal of what is still one of Melbourne's newest arts institutions in Southbank since its establishment.

While it's the creative giants of National Gallery of Victoria and Arts Centre Melbourne bringing the larger audiences to the Arts Precinct, the MRC is one of a number of smaller institutions which have filled that next tier.

But unlike some of the more obscure and niche art forms which might often only attract a specific audience, the MRC specialises in showcasing music – an artform which appeals to just about everyone.

And with some of the world's best acoustics and an always diverse musical program offering every genre imaginable, it's enjoyed the constant benefit of bringing in new audiences and providing unforgettable experiences, which is largely thanks to people like Peter.

Whether it be in the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, with a capacity for 1000, or the more intimate 130-capacity Primrose Potter Salon, Peter said there was "never a dull moment" in promoting what was always a "very eclectic" program.

"Hilarity in marketing. I wouldn't know where to start," Peter said.

"Partly because of the characters that work there. But also, the artists who walk through stage door, so the programming is very eclectic. There were lots of challenges because we're not really typecast as a certain venue."

"There have been quite a lot of highlights. I think the first time you ever hear a performance. I can still clearly remember that. That will always remain a highlight when you first grasp just how good the sound is."



▲ Peter Ritchie is moving on from the Melbourne Recital Centre after 12 years.

"There's nothing more rewarding than when you're working here at night and you see the audience coming in and you see the joy on their face, that's really satisfying."

Having originally worked for Tourism Victoria before spending 11 years in corporate communications at Arts Centre Melbourne, Peter said he had been drawn to the role at the MRC through his own passion for music.

While he admitted that he had never imagined embarking on a career in marketing, he said the Recital Centre and the many great characters who he had worked alongside, had provided endless fun and joy.

So too the knowledge he has acquired. Promoting such an eclectic program has always required plenty of research through which he has discovered so much about music – both weird and wonderful!

But while plenty had changed during his 12 years, he said the purity of the sound had remained one constant.

"It will always be the best place to hear live music," he said.

"I've always held the opinion that the hall really suits voice. It's just something about it."

"Wind instruments as well. But any solo recital, the clarity of sound is just crystal clear. You're sitting on a knife's edge listening, the intonation, the skill, the sound that they create."

"You kind of understand why the building was championed all of those years ago. Whereas Hamer Hall is a great venue, it's very big. In the Elisabeth Murdoch Hall, you're really quite close to all of the artists and they're totally exposed. It kind of means they bring their best games to the concerts."

And being a smaller venue, Peter said the centre had always sought to engage with its immediate community here in Melbourne, and particularly, Southbank, which is a reputation he has helped cement during his 12 years.

Together with ground floor café Blondies, the centre has created a much-needed space on Southbank Boulevard for community both day and night, whether it be for theatregoers, local residents, workers, artists or students from the VCA.

But with the impacts of COVID continuing to affect the entire arts sector, Peter believes it will be the great sense of collaboration and support that exists within the arts community, which will help Melbourne Recital Centre continue its rise.

"I think it still is young and it is still evolving and, if I'm honest, I think it is still finding its feet," he said. "Over that period [12 years] there has been four CEOs and so there has been a lot of change and ebb and flow."

"It needs to grow its audience, especially since we've lost the last 12 months through COVID, everyone will have lost patrons. A lot of hard work needs to be done ahead to keep that up."

"I think we're all looking at the return to the new normal, whatever that will be!" ●



## Arrest following Montague factory fire

CRIME

Detectives from the Port Phillip Crime Investigation Unit have arrested a man following a factory fire in the Montague Precinct of South Melbourne in May.

The 30-year-old man was arrested at a Parkville address at around 7am on July 6.

Detectives executed a warrant and seized a number of electronic and explosive items.

The Parkville man was assisting detectives with their enquiries when *Southbank News* published its July edition. No charges had been laid.

The arrest follows a large factory fire on Ferrars St at around midnight on Thursday, 6 May.

The fire caused extensive damage to the single-storey structure.

Luckily, no one was injured during the incident.

The investigation remains ongoing, anyone with information in relation to the incident is urged to contact Crime Stoppers ●

**Crime Stoppers:**  
1800 333 000 or  
[crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://crimestoppersvic.com.au)

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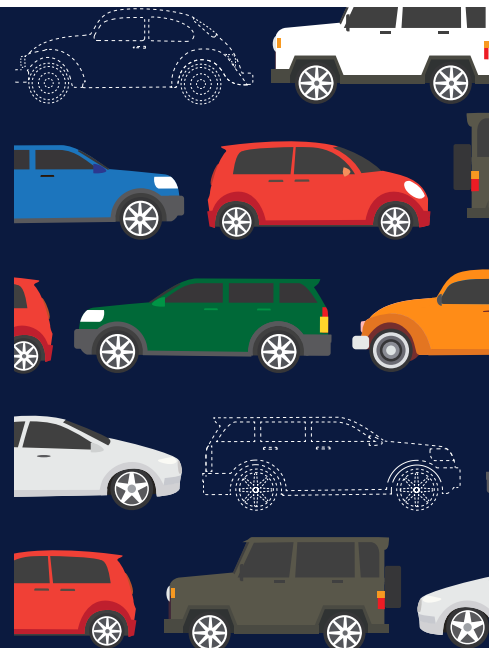


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# DRIVE THIEVES AWAY



Police are urging motorists to take precautions with their vehicles and valuables.

- Ensure your vehicle is locked, including all windows and doors
- Remove all valuables from your vehicle, or put them out of sight
- Park in a well-lit and secure area - a garage or carport where possible
- Keep your car keys secure at all times

If you are a victim of theft, call the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 to make a report. Call Triple Zero (000) for immediate police attendance.



VICTORIA POLICE

CR 08 04 20

# New funding to improve safety of women at night

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*  
 PHOTOGRAPHY BY *John Tadigiri*  
 SAFETY & SECURITY

The City of Melbourne will use new crime prevention funding to help improve the safety of women and gender-diverse people at night.

The \$193,000 grant from the state government will go towards the City of Melbourne's Night Justice project, with a focus on late-night entertainment precincts including the CBD, Southbank, Docklands and Carlton.

City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Sally Capp welcomed the funding, saying creating a safe atmosphere for women and non-binary people was "an incredibly important part of a welcoming and thriving nightlife."

"Melbourne's vibrant and diverse nightlife is part of our city's DNA and is what draws people into the city after dark," she said.

Crime Prevention Minister Natalie Hutchins said the Building Safer Community grants would give local communities "the resources they need to tackle the crime and safety issues that matter most to them."

The funding will also support a Night Safety Summit, the development of a Night Safety Charter, the development of a sexual assault behaviour change campaign, and a Good Night Out Accreditation program.

It comes as a new Monash University study shows almost half of women and gender-diverse people don't return to places where they don't feel safe across Victoria.

A team of Monash Art, Design, and Architecture's gender, design and space specialists called the YXX Lab have released interim results from a crowd-mapping website allowing users to anonymously drop a pin, and share their experience while out for leisure, sport, exercise, play or catching up with friends.

The interactive map, YourGround, has so far revealed that 40 per cent of those reporting an unsafe place did not go back alone and another 13 per cent who never went back at all.

"No lights, people [are] always hanging around whistling as you walk by or asking where you are going. Poorly lit area. Do not feel safe," one respondent wrote about a public space at Kavanagh St in Southbank.

In O'Shanassy St, North Melbourne, another submitted, "Walking here to go to the shops down the street, makes me very uncomfortable as there is poor lighting and no one around. Have had strangers yell out at me from their car and follow behind me."

The study also found people shared certain tactics to feel more secure in public, including:

Walking, cycling, or jogging extra-fast to get through a particular area, carrying an object that could be used in defence

Not going there in the dark or early in the morning  
 Changing exercise or travel routes to avoid certain areas  
 Not wearing headphones so they are more aware of the presence of strangers and potential perpetrators

Monash University associate professor Nicole Kalms, who is co-leading the project, said the experiences shared in the first month on YourGround indicated that upgrades and investment in public space could make a difference. "Submissions indicate that things like well-considered



“*No lights, people [are] always hanging around whistling as you walk by or asking where you are going. Poorly lit area. Do not feel safe.*”

lighting, murals, pedestrian crossings, better footpaths, trees, and new buildings can all increase perceptions of safety for women and gender-diverse people," she said.

The project, which runs until July 31, is a partnership with 23 local government areas, Respect Victoria, the Department of Environment, Land, Water, and Planning, and the digital agency CrowdSpot.

The Night Justice project brings together a range of partners including Victoria Police, Crime Stoppers Victoria, Rape and Domestic Violence Services Australia, the Melbourne Licensees Forum, and the University of Melbourne ●



# Dream Factory celebrates Fishermans Bend heritage

WORDS BY *Steven Nguyen*  
 ARTS & CULTURE

From Aussie classics to contemporary concept cars, a new exhibition at Melbourne Town Hall's City Gallery is taking a tour through almost 60 years of design to showcase the world of General Motors Holden (GMH) in Fishermans Bend.

Running until August 31, *Dream Factory* celebrates one of Australia's most important industrial design studios, the Technical Centre at Fishermans Bend, with rarely seen drawings, models, photographs, film and memories from key designers.

Opened in 1964 and scarcely known outside the world of GMH, the Technical Centre was a powerhouse of design and one of the most successful industrial design studios in Australia.

The drawings on display represent the work of nine designers spanning more than 50 years. Accompanied by quotations about style, technique and intent, the exhibition explores the activity of design and Australia's industrial design history. The Fishermans Bend studio is emblematic of the area's strong history of research, design and technical innovation, determining what came off the production lines in Melbourne and other GMH production centres in Australia.

It was one of only three GM design centres in the world, the other two located in Detroit, the home of GM and in Rüsselsheim am Main in Germany. The launch of the Technical Centre in June 1964 coincided with the opening in Germany. On launch day, the public was allowed to visit the buildings, to walk freely among its

exhibits, then from that day on, the studios were forever closed to the public.

The exhibition's current day relevance is brought into sharp focus with the state government's ongoing urban renewal efforts in Fishermans Bend, as it seeks to transform the precinct into a new mixed-use area for 80,000 residents and 80,000 workers by 2050.

Central to those efforts has been the acquisition of the former GMH site, which will sit in the middle of a new employment and innovation precinct and include space for the University of Melbourne and businesses focused on advanced manufacturing and design.

The Technical Centre was an integral part of Australia's booming post-war manufacturing sector, demanding new plants, specialised facilities and head offices, offering unique insights and lessons for the future of Fishermans Bend.

According to historian Harriet Edquist, Melbourne based architects Stephenson & Turner were commissioned to design the Technical Centre in their "well-tuned idiom of rationalist modernism".

Some of GMH's most significant and recognised cars are represented, while plans for the building and interior artwork are also on display.

*Dream Factory* is a free exhibition running until August 31 Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm ●

**For more information:**  
[melbourne.vic.gov.au/citygallery](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/citygallery)

# Connect with your local community

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

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

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

[www.facebook.com/groups/southbankcommunityhub/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/southbankcommunityhub/)



# Beulah takes over Hanover House with a creative bang

ARTS &amp; CULTURE

The developer of STH BNK by Beulah is kickstarting its recent acquisition of Hanover House by transforming the building into an immersive and experimental event series over a six-month period.

Beulah International, the developer of what will become Australia's tallest building at City Rd between Southbank Boulevard and Power St, recently increased its development's building envelope by purchasing neighbouring Hanover House.

As it seeks to use the space for the purpose of providing more space in its project for community uplift, it is embarking on that journey by transforming Hanover House inside and out with a creative project called BETA by STH BNK.

Described as an immersive and experiential event programme, the initiative seeks to bring together international brands, revered artists and makers, experiential events, immersive dining experiences and much more when it launches this month.

Celebrating the "conscious consumer" with sustainability, wellbeing, art and culture at its core, BETA will span three distinct, yet complementary levels of Hanover House, merging physical and digital, art and technology, design and data.

Led by architecture collective SIBLING Architecture, which has created the ingenious fit-out and spatial design, BETA will explore and experiment with the future of living, food, fashion and wellness while celebrating individuality, diversity and creative expression.

"The Lobby", "Makers House" and "The Attic" will each occupy their own level and offer Melburnians a feel for what can be expected as part of Beulah's \$2 billion project, while also supporting Southbank's creative community.

Beulah Executive Director Adelene Teh said



BETA was an incredible opportunity to celebrate the wealth of talent, creativity and culture that was synonymous with Melbourne, while pushing the boundaries of innovation.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with cultural changemakers and world-class collaborators in creating new spaces and experiences, never before seen in Australia," she said.

"BETA, and eventually, STH BNK, will truly revolutionise the retail model and we look forward to inviting Melbourne's residents and visitors alike to experience this dynamic hub of boundary pushing, exploratory social and



creative activity."

The news follows Beulah's other announcement in June that world-renowned urban design practice Grant Associates and international design practice ASPECT Studios had been appointed as landscape architects of STH BNK by Beulah.

With the project's "green spine" to boast the world's tallest vertical garden stretching from street level to the top of both towers, its series of outdoor spaces will symbolically bridge the Royal Botanic Gardens with the Arts Precinct.

Recognised globally for designing Gardens by



the Bay in Singapore, STH BNK marks the first Melbourne based project for Grant Associates, as it joins forces with the locally based studio of design practice ASPECT Studios, to bring the project to life.

The BETA program will launch in July ●

**For more information:**  
[beta.sthbnk.com](http://beta.sthbnk.com)

## Cheap city parking sends "mixed messages"

WORDS BY *David Schout*  
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

Cheap parking deals to entice motorists back into central Melbourne were sending "mixed messages" according to one City of Melbourne councillor.

In a move to "bring back the buzz and support jobs", the council has announced that \$5 parking deals would be available on weekends and after 4pm on weekdays across 33 private car parks until August 22.

The decision was driven by consumer surveys that indicated people were hesitant to return to the central city on public transport.

However the move to encourage motorists into the city represented a stark departure from one of the council's key transport goals; that is, to discourage non-essential car trips away from the state's busiest area.

The council 10-year transport strategy, released in 2019, broadly prioritises pedestrians and cyclists while reducing the number of "space-inefficient" cars entering the CBD and surrounds.

The strategy revealed that motor vehicles accounted for just 22 per cent of all trips to, from and within the Hoddle Grid.

Councillor Rohan Leppert said the cheap parking move was worrying.

"This exercise is driven by consumer sentiment surveys, not transport economics, and I do worry about the mixed messages council is sending," he told *Southbank News*.

"Melbourne is a metropolis of over five million people and road space is finite. Government's role here should be to build confidence in public and active transport options so that the greatest number of people can be moved as efficiently as possible, not to advertise incentives for only the least efficient mode of transport."

Councillor Leppert was similarly resistant to the council's December incentive to offer free

on-street parking vouchers to lure Christmas shoppers into the city.

He said at the time it was "hard not to feel like years of hard-won policy is unravelling".

"I am very concerned that the COVID-induced recession is being used as an argument that the economics of the city have fundamentally changed since the adoption of the Transport Strategy 2030, and that new times call for a temporary car-led recovery."

However the cheap parking move has been promoted as a way to support city businesses that have struggled throughout the pandemic.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the council simply wanted to ensure the maximum number of visitors to local retail and hospitality venues.

"Every extra person that comes into the city provides an opportunity for local traders who have just been through the toughest trading period in decades," she said.

"We want to bring back the buzz to Melbourne because a vibrant and busy city means more customers for businesses and more Melburnians in jobs. With so much happening, it's the perfect time to come in and enjoy everything our city has to offer."

A recent NAB Consumer Insight report found that seven in 10 people had either stopped visiting central Melbourne or were visiting less, and one in four said this was because parking was either too expensive or they did not want to use public transport.

City activation chair Cr Roshena Campbell said cheap parking would be an important boost for city businesses after four lockdowns.

"We know some visitors, especially now, prefer to drive into the city. Creating transport options that are easy and affordable provides support to our retailers and restaurants," Cr Campbell said.

A clear split had emerged at Town Hall between councillors who believed the transport strategy should remain a close guiding document going forward, and those who believed COVID-19 should force a readjusted outlook.

Cr Campbell, who was not on council when

*"Melbourne is a metropolis of over five million people and road space is finite. Government's role should be to build confidence in public and active transport options so the greatest number of people can be moved as efficiently as possible."*



it endorsed the 10-year strategy in 2019, said in June that planned transport shifts may need to be halted in the name of economic recovery.

"While I accept a lot of work has been done by this council on its transport strategy, in my view it may be the case that some of that work will be found to be inconsistent with what is necessary to support our city's recovery and at that point, if it is the case, decisions will need to be made," Cr Campbell said.

The council has commissioned an independent review into post-pandemic transport trends in the city, after COVID-19 forced a change in everyday activity.

A number of new trends — for example the "skyrocketing" number of gig economy delivery riders — had emerged, and the council said it was important city-shaping policies now reflected that ●

## Better city design

PLANNING

City of Melbourne councillors have supported two new bodies aimed at improving architectural and design quality in new developments.

The establishment of a new Melbourne Design Review Panel and a Design Excellence Advisory Committee were endorsed by councillors at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on July 6.

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said the changes would ensure the council worked in partnership with industry to deliver good quality urban design and architecture, heritage conservation and adaptation, improved sustainability and greening outcomes.

As part of the motion, the council will launch the new Design Excellence Advisory Committee and an expert Design Review Panel to "elevate design quality in the built environment".

The City of Melbourne's planning team reviewed more than 1100 planning applications in the last financial year.

The Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC) will be established to provide a platform for industry, academia, and community to engage in a range of topics relating to urban planning and design, policy development, as well as design challenges and opportunities.

A second new body, the Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP), will be made up of the best and brightest of architecture and design. These experts will provide independent, multidisciplinary design advice on specific council projects and planning applications.

These MDRP reports will be publicly available and will be part of the materials considered by councillors whenever the council decides whether to support or oppose a development application. The panel will initially begin as 12-month pilot program.

Applications will be sought for up to four community members for the Advisory Committee, and up to eight architecture, urban design and landscape architecture experts, alongside additional content specialist roles for the Melbourne Design Review Panel ●

# Community rallies as Channel 31 secures three-year extension

WORDS BY *Matt Harvey*  
COMMUNITY

City of Melbourne councillors voted unanimously to ask Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Communications Minister Paul Fletcher to extend Community Television's licence, but this time for three years.

Melbourne's Channel 31 was facing the threat of cancellation for the sixth time since 2014 and the possibility of once more being shut off forever by June 30.

But due to the hard work of viewers, practitioners, and an urgent motion put forward by City of Melbourne Deputy Lord Mayor Nick Reece at a council meeting last month, a home for Community TV was secured until 2024 only seven days until the shut-off date.

The final push to securing a renewed licence came from the political advocacy of Rebekha Sharkie MP, Senator Marielle Smith and Senator Rex Patrick, allowing an amendment to broadcasting legislation to be passed in the Federal Senate and House of Representatives.

"It is with great pride and considerable relief that we announce today's news. A licence renewal of three years will finally provide community TV stations with the stability we have gone without for almost a decade. Three more years will allow us to continue our long tradition of providing an accessible, vibrant, and important service to Melbourne's diverse communities," Mr Dunlop said.

Since the initial announcement in 2014 Australia has lost community TV stations; West TV in Perth, Television Sydney, and 31 digital, leaving only two channels remaining – Melbourne's Channel 31 and Adelaide's Channel 44.

The initial announcement was made by then Minister for Communication Malcolm Turnbull who said the future for community television was online.

"The Government believes that the best outcome for community television is that, in the future, it uses the internet as its distribution platform," Mr Turnbull said.

## What is happening?

In 2021 the Media Reform Green Paper was put forward by the current Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts Paul Fletcher who proposed a number of changes to the digital spectrum.

Spectrum relates to the radio frequencies allocated to the mobile industry and other sectors for communication over the airwaves.

The previous removal of analogue signal from the spectrum meant we could sell the space to the highest bidder.

The auction resulted in the bidders, Optus Mobile, Telstra and TPG Internet securing the reallocated spectrum for a total of \$1.9 billion.

Proposed changes to spectrum would include new licences which meant channels used less spectrum, a restack of the channels, and that a considerable amount of spectrum will become available to be reallocated to other uses "most likely for mobile telecommunications" according to the Green Paper.

However, it was noticed by community TV managers Lauren Hillman, channel 44, and Shane Dunlop, channel 31, that there was specifically no mention of community television in the proposed restack.

"We are putting forward a submission around our thoughts because [the] current Green Paper does not include community television in [the] plan going forward. And we think that community TV is a vital part of the independent media landscape and we want to be included in this next technology restack," Ms Hillman said.

## Why should I care?

Australians born in non-English speaking countries are less likely to creatively participate in the arts (38 per cent) or attend arts events (63 per cent) compared to Australians overall (48 per cent and 71 per cent, respectively).

These numbers put particular emphasis on the importance of providing a space where Australians of a non-English speaking background, and other under-represented communities, can access the skills needed to engage in the arts in a meaningful way.

Such a program was *Salam Caf* – a light hearted, humorous view on life as a Muslim in Australia through panel discussion and a series of sketches that lampoon the representation of Muslims in Australia and the Islamic way of life which eventually got picked up by SBS.

In remote Australia, indigenous community media performs a vital service in not only maintaining social and cultural networks but also in providing critical information on health, community services and more.

"No matter which way you go it's going to be difficult to ensure there is still local stories being made," Mr Dunlop said.

During the COVID-19 outbreak when public gatherings were restricted and communities isolated, Channels 31 and 44 provided live broadcasts of community religious gatherings.

"During COVID community television became a vital, essential, service for many members of the community who couldn't access the internet," Ms Hillman said.

"We provided important Easter church services because they couldn't go to church physically but we actually gave hours and hours of broadcast time to be able to broadcast those



▲ Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece celebrates with Channel 31 management last month.

church services."

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece spoke at a recent City of Melbourne council meeting of the importance of community TV for local development.

"Channel 31 is a vital community outlet in Melbourne and Geelong," Cr Reece said.

## What would we lose?

Community TV not only provides a source for community access to marginalised groups, but it also provides valuable industry training for all levels of industry.

It is a well-known talking point that RMITV (student community television) would go on to develop some of the biggest names in Australian entertainment, Rove McManus, Hamish and Andy, Nazeem Hussain, Waleed Aly, and Corrine Grant, while people like Shaun Micallef would form valuable connections from his time spent in community radio after being rejected from more standard approaches.

"I applied to the Australian Film and Television School as a post grad, and couldn't get in, I wasn't wanted anywhere," Mr Micallef told *Southbank News*.

"The great thing about this business is it is so genuinely egalitarian you can come into it from any door, at any angle, at any age, and with any or no experience. I can't think of another industry where the rewards are so great and you can come through this permeable membrane and you can come from anywhere to get inside it."

And through these connections, he said he discovered some of his longest collaborators.

"It's probably no surprise to you that some of the people I've worked most closely with are some of those I worked with when I was 18 on those community radio shows," Mr Micallef said.

And while the famous successes of community TV are easy to point to the often overlooked element of importance of community TV is the training provided to all levels of industry from runners, camera operators right up to directors and producers.

"In any broadcasting week you will find there are about 1100 students and volunteers who work on its broadcast. And I know the partnership that exists between Channel 31 and RMIT and Deakin University is a great example of the media sector and the universities working together," he said.

"It's not just us at the station, it's all of our many program makers, hundreds of volunteers, and a history of providing an important pathway to industry," Ms Hillman said.

"Community television is the link between university and industry."

Jobs and growth

The dual intentions of the government, to create an economy backed by skilled jobs and training, and to take community TV away from broadcasting on TV, run in opposite directions.

The Media Reform Green Paper states: "Many Australians rely on free-to-air television. If a service was withdrawn because a broadcaster ceased to be financially viable, this would cause harm to consumers. Older Australians, the less affluent and those in regional and remote areas are less likely to use alternatives to free-to-air television, such as subscription television and SVOD services. They would be disproportionately affected by the withdrawal of a service."

Local businesses benefit from the lower advertising rates with a prime-time 30 second spot, between 6pm and 12am, on Channel 31 running at \$150 compared to Channel 7 which a prime-time spot will cost \$11,700 saving businesses thousands in running costs.

Financially the Australian media sector is a significant segment of the domestic economy, employing around 90,000 Australians during 2018 and 2019, it generated an estimated \$47.7 billion of domestic revenue through advertising and consumer spend in 2019.

The beginning of these financial windfalls come from the university and community sectors preparing performers, writers, and other industry professionals to learn the necessary skills to develop and evolve the media industry.

The Green Paper indicated that the broadcast spectrum that is currently occupied by Channel 31 is not scheduled to be repurposed until 2024 possibly later, up until 2026.

While the latest amendment does set a clear deadline for 2024 this will allow Channels 31 and 44 to work through the Media Reform Green Paper process and give the stations sufficient time to really plan their futures ●

# Major tram upgrades on St Kilda Rd

WORDS BY *Steven Nguyen*  
TRANSPORT

Southbank will see traffic and tram closures until mid-July, with major upgrades to the St Kilda Rd tram corridor beginning last month.

Works started on June 27 and will run through until Monday, July 12, with traffic being diverted to Punt Rd and Kings Way while St Kilda Rd remains closed to vehicles and trams between Flinders St and Southbank Boulevard.

Southbank Boulevard has also been closed between St Kilda Rd and Sturt St.

Tram routes impacted by construction works include 1, 3, 3a, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67 and 72, which have all been diverted to other stops.

The Federation Square/Flinders Street Station tram stop on St Kilda Rd is undergoing upgrades including a larger platform, improved disability access and new shelters, to reduce overcrowding and improve passenger flow between Flinders Street Station and the stop.

Crews will also replace nearly 600 metres of tracks on Swanston St and St Kilda Rd as part of the upgrade, providing a safety boost for passengers, quieter infrastructure and a reduced risk of derailments.

Minister for Roads and Road Safety Ben

Carroll said the stretch from Southbank Boulevard through to Melbourne University was the busiest tram corridor in the world.

"These improvements will create a better travel experience for both commuters and people visiting some of Melbourne's most popular attractions like Federation Square and the Arts Precinct," he said.

As more passengers return to the network, the real-time arrival and passenger capacity indicator RideSpace is being trialed on tram route 59 which travels between Essendon and the city.

During the coming months, this tram trial will assess passenger counting technology and data accuracy before being rolled out to passengers.

"We already know millions of customers are accessing valuable real-time information through RideSpace for the train network each week, and now we're taking steps to roll this out to other public transport modes," Minister Carroll said.

The upgrade is part of the Victorian Government's maintenance and renewal program, which delivered \$640 million of works across the public transport network this financial year.

The St Kilda Rd business precinct and Shrine of Remembrance will be accessed by the new



▲ Construction takes place on St Kilda Rd near Arts Centre Melbourne last month.

Metro Tunnel Project's Anzac Station when it opens in 2025. The new station is strategically located to ease pressure on the St Kilda Rd/

Swanston St tram corridor and will include an interchange with a tram super stop on St Kilda Rd ●



# Riverslide skate park on a roll

WORDS BY Emma Hartley  
SPORT

Riverslide skate park has seen exciting changes in its community – and the introduction of skateboarding as an Olympic sport is only one of them.

Riverslide skate park manager Ryan Harbottle has seen a different group of skateboarders in the park over the past few years as women have started to pick up boards.

“Some of the feedback that we received was that it was somewhat of an intimidating space for beginners and females to enter,” Mr Harbottle said. “So, we created the girls only space – during that time girls take priority use of the skate park.”

Skateboarding emerged out of California during the 1950s and has been associated with younger age demographics. Sport Australia AusPlay 2021 data estimates more than 187,000 Australians participate in skate activities, the most predominant of which is skateboarding.

But despite skateboarding included as part of the 2020 Olympic games, Mr Harbottle wanted to foster an environment that celebrated individual achievements rather than only “the best”. “It’s become a lot more open for people to participate rather than being, if you’re not good enough, you shouldn’t be doing it,” he said.

“With women coming into the sport, that’s probably helped with that as well.”

Both thanks to the Olympic spotlight and COVID, Riverslide has seen an increase in activity recently. Skateboarders have come both locally and from outer Melbourne to meet at the park.

“It’s a real melting pot,” Mr Harbottle said. “As much as we have people who live locally, we also have the people that are our locals in that they are the people who are here every day and make up our community.” ●

For more information:  
[riverslide.ymca.org.au](http://riverslide.ymca.org.au)

# Council picks up vaccination slack

WORDS BY Brendan Rees  
HEALTH

People who get a COVID-19 jab will be rewarded with “irresistible offers” as part of a new City of Melbourne campaign.

Councillors voted at the June 15 Future Melbourne Committee meeting to offer a range of perks and incentives to encourage not just Melburnians but all Victorians to get vaccinated as soon as they were eligible.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the measure was aimed at stamping out further lockdowns and to “bring back the buzz” to the city.

“We want Victoria to be the most vaccinated state so that we can move beyond lockdown and restrictions and build confidence for local businesses, residents and tourists, and so that we can open and stay open,” she said.

Rewards could include a premium package offers in retail, hospitality, and entertainment.

The Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration recently approved the provision of incentives and rewards for people who have been fully vaccinated.

“We don’t want to have a lockdown number five to keep us motivated around vaccination. We want more ‘Vac-torians’ as we are called,” Ms Capp said.

“A vaccinated Victoria is vital for our city to thrive and it’s the key to containing the pandemic so we can fully enjoy the amazing experiences our city has to offer.”

The incentive campaign comes after the federal and state governments have come under pressure for Victoria’s slow vaccination rollout.

During the state’s fourth lockdown, Victorian acting Premier James Merlino vented his frustration saying “we might be facing a very different set of circumstances” had more people been vaccinated.

By July, only 3, only 7.1 per cent of Australia’s population had been fully vaccinated. Federal Health Minister Greg Hunt said more than seven million Australians, or around 30 per cent of the population, had had at least one dose of a vaccine including 70 per cent of people aged over 70.

Around 50 per cent of people aged over 50 have received at least one dose of vaccine.

All Australians aged over 40 are now eligible for vaccination, with Victoria’s online booking system launching on June 17.

“We want to encourage as many Australians as possible, but in particular to say to the older Australians we would very much like you to come forward,” Mr Hunt said.

Speaking at the council meeting, Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece pointed to the success of vaccination incentives overseas, particularly in the US. He said the state of Ohio was offering a \$1 million prize for a “lucky person”

while other states had offered free university tuition scholarships.

Australian companies such as Qantas have begun their incentive programs including rolling out frequent flyer points rewards or flight vouchers to help expand vaccination rates.

To further increase vaccination uptake, the City of Melbourne will boost its communications campaign in multiple languages to reach out to multicultural communities.

According to the latest Essential poll, 32 per cent of Victorians have reported vaccine hesitancy with a further 12 per cent stating that they would choose against getting the vaccine.

On June 20, the state government announced it would develop and make Australia’s first local mRNA COVID-19 vaccine that will be ready for clinical trials by the end of the year.

The state will invest \$5 million to support Monash Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences to manufacture doses of the mRNA COVID-19 vaccine for trials, which are due to start soon.

Health Minister Martin Foley said, “our message to Victorians today is get vaccinated if you are eligible to do so – for the sake of yourself, your family, your friends and your community”.

Australian Medical Association president Dr Omar Khorshid welcomed the Federal Government’s recent announcement of extra funding that allows GPs to spend more time with patients.

Dr Khorshid said this would ensure patients were aware of all the benefits of a COVID-19 vaccination, and boost confidence in the vaccine.

“It is a big step in allowing doctors to take the time to sit down and discuss fully with their patients, some of whom are nervous, the benefits and incredibly low risks associated with vaccination,” he said.

Eddie Micallef, chairman of the Ethnic Communities’ Council of Victoria (ECCV), said the vaccination rollout had been “very disappointing” with a lack of an “appropriate, thought-out, and effective” campaign.

Mr Micallef said there had been “inconsistent messages” and called for translated material “to be more informal and tailored to specific communities”.

“The data that’s been collected by federal and state governments is not uniformed so we don’t know which areas are missing out. If we knew that we could target specific areas,” he said.

“One of the things that were encouraged was community leaders to do their own Facebook presentation and send it around to their communities.”

In late June following a meeting with National Cabinet, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced that any Australian under the age of 40 could now approach their GP and ask for the AstraZeneca vaccine. ●



# Street Tape Games at Queensbridge Square

WORDS BY Emma Hartley  
EVENTS

Strips of colourful tape will mark out a new game zone in Queensbridge Square on Saturday, July 10 where players are invited to play street games with social distancing in mind.

Street Tape Games was the brainchild of Helen Kwok who wants to bring Melburnians together post-lockdown.

She took inspiration from the tape used in public spaces for social distancing and posed the question – “Rather than looking at those social distancing tapes with fear, could we be playful about it?”

Fellow game designer Chad Toprak joined Ms Kwok to re-invent traditional playground games such as Tunnel-ball and What’s the time Mr Wolf? to suit a COVID-safe environment.

But Mr Toprak insisted the playground style games weren’t just for children, with adults having just as much fun during sessions of Street Tape Games.

“You’re bringing smiles to people’s faces,” Mr Toprak said. “You can see how much they’re enjoying themselves.”

The Southbank iteration of Street Tape Games was meant to happen in June but the snap lockdown postponed it.

Although the latest lockdown is behind us, many Melburnians are still hesitant about immediately returning to normal public activities.

“Even if we’re no longer in lockdown, projects like Street Tape Games are still relevant and artists should continue thinking about how they can contribute to helping people feel safe and comfortable,” Mr Toprak said.

Ms Kwok said that Street Tape Games built on the innovation that children have shown in the playground in response to COVID restrictions.

During her research, she discovered that kids had invented “shadow tag” where they would play tag by touching other people’s shadows.

Street Tape Games will take place on July 10 at Queensbridge Square with two sessions from 2pm to 3.30pm, and 4pm to 5.30pm ●

For more information:  
[streettape.games](http://streettape.games)

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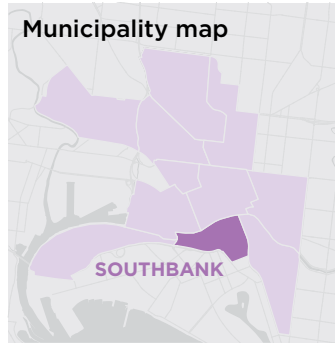
# SOUTHBANK NEWS



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Your City of Melbourne community update

# INVESTING IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD IN 2021-22

The City of Melbourne is a dynamic municipality with a range of diverse neighbourhoods. Our Budget 2021-22 sets out how we plan to invest in Southbank to support local services, maintain and improve parks, public spaces and recreational facilities, and fund events that will bring the buzz back to our city.



Residential population  
**18,108**



Number of businesses  
**972**



Main occupation Professionals  
**41%**



Residents born overseas  
**58%**

## INVESTING IN CAPITAL WORKS

The City of Melbourne will deliver its biggest ever infrastructure program by investing \$244.7 million in projects across the municipality in 2021-22 to create jobs and build a better environment for our community.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp sees a strong link between delivering city-shaping infrastructure projects and support for local businesses.

“We know how critically important it is to invest in our city right now and that’s why we’re delivering more capital projects than ever before, with our record infrastructure investment,” the Lord Mayor said.

“These projects provide opportunities for work on job sites right across the city and workers on those sites provide opportunities for our local traders, whether it’s a coffee and a sandwich, a trip to the physio, or a new pair of shoes.”

New infrastructure investments in Southbank this year include:

- \$20 million – New Southbank open space reserve

- \$4.3 million – Public art
- \$3.3 million – Transforming Southbank Boulevard and Dodds Street
- \$5.2 million – Dodds Street Linear Park
- \$3.8 million – Southbank Promenade
- \$650,000 – City Road Master Plan
- \$48,000 – Furniture and Equipment New Purchases.

Renewal and maintenance works in Southbank in 2021-22 include:

- More than \$600,000 on renewal works in Southbank including roadways, kerb and channel, median and tree plot renewals, safe city cameras, library collection and property.
- More than \$300,000 on maintenance works in Southbank including at our community facilities, creative spaces and on pedestrian infrastructure. There will also be wayfinding signage and investment in urban forest health.

## INVESTING IN LOCAL SERVICES

### Library and community services

The City of Melbourne delivers library and family services at the Southbank Library and community centre at Boyd Community Hub. The library has approximately 1200 members and provides online access to books, films, music and other resources.

### Parks and open spaces

In Southbank we manage and maintain many public spaces including: Boyd Park, City Road Park, Cook Street Reserve, Grant Street Reserve, Miles and Dodds Street Park, Normanby Road Reserve, Queensbridge Square, Railway Revegetation Area, Riverside Quay, Southbank Boulevard, Southbank Promenade and Sturt Street Reserve.

### Cultural venues

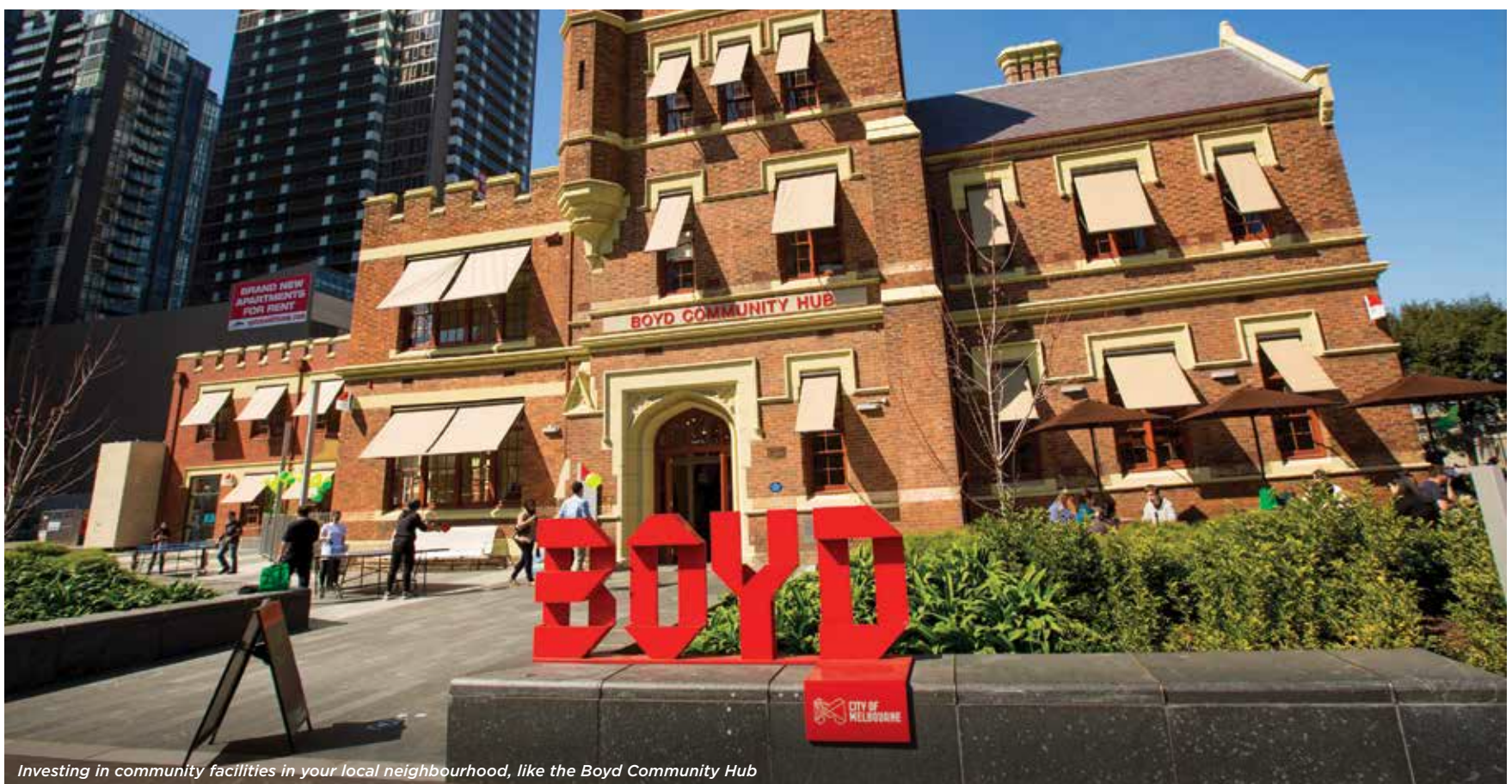
We manage three venues in Southbank: Assembly Point, The Guild and Boyd Studios.

Assembly Point will host approximately 11 exhibitions in 2021-22, The Guild provides office space for five creative businesses and Boyd Studios contains six artist studios and two artist-in-residence studios.

To find out more about what’s happening in your neighbourhood over the next 12 months, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/budget](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/budget)



Information and events in this publication are current at the time of printing. Subsequent changes may occur.



Investing in community facilities in your local neighbourhood, like the Boyd Community Hub

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Your City of Melbourne community update



Missy LaMinx, Sasha Starr and Bae L'amour at Midsumma Festival Live at the Bowl

# MIGHTY MELBURNIANS PROMOTE CARE AND COMPASSION

**For nearly 20 years, the Melbourne Awards have been our city's highest accolade, celebrating inspirational people who dedicate their time and energy to make Melbourne a world-leader.**

We recently caught up with past winners, who work in diverse fields, to see how their organisations are evolving in response to COVID-19.

## Midsumma

Karen Bryant is the CEO of Midsumma, Australia's premier LGBTQIA+ cultural festival and the winner of a Melbourne Award in 2019. The first lockdown began just after one of the team's best-ever festivals in 2020.

'Many people in our communities have experienced isolation - from families, workplaces and social spaces - so having safe venues and support networks taken away during COVID was a trigger for re-experiencing past trauma for many,' Karen said.

'We initially set to work to create a safe, meaningful online space on our website where people could access information in one place, connect and share stories and art.

'Even though, after many iterations of plans, we were able to present another great in-person festival in 2021 amid glorious weather, we are still in a pandemic and need to reactivate and adapt within this environment.

'Looking to the future, I hope we can learn to get along better with each other, understand and champion differences, and fight injustice and discrimination

with respect and graciousness for people with different perspectives or lived experience to our own.'

## Youth Projects

Melanie Raymond OAM is the Chair of homelessness support agency Youth Projects, which won a Melbourne Award in 2010.

Since its win, Youth Projects has continued its mission in earnest, including launching a night-outreach nursing program, to deliver health-care on the pavement to people experiencing homelessness, and significantly expanding its employment services.

'We see the "giving" side of Melbourne all the time. There is a high-level of concern and care for people on the margins and immense curiosity about what solutions can be found,' Melanie said.

'The initiatives to house people sleeping rough during the pandemic showed that we can move quickly on this issue in an emergency and this creative and collaborative work continues today.

'For many people in Melbourne, their isolation and marginalisation existed pre-COVID. Let's hope post-COVID we see more effort to connect people in meaningful ways.

'This is vital to improving mental health, and community-based answers are there for us to implement.'

## In Harmony With Health, Royal Melbourne Hospital

Dr Emma O'Brien leads the music therapy program at Royal Melbourne

Hospital, which won a Melbourne Award in 2018. During COVID-19, the program became more important than ever for staff and patients.

'Melbourne is this incredible city that really understands the powerful, vital role that the arts plays in people's wellbeing,' Emma said.

'Royal Melbourne Hospital had a tough time during 2020 - we were at the front line of COVID-19 and, while many people recovered, sadly many older adults passed away.

'I am so proud of my exceptional team members, who never give up finding ways to connect with people through music.

'Even in the worst of times we were there, singing to people in full PPE, from behind glass. That's the kind of tenacity that Melbourne has. No one was giving up and everyone was trying to have a moment of happiness.'

## MELBOURNE AWARDS 2021

Stay tuned for the announcement of this year's Melbourne Awards finalists in October. In November, there will be an awards ceremony and a televised event on Channel 9 to announce the winners.

For more information, visit [melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/melbourneawards)

## IN-BRIEF

### BOOK YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE NOW

If you are eligible, now is the time to book in for your COVID-19 vaccine. To learn more and find a vaccination centre near you, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine)

### SHOP LOCAL

We're helping local businesses bounce back with \$100,000 Precinct Activation grants as part of the \$100 million Melbourne City Recovery Fund, a partnership with the Victorian Government. Want to support local traders? Subscribe to the What's On Melbourne newsletter for top tips on shopping, retail, dining and events. [whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

### WELLBEING SUPPORT

Our Community Support Directory is a resource for anyone whose health and wellbeing has been affected during the COVID-19 pandemic. It provides information and contact details for mental health support, financial services, food relief, housing assistance, medical services and more. [melbourne.vic.gov.au/communitysupportdirectory](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/communitysupportdirectory)

### SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Explore the city at your own pace with our new suite of self-guided walks. The new maps are a great way to explore gardens, laneways, street arts and hidden gems in the city and inner suburbs. [whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/walks](https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/walks)

### NEW PLAYGROUND OPENS

The new play space at JJ Holland Park is now open, featuring three new play spaces, a new play bridge, space-net, monkey bars and a flying fox. The space also includes new BBQ, seating and picnic facilities.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Watch meetings live from wherever you are thanks to our live-streaming capability. Tune in live or catch up later. Find all the details about Council and committee meetings at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil](https://melbourne.vic.gov.au/aboutcouncil)

## KEEP IN TOUCH

To stay connected with all the latest news from the City of Melbourne, follow us on social media and subscribe to *Melbourne* magazine online at [magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://magazine.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

You can also join conversations to influence plans for your neighbourhood through Participate Melbourne at [participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au](https://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au)

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# Arts Precinct



*Because The Night* – Malthouse Theatre, extended until September

## The state of the arts

*Our Arts Precinct's creative institutions are busy preparing new exhibitions and shows as the circuit breaker lockdown restrictions continue to ease, giving the arts sector some much needed relief.*

WORDS BY *Matt Harvey*

Greater Melbourne has been out of lockdown for three weeks now but as restrictions are still slowly easing, different sectors have varying levels of restrictions.

Indoor non-seated entertainment venues like galleries are open to a maximum of 300 people per space with density limits of one person per four sqm.

Between 2019 and 2020 these industries lost 5300 jobs, and the economic difference between 2019 and 2020 is \$756 million.

In the year to March 2020, Victoria welcomed 95.5 million visitors, including international and domestic overnight visitors, and those visiting the state for a daytrip only.

Tourism expenditure from these visitors was \$31.3 billion, which equates to spending of around \$85.6 million per day in the state.

Interstate border closures began on March 19 last year and on March 20 Australia closed its borders to all non-residents and non-Australian citizens.

With the exception of visitors from China, the top spenders are overnight visitors from Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia, highlighting the significance of Victoria as a domestic travel destination.

Minister for Communications, Urban Infrastructure, Cities and the Arts of Australia Paul Fletcher has spoken about the importance of the arts sector for Victoria.

"The arts and entertainment sector is pivotal to Victoria's identity, supporting cultural expression, community and social wellbeing, along with significant employment and economic benefits for the state," Minister Fletcher said.

The Greater Melbourne region drew 39.6 per cent of these visitors to Victoria; international tourists make up only three per cent of visitors to Victoria but add 26 per cent of tourism expenditure.

According to a national arts participation survey 98 per cent of Australians engage with the arts, this includes listening to music, reading books, watching TV/movies, and other forms of arts.

Meanwhile, only 68 per cent attend live arts events including exhibitions, festivals, theatre, literary events, or others, up nearly ten percentage points since 2016.

### What the arts mean to us

Appreciation for and greater understanding of the need for the arts among Australian citizens has been the clearest result of the National Arts Participation survey.

This includes increasing recognition of the impacts of arts and creativity on child development (63 per cent), our sense of wellbeing and happiness (56 per cent), dealing with stress, anxiety or depression (56 per cent), understanding other people and cultures (60 per cent), bringing customers to local businesses (41 per cent), while nearly one in two Australians believe the arts builds creative skills that will be necessary for the future workforce.

In recent years, multiple predictions about workforces of the future, both Australian and international studies, have identified an increasing need for creative thinking and skills.

As well as developing the talent pipeline and job growth, creativity enables adaptability, experimentation and innovation.

Creative skills have been integral to the fast-growing industries in Australia over the past decade and prior to COVID-19, the creative economy was growing at a rate nearly twice that of the Australian workforce.

From a non-economic viewpoint in an environment of increasing polarisation and heightened global attention on injustice, racism and inequality, the arts can provide vital space and opportunity to navigate multiple viewpoints and perspectives, and to engage with complexity and challenging ideas from a safe space.

### Arts you can support

With 2021 slowly returning to pre-COVID allowances new exhibitions and shows are opening up across a number of venues in our Arts Precinct.

*Southbank News* has recommended a few events worth checking out this month ...

### *Because The Night* – Malthouse Theatre, extended until September

Devised during Melbourne's winter lockdown in 2020, *Because the Night* delivers an immersive experience that gives visitors the choice of what to do, what to see, and experience. Taking place across more than 30 custom-built fantasy rooms in the theatre's history, two performances are scheduled at 6pm and 8.30pm each night from Tuesdays to Sundays, with a matinee performance at 1pm on Saturday.



### *This is a poem* – Buxton Contemporary, until November

*This is a poem* was conceived to creatively animate the Buxton Contemporary collection, bringing art, artists and poetry into orbit with audiences through an experimental and experiential exhibition which explores the longstanding tradition of ekphrastic poetry, or poetry that is conceived in response to art.

A multi-art project encompassing an exhibition, new commissions in a diverse mix of media and forms, live performances and a publication, *This is a poem* opens at Buxton Contemporary on July 9 and will run until November 14.



### *A Biography of Daphne* – ACCA, until September

*A Biography of Daphne*, curated by Mihnea Mircan, revisits the classical myth of Daphne and Apollo as the starting point for an investigation of trauma, metamorphosis, symbiosis and entanglement in contemporary art, featuring newly commissioned and historical work by 25 Australian and international artists.

Works are assembled to explore the integrity and vulnerability of bodies, their performative or prosthetic extensions, and the alliances they enter.

*A Biography of Daphne* is a free exhibition open now at ACCA and will run until September 5, Tuesdays to Sundays.

### *The Lifespan of a Fact* – Melbourne Theatre Company, extended to July 16

Nadine Garner (*Photograph 51*) stars alongside Steve Mouzakis (*Death and the Maiden*) and Ngatii Toa actor Karl Richmond (*Punk Rock*) making his MTC debut, in a play about an epic ideological battle over the nature of truth and the value of storytelling.

Extended due to popular demand, *The Lifespan of a Fact* is on at Fairfax studio, Arts Centre Melbourne until July 16 ●





# Taking art to the street

*Photographer Kristy Fox is interested in people and locking in time and moments, be they events, portraits, or just people doing people things.*



WORDS BY *Matt Harvey*

Focal point Darkroom and Gallery is putting together a street photography exhibition.

According to the gallery "The theme is street photography. People, places, buildings, lane-ways, graffiti, life on the streets, COVID, etc., etc."

"I guess the main thread in my work is people, so far. I have directions I'd like to branch out into such as fine art but for the most part I like shooting people doing people things. If that's a portrait, or an event or street photography then I am happy," Kristy said.

PSC has provided Kristy with great opportunities, expanding her sphere of influence and inspiration, and even helping her to look at different styles with new appreciation.

"For many years it seemed people were only

doing long exposures of rivers and sunsets off piers which I didn't find inspiring but I saw the technique applied in new ways by Toshio Shibata in class and it got me interested in landscape again," she said.

"Influences are so hard to define! I have photographers whose work I love to stare at but then I really enjoyed being exposed to a greater range of photographers during my time at PSC."

One of the great advantages of life in the arts post-COVID means that communities can come together and teach and learn from each other.

Kristy discovered Focal Point Darkroom and Gallery via a music photographer, Zo Damage, who had posted about going on a tour there.

Kristy followed the account which brought her to the attention of Craig who runs the darkroom and gallery.

"He messaged me to ask if I would like to

contribute to the street photography exhibition that he was putting together," she said.

The arts is a complicated field to study while in lockdown, home-bound and unable to see beyond your window or traverse past a five then 10km radius makes creativity and discovering new things nearly impossible.

Photography is a very hands-on discipline and attempting to create new photos.

"The trick is keeping an open mind and an adventurous spirit," Kristy said.

"We still learned a phenomenal amount but I can't help but feel a bit wistful about all the opportunities for hands-on learning and photo walks with the amazing staff and other students."

However, the unique circumstances of the pandemic did bear fruit for some in the creative fields allowing them precious downtime to think and plan for the future.

"One of the good things about the pandemic has been the time to sit down and daydream about future photography projects so now I've got notebooks full of ideas for photo zines, exhibitions and project ideas! I am also in the process of setting up my own photography business Bird Noises Photography where I hope to photograph events and portraits - you know, people doing people things," she said ●

**Kristy's work can be found on her instagram @ *birdnoisesphotography* and the street photography exhibition runs until July 11.**



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# Reducing homelessness in the City of Melbourne



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



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

This month we have asked Melbourne's Lord Mayor Sally Capp to share her thoughts around why the objective around housing all Australians is important, especially within the City of Melbourne...

Surviving a Melbourne winter without safe and warm accommodation is a brutal challenge that too many Melburnians are forced to endure each year.

Reducing homelessness remains one of my top priorities. Melbourne is a caring city but we need to do more to help and support those experiencing homelessness – particularly those sleeping rough on our streets each night.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, we witnessed what was possible when different levels of government, service providers and the local community agreed on mutual goals and cooperated to deliver a stellar outcome. Everyone sleeping rough on our city streets was offered accommodation in inner-city hotels.

This was not a perfect solution but it showed what was possible when we focused on what could be achieved rather than the reasons why something couldn't be done. That same spirit of cooperation remains but it is true that more people have returned to sleep rough on our city streets.

We have already shown how quickly and effectively we can reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness when critical circumstances, such as a pandemic, demand action. We cannot lose this momentum and I am committed to continuing my campaign of advocacy and delivery on this issue.

Unlike some neighbouring councils, the City of Melbourne wants to secure as much of the Victorian Government's \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build investment into social and affordable housing as we can.

We want more of the investment in public housing by the government delivered within our municipality and we want more investment in affordable rentals from the private-sector and community housing providers.

The City of Melbourne has commissioned research on the current level of affordable housing within the municipality and longer-term consequences if we don't act now. In 2019, it was estimated that we had a shortfall of

5500 affordable homes in the City of Melbourne. By 2036, this shortfall will grow to 23,200 affordable homes.

These are more than just numbers and statistics. Every time that number increases it means a Melburnian or a local family misses out on the accommodation they need to have a secure future in our city.

There is a wide range of people who experience homelessness. People experiencing financial hardship, domestic violence, mental health and other acute health issues are forced to sleep on our streets, live in their cars or are constantly on the move between friends and acquaintances never really knowing how long they are welcome.

Secure and affordable housing options for everyone in need is the right thing to do and is also the best investment we can make. Every dollar invested into housing saves multiple dollars needed to deliver services over the long term. Homelessness is often cited as a complex issue with complex solutions but it's really quite simple: people deserve a safe place to sleep every night and cannot address their problems, and ultimately flourish, without appropriate accommodation.

The City of Melbourne is continuing to work on a project to deliver an increase in the number of beds available for those sleeping rough, with appropriate support services. We are hoping to be able to announce the details of this soon.

Our city has been through a devastating 18 months. We started 2020 with thick choking smoke from the national bushfire crisis and then Melbourne was hit harder than any other city in Australia by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The challenges to overcome can sometimes seem insurmountable but I am always buoyed by the courage, resilience and spirit of Melburnians.

During the most difficult period that we have faced as a city for generations, there have been so many stories of individuals that have gone out of their way to care for family, friends,

neighbours, colleagues and even total strangers.

We are a city that is distinctive because we believe in, and invest in, the connections we make with other Melburnians.

I want to encourage everyone to consider how best each of us can help a fellow Melburnian experiencing homelessness this winter.

Starting with a genuine conversation that can literally be life-changing for someone who is experiencing homelessness.

Not just "we can do this", but "we must do this" Melbourne.

*I hope you found the above perspective by Melbourne's Lord Mayor 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.*

*We have been working with the Lord Mayor and her Team on "the project" she referred to, and we have a group of amazing organisations that have offered their skills and expertise and skills, which would normally equate to around \$3.5 million in costs, on a pro bono basis to help vulnerable Melburnians.*

*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](mailto:info@housingallaustralians.com.au)*



Rob Pradolin

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

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## METRO TUNNEL

# Metro Tunnel marks nearly 30 million hours worked



Mr Andrews said the workforce was a sign that the legacy of the Metro Tunnel Project wasn't just "more trains, more often" and a "turn up and go" service.



All eyes were on the Metro Tunnel's Arden Station recently, which was the location for Premier Daniel Andrews' return to work after a fall that left him with spinal injuries.

Mr Andrews toured one of the twin rail tunnels and revealed almost 30 million hours had been worked on the project.

"This is the biggest public transport project in our state's history," the Premier said. "It's about getting on and creating jobs. It's about getting on and building the projects that other governments said were too hard to do."

The Premier spoke of the huge number of jobs provided by the project.

"This project is five underground stations, and nine kilometres of underground tunnels, with tunnelling now complete," he said.

Mr Andrews said we was honoured to meet some of the apprentices, cadets and trainees who were part of a 4000-strong workforce on the Metro Tunnel Project, adding they would "carry with them the skills and the practical experience from this job to every other job they work on".

Mr Andrews said the workforce was a sign that the legacy of the Metro Tunnel Project wasn't just "more trains, more often" and a "turn up and go" service.

"It's also about legacy around skills

development, and having every worker across our state given every chance to have the skills they need to do the job they want to do, and most importantly to do the job we need them to do."

With tunnelling now complete, Arden Station is taking shape with the platforms being constructed and the station entrance ground floor slab poured. The tunnel entrances at South Yarra and Kensington are now complete.

Completion of the project in 2025, a year ahead of schedule, will transform how Melburnians travel around the city.

### More to the Metro Tunnel than meets the eye

The Flinders Quarter Augmented Art Walk has been extended to Friday, July 16 to give people more opportunity to experience this exhibition with a difference.

Anyone with a smartphone can take this self-guided tour of artworks brought to life by augmented reality (AR), revealing the city's laneways from a new perspective.

Each of the 12 specially commissioned artworks is brought to life through digital animation and sound on mobile devices via the free EyeJack app (for iPhone and Android).

The printed Art Walk map is available from participating Flinders Quarter businesses, Metro Tunnel HQ (125-133 Swanston St), and the Melbourne Visitor Hub (90-130 Swanston St) ●

For more information:  
[metrotunnel.vic.gov.au](http://metrotunnel.vic.gov.au)

# The community councillor

*An educator, publican, family man and proud member of the Flemington-Kensington Bowls Club – you'd struggle to find a more community-minded councillor than Davydd Griffiths.*

WORDS BY *Sean Car*

Originally from Bendigo, the Flemington resident has lived and worked in the City of Melbourne for much of his life since first moving to the city as a uni student in the 1990s.

Since then he has worked as a secondary school teacher having previously taught at MacRobertson Girls High School. And in more recent years, he has earned his living in hospitality.

Now operating two venues in Kensington and West Melbourne, the renowned local publican said he first entered the world of hospitality through an unlikely source ...

"I basically got into hospo by becoming voluntary president of the Flemington-Kensington Bowls Club back when the coffers there were empty. I love having a roll. I still bowl down there," he said.

"I had to learn how hospo works just to keep the doors open. Yes, the beers are cheap but we also went down the craft beer road very early which was controversial back in the day, don't you worry about that ... it's probably still controversial now!"

"As a publican, people speak to you very directly. It just means you're encountering everyone in society, regardless of the issues. It's not just people who naturally tend to come to council and pitch their needs. You hear everyone's needs."

But while he's passionate about his local community, he said education was the driving force which first drove him into politics and joining the Labor Party.

The first-time councillor was elected to the City of Melbourne at last year's elections on Labor's endorsed council ticket, and he has been



able to apply his passion as chair of the council's education and innovation portfolio.

"In one sense, to come full circle and have that [education] as my portfolio at the City of Melbourne sort of returns back to the issues I started my public policy career around," Cr Griffiths said.

With the city on its knees after a fourth COVID lockdown and key issues such as drawing international students back to Melbourne high on the agenda, Cr Griffiths's experience in education and business provides a valuable mix on this council.

In addition to attracting international students back to the city, he said he was particularly

keen to use the council's auspices to continue advocating for big changes that would see more education, training and employment opportunities provided in the municipality.

"The latest most liveable city in the world-type rankings [show] Melbourne was still getting 100 out of 100 in the education area. When I talk to locals around here with the new school opening in Docklands, the new school in North Melbourne, it just re-emphasises the fact that people expect high-quality education from preschool right through to U3A."

"It seems foolish to me to have jobs at the hospitals or the universities going out to places such as Werribee, where people from Werribee

are coming into the city to do a job that a resident in the city could take on."

"It's that type of reimagining of the roles of what local education can be about. It's that notion of worker housing, which is an important component when you think about how expensive some housing in the city is and how that precludes people of certain jobs including nurses, young doctors and others who can't live in the city."

The husband of former state Member for Melbourne Jennifer Kanis and father to nine-year-old son Blake, Cr Griffiths said he loved getting out and experiencing the city with his family at every opportunity.

And as one of six new councillors on the City of Melbourne, he said one of the silver linings to come out of the pandemic was how it had forced the council to come together and work positively for the community right from the outset.

"It doesn't matter whose good idea it is, everyone is supporting all of those initiatives that help local residents recover and local workers to get jobs and local businesses to keep the doors open," he said.

"It has to be about ensuring that various areas within Melbourne still have a sense of community about them that's meaningful at a time of rapid change, even before COVID came along. I think that's a really positive thing." ●



*Sean Car*

EDITOR

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## SOUTHBANK SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

# The importance of community

It's undeniable that this past year-and-a-half has been tough on many of us. The long, successive periods of isolation, distancing, moves and life changes have left very few of us unaffected.

With an increased sense of isolation, disconnection, grief, frustration and stress, feeling a part of a community has become more important than ever. Feeling connected to people around us is the antidote to isolation and disconnection, and has many positive effects on our mental health.

Many of you have shared with us how the community veggie garden and our educational activities have brought you a sense of connection and community, and it warms our hearts greatly when we hear that. We acknowledge how that sense of community and meeting friendly neighbouring faces from all walks of life is a big part of what our group does. After all, it was a handful of isolated Southbankers who started this group to feel a sense of community while taking environmental action. It's also the reason why we've been able to create so much positive change when it comes to our environmental footprint; the fact that we feel part of a community that supports, helps and motivates each other.

While we had to focus more on gardening during this year-and-a-half due to restrictions, we want to bring the focus back to building up the community. We'll be reintroducing coffee time as part of our fortnightly meetups, so that we encourage friendly conversations and getting to know each other before we start talking group updates and tending the garden. We

invite everyone who would like to join, whether you are a seasoned gardener or a novice, a sustainability champion or completely new to climate action, or just want to share a coffee (or tea) with neighbours. We really are all in this together and in these times that breed unprecedented isolation and disconnection, we need to remind each other that we are not alone and that the strangers around us are a conversation away from becoming a friendly neighbour. We hope you will join us for one of our meetups at Boyd by the House of Cards cafe.

Of course, if you prefer to interact with the garden in your own time, you are always welcome to spend time exploring what's planted, or sign up on our watering roster and water on your own or with a friend.

Before we end this column, we wanted to share some positive news on the City of Melbourne 2021-22 Draft Budget. The budget was unanimously passed by all councillors during the Special Council Meeting on June 29, which is unusual. This is worth mentioning, especially since this year's budget was built around a community focus, environmental sustainability/climate action and with Southbank getting a much-needed budget allocation for green spaces and upgrades, including an updated Southbank Structure Plan.

We spoke in favour of the budget on the day and it was encouraging to see that all councillors, no matter their political or personal convictions, recognised the importance of investing in our suburb and in prioritising climate and biodiversity action as a key strategic



goal. This shows how seriously this council is taking climate action, investing a good amount of funds and council resources. While there weren't detailed actions and targets included in the draft budget (which is to be expected), the path has been carved in the right direction and we will be keeping a close eye on the details and actions as they roll out, so that Southbankers and our members have a say where it counts.

### Next meetups

Our next group meetups (coffee, sustainability initiatives chat, then gardening) are on Saturdays July 10 and 24, from 10am to 12pm at Boyd. Email us or look for the eventbrite registration link on our Facebook page. You are all welcome!

### About the group

A solutions-focused group of Southbankers working to bring positive change in sustainability practices and education to our

neighbourhood, while building a wonderful community. Free to join. 2019 Environment Melbourne Award & KVB 2020 Sustainable Cities Environment Award winner ●

### Reach us at:

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



*Artemis Pattichi*

SOUTHBANK SUSTAINABILITY GROUP

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## WE LIVE HERE

# Thank you, Shane

*We were saddened to hear of the passing of Shane Scanlan, erstwhile editor of this masthead, and we readily recall how first we became involved with him.*

The November 2015 issue of this newspaper's sister publication *Docklands News* contained an article about the owners' corporation (OC) at Watergate apartments in Docklands mounting a Supreme Court appeal against a VCAT decision that meant OCs did not have the power to make rules prohibiting short stays.

A few days after the release of that issue, Shane saw our group having coffees and stopped to chat. Shane told us that in light of the Supreme Court action, which had required a special resolution to proceed, he recognised how committed we were to our goals. Before our lattes had cooled, it was decided that our group would be writing a regular column.

Two weeks later, We Live Here was launched, and it was under the aegis of this community group that we have been contributing monthly columns ever since.

In the following years, Shane actively demonstrated his own commitment both to the community and to fair and balanced coverage by continuing to publish alternative viewpoints. We are grateful to Shane for headlining apartment living issues including short stays. And we are delighted that since Shane's retirement two years ago, editor Sean Car has continued to provide residents with a voice through the We Live Here column published in three inner city newspapers.

We will always remember and respect Shane as a leading member of the community, consummate editor, and friend. Vale Shane.

## Lessons learned

The Watergate case, which was actually launched by the City of Melbourne, is something that is often misunderstood. The council wanted to stop apartments from being used as quasi-hotel accommodation, and issued building orders against 45 owners, who, mostly through commercial operators, were renting out their apartments for less than 30 days. The council's orders were contested at the Building Appeals Board by the operators. The case eventually made its way to the Appeals Court with Watergate OC adjoined as an interested third party. It was only when the City of Melbourne case was overturned in the courts that the

Watergate committee voted to test out its 30-day rule in VCAT – a rule that had been inherited from the developer.

In spite of this, and until the intervention of COVID, short stays proliferated. Airbnb and other commercial operators took over the city supported by the state government and City of Melbourne in the name of the "sharing economy" to the point where Melbourne became the most penetrated city in the world.

As we have reported, the COVID pandemic shut down the short-stay industry almost overnight in March 2020, simply because tourism to Melbourne and Victoria dried up.

When stage three lockdown was imposed in

July 2020 Airbnb was listed by the Victorian Government Health Department as banned, with very few exemptions allowed.

With the gradual coming out of lockdown late last year, attempts were made by some diehard operators to restart their businesses. However, by then, buildings had adopted COVID-safe building practices that were fundamentally incompatible with the modus operandi of short-stay operators. It was obvious that at a minimum, a registration system was essential.

Frustratingly, nothing has eventuated despite being promised by the incoming council that a new residents' forum would be established to give everyone a voice, including We Live Here.

## Entire Melbourne apartment block in lockdown

So, violent parties have once again been reported, some with knives. Airbnb has cosied up to the police, while We Live Here has been trying for months to get a meeting with the new Minister for Consumer Affairs.

In the meantime, Melbourne is again emerging from lockdown for the fourth time and now in very recent news a complex of about 100 townhouse apartments in Southbank is home to at least six confirmed cases of COVID-19. Everyone is being tested and quarantined for 14 days.

The Health Department's management of a relatively small complex of townhouses has been a huge undertaking.

Imagine trying to manage a 40-storey apartment building with large common areas, multiple entrances, stairwells and lifts, housing COVID-positive patients and unknown short-stay visitors.

Surely now it must be made mandatory to have a register of all occupants in residential apartment buildings. How can this critical need be met when you have short-term visitors occupying apartments belonging to an absentee host?

It is frighteningly obvious that short stays should not be permitted into Class 3 residential buildings.

## Adopt the 14+14 rule now!

The whole world knows that travellers can actually be infected with COVID while quarantined in a hotel. It has happened everywhere that hotel quarantine is practised. The federal government knows, the state government knows, the mainstream media knows, we all know.

And yet here in Australia, we keep trying the same quarantine protocols, expecting a different result. Isn't that the cliched definition of stupidity?

And people living in apartments are the most likely demographic to suffer from the consequences of this stupidity.

We put people in a hotel, with a percentage chance of catching COVID in the hotel, then after 14 days, the quarantine staff say, "See you later, off you go to the football and the shops!"

In other jurisdictions, travellers returning from overseas must spend 14 days in hotel quarantine and then another 14 days in self-isolation at home, with another negative COVID test before you can step outside the door.

This 14+14 solution imposes a little more inconvenience on the hundreds of travellers affected and allows millions of people to keep going about their lives without a lockdown.

## Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to donate, please visit [welfare.net](http://welfare.net). We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests ●



Barbara Francis &  
Rus Littleton

EMAIL  
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LEARN MORE AT  
[WELIVEHERE.NET](http://WELIVEHERE.NET)



## OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

# Budget stamp duty concessions get sales rolling again

*The Victorian Government announced new measures as part of its budget for the 2021/22 year to incentivise homeowners and investors to speculate on new apartments in the Melbourne area.*

The measures include widening the scope of the "off-the-plan" duty concession to cover higher-value properties for purchases made under contracts entered into on or after July 1, 2021, resulting in stamp duty savings.

We have also seen an increase in the "off the plan" dutiable value ceiling from \$750,000 for first home buyers to be raised to \$1 million for all buyers.

There is also a 100 per cent stamp duty exemption for purchases of new residential property that has been unsold for 12 or more months since completion with a dutiable value of up to \$1 million, which includes the Melbourne CBD, Docklands, Southbank, South Yarra and other popular Melbourne suburbs. For a \$1 million apartment, this represents a saving of \$27,500.

This is a positive change for those that wish to buy an apartment to live in, which should hopefully result in increased demand for apartments, particularly in the CBD, and may in turn incentivise developers to green-light construction projects that they might otherwise land-bank and wait for more favourable conditions.

However, beware home buyers who are

looking to purchase a new apartment for more than \$2 million, as you should consider whether to enter into a contract before July 1, 2021, depending on eligibility for the "off the plan" duty concessions.

By way of example, in the absence of any duty concessions, a home buyer looking to purchase a premium residential apartment in Victoria off-the-plan for \$4 million on or after July 1, 2021 would be liable for duty of \$240,000 based on the new premium stamp duty rate. However, if the off-the-plan contract is entered into before any construction starts, the buyer may only have to pay duty of \$55,000, resulting in a saving of \$185,000 (around 77 per cent).

In the above example, the buyer is in a better overall position by signing the contract on or after July 1, 2021 – if the buyer were to sign the contract prior to July 1, 2021, the buyer would not qualify for the off-the-plan duty concession and would have to pay duty of \$220,000 (calculated at the rate of pre-July 1, 2021 rate of 5.5 per cent, on the contract price of \$4 million).

In my view, it is so important to increase the capital values of the existing apartments in Melbourne, as for far too long, the values have remained static relative to say, the cost of stand-alone dwellings.

The answer is not to pump the market with thousands more of new apartments. There is simple demand and supply economics to consider. The Victorian Government needs to understand that investors and owners are rightly worried about combustible cladding, building defects and quality and the relative amenity and liveability of these apartments.



*"In my view, it is so important to increase the capital values of the existing apartments in Melbourne, as for far too long, the values have remained static relative to say, the cost of stand-alone dwellings."*



The best incentive to get owners and investors moving back into purchasing apartments is to improve governance and fix the cladding crisis.

Once capital values start to rise, just you watch. I bet that thousands of existing apartments will start to be bought and sold, because owners and investors will be able to cash in on a capital gain. This will fill the state's coffers with stamp duty.

I really do think the Victorian government missed the boat here. We all know that stamp duty revenue is needed to repair the budget and pay for all the infrastructure projects this government is committed to.

Instead, it is simply offering incentives to its developer mates to keep the apartment building pipeline going. What a spectacular missed opportunity ●



Tom Bacon

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# Walking is good for you, but you need to do more!



Walking is good for you, there is no disputing that. It brings about some major health benefits such as:

- Losing weight and/or body fat.
- Helps with bone density and bone strength.
- Reduces many health factors such as heart disease, stroke, blood pressure and cholesterol.
- Improves fitness.
- Improves mental health and wellbeing.
- Reduces risk of developing osteoporosis, some cancers and type 2 diabetes.

Walking is easy to do and it is low impact, requires minimal impact on the body, can be done at your own pace and can be done throughout the day in one hit or broken up into smaller bursts.

I am sure you are aware of the notion of trying to accumulate 10,000 steps per day and if you haven't then that is a good goal to work towards. In fact, your iPhone has an app (Health) that can track this for you and there are many wearable devices/pedometers that you can use to record this for you.

But I am here to tell you that while walking is good for you, you need to do more!

You see there are many components of fitness and as we age, we need to try to keep on top of many of them to ensure a pain-free, injury-free and healthy and longer life!

Here is a list of eight fitness components that I have compiled:

1. Balance
2. Muscular strength
3. Muscular endurance
4. Flexibility
5. Cardiovascular fitness
6. Mobility
7. Agility
8. Coordination

Now if we just walk every day, we will arguably help improve elements of coordination, agility, mobility, fitness, muscular endurance and balance; but it is not enough. You see there is something known as sarcopenia and this is a condition characterised by a loss of skeletal muscle mass and function. Although primarily a disease of the elderly, it can be seen earlier from disuse and malnutrition. Sarcopenia is a syndrome characterised by progressive and generalised loss of skeletal muscle mass and strength with a risk of adverse outcomes such as physical disability, poor quality of life and death.



It is thought that your basal metabolic rate (MBR) decreases at 1 to 2 per cent per decade after you reach the age of 20 and up to 10 per cent per decade after the age of 45, while most men will lose about 30 per cent of their muscle mass in their lifetimes! A 2015 report from the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research found that people with sarcopenia had 2.3 times the risk of having a low-trauma fracture from a fall, such as a broken hip, collarbone, leg, arm or wrist.

So, I now hope you can see the need to take the time to look into doing something about it and note that it is never too late to get started! You see, the majority of clients that we see are aged 45 to 75 and many come to us seeking our services for the sole purpose of building strength, balance, flexibility, mobility and to reduce the risk of falling!

There are many exercises that you can do and in many cases without the need for much if any equipment! In fact, if you would like to email

me, I have put together a video of an array of exercises that you can do at home or outdoors with no equipment and I will be more than happy to send it to you for you to try!

We also offer two FREE "More than just a walking group" sessions for both the Southbank and Docklands communities and these were designed to help our community active and to do more than just walking. These are held every Wednesday at 9.30am and Tuesday at 9am, respectively, and you are welcome to join!

For more information, exercise guidance or if you have any questions, feel free to contact me by heading to [justintimept.com](http://justintimept.com) ●



*Justin Moran*  
JUSTINTIME PERSONAL TRAINING  
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## ST JOHNS SOUTHGATE

# Have you got any overseas travel planned?

You would have to be a fairly optimistic person to be mapping out your next journey to a foreign land, wouldn't you?

COVID has certainly restricted our movements, and while for some that isn't much of a bother, there are travel-lovers who will be raring to go when it's properly doable!

Travelling abroad is great but venturing across borders has not always been thought of as such. In the Ancient Near East, for example, travel to foreign lands was risky, if not downright dangerous – even in a world where hospitality to the stranger was, broadly speaking, a transnational expectation. Journeying to the land of the "different" and the "other" was considered perilous – sometimes for good reason, other times, no doubt, only due to misinformation and judgemental preconceptions.

In the Holy Bible there is a famous story of Jesus and his disciples travelling across the Sea of Galilee. In this story, Jesus said to

his disciples, "Let's go over to the other side," which might as well have meant, "Let's go to a foreign land." Jesus' disciples, being people of their time, would have had serious reservations about plotting this course. The other side implied territories occupied by people of different cultures, ethnicities, religions and so on. So, Jesus' disciples were likely a little nervous, perhaps even frightened, of the prospect of this voyage.

While sailing to that other side, a storm came up and very nearly overwhelmed the boat. The disciples were terrified, all the while their master, Jesus, was asleep in the stern. In their desperation, though, they roused Jesus and he, miraculously, calmed the storm for them. But once Jesus had done that, he confronted the disciples about their fear and their (lack of) faith. He was not at all interested in speaking to them about the shocking power of the wind and the waves or what amazing a guy he was

having saved them. His focus was on teaching them something about their fear and their faith. In fact, the way Jesus spoke to them after the storm shows that the weather was not the point of the story at all – journeying to necessary destinations, even through fear, is the point.

Do you feel apprehensive about meeting or interacting with people from different cultures or lifestyles? Do you, perhaps, feel a social anxiety even if travelling only as far as your local supermarket if you might have to speak to the cashier? There are many reasons we might be afraid to engage with someone who is other to us. But, in the same way that Jesus of Nazareth rejected fear and opened himself to all people of all cultures and persuasions – taking his ministry to the "other side" – that openness can be our destination too.

It may not yet be the right time to head off to distant lands, but we can travel to where X-marks-the-spot even standing right on the

spot – by reaching out to people we might normally avoid or hesitate to interact with. We don't need to travel to experience new things or connect with difference. We can do that right here if we just open our eyes and embrace the diversity that is all around us.

While you may not be on the open seas or flying high just yet, the travel guide handy hints remain the same: Reject fear. Be open. Embrace the stranger. That's what Jesus did. Let that openness be your starting point and your every destination ●



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SOUTHBANKER

# OAM for Dr Peter Baquie

*Southbank resident, senior Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre practitioner, and one-time South Gippsland GP Dr Peter Baquie may now add three more letters after his name after receiving the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday 2021 Honours List.*

WORDS BY Catherine Fooke

"Dr Pete" OAM was granted the award on Monday, June 14, "for service to sports medicine", according to his Australian Honours List citation.

"I feel humbled and very grateful," Peter said. "Especially to my wife, Helen, who has been holding everything together all this time."

An old mate and fellow medical student sent a text message through to the new honouree early that Monday morning, just after the List was made public, which seemed to echo Peter's own and clearly long-held point of view.

The text ran along the lines of, "to Peter John Baquie an OAM for service to sports medicine, and to Helen Baquie an OAM for services to the Baquie family, while Peter John Baquie is giving service to sports medicine."

The seed for Peter's illustrious career in sports medicine that has seen him doctoring the Kookaburras to men's hockey gold at the Athens Olympics in 2004, and Hawthorn to AFL premiers in 2008, may well have been planted



while he was a GP in Foster and Toora from the early 1980s to the mid-1990s.

Peter worked with and learned from the Corner Inlet district's own medical legends, Dr Robert "Robbie" Fleming, and one-time Victoria Police Surgeon and road safety advocate Dr John Birrell, who was behind the introduction of compulsory car seatbelt and world-first 0.05 blood alcohol limit laws in this State.

As well as enjoying paddle-boarding on nearby inlet and ocean waterways with Helen, Peter also played cricket and football for Foster, actively contributing towards the winning of a few end-of-season flags.

And, in between the innings and the quarters, Peter was quite often asked to realign a nose or a finger, and to give his opinion on what to do about those injuries arising from more serious on-field incidents, even by the members of the opposing team!

The "Doc" wouldn't hesitate to stop a match to attend to any player who was hurt, making sure they got the proper treatment straight away.

Nor did he ever have any qualms about abandoning play himself during a home game, sprinting in cricket whites or the Foster Tigers' black and yellow to greet one of the hundreds of local babies he oversaw in gestation and then

delightedly delivered at the South Gippsland Hospital, right next door to the oval in Foster.

Peter graduated from the University of Melbourne in 1976 with a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) before spending the next few years training in general practice, which included a period at the Foster and Toora Medical Centre.

He undertook further study in anaesthetics and obstetrics, two very handy skills to have as a doctor in a rural setting, before willingly returning to serve in Foster in 1983, and being admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP) in 1984.

Peter and Helen, and their own four children, Michael, Jane, Laura, and Alice, were steadily woven into the rich tapestry of the Corner Inlet community, making lifelong friends and connections.

A Diploma of Occupational Medicine (DOccMed) was added to Peter's qualifications in 1992 and, not long after, the Baquie family made the difficult decision to leave Foster and move back to Melbourne so the children could further their education.

After taking a sabbatical year, Peter soon found that being a city GP was rather different to working in a busy country practice where the doctors do a lot of their own hands-on doctoring as opposed to referring many patients on.

It was a chance conversation with friends from Foster, during which it was suggested that sports medicine might be more his thing, that led to Peter changing direction and becoming a practitioner at the Olympic Park Sports Medicine Centre in 1994.

Word quickly got out across the South Gippsland sporting fraternity that Dr Pete was doing knees and ankles, and so, to his genuine pleasure, he was soon back for keeps among the players of the then-Alberton Football and Netball League, along with those from many other district sporting codes.

"There is a critically important need for rural medicine, and one of the things about living and working in a country town is that you join

the community and you feel bad when you leave because you mightn't get to see those people again," he said.

"In my case, I've been lucky to have had the privilege of seeing kids I delivered and now their kids, too, when they come up to town with a gammy knee or a bad back.

"It's actually been a pretty special part of my Melbourne practice, having this on-going bond with my patients from South Gippsland," Peter said.

"Former Hawthorn footy player Jarryd Roughead of Leongatha mentions me in his book, Roughly, saying that I did actually bring some of his best mates into the world!"

Peter became a Fellow of the Australasian College of Sport and Exercise Physicians (FASCEP) in 1996, and he is also a current professional member of Sports Medicine Australia.

The catalogue of Peter's sports medicine postings is beyond impressive; it also sees him appointed as the Australian Men's Olympic Hockey Team Doctor from 1997 to 2004, and as the Australian Olympic Teams Chief Medical Officer at Beijing in 2008, and London in 2012.

He served as team doctor to a number of Australian Football League clubs, including Carlton, Hawthorn, Collingwood and North Melbourne, for more than 20 years, as well as attending to the National Rugby League club Melbourne Storm during 2003.

The Baquies now have eight granddaughters in their family, and love where they have lived for well over a decade high up in their Southbank tower, "right in the middle of the places we like to go," Peter said.

Peter celebrated his OAM with his family on the Queen's Birthday holiday Monday, including his mother, and all four Baquie children, who were told to "come for lunch, no matter what!"

He received lots of congratulatory messages from friends, colleagues, and patients alike during the course of the day and since, and all agreed that the award was well-deserved by the unpretentious, softly-spoken, and absolutely competent Dr Pete ●

SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

## Council budget

*This year, owing to changes to the Local Government Act 2020, the council now needs to present a four-year budget, which it did last month.*

It is promising in some respects to actually know a project is at least funded somewhere in the next four years, unlike past years where we just keep hoping year-in, year-out (City Road Master Plan). However, the problem with it is that while there is a \$ figure, we don't actually know what that allocation will actually be attributed to. To be honest, the council probably doesn't know either.

It was astounding to see an allocation of \$25 million for a new Southbank open space reserve. I have no idea what this is hoping to achieve as the details are quite scant, but I believe it is to purchase open space in Southbank. While that might be admirable, and I certainly commend the council, I not sure I am aware of too many available blocks of land that are appropriately located to achieve the types of open space outcomes the community might be longing for. In any case, any open space is still great for Southbank, but I am anxious to learn more about this plan.

But having said that, after the council endorsed the development on Boyd Park and all the great work that SRA had put into ensuring the open space issue was firmly in front of it through our submissions and the Southbank Community Forum, you would have thought someone from the council would have told SRA about this surprise \$25 million allocation for open space. One would have thought this announcement was so big that someone in the council would have been itching to break the exciting news to us. But no ... I had to learn about

it in a budget story in last month's *Southbank News* edition.

This is appalling from the council. While I appreciate there might have been commercial complexities which may have inhibited its ability to break the news, given the budget is a public document then once that media embargo was lifted that would have allowed someone to give us a heads-up. It just goes back to what I have often complained about with our council is that it often fails to communicate. Some years ago (also at budget time) a motion had to be moved by Cr Rohan Leppert to try to ensure effective communication, and even that motion seemed to have failed Southbank. I just wonder why it is so difficult at all levels of council to have that light-bulb moment and think to inform residents. Did the CEO or any of the directors or department mangers even think that SRA might like to know about this great news the day it was in the public domain? I am not holding my breath on improvements with communication. I have been let down far too many times in the past.

Owing to COVID-19 we have decided to delay our AGM by around six weeks and hold it in early September. Remember if you would like to get involved with your local resident group and would like to put something back into the community then the AGM is the time to nominate to join our committee. You will need to be a member of SRA though, but that is only \$10 and can be done by going to our website [southbankresidents.org.au](http://southbankresidents.org.au) ●

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 Southbank Residents Association

## Delivering on the services Stolen Generations people say they need most

*The state government dedicated \$300,000 to cover the funeral costs of Stolen Generations people thanks to advice from the Stolen Generations Reparations Steering Committee.*

WORDS BY Emma Hartley

Ian Hamm is a Yorta Yorta man who is chairperson of the Stolen Generations Reparations Steering Committee, as well as chairperson of the Koorie Heritage Trust and has sat on many other boards.

“Stolen Generations people usually have worse life outcomes than the broader Aboriginal community which means that when they die, their families often don’t have enough money for a decent burial,” Mr Hamm said.

This initiative has only been the start of the Steering Committee’s work which has been preparing a report for the state government proposing initiatives for Stolen Generations people.

Consultations with stolen generations people across Victoria has shown the Steering Committee that priority issues not only include financial compensation but also program support and the intergenerational effects of the Stolen Generations.

“This kind of trauma inflicted on a community can actually reverberate seven generations until it ripples out,” Mr Hamm said. “But we’re still basically in the first, second and third generations of when people were taken.”

“We’re not so much at the ripple-end effect of it. We’re at the tsunami end.”

Mr Hamm has been on the Koorie Heritage Trust board since 2013 and was with the Trust at its former location on Kings St.

Now the Trust is in the Yarra building in



Federation Square – a good move in Mr Hamm’s eyes because it positions them in the front and centre of Melbourne.

“If Federation Square is supposed to be the social and cultural hub of Melbourne, then it couldn’t have any legitimacy unless it had a strong Aboriginal presence there,” Mr Hamm said.

Mr Hamm is also chairperson of Connecting Home which has helped stolen generations people actually connect with the services they need.

“Because agencies weren’t talking to each other, they couldn’t even get access to services let alone their core issues dealt with,” Mr Hamm said.

Connecting Home has started to expand that support into the disability sector as a next step.

“A lot of the stolen generations cohort are now ageing and also qualifying for the NDIS because they’ve got disability issues,” he said. “So, we’re working in that space as well.” ●

**For more information:**  
[koorieheritagetrust.com.au](http://koorieheritagetrust.com.au)

## I can see clearly now, can you?

*Driving around our lovely precinct, there are some things that are becoming clearer and changes are being made ... have you noticed them too?*

The new cafes are starting to get busier not just with tradies but with new and old locals. There are two new sit-in café/restaurants opened this year and although still struggling with restrictions they are doing well. I was pleased to see that the Waterside Inn has reopened selling Toasties (excellent!).

Thistlethwaite St, both east and west of Montague St, is completely changed now. It’s similar to how Gladstone St has, and continues to. It appears that more residents will start to move in imminently with Montague Towers and the two blocks closest to Ferrars St nearly completed.

The towers that were going in on the old Carlin’s site on Buckhurst St are on hold and the site has finally been cleaned up and open-air, paid carparks have been instigated. A much better look than the rubbish tip that they had become. And, of course, a place to park for those that don’t have car parks west of Montague St.

As an aside, it still amuses me that the planners still think that most new residents and workers will be riding bikes or (god forbid) motorised stand-up scooters. For example, on-street parking in Gladstone St is completely full after 6pm and on weekends.

And finally, the Normanby Rd development is moving on at pace and I’m told that first residents are moving into at least one of the many towers in the next month or so.

With at least hundreds if not 1000s of new residents and workers coming into the precinct over the next six months we need to turn our thoughts to traffic management. It would be interesting if we could see the precinct plans to see how traffic flow is, and will be managed.

I have been spending time in Southbank recently and can see the challenges of how traffic

flow effects the amenity of the area. There was that devastating accident on the corner of Power St and City Rd and during peak hour there are often large trucks completely blocking the intersections, so crossing on green lights becomes dangerous. The reason is that Power St and City Rd are arterials to and from the freeways.

This too matters for the Montague Precinct as City Rd, Montague St (and don’t forget the Montague Bridge dramas) and Normanby Rd are major arterials. Montague has few large trucks because of the bridge, but Normanby Rd is another matter. There are numbers of smaller cross streets that potentially will have the same challenges as the Southbank examples. It is so important that these areas are designed and managed well, and not just for bicycles either.

To that end and to give us all some comfort that this is being looked at ...

Dear Fishermans Bend Taskforce, please release the Precinct Plans that were completed last year! Residents and businesses deserve to know about the area they are not only living in but investing in too.

And on that note of hope, I hope you are all starting to see clearly what Montague will become and don’t feel too anxious about the future plans. I know the constant noise is not improving and unfortunately will continue for some years, but hopefully the powers that be are listening and will start, even post-COVID, to provide some more detailed information and on-site communication to support the growing numbers in our very loved precinct of South Melbourne.

Take care all, stay safe and PLEASE if you are eligible, get vaccinated ●



Trisha Avery

TRISHA AVERY IS THE CONVENER OF THE MONTAGUE COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

TRISHAVERY@ME.COM



## HISTORY

## ASPRO in Southbank

*The headache remedy called ASPRO has probably been used by all Australians at some stage and it has a strong link to Southbank.*

When the importation of German aspirin was stopped at the beginning of the Great War (1914-18), the Commonwealth Government offered an immediate manufacturing licence to any Australian who could manufacture a headache remedy. George Nicholas, who was practising as a chemist at St Kilda, developed a new product and the history of “ASPRO” began.

George and his brother Alfred went into partnership and began business in 1915 with a few tablet machines. The need for aspirin was urgent, and the Nicholas family learnt quickly about how to market and mass-produce their product. As the company expanded rapidly, they moved to Flinders Lane, Melbourne, but soon realised they needed a bigger site. They had a building in City Rd (No. 10, next to the Glaciarium ice-skating rink) and they turned to young architect Harry Norris, who was just starting out in practice, to provide plans for re-modelling the building in the latest “modern” style.

The “Aspro Buildings”, featuring offices and manufacturing plant, was completed in 1920. It was a handsome building in the Commercial Palazzo style, beneath a triangular neon sign that flashed out “ASPRO”. The three-storey building, about 30 metres deep, employed nearly 200 staff, both office and factory employees, including many from the local area. They used the latest machinery to accurately weigh and stamp out millions of tablets per week and ASPRO soon became the centre of an



*The three-storey building, about 30 metres deep, employed nearly 200 staff, both office and factory employees, including many from the local area.*



international enterprise.

Employing Norris was a gamble by Nicholas that paid off handsomely for both – Norris carried out all the work for the Nicholas family, including renovations to family residences at Hawthorn and Point Lonsdale, a new five-storey factory for ASPRO on an adjoining block in South Melbourne, and the Nicholas Building, the company’s speculative office block in Swanston St, in 1926. The City Rd building remained as the headquarters for ASPRO until the 1950s.



▲ ASPRO Buildings, Southbank.

Photo courtesy of the State Library of Victoria.

The Nicholas family were major philanthropists and made major contributions to various charity and education causes in Victoria. But they were mainly remembered for putting their product on the shelves of every pharmacist and for their contribution to the health of the nation.

ASPRO remains firmly in the lexicon of Australians with a headache! ●



Robin Grow

PRESIDENT - AUSTRALIAN ART DECO AND MODERNISM SOCIETY

ROBINGROW@OZEMAIL.COM.AU

# Pet's Corner

## Stress less with this campus visitor

“

*Executive assistant to the director of the Victorian College of Arts (VCA) Tracey Claire has brought Phoenix with her to work.*

”



WORDS BY *Emma Hartley*

“I bring him to all the student events like orientation week and open day,” Tracey told *Southbank News*. “He helps with the stress of the students.”

“He’s not an official therapy dog but I’ve trained him as one.”

Phoenix is a 10-year-old Koolie dog – another type of cattle dog similar to the Kelpie.

Ms Claire used to have another Koolie dog before Phoenix, who passed away 10 years ago.

“I instantly had to have one exactly the same,” she said ●

“When I’m looking at old photos of them, I can’t tell them apart. The personality is the same – that’s the weird thing.”

Ms Claire was waiting for her third Koolie that will come from the same Queensland breeders where she found Phoenix.

She brought up a photo on her phone of the puppy – Bingo – who had the same bright, icy eyes as Phoenix.

Bingo will be 12 weeks old when he comes down from the north.

“We’ll train him to be a campus dog,” Tracey said.

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Quiz



- 1. In which state would you find the highest point in Australia?
2. Who defeated John Howard to become leader of the Liberal Party in 1983?
3. Beginning with 'w', what is another word for dingo (pictured)?
4. A \$2 million piece of public art set to call Dodds St home is what animal on a chair?
5. What Southbank building will become the tallest in the Southern Hemisphere?
6. What did Dr Thaddeus Cahill invent?
7. Shot almost entirely in monochrome, which 1993 film won seven Academy Awards?
8. How many metres above street level does the Arts Centre Melbourne spire stand?
9. Which tuberous vegetable contains the toxic compound called solanine?
10. What insects will you find on the side of the Eureka Tower?
11. Where was the original Hoadley's Chocolates Ltd factory located, and what famous chocolate bar did they invent?
12. Who jumped into the Yarra River after winning the 1992 Australian Open?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS

- 1. New South Wales (Mount Kosciuszko)
2. Andrew Peacock
3. Warrigal
4. Kangaroo
5. Southbank By Beulah (Grenspine)
6. Teleharmonium
7. Schindler's List
8. 162m
9. Potato
10. Beetles
11. Perth, Western Australia. Famous chocolate bar: Hoadley's
12. Peter Dinklage

5x5

No. 001

Insert the missing letters to make 10 words - five reading across the grid and five reading down.

Grid for 5x5 puzzle with letters A, G, L, O, G, T, A, A, S, E, R, N, S.

SOLUTIONS

ACROSS: ANGEL, CORGI, TARA, OSIER, RENTS DOWN, ACTOR, NOISE, GRAIN, EGRET, LIARS

Sudoku

No. 001

Fill in the blank cells using the numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block

EASY

Easy Sudoku grid with numbers 1, 2, 4, 8, 6, 9, 4, 2, 5, 3, 2, 7, 9, 1, 2, 6, 8, 4, 8, 5, 7, 8, 2, 6, 2, 4, 6, 5, 9, 3, 2, 4.

HARD

Hard Sudoku grid with numbers 4, 8, 7, 4, 9, 2, 3, 8, 3, 9, 8, 2, 6, 5, 6, 7, 7, 2, 5, 6, 7, 7, 3, 9, 1, 5, 4, 3, 6, 4.

SOLUTIONS

Solutions for Easy and Hard Sudoku grids.

Wordfind

Theme: FARMS

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

Wordfind grid with letters D, S, N, O, H, P, I, G, S, T, Y, A, G, R, I, C, U, L, T, U, R, E, I, G, A, N, H, E, L, T, T, A, C, R, E, B, K, O, W, R, A, N, C, H, Y, O, A, C, R, E, R, A, M, T, W, C, R, G, H, E, O, C, R, E, O, P, R, C, O, I, S, R, N, G, C, R, L, O, H, A, C, E, E, E, A, S, D, O, P, A, T, K, H, V, W, G, M, D, U, S, R, R, E, T, S, O, O, R, O, G, O, D, R, N, K, H, M, O, O, G, H.

- ACRE DOG OINK
AGRICULTURE EGGS PIG STY
BARN EWE PLOUGH
CATTLE GOAT RAM
CHICKEN HEN RANCH
COW HOGS ROOSTER
CROPS MANOR TRACTOR
CHORES MOO VEGETABLE
DAIRY ORCHARD

Secret message: HARD WORK

Crossword

No. 001

ACROSS

- 1 Whole (3)
3 Process of liquid turning to gas (11)
9 Proprietor (5)
10 Covering (9)
11 Nose hole (7)
12 One more (7)
13 Jerk (5)
15 Roman name of Great Britain (9)
17 Covered with plants (9)
18 Monetary units (5)
20 Nordic country (7)
22 Non-professional (7)
24 Instinctual (9)
25 Evidence of being elsewhere (5)
26 Improvement (11)
27 Constantly find fault with (3)

Crossword grid with numbers 1-27.

DOWN

- 1 Overflows (7)
2 Painting of the countryside (9)
3 Inaccuracy (5)
4 Terrible (5)
5 Process of reacting with oxygen (9)
6 Alaska's largest city (9)
7 Citizens of Eire (5)
8 African country (7)
14 Movement of animals (9)
15 Tirade (9)
16 From Oslo, e.g. (9)
17 Disconnected (7)
19 Wave riding (7)

- 21 V-shaped indentation (5)
22 Skyfall theme singer (5)
23 Modify fittingly (5)

SOLUTION

Solution grid for the crossword puzzle.

Codeword

No. 001

Codeword grid with numbers 15, 6, 11, 1, 21, T, T, 20, 14, 22, 9, 21, 7, 22, 4, 5, 11, 17, 19, 20, 6, T, 10, 2, 1, 15, 12, 1, 19, 21, 13, 21, 21, 23, 11, 16, 15, 6, 11, 19, 20, 11, 1, 15, 19, 6, 15, 12, 15, 15, 15, 20, 2, 7, 1, 24, 17, 11, T, T, 19, 22, 15, 17, 15, 1, 20, 17, 15, 6, 8, 4, 5, 11, 16, 6, 7, 20, 3, 20, 21, 15, 11, 7, 21, 7, 21, 5, 21, 22, 6, 19, 16, 22, 18, 15, 17, 19, 6, 7, 17, 15, 21, 15.

SOLUTIONS

Solution letters for the codeword puzzle: J, S, M, U, D, R, I, E, O, X, O, G, J, H, C, F, W, N, P, L, Z, B, Y, A, V, K, E, S, T, I, L, I, T, I, N, G.

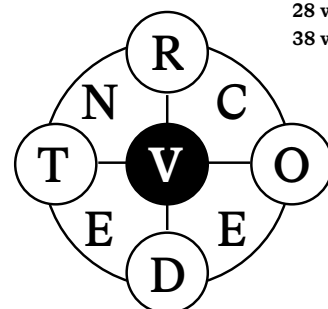
9-Letter

No. 001

Today's 9-Letter

- 19 words: Good
28 words: Very good
38 words: Excellent

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".



SOLUTIONS

Reference: Collins Concise English Dictionary

## 南岸疫情高发区的教训

当6月29日解封时，南岸(Southbank)的Kings Park公寓楼的居民在大楼外又能愉快地互相问候了，但在他们封锁期间吸取了一些惨痛的教训。

*Rhonda Dredge*

在四间公寓爆发了新冠疫情后，整个105个单元的公寓楼被封锁了14天。

85岁的Brian Pollard是住在Dodds街二楼的居民，当他发现自己也不得不被隔离时，他说：“我崩溃了。”

他说：“他们先说封锁一半，然后决定完全关闭。”尽管他住在与六个COVID病例不同的区域。

居民们认为，病毒是在连接Dodds街与大楼内部楼梯和花园的狭长通道之一中传播的。

Brian说：“我不会再走那个通道了，他们要求人们不要穿过那个区域。”

居民们现在正在谈论他们在这称为“南岸高发区”的地方隔离了14天的磨难。200多人被封闭了起来。

Brian告诉本报说：“我们是在昨晚午夜才被解封的，我们中大约有20人在街区周围散步。”

邻居在封锁期间互相发短信，他们可以在相邻的阳台上说话，但不允许他们走出公寓进入花园或车库。

Kings Park公寓是一个靠近市中心的田园式天堂，设有游泳池、桑拿浴室、郁郁葱葱的花园，所有单元都有阳光明媚的阳台和充足的通风。该公寓楼的主要入口位于Wells街，但公寓楼延伸至邻近的Dodds街。

但对于那些住在公寓楼Dodds街一侧的居民来说，需要穿过不到一米宽的不通风通道，这些通道通向楼梯，也没有可打开的窗



户，才能进入到他们的公寓。

四楼的居民Kate Sadler告诉本报说：“我们有一种错误的安全感”，她说，居民们

没有戴口罩，因为他们认为自己在露天的地方。

## 新任职的中学校长

新任命的Anne Stout是新建的Fishermans Bend中学(临时名称)第一任校长，该中学将为Southbank、Docklands、Port Melbourne和South Melbourne区域提供上学服务。

Stout女士在英国和澳大利亚从事教育工作已有24年，在当地享有盛誉。

在2011年加入Albert Park学院的创办校长团队并担任助理校长之前，她曾在维多利亚私立学校系统和Mac.Robertson女子中学校担任领导职务。

她拥有两个学士学位以及教育学研究生证书和心理学硕士学位。

她主持了新兴学校领导者的领导力项目，并与一系列学校合作，推动教育系统内的领导力和改革。

在Albert Park学院工作了八年

后，Anne于2019年回到Mac.Robertson女子中学校担任校长。

2022年，Fishermans Bend中学(临时名称)将向7年级的学生开放，以后将逐年提高开放年级。

在我们本月的采访之后，您可以在本报8月版中找到更多关于Anne Stout的故事。

有关Fishermans Bend中学(临时名称)注册入学的信息，请访问

[schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au](http://schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au)



## 茶楼地块的新计划

*Brendan Rees*

一项耗资一亿澳元的改造项目，如果得到墨尔本市政的批准，可能会将南岸历史悠久的Robur茶楼周围的场地改造成一家拥有“世界级”的酒店及零售空间。

精品开发商CostaFox去年以2800万澳元的价格购买了这座拥有134年历史的建筑，最近提出了一项“全面翻新”的计划，将这座仓库“重新塑造”成一家拥有154间客房的国际酒店。

根据这个计划，这座标志性的六层建筑将设有庭院、一条新的巷道、可以欣赏雅拉河和中央商务区美景的私人露台，以及21套住宅。

列入历史遗产名录中的Robur茶楼周围将建造3至25层的新建筑，该茶楼被认为是“墨尔本19世纪仓库中最优秀、最突出的范例之一”。

拟建的“北楼”将包括园林美化的前院、餐饮店和办公室。

“南楼”将包含商店、大堂、游泳池、健身和健康中心、屋顶露台花园、21套住宅(有最多三间卧室的)和两套顶层公寓。

还提议建一个“茶园前庭”，提供一个开放的公共空间和斜坡通道。

墨尔本市政的一份宣传材料称，“该提议创造了一个充满活力和交织的社会景观，在较低楼层设有餐饮和旗舰零售店”。

墨尔本市规划主管兼副市长 Nicholas

Reece表示，该申请是一项“令人兴奋”的提案，但指出“市议会规划官员和议员们会对提案进行非常仔细的考虑”。

他说：“Robur茶楼是我们城市标志性的建筑，也是南岸工业历史的见证。”

“它还占据了黄金地段的一个优越位置，靠近中央商务区、雅拉河畔，紧邻墨尔本会展中心。”

“在南岸市中心看到如此规模的开发计划令人兴奋，然而任何在Clarendon街28号开发Robur茶楼的计划都需要尊重该地区的历史遗产。”

## 南岸居民对“开放空间”的意见

随着市长Sally Capp宣布新的绿色空间和公共安全作为南岸的优先事项，南岸居民已经对墨尔本市政的最新预算和五年计划发表了自己的意见。

*David Schout*

在6月29日的一次特别会议上，当地居民有机会就市政新通过的2021-22年预算和2021-25年计划发表意见。

这些反馈意见包括对新绿色空间承诺的认可，以及需要进一步了解城市道路总体规划。

一位资深议会人士承认，市政可以在邮政编码3006地区做得更好。

基础设施和设计代理总经理Roger Teale说：“我们需要在南岸做得更好，我们会的。这是我代表领导团队的承诺。”

当地居民讨论的中心是积极的；市政承诺到2025年在南岸提供1.1公顷的新公共空地，相当于大约一个半足球场。

作为澳大利亚人口最稠密的住宅区之一，未来12个月的2000万澳元承诺(加上额外的500万澳元额外预算)受到所有发表意见的南岸居民欢迎。

南岸可持续发展组织的Artemis Pattichi说，我们“急切等待”兑现绿色空间的承诺。

她在6月29日的特别会议上表示：“我们终于能看到南岸居民在这份预算草案中发挥了重要作用。”

“一段时间以来，我们一直感觉自己像一个被墨尔本市政遗忘的孩子。因此，很高兴看到对我们备受喜爱的区域进行投资，这样我们就可以感受到这是一个邻里情谊的住宅区；不仅仅是人们为了就近上班而生活的短暂住所。”

Pattichi女士表示，他们希望新空间能够创造以社区为中心的场所，可以让当地居民在此“邻里相见”。

“我们确实想提出的是，希望看到一个活跃的绿色空间，而不仅仅是一个空间，也就是说这个绿色空间能成为社区聚集并互动的空间。”

# What's On: July 2021

## Community Calendar



**TUESDAYS**  
**Rotary Club of Southbank**

Rotary Club of Southbank meets weekly for dinner on most Tuesday evenings throughout the year at Belgian Beer Cafe at Riverside Quay. Visitors welcome.  
southbank.org.au



**SUNDAYS (CLOSED JULY 11 - TRAM WORK)**

**Arts Centre Market**

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

**TUESDAYS - THURSDAYS & SATURDAYS**  
**Chunky Move Dance Classes**  
Mondays to Saturdays at 111 Sturt St. Chunky Move dance classes are the perfect way to unwind, get fit and improve flexibility and strength.  
chunkymove.com



**WEDNESDAYS @ BOYD**  
**Free Walking Group**  
Join local fitness experts Just In Time as they lead a "not just walking group" for Boyd walkers. The program runs on Wednesdays from 9.30am to 10.30am.  
justintimept.com



**MONTHLY**  
**Bearbrass Probus**  
Bearbrass Probus caters to retirees in Southbank, Docklands and the CBD and hosts regular events such as wine tastings for locals to connect.  
bearbrassprobus.org



**FIRST AND THIRD SATURDAY EACH MONTH**  
**Southbank Sustainability Group**  
A growing group of green and sustainability enthusiasts who live in Southbank looking to bring positive change.  
Facebook: SouthbankSustainabilityGroup

# Business Directory

## Childcare

**IT'S JUST A HOP, SKIP & A JUMP TO**  
Nido Early School Melbourne Square  
97-101 Kavanagh Street, Southbank  
Ph 8566 7259 | nidoearlyschool.com.au

www.paramour.com.au  
**(03)9654 6011**  
Melbourne's Finest Escorts can be at your door in 5min as we're located in the CBD  
Paramour

## Owners Corporation

**Whittles**  
Owners Corporation Management Services  
For superior owners corporation management services, contact the Docklands dedicated team  
Whittles, Level 1, 838 Collins Street, Docklands VIC 3008  
T 03 8632 3300 E info.docklands@whittles.com.au

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

## Church

**St Johns**  
Southgate  
20 City Road Southbank  
Telephone 9682 4995  
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

## Functions

**Facilities hire Beautiful venue for weddings and memorial services**  
Concert venue with excellent acoustic and comfortable seating Spacious function room Meeting rooms Kitchen  
20 City Road Southbank  
Telephone 9682 4995  
www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au

## Photography

**PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIES COLLEGE**  
MASTERS | DEGREES | DIPLOMAS  
CERTIFICATES | SHORT COURSES  
Find Out More  
**PSC.EDU.AU + 61 3 9682 3191**  
info@psc.edu.au | 37-47 Thistlethwaite St, South Melbourne VIC 3205

**FOR SALE PHILIP MIDDLEMISS**  
**0402 840 674**  
**re-define**  
I am an experienced real estate agent looking to purchase an established inner-city real estate agency.

## Electrician

**MJG**  
ELECTRICAL & DATA  
DOMESTIC ■ COMMERCIAL ■ INDUSTRIAL  
0476 938 551 REC 30046

## Gym

**JUSTINTIME**  
PERSONAL TRAINING  
University degree qualified trainers that come to your apartment gym!  
Justin Moran  
0411 798 934 justintimept.com

## Physiotherapy

**Elite Sports Physiotherapy**  
Sports & Spinal Physiotherapy  
Remedial Massage  
Clinical Pilates  
Post-Surgical Rehabilitation  
Free Injury Assessments  
WorkCover/ TAC Claims  
Mezzanine Level, 13-15/1 Freshwater Place, Southbank  
PHONE: 8640 0328 WEB: www.elitesportsphysio.com.au

**SOUTHBANK RESIDENTIAL**  
Specialists in Southbank Apartments  
www.southbankresidential.com.au  
Phone : **964 50 800**

## Escorts

**Erotic Elderly** 96503295  
Mature Sophisticated Affectionate Discreet Genuine Affordable Escorts  
paramour.com.au 5 mins to your door!

## Health

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

## Real Estate

**MELBOURNE SQUARE**  
THE LARGEST TERRACES IN MELBOURNE  
TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT CALL 1300 888 770 OR DISCOVER A TERRACE STORY AT MELBSQUARE.COM.AU

## Renovation

**AROM** APARTMENT RENOVATIONS OF MELBOURNE  
1300 96 86 07  
edgar@arom.com.au  
www.arom.com.au

# July In Room Auctions

RayWhite



Wednesday 28th July at 6:30pm  
Ray White Auction House - Level 17, 40 City Rd, Southbank

Scan QR code to find out more to find out more about our auction properties



RayWhite



1013/118 Franklin Street, Melbourne  
\$1,150,000-\$1,200,000 Austen Kosasih 0432 750 774



1008/668 Bourke Street, Melbourne  
\$550,000-\$580,000 Austen Kosasih 0432 750 774



1203/243 Franklin Street, Melbourne  
\$230,000-\$250,000 Austen Kosasih 0432 750 774



612/565 Flinders Street, Melbourne  
\$290,000-\$310,000 Trent Bonnici 0402 670 441

805/118 Kavanagh Street, Southbank

2 2 1

- Large undercover balcony with open views overlooking Boyd Park
- Large Study nook
- Car park on title
- Floor to ceiling double glazed windows

Michael Pastrikos  
0404 282 864

Georgia Ackroyd  
0437 810 755



raywhitesouthbank.com.au

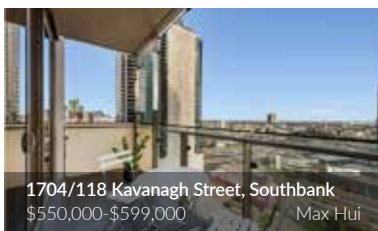
# Scan & Search



RayWhite

Ray White Southbank | Port Phillip  
111 Clarendon Street  
Southbank, VIC 3006  
8102 0200  
southbank.vic@raywhite.com

Call us on 8102 0200 or email us via southbank.vic@raywhite.com to book an appraisal for sale or rental. Visit raywhitesouthbank.com.au for more details



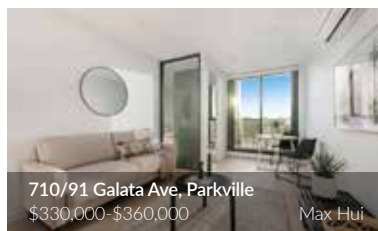
1704/118 Kavanagh Street, Southbank  
\$550,000-\$599,000 Max Hui



1504/12 Queens Road, Melbourne  
\$750,000-\$825,000 Max Hui



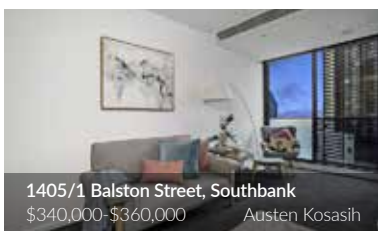
512/17 Lynch Street, Hawthorn  
\$510,000-\$560,000 Max Hui



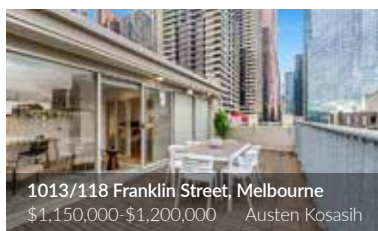
710/91 Galata Ave, Parkville  
\$330,000-\$360,000 Max Hui



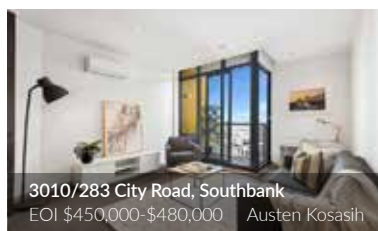
309/1213 Centre Road, Oakleigh South  
\$485,000 to \$530,000 Max Hui



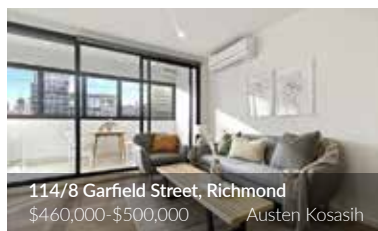
1405/1 Balston Street, Southbank  
\$340,000-\$360,000 Austen Kosasih



1013/118 Franklin Street, Melbourne  
\$1,150,000-\$1,200,000 Austen Kosasih



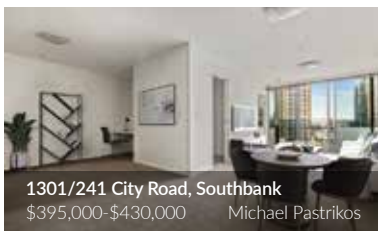
3010/283 City Road, Southbank  
EOI \$450,000-\$480,000 Austen Kosasih



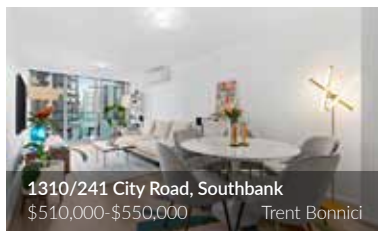
114/8 Garfield Street, Richmond  
\$460,000-\$500,000 Austen Kosasih



87/22 Kavanagh Street, Southbank  
Contact Agent Michael Pastrikos



1301/241 City Road, Southbank  
\$395,000-\$430,000 Michael Pastrikos



1310/241 City Road, Southbank  
\$510,000-\$550,000 Trent Bonnici



205/33 Clarke Street, Southbank  
\$270,000-\$295,000 Trent Bonnici



612/565 Flinders Street, Melbourne  
\$290,000-\$310,000 Trent Bonnici

Michael Pastrikos: 0404 282 864  
Max Hui: 0430 238 021  
Austen Kosasih: 0432 750 774  
Tommy-Lee Davies: 0416 823 173  
Georgina Zeneldin: 0481 577 772  
Trent Bonnici: 0402 670 441