

New data
shows positive
signs for city's
economy

Preps celebrate
first day at
South Melb
Primary



Melbourne Conversations
returns to Fed Square

Uncle Kutcha Edwards, DJ Adriana, Chris Gill and Romy Vager launch the *Melbourne Conversations* series at Federation Square last month. The series kicks off on February 14. More on page 2. Photo: Maria Vasileva.

A boost for Southbank as new parks mooted under bold new vision for South Melbourne

“Southbankers could soon enjoy access to a new linear park, public open spaces, and improved pedestrian amenities and streetscapes under an ambitious plan for neighbouring South Melbourne outlined by the City of Port Phillip.”

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The draft South Melbourne Structure Plan, which was to be considered by councillors at their February 7 meeting, proposes a range of initiatives to improve the livability and attractiveness of the area while supporting business growth and respecting heritage over the next 20 years.

The plan's remit extends from Kings Way and the West Gate Freeway in Southbank to Ferrars St and City Rd

bordering the Montague Precinct, and as far south as Park St in South Melbourne.

One huge win for postcode 3006 is a proposed linear park at Market St in Southbank between Clarendon St and Moray St, while a green corridor could also be created with an additional linear park at Clarke St between York and Chessell streets to address current open space gaps.

The council said it would also partner with the City of Melbourne to explore the feasibility of continuing the Clarke St linear park north to City Rd.

Residents have consistently called for more green spaces as Southbank's growing population (predicted to jump from 22,589 to 44,606 by 2041) together rapid development put a squeeze on the area's precious few parks.

The City of Port Phillip has also used the plan to advocate for the revitalisation of the West Gate Freeway undercroft, including introducing upgraded lighting, improved amenity and safety, and opportunities for activation.

According to the South Melbourne Structure Plan, the City of Port Phillip acknowledged while it “cannot directly influence outcomes on these sites,” there were “opportunities to advocate to the City of Melbourne, Victorian Government and car park operators to improve the presentation and use of the undercroft”.

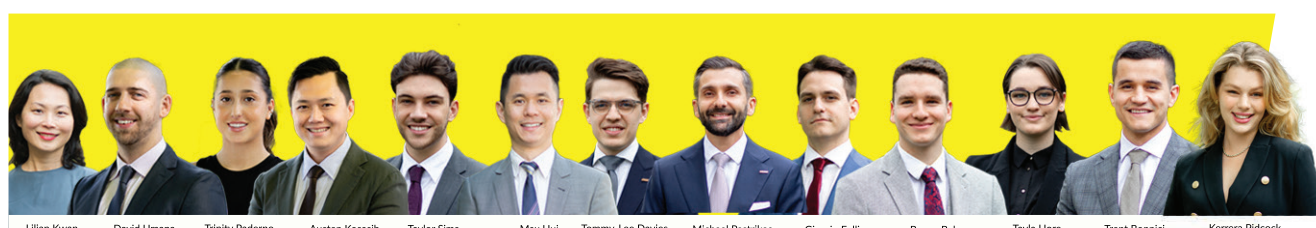
Continued on page 7.



LOCAL NEWS, PAGE 08

Mr Summit café goes
global after Redfoo drops
into town

Word of Southbank's Mr Summit café has taken off around the world after Redfoo, the popular American artist, helped to launch the café's newest toastie creation in a video.



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Conserving Arts Centre Melbourne’s Public Art Collection

For decades Arts Centre Melbourne has welcomed thousands of culture-seekers and theatre-goers through its doors to enjoy an array of arts experiences each year.

As well as its spectacular theatres and venues, Arts Centre Melbourne also houses one of the most significant public collections of Australian visual art outside the major state galleries.

Now for the first time in 40 years, more Australians will have the opportunity to view some of these spectacular artworks outside of their usual display in the State Theatre foyers. Ahead of the upcoming State Theatre works as part of the Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation, the artworks in the State Theatre foyers are being carefully relocated on loan to another gallery or placed in secure storage.

The State Theatre foyers currently display paintings by acclaimed historical Australian artists, including Arthur Boyd, John Olsen, David Rankin, Sidney Nolan, and Roger Kemp. Fourteen landscape paintings by Arthur Boyd will be going on loan to Bundanon Art Museum near Nowra, New South Wales, marking the first time the collection will be situated in the environment they depict.

Other artworks will be carefully boxed and conserved in storage. John Olsen’s *Aida* – a tribute to Verdi’s beloved opera – was painted on a specialised curved board to fit the curved walls of the State Theatre foyer. Due to its considerable size, this artwork cannot be removed from the building and will be securely boxed and stored with a protective casing during the State Theatre upgrades.



▲ Photo: Mark Gambino, courtesy of Arts Centre Melbourne.

The methodology for removing and preserving the artworks was conducted with and approved by Heritage Victoria, as well as specialist contractors.

“We hope this makes patrons think about how valuable and important our Public Art Collection is,” Arts Centre Melbourne’s curator art and design Steven Tonkin said.

“We also want to make sure everyone is aware that the works will be coming back, and we will be installing them exactly where they were, once the State Theatre reopens so they can be enjoyed for generations to come”.

Following a final performance of *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* by The Australian Ballet on Tuesday, March 26, the State Theatre will close for major upgrades. Arts Centre Melbourne’s package of works includes new backstage spaces, technology improvements, an expanded loading dock, improved accessibility, as well as new dining and hospitality outlets.

While the State Theatre is closed, the rest of Arts Centre Melbourne remains open, including the Fairfax Studio and the Playhouse in the Theatres Building, Hamer Hall, and Sidney Myer Music Bowl. Venues throughout the Arts Precinct will also stay open for business and welcoming visitors throughout the transformation. The artwork displayed in the image includes *Midday – Shoalhaven River Bank*, *Morning – Pulpit Rock* and *Dark Cloud – Shoalhaven River* by Arthur Boyd in the State Theatre foyers.

For more information: artsprecinct.melbourne/the-precinct ●

Melbourne Conversations returns with dynamic line-up to shape the city’s discourse

Melbourne’s re-nowned public event series, Melbourne Conversations, is making a vibrant return, promising a captivating array of special guests and engaging discussions.

WORDS BY
SEAN CAR



The refreshed program kicks off on February 14, featuring local and international personalities, authors, artists, and experts addressing topics of utmost importance to Melburnians.

Presented by the City of Melbourne and Fed Square, the 2024 edition will host six curated events at Fed Square, doubling the audience capacity from the previous year.

Guided by the legendary Triple R presenter, Chris Gill, the first conversation on Valentine’s Day is centered around “Love Song Dedications to Melbourne.” The

event will delve into Melbourne’s globally acclaimed music scene, with special guests from Australia’s music and entertainment industries.

The distinguished guests include Melbourne-based DJ Adriana, musician and activist Uncle Kutcha Edwards, radio host and ABC’s *Gruen* panellist Russel Howcroft and frontwoman of prize-winning band RVG, Romy Vager.

The Love Song Dedications to Melbourne conversation, running from 6pm to 7pm, will highlight Melbourne’s cultural prominence, featuring a live performance by

Uncle Kutcha Edwards and engaging discussions with the attendees.

A City of Melbourne Libraries pop-up will complement the event, offering related books for borrowing.

In April, the conversation will continue with a second event hosted by Russel Howcroft at the Edge, exploring Melbourne’s city-shaping Greenline Project and other inspiring urban renewal infrastructure projects worldwide. Lord Mayor Sally Capp will be among the panel members.

For tickets visit melbourne.vic.gov.au ●



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Peter's community spirit earns him an Australia Day honour



Peter Duras, an exemplary physiotherapist, and community-minded Southbank resident has been recognised in the Australia Day Honours list.

**WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES**



A humble individual, Mr Duras is known for going above and beyond for others in his numerous volunteer roles including at Rotary Melbourne, Youth Projects, the Melbourne Men's Shed and as a former guide at the National Sports Museum among others.

In his professional career, his selfless contributions saw him become an instrumental force as a volunteer head physiotherapist at the Sydney Olympic Games where he witnessed Cathy Freeman make history after winning gold in the 400-metre race in what he described as "one of the greatest nights of my life".

On Australia Day Mr Duras was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for his "significant service to sports physiotherapy, and to the community".

The Australia Day honours celebrate and acknowledge the exemplary individuals across various sectors to society.

"I am thrilled," he said of the award but wasted no time in emphasising that the real reward was being a part of a team and expressed his gratitude to countless people, noting "you can't help but be encouraged to get on with doing a bit more".

"I've got to say I've been supported by my wife Sue all the way and a lot of good Rotarians, and a lot of good physios. Everything I've done has been a part of a team and that really is why I've been able to achieve, occasionally, some positive results."

A Southbank resident of 12 years, Mr Duras, 83, said helping make a difference to the community "brings a smile to my face".

"One of the big projects that I initiated was the Yangon Children's Hospital in Myanmar and that went on for years. Well, you don't see the smiles on the faces, but you do know that you have brought about huge changes in the lives of hundreds of kids," he said.

Now retired, Mr Duras, a self-confessed "sport tragic", counts himself lucky when reflecting on his illustrious career of more than four decades after moving to Australia from Germany as a refugee in 1937.

Among his achievements are

establishing his own physiotherapist practice in Essendon in 1972 and being a member of the Australian team at seven Commonwealth Games, and four World Athletic Championships.

"Helping an injured athlete get up and then really perform well is a very rewarding experience."

He was also a former physiotherapist at the Essendon and Footscray football clubs and has been a foundation fellow of the Sports Medicine Australia since 1984.

This year Mr Duras said he would take on an ambitious project of uncovering the unknown history of the Commonwealth Winter Games, which were held in 1958, 1962, and 1966 in St Moritz, Switzerland.

Through extensive research, interviews with past Australian athletes, and an examination of historical documents, he aims to shed light on the intriguing past of these lesser-known sports events and "why they disappeared completely".

Speaking of his passion for Southbank, he and his wife Sue love being "so close to everything you need", including parks, shops, markets, and the CBD.

"It's wonderful. It's now getting a little bit overdeveloped, but that's inevitable. But we love being in a big building with a variety of other people that we are able to interact with, that's really enjoyable." ●



Australia Day award for Father Bob Maguire Foundation CEO

**WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES**



Paul Brophy, CEO of the Father Bob Maguire Foundation, has been awarded a prestigious award in the 2024 Australia Day honours.

While humbled to receive a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM), Mr Brophy wasted no time in emphasising that his mission remained unchanged and there was still much work to be done.

"There's a job to do ... you've got to make people feel they've got a life worth living," he said, noting the collective effort of their volunteers helped make a difference to people's lives. "Our team is the community, that's what it's about for me," he said.

The OAM recognised Mr Brophy's "service to aged welfare, and to the community".

Mr Brophy has been the CEO of the Father Bob Maguire Foundation since 2018, a not-for-profit organisation that is dedicated to helping the disadvantaged through food relief, social inclusion, and advocacy programs located in the Montague Precinct at 204 Gladstone St, South Melbourne.

He continues to honour the legacy of the late Father Bob Maguire, a well-known and respected Catholic priest, who founded the foundation in 2003.

Father Bob, who died aged 88 last April, was known for his wicked sense of humour and tireless efforts in leaving "no one behind" and was posthumously made an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) for his distinguished service to the community in the 2024 Australia Day honours.

"Everybody got the same treatment, there was nobody better than another," Mr Brophy said. ●



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Fishermans Bend Development Board prepares for new transition

“The Fishermans Bend Development Board has announced its dissolution, with its chair Meredith Sussex reflecting on remarkable achievements accomplished during its term.”

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The board has been responsible for advising the development and planning for Fishermans Bend, Australia’s largest-ever urban renewal project, spanning two-and-a-half times the size of Melbourne’s CBD. Along with Montague, which covers 43 hectares of Southbank and South Melbourne, the area is made up of five precincts including Sandridge, Wirraway, Lorimer and the Employment Precinct, with the latter two situated with the City of Melbourne’s municipal boundaries.

The area south of the Westgate Freeway is locally governed by the City of Port Phillip.

Over the coming years, Fishermans Bend will see major housing developments, a new University of Melbourne campus and more national and international businesses.

To build towards this growth, a newly established Precincts Team in the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) will now be tasked with the development of Fishermans Bend, which is expected to build on the foundation laid by the former board.

Ms Sussex has been a driving force behind the board since its establishment in 2018 and she has received high praise for her tenacity, meticulous planning and unwavering commitment to urban planning and community engagement, and made possible through the strong support of her board members Janet Bolitho, Susan Oliver, and Cheryl Batagol.

She also chaired the state government’s Ministerial Advisory Committee on Fishermans Bend between 2014 and 2018, where she played an integral role in establishing a new planning framework for the precinct.

“The board is very proud of what has been achieved, in collaboration with our many partners, in the last five years of this critically important 30-year urban renewal opportunity,” Ms Sussex said in a LinkedIn post, which listed many key successful projects.



▲ Meredith Sussex with Lord Mayor Sally Capp (right) in Fishermans Bend in 2022.

Among the board’s achievements is a focus on Montague to “support the growth of a new community”, which has been developing at a much faster pace than its neighbouring precincts and is already largely complete with the new South Melbourne Primary School and adjoining Kirrip Park.

Ms Sussex also noted that developments initiated since 2018 included developer-financed affordable housing and social housing with work is well under way stage one of the Innovation Precinct at the former GMH site, with University of Melbourne having “released a prospectus to business

in preparation for its new design and engineering campus adjacent to the Innovation Precinct”.

While development in the Montague precinct, which is serviced by the existing 109 and 96 tram routes, the remainder of Fishermans Bend still awaits announcements on vital tram and train infrastructure.

The state government originally mooted a plan for a potential tram service between Fishermans Bend and the CBD by 2025, with options including a river crossing, and potential corridors along Turner and Plummer streets.

This line also proposed to connect to Collins St in Docklands via a new bridge across the Yarra.

Infrastructure Victoria, the state government’s independent adviser, said a tram line route north of the West Gate Freeway was “most urgent and should be delivered by 2026”.

“Residential development alone is projected to create 260,000 extra daily trips by 2050. There are only limited Yarra River crossings, existing roads cannot meet growing demand efficiently or sustainably, and other movements are impeded by the West Gate Freeway,” Infrastructure Victoria said in a statement, which also recommended a tram route south of the West Gate Freeway.

A University of Melbourne spokesperson said the first stage for its Fishermans Bend campus was not dependent on new train or tram transport links.

“These facilities are expected to be ready by 2026, should construction begin this year. They will be part of an innovation hub purpose-built for the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology and the Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning, with space for industry to co-locate and collaborate,” the spokesperson said. “Moving forward, the University intends to significantly increase the numbers of students, staff, and industry partners at Fishermans Bend.”

“The University and its government and industry partners in the precinct will need significantly improved transport links, consistent with the state’s vision for this world-class precinct. This is part of our ongoing discussions with the Victorian Government to ensure the precinct’s success.”

Asked whether a tram line would go ahead, the state government said its 2022/23 State Budget included \$750,000 to support planning processes for Fishermans Bend, including “planning for corridor protection in the precinct and further investigation of the feasibility of high-capacity transport options”.

“We’ve already improved public transport options for Fishermans Bend, delivering 1360 additional bus services across the Precinct in the past two years to provide more frequent and reliable services,” a government spokesperson said.

“We’re continuing planning work for longer term transport links, including the feasibility of high-capacity transport options to ensure we can meet the precinct’s needs for decades to come.”

In October last year an additional 460 bus services a week were created on the precinct’s two main bus services on top of the 900 extra services introduced in late 2022. ●

Brendan Rees

JOURNALIST

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New data shows city economy has “recovered remarkably strongly”



Fresh statistics have painted a positive picture for Melbourne’s economic recovery, although office attendance continues to be a point of contention.

WORDS BY
DAVID SCHOUT



New data has revealed that Melbourne had “recovered remarkably strongly” since being the nation’s “most impacted” local economy during COVID-19.

Fresh statistics have shown that inflation-adjusted consumer spending in December 2023 was three per cent higher than in December 2019, while pedestrian counters at Town Hall for the week ending January 14 revealed a five per cent uptick from the pre-COVID benchmark.

Shopfront vacancies, which peaked at 31 per cent in November 2021, were down to 12 per cent in December.

It has meant that the City of Melbourne’s economy, which experienced 263 days of lockdown during 2020 and 2021, was now on track to reach a target of \$150 billion Gross Local Product by 2031.

The goal comes on the back of growth from \$80.5 billion in 2012 to \$114 billion in 2022.

“Since the final COVID-19 restrictions were removed in April 2022, Melbourne’s economy has recovered remarkably strongly,” an economic update provided to councillors at the February 5 Future Melbourne Committee (FMC) meeting stated.

“Notwithstanding the impact of the pandemic, [the city’s] economic growth has been impressive.”

The council said its “extensive marketing” of major events in the city and a beefed-up cleaning and graffiti removal team, had “underpinned” the economic recovery.

Southbank and the city’s retail core were noted in the report as areas that had “recovered strongly”. Others, however, continued to “lag behind”.

“While the recovery has been strong, challenges remain. The rhythm of the city is different to the pre-pandemic period,” the report stated.

“This has created opportunities for some businesses, but challenges for others. Changing patterns of work mean there are fewer office workers in the city, and mornings are much quieter, with commuter traffic at Flinders Street Station between 6am to 9am on weekdays at just 61 per cent of 2019 levels.”

Commercial Real Estate Services Australia revealed that in the September quarter, Melbourne’s office occupancy averaged just 56 per cent.

While the council acknowledged that “in the wake of the pandemic, hybrid work has become normalised for office-based workers”, it said the city was significantly behind other Australian cities when it came to workplace numbers.

Sydney and Brisbane, for example, were at 75 per cent.

“Melbourne should ultimately aspire – and expect – to achieve office occupancy rates similar to other capital cities.”

At the final FMC meeting of 2023, on December 5, councillors pushed for a marketing campaign encouraging a return of office workers following the summer holidays.

The motion by Cr Roshena Campbell also urged a roundtable of major employers to discuss office attendance, and requested the Lord Mayor write to Victorian Premier Jacinta Allan regarding the return of Victorian public servants to their CBD workplaces.

More than 80 per cent of recent economic growth in the City of Melbourne has come from the knowledge economy. Sectors that have been the source of most economic growth are financial and insurance services, and professional, scientific and technical services. ●

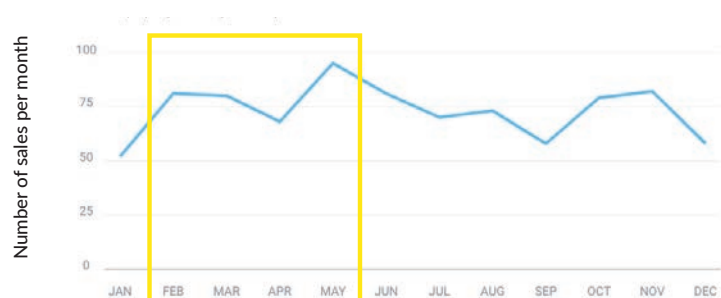


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**ACTIVE
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A boost for Southbank as new parks mooted under bold new vision for South Melbourne

Continued from page 1.

"The undercroft areas under the West Gate Freeway present a significant barrier between South Melbourne in the City of Port Phillip and Southbank in the City of Melbourne, with their poor amenity diminishing perceptions of safety in the area," the plan stated.

In other measures, a proposed public open space on the corner of Coventry and Moray streets "would provide a complementary function to the future community hospital" as part of Homes Victoria's master plan to revitalise the Emerald Hill Court public housing estate bound by Dorcas, Moray, Coventry and Luke streets.

Homes Victoria's own master plan for the precinct will deliver Stage 1 of the Emerald Hill Big Housing Build which will integrate new social and affordable housing with a new community hospital.

The draft South Melbourne Structure plan envisions a "vibrant neighbourhood" with cycling links and better pedestrian networks including awnings, seating, water access and signage, with streetscape upgrades proposed for Clarendon St, Coventry St, and York St "providing attractive east-west links".

Improved pedestrian crossings are proposed at the intersections of Clarendon St/York St, Sturt St/Dorcas St, and Clarendon St/Market St.

Additionally, the council has proposed to work with Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) for improvements to existing signalised intersections along Kings Way, City Rd and Ferrars St "to improve capacity and performance, along with achieving improvements for pedestrians and bike riders crossing these busy roads".

"Improvements could include changes to

signal phasing and times, turn lane lengths and changes to parking bans on approaches," the plans stated.

Furthermore, the plans recommend changes to the size and height of new buildings to accommodate a growing population but not to the detriment of South Melbourne's character and scale.

Taller buildings up to 12 storeys along Kings Way would be recommended and on larger sites in the north of the precinct, but buildings would be kept to seven or eight storeys along 30-metre-wide streets, and heights up to five and six storeys on narrower streets.

City of Port Phillip Gateway Ward councillor Marcus Pearl said the draft plan was a "considered response to the complex challenges and opportunities of South Melbourne".

"It addresses some of the important issues in the post-COVID economic recovery, yet concerns persist about whether the plan adequately addresses the urgent need for high-quality housing, especially for young people, and ensures that South Melbourne does not merely become an extension of Southbank or the CBD," he said.

Cr Pearl highlighted potential areas for improvement, noting, "the draft plan does not sufficiently focus on the integration and connectivity with the Westgate Freeway, and the proposed enhancements could risk altering the character of South Melbourne in ways that may not align with the community's values and needs."

Ecologist Dr Holly Kirk, who is part of RMIT University's Centre for Urban Research, said while the structure plan addressed the issue of increasing tree canopy, it fell short of providing clear targets to ensure effective implementation, adding there was also a lack of "clear detail" of their greening and



biodiversity policy.

Dr Kirk applauded the idea of creating linear parks and open spaces, noting it "it's great to see that they are thinking about things like water, sensitive urban design and how that integrates and interplays with the greening – that will really dictate the success of those new green infrastructures."

In relation to planning controls, much of the area's existing commercial enterprise zoning will be maintained. However, a rezoning is proposed for the "City Rd Industrial Triangle" bounded by City Rd, Ferrars St and York St, which would change from an Industrial One Zone to a Commercial Two Zone "to support this area's future growth and evolution as part of the broader South Melbourne Enterprise Precinct".

Tony Baenziger, who owns architectural business Baenziger Coles on City Rd within the triangle, said while he was pleased to see the pocket incorporated into the plans, he was disappointed it would not include a residential component under a mixed-use zone.

"We think it's totally appropriate ...it [residential] will go well with what is on either side of the wedge, with residential to the south and capital city zone to the north," he said, speaking on behalf of a group of property owners. "We need more residential, and I think we need something that promotes activity on the street rather than commercial which dies at night-time."

"At the moment the need for business or commercial premises is not as great anymore with the work from home model."

No changes are proposed to residential areas except for a "zoning anomaly" at 76-188 Bank St, South Melbourne (the former South Melbourne Butter Factory), which would be changed to a commercial one zone to "facilitate clear direction on future use and development, along with better supporting the role of South Melbourne's activity centre".

Cr Pearl encouraged the community to have their say on the structure plan, with public consultation proposed for February and March. ●

Preps celebrate first day at South Melbourne Primary School



There was a mix of excitement and nervousness as little Preps embarked on their first day of education at South Melbourne Primary School.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



But as the day unfolded, they settled in and got straight into their new learning environment for 2024, the school's curriculum and learning leader Maddy Morrison said.

Activities included participating in a treasure hunt where they walked around to find different locations such as play spaces, bathrooms, and more.

They also learnt their first sentence, "I go to school", by tracing it and then cutting and pasting the words in order.

More fun included drawing pictures of themselves on the first day of school and colouring in crowns to wear home to celebrate their first day.

"Families were eager to see their child start their school journey. There were mixed feelings included excitement and nerves," Ms Morrison said.

"Families loved seeing the class spaces in the morning. By the end of the day, the kids were exhausted!" ●

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Mr Summit café goes global after Redfoo drops into town



Word of Southbank’s Mr Summit café has taken off around the world after Redfoo, the popular American artist, helped to launch the café’s newest toastie creation in a video.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



Redfoo, best known for his big hair and as one half of the electro-pop duo LMFAO, made a surprise visit to the City Rd café during his stay for the Australian Open.

The amazed café’s owners Tony Rouillon, Daniel Emerton and Jordan Setiawan saw his presence as a “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity” and decided to reach out via social media in which he “responded enthusiastically”.

“At first, we were in disbelief, and finally over the moon about the whole situation,”

the owners said.

Redfoo wasted no time the next day by spending two hours doing the shoot, in which he showcases his infectious energy in a throwback to the music clip of Party Rock Anthem, the best-selling single of all time in Australia.

The video, which promotes the “Redfoo toastie” containing vegan cheddar, vegan mozzarella, avocado, Italian oxheart tomato, and sesame seeds, has gone viral on Instagram – reaching an impressive 80,000 people.

“We believe this unique opportunity has opened up so many doors for us in the future, so the whole team is excited for what’s to come,” the Mr Summit team said. ●

“Not crying over spilt milk”: GoBoat operator moving on after viral prank

GoBoat say they “quickly reimbursed” and apologised to a group after a teenager threw milk at them from Evan Walker Bridge last month.

WORDS BY
DAVID SCHOUT



The owner of a boat hire company inadvertently placed at the centre of a viral prank said they were happy to move on from the strange incident.

On January 27 a group of four women who had hired an electric GoBoat and were travelling along the Yarra River were doused with milk by a teenager situated above them on Evan Walker Bridge, with the incident captured and put online.

Videos of both the prank taking place and the group revealing the damage quickly amassed millions of views.

Victoria Police then issued a statement three days later revealing it was “investigating after a number of people on a boat were sprayed with milk in the CBD over the weekend” and urged witnesses to come forward.

It was later revealed the teen executing the prank was a Year 11 Melbourne Grammar School student, with the school calling the incident “completely unacceptable”.

For GoBoat co-owner Oliver Swan, though, it was a strange episode that he was happy to move on from after helping the group of women.

“We reimbursed them straight away and apologised for the experience,” he told Southbank News.

“There’s a limit to what we can control, but they were really appreciative of that. I didn’t expect it to blow up to 15 million views or whatever it was.”

Mr Swan didn’t harbour any resentment to the offender, saying “kids will be kids”, and confirmed the school had directly contacted GoBoat.

However, given his boats regularly travel under prominent Melbourne bridges, he was wary of anything being thrown.

“Like any object being thrown off a bridge to any recreational craft, a rower or whatever, it poses a risk.”

He said the episode was a case study that “showed the power of social media” but didn’t forecast it to impact his business.

“I don’t think so, because of how quickly these viral videos come and go. The fear of copycats or people wanting to do the same thing, that’s a risk and the only thing that plays on our mind. As for the impact on our



business, it’s more the fact that it’s absorbed a lot of time and energy that could’ve been spent on other things.”

“I don’t really want to cry over spilt milk, and waste any more energy on it,” he added with a laugh.

Mr Swan said GoBoat, whose boats had become a popular city-based activity for Melburnians and tourists, had not experienced issues before with objects or liquids being thrown from the Yarra River’s several walkway bridges.

He said, however, that the business, located at Banana Alley on the river’s Northbank, continued to deal with after-hours vandalism.

“Not objects from the bridge, we’ve not had major issues with that. But the overall security and condition of the area behind Flinders Street Station on the Northbank is an issue. There’s vandalism and damage to our boats happening, and I think other boat operators are experiencing the same thing.”

Mr Swan said this included perpetrators jumping their fence and entering the premises, damaging and/or detaching boats, and setting off fire extinguishers.

“The broader picture needs to be working with the City, the Yarra River Business Association YRBA and Parks Victoria to spot measures we can put in place as a preventative, whether that’s CCTV, more lighting, fencing or gates that can stop people from wandering down and causing problems. That’s the bigger issue, I think.” ●



3 2 2

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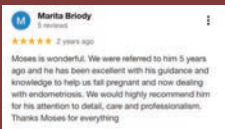
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Council partners with Origin to deliver community battery

A community battery aimed at promoting affordable and sustainable energy consumption is set to be installed at the Boyd Community Hub in Southbank.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The initiative, which is part of the City of Melbourne's ambitious Power Melbourne pilot, will help cut power costs for residents and businesses, while reducing emissions.

The council announced at the end of January that it had partnered with Origin Energy following a tender process to install the batteries including at the at Library at the Dock in Docklands and a Council House site, which is expected to occur by the middle of this year and have a combined capacity of 450KW.

As reported by *Southbank News* last year, households who have solar, but no battery of their own, would be able to feed into the community battery during the day.

Southbank is Australia's most densely populated suburb with 98 per cent of residents living in apartments or flats with most renting meaning not everyone can install solar panels.

The delivery of a community battery, which is about the size of a small car, follows the federal government providing a \$500,000 grant to the council as part of a pre-election promise.

According to a survey by the council, more than 85 per cent of Melburnians support the installation of community batteries in their local areas, with the majority of residents and businesses also agreeing that urgent action was needed on climate change.

"We're doing what counts – Power Melbourne will aim to unlock access to cleaner, reliable and more affordable renewable energy for Melburnians," Lord Mayor Sally Capp said.

"Partnerships are crucial to the success of innovative projects like this – that's why we've teamed up with Origin Energy to build and operate this flagship battery power network."

The council will also work closely with the University of Melbourne, RMIT University and inner-city councils to ensure the Power Melbourne model can be "replicated across greater Melbourne and beyond".

"We'll also continue to consult with residents and businesses as we test this initial network – to consider how we can utilise the batteries to the benefit of our community," it said.

Origin Zero executive general manager James Magill said he looked forward to starting work on the trial's first phase, which he noted was crucial to powering the entire city with renewable energy by 2030.

"We're excited to partner with the City of Melbourne to help realise its vision to provide residents and businesses with access to more affordable energy, while supporting the transition to renewable energy," he said.



"Power Melbourne is an exciting and ambitious program. This first stage will see our Origin Zero team, which works with large businesses and councils, install three batteries with a combined storage capacity of 450 kW / 1MWh – a capacity equivalent to powering more than 70 homes each day."

The council's environment portfolio lead councillor Rohan Leppert said battery energy storage was "the missing piece of the puzzle" when it came to providing residents and businesses with access to affordable renewable energy.

The Power Melbourne project is aimed at boosting the city's economy by creating new opportunities for research, industry development, education and training while helping the council achieve net-zero emissions by 2040. ●

Running from Southbank to Sydney for Beyond Blue

Southbank resident Michael Finn is embarking on an extraordinary journey, trading the comforts of the city for a marathon like no other: running from Melbourne to Sydney in a remarkable effort to raise money for Beyond Blue.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



In the peak of summer, Michael set off on his journey at the beginning of February, aiming to reach Sydney in 18 to 22 days, covering an impressive 60 kilometres on his first day.

A cause close to his heart, Michael hopes to raise \$2500 for Beyond Blue along the way, having already secured more than \$1000 in donations.

"The reason I decided to do the run is because a lot of the time when I was walking around, I felt a real energetic shift in the community and people's moods, especially after COVID," Michael said.

"It seems to be that a lot of people are suffering right now – people aren't sure who they are or what they're doing, they're afraid to express themselves and to socialise."

Having utilised Beyond Blue's services while he struggled with Crohn's disease, Michael emphasises the importance of such support, noting that every \$48 donated can fund a "potentially life-saving call".

"There's certainly been times when I've been unable to cope with the world I'm living in and the life I had, and I've called up Beyond Blue and said that I'm not coping and I don't know what to do," Michael told *Southbank News*.

"They listened and were really there for me – it was very helpful, and they were very kind in pointing me in the right direction."

Preparation for the monumental run involved an intense training regimen for Michael, including daily activities like a 30-minute sauna, an ice bath, a half marathon run, and the incorporation of natural



supplements such as turmeric and ginger to boost his energy and immune system.

"It's a bit of an oddity to run from Melbourne to Sydney in the summer, so I'm hoping it will create conversation for the fundraiser," he said.

"But it's also about being the strongest version of yourself, doing something ridiculous that a lot of people wouldn't think is physically possible to remind ourselves of how strong we are as a species and how strong we are as people."

Michael will also be followed by a friend in a support vehicle throughout the journey, carrying essentials such as food and a tent and meeting him at the end of each running day.

When asked about what will keep him motivated throughout the run, Michael said that *Break my Stride* by Matthew Wilder had been the song that'd "been with me lately".

"That's sort of the theme song for the run – I've got to keep on moving no matter what obstacles I come across." ●

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METRO MELBOURNE



LEADING WITH LOVE: KON KARAPANAGIOTIDIS OAM NAMED MELBURNIAN OF THE YEAR



Kon Karapanagiotidis OAM, founder and CEO of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre and Melburnian of the Year for 2023

Melburnian of the Year Kon Karapanagiotidis OAM, inspires us all to build a more compassionate Australia, where everyone has a seat at the table.

From a Greek-Australian child experiencing racism in a country town to CEO and founder of the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre, Kon has turned trauma into action that positively impacts countless lives.

As a human rights lawyer, social worker, Children's Ground board member, philanthropist, masseur, and cooking enthusiast, Kon is both a passionate advocate for people in need and a voracious learner.

"Education is power – the power to do good, and the power to influence and change things for the better. Thanks to my parents' legacy, I get to live this dream. I can't waste that opportunity," Kon said.

FAMILY VALUES

Kon's grandparents came to Australia as refugees, and his parents made great sacrifices for their children.

His dad spent humiliating and gruelling years working on a tobacco farm to support the family, and his mum never fulfilled her dream of being a maths teacher. Kon was the first in his family to complete high school.

Kon and his sister, Her Honour Nola Karapanagiotidis, who was the first Greek-Australian woman to be appointed a judge in the County Court of Victoria – remain ever grateful for these sacrifices, and their family's strong Greek values.

"The Greek term 'philoxenia' means to welcome the stranger, or to love the stranger. 'Philotimo', too, means being a servant to love. These values are like breathing for Greeks," Kon said.

"Society so often forgets it, but everyone deserves to be seen and valued. After all, with a change of the wind we could be the ones in search of safety and welcome."

A Seat At My Table: Philoxenia

Kon's strong family values have made their way into the title of his Greek cookbook. Created with his mother Sia, *A Seat At My Table: Philoxenia* includes 100 vegan and vegetarian recipes. Proceeds have raised more than \$200,000 for the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre.

THE POWER OF COMPASSION

Motivated by generational tenacity and a conscious decision to "lead with love", Kon's journey has seen him support the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Among Kon's many roles, he has worked the midnight shift on a crisis line, run support groups for male survivors of incest, promoted safety for sex workers on the streets of St Kilda, and provided massage clinics for men experiencing homelessness.

"I was working with men sleeping rough – tough guys who'd been in prison – and they'd be like little lambs. They told me it was the first time they'd been touched without being harmed. We don't often think about that, with men," Kon said.

"People we turn our backs on have trauma at the heart of their journey. That's the common thread. Whether it be displacement, abuse, serious health issues, bereavement or family breakdown, trauma is the universal story. Intergenerational trauma, in particular, places people at the margins.

"Everyone is worthy – there's no such thing as a broken person. Most

Australians are just a step away from being on the streets, so we need to show each other compassion."

A CHARITY BEGINS

At 28, Kon founded the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre with TAFE students he was teaching to become welfare workers. Their first task was to provide meals for refugees who couldn't find food in Melbourne.

"The TAFE students were migrants, refugees and lots of Australian mums in their 40s and 50s returning to studies – they were people about whom the world had low expectations," Kon said.

"This project taught them that they could make a difference and change the world for the better – all you need is the intention, passion and ideals to do so. There's not much more to it than that."

The eight-week TAFE project became a charity, and thousands of people began to volunteer and donate in the wake of the Tampa affair.

ASTONISHING IMPACT

Twenty-two years later, the non-profit has made a huge impact – supporting 30,000 people in need, raising a quarter of a billion dollars and saving thousands of lives. This success was based on three core principles:

"I decided that the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre would never take money from the Australian government, that we would be outspoken and fearless, and that we would never turn anyone away in need," Kon said.

Today, 200 staff members and 1000 volunteers deliver English classes, a full-scale legal service, an incubator for refugee-led businesses, two social-enterprise cafes, numerous programs



in health, education, housing, meals, financial aid and women's empowerment, and much more.

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre has also worked tirelessly to support and evacuate refugees from Nauru and Papua New Guinea. The organisation is training the next generation of advocates as Australia's largest investor in refugee leadership.

"We are Australia's most influential and effective refugee organisation when it comes to creating change," Kon said.

HOW TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD

For people seeking to follow in Kon's change-making footsteps, he has some encouraging advice:

"Be proud of where you come from, work hard, remain humble and make a difference. Everything you build, you build through your own hard work," Kon said.

"There is a long way to go, and the work is ahead of us, but we cannot despair. Despair is not a strategy. We've got to come back and be prepared, and more compassionate."

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre website offers a wealth of information about how to support refugees, from volunteering to booking catering with social impact. To learn more, visit asrc.org.au

ABOUT THE MELBOURNE AWARDS

The Melbourne Awards are the City of Melbourne's highest accolade, recognising the people and organisations who make a significant impact on community life.

"I'm surprised, humbled and very grateful to be recognised in the Melbourne Awards," Kon said.

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



Browse 30,000 books, use high-tech creative gadgets or bliss out on the rooftop terrace while your children play at narm ngarrgu, the City of Melbourne's new flagship library and family services centre.

narm ngarrgu is on Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Country, and we have worked closely with Elders, artists and community members to bring this warm, welcoming space to life by drawing on deep knowledge systems.

The name, materials, artworks – even the design of the carpet – honour and celebrate the First Nations community. narm ngarrgu means 'Melbourne Knowledge' in Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language.

Spanning three levels and 3000 sqm, narm ngarrgu is an urban oasis for families designed so everyone in our diverse community can explore their interests, learn something new and access integrated family support.

It's also our first new library in almost a decade.

The project is part of the broader Queen Victoria Market precinct transformation and the \$1.7 billion Gurrowa Place development, with support from the Victorian Government, the Living Libraries Infrastructure Program and Changing Places.

Welcoming, accessible spaces

The entryways to narm ngarrgu set the scene for a very special library experience.

The front counter is staffed with caring workers who ensure everyone visiting the library feels welcome. Community outreach, social work, digital literacy and Aboriginal liaison staff members support this commitment to inclusivity across the library.

Venture further inside to discover lofty spaces for reading and study that transform into grand event spaces with retractable tiered seating.

Around the corner there's a computer lab where training and digital literacy workshops will be held, and lockers with laptops you can borrow to use throughout the library.

The library also offers many different spaces you can use for events and meetings. These spaces are low-cost to book, and free for First Nations people.

For library users who need mobility support, narm ngarrgu offers a state-of-the-art bathroom fitted with a hoist and full-size change table.

Last but not least, help yourself to water or a cuppa from the stations dotted throughout narm ngarrgu. We want you to feel at home.

Aboriginal artwork

Maree Clarke, a Mutti Mutti / Yorta Yorta and Wemba Wemba / Boon Wurrung artist from north-western Victoria, collaborated with other creatives and designers to shape immersive spaces that tell the stories of the site and its context.

Designed to invite reflection, learning, ceremony and play – the artworks at narm ngarrgu celebrate the rich contribution First Nations people make to the life of the city, share stories of Country and speak to the impact of colonisation.

Maree described the expansive library space as a super-giant blank canvas.

"In the Children's Library, I've designed the carpet to represent the seven seasons of the Kulin nation through plants and animals," Maree said.

"And I've also designed the forest on the mirrored glass that's down the passageway, so children again will be able to see themselves reflected in the forest on the way to the beautiful library.

"Through the main library carpet – with the beautiful watercolour and the maps over the top – people will get to learn about the five clans of the Kulin nation. And what better place to learn about it than in a library."

Books and collections

The library has more than 30,000 books – 22,000 for adults and 8000 for children. There are books in a variety of languages including Chinese, Japanese and Korean. narm ngarrgu also offers an English as an Additional Language collection.

When you return books inside the new library, pause at the window above the slot and watch – like a child at a chocolate factory – as a state-of-the-art machine automatically sorts the titles into their correct categories.

Children's library



On the way to the dedicated bubup wilam Children's Library, follow a trail of blue ants that weave among images of native animals and plants, including sugar gliders, koalas and golden billy-buttons.

Grab a colourful cushion from the stack and make yourself comfortable with books from local and international authors, in multiple languages.

The bubup wilam Children's Library features stories galore, access to a play area on the secure terrace and a large space that will host storytime, craft sessions, book clubs and more.

The library also hosts a social work outreach program, which provides support and referrals to families in need.

Family services centre

Our family services centre offers a generous playroom, outdoor play area and accessible parent room.

The dynamic space is also home to a holistic range of services, including maternal and child health services, parenting services, immunisation, family support and counselling.

Creative makerspace and sound studios

Explore your passions or start a new creative side-hustle in our decked-out makerspace. Think 3D printers, laser cutters, sewing and embroidery machines, airbrushing, electronics, sound studios and much more.

Expert support is on hand to help you learn how to use all of the equipment.

Rooftop terrace

When you reach the spectacular rooftop terrace, crawl through the giant eel trap, breathe in the native plants and pause to reflect by a coolamon cast from a giant eucalyptus burl by Wurundjeri Elders, which will be used for smoking ceremonies.

The rooftop terrace also features an outdoor play area and a water-play space for the warmer months.



More library locations

The opening of narm ngarrgu Library and Family Services adds to our five neighbourhood libraries, City Library, plus the Mel-Van mobile library service.

You can find narm ngarrgu at 141 Therry Street, Melbourne, just across the road from Queen Victoria Market.

To learn more, visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/libraries

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Melbourne Art Fair unveils 2024 program

Transitioning to an annual summer format, the 2024 Melbourne Art Fair is set to captivate audiences at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition (MCEC) from February 22 to 25, and is promising to be the event's most ambitious program in its 35-year history.

More than 100 artists will showcase their work across the event, with a diverse line-up of interdisciplinary practices, performances, moving-image art, conversations and immersive installations.

Known as Australasia's hub for contemporary art and ideas, more than 60 leading galleries and Indigenous art centres will be represented across the four-day event, with sectors of the fair being curated by a remarkable team of female curators such as Tamsin Hong, Shelley McSpedden and Anador Walsh.

"Melbourne Art Fair continues to hold an essential role in growing the Australian art market, representing the most comprehensive and considered overview of the region's thriving contemporary art scene for 35 years," Melbourne Art Foundation CEO and fair director Maree Di Pasquale said.

The 2024 program will include more than 50 events tied to the theme "ketherba/together", emphasising a commitment to featuring significant works from both emerging and iconic artists.

As part of the program, the fair has commissioned two new major works, including renowned Australian artist Julie Rrap's



sculptural work, titled *SOMOS (Standing On My Own Shoulders)*, which has been commissioned in partnership with the Art Gallery of Western Australia (AGWA).

"*SOMOS (Standing On My Own Shoulders)*, is a bronze life-size sculptural work that is a dynamic composition in which both casts of my body are caught in a moment of action as one figure appears to support the other on its shoulders," Ms Rrap said.

"While *SOMOS* echoes the 'heroic' tradition of bronze figurative sculpture, it subverts that history by representing an older female body traditionally rendered invisible."

The commissioning program will also see a historic inclusion of a re-imagined piece from the renowned contemporary dance company Lucy Guerin Inc., marking the first instance of contemporary dance being featured in the program.

"We look forward to welcoming collectors, industry and the art loving public to the 17th edition of Melbourne Art Fair as the cultural event of the Australian summer and the official launch of the annual arts calendar," Ms Di Pasquale said.

melbourneartfair.com.au •



From the other side: a cutting-edge exploration of horror



WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA) presents its latest exhibition *From the other side* until March 3, featuring the works of 19 Australian and international artists in a showcase of the horror genre as a reflection of the "collective anxieties and fears of our times".

Renowned artists such as Mia Boe, Louise Bourgeois, Karla Dickens, Tracey Moffatt, Marianna Simnett, Heather B. Swann, and Maria Kozic contribute to this major exhibition, which "casts a lens on feminist, queer, and non-binary subjectivities".

Showcasing more than 60 historical and contemporary works, *From the other side* will also feature key new commissions specifically crafted for the exhibition "to consider the transgressive pleasures and liberations of horror".

"We initially had a list of hundreds of artists but narrowed it down to the voices that feel most relevant to the current moment – in particular those in horror who have traditionally

been relegated to the roles of either victims or monsters," ACCA curators, Elyse Goldfinch and Jessica Clark said.

"Centering the fear of the monstrous-feminine, the exhibition raises questions about the often-harmful representation of female monsters – the witch, the hag, the monstrous mother, the shapeshifter, the possessed woman."

This groundbreaking exhibition demonstrates ACCA's commitment to setting the agenda for contemporary art and cultural conversation, with *From the other side* supporting "ambitious, challenging and experimental artistic practice and curatorial collaboration".

"There has never before been a major exhibition exploring horror from so many different female, queer and cross-cultural perspectives in Melbourne," Ms Goldfinch and Ms Clark told *Southbank News*.

"The artists in the exhibition challenge and reclaim stereotypical roles to consider the complexity of how they are represented in art, film, popular culture and the everyday."

In addition to the exhibition, ACCA has also collaborated with The Capitol cinema to present the *Screams on Screen* program over "two heart-stopping nights", which includes showings of feature films, experimental shorts, and artist and director talks.

acca.melbourne •



 **PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIES COLLEGE**

ANNA PAPADAKIS

Aspiring photographer embarks on a journey of endless learning

In pursuit of her “ultimate goal” to become a professional photographer, Anne Papadakis, a graduate of Advanced Diploma in Photography in December 2023 from Photography Studies College (PSC), is embracing a continuous learning journey.

Formerly an audiologist, Anne’s passion for photography was ignited by her grandmother’s travels and the captivating slideshows that followed upon her return home.

While also a “full-time mother”, Anne is dedicated to her career as a photographer, exploring the intricacies of the craft through extra classes at PSC.

“I had joined a photography club around 2013 in Alphington called Kommune which I really loved, but after a time I was ready to move in a different direction,” Anne said.

“I loved the creative aspect of it, but I wanted to refine my skills and understand what made a photograph good and how I could make it better – PSC was a very good fit for me.”

Anne’s photography is largely inspired by her desire to be a “fly on the wall,” capturing authentic moments of individuals in their natural environments, including her own family which has been the focus of four of the eight folios she has produced for PSC.

“My kids, my husband, and both of our families, who live in the US and Greece, have all had me follow them around with my camera,” she said.

“They all love it, I’m sure – especially when I send photobooks as presents.”

While trying not to “pigeonhole” herself, Anne’s passion for documentary photography is something that she hopes to pursue further with the skills she has gained from PSC.

In a recent PSC series, she ventured into photographing tango dancers, an experience she had not previously “had the aspiration to do”.

“I love photographing people in action, frozen in time, sometimes being ridiculous,” she told *Southbank News*.

“The great thing about documentary photography is that it covers all the bases; people, places, things, and not necessarily without flare.”

For Anne, the most enriching aspect of her PSC education has been the opportunity to explore diverse styles in her work, including a recent editorial and catalogue shoot for Tor-Label – a small, local fashion label that uses natural dyes.

“I used to wish I was an actor so I could try on different personas, and I feel like photography exposes me to different people and places and gives you a new perspective – it’s actually quite exciting.” ●



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Tour begins riverside

A flood of lycra converged on Southbank last month as the Jayco Herald Sun tour, Victoria’s premier cycling event, hit town.

For the first time the race started in the middle of Melbourne, with a 2.5km time trial prologue. The prologue began in Birrarung Marr, travelled across Princes Bridge, and then raced along Southbank Promenade to the finish line in Queensbridge Square. Jack Bauer won the prologue stage with a time of three minutes.

The race then toured regional Victoria, travelling to Geelong, Ballarat and Bendigo before finishing at the scenic Arthurs Seat on the Mornington Peninsula. The overall winner of the tour was Simon Clarke. ●



“Get to know a student’s experience studying at The University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Fine Arts and Music. Georgia Anne is studying a master of contemporary art at the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).”

What attracted you to your study?
I had been working in politics for years, most recently in the policy team at the First Peoples’ Assembly of Victoria. While I’m so proud of the work being done there, I realised I needed a change. I was making art to cope with some of the stress of working in a high-stakes environment, and realised I would be happier pursuing the things that were actually making me feel grounded and connected.

What both inspires and challenges you?
My practice is still emerging and evolving – I struggle with being pigeonholed as an Aboriginal artist and all the expectations about your identity and your work that come with that. Art institutions have only recently begun embracing contemporary Indigenous art, and it’s still much more lucrative to be making traditional art. I really subscribe to the ideas Richard Bell put forward in *Aboriginal Art: It’s a White Thing* – until we have more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people heading these institutions, all Aboriginal art will still be curated, viewed, and sold through a white lens, which completely changes the nature of the work. I’m still trying to find my identity, and my art practice is helping me do that, but we need to create spaces to allow more

freedom for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to do that without imposing White Australia’s beliefs about who they are and what they should be making.

What are you most looking forward to about continuing your studies through a Master of Contemporary Art?
Delving further into my practice. I chose to pursue the coursework master’s over the research program so that I could spend more time trying different things, working in different mediums, and exploring different concepts. I’m not ready to focus on one thing yet, I’m still in the process of finding my voice and figuring out where I can best make a difference in the conversation around contemporary Aboriginal art.

What are your goals for the next few years?
Continue honing my practice, to allow myself the space to be creative, to experiment, and not put any pressure on myself to narrow my focus. I have two exhibitions coming up in the next year, so it’s going to be a very busy year for me. I really hope to contribute something to the dialogue around creating a space for First Nations art and artists – a space that’s self-determining, non-restrictive and allows First Nations artists to flourish in whatever practice they feel passionate about,

without imposing restrictions on who they are and what they should be creating.

People often talk about a “career” with the implication that one is limited to doing one thing. What do you think a “career” for a creative looks like?
This is complicated as a career for an artist looks different for each person. To one person it may be a focused practice on one thing that they’re able to hone over a lifetime. To another person it may be the freedom to experiment in a bunch of different mediums. Unfortunately, under the capitalist system that doesn’t value art simply for the sake of art like First Nations cultures do, there is always the conflict of making art that you want to make; that feels authentic and serves the artist; and art that you know will sell, so that you’re able to both pay for necessities, and fund your future practice. For me, having a career as an artist would mean being able to keep making the work I want to make and be able to not just survive, but thrive off that practice.

You can see Georgia’s work at two upcoming exhibitions – Yeah, But Is It Art? at First Nations gallery Honey Bones in Brunswick in July and a solo show inspired by Richard Bell’s thesis on Aboriginal art at Counihan Gallery in February 2025. ●

The Salvation Army is calling out for driving mentors

The freedom and independence of driving is something most of us take for granted, but many young people struggle to get their licence if they don’t have access to a supervising driver or vehicle.

Not having a driver’s licence can limit a young person’s goals for work, study, and housing, so the Salvation Army is making learning to drive more equitable through its Drive for Life TAC L2P program in the City of Melbourne.

The inclusive program is funded by TAC and matches learner drivers aged 16 to 21 with volunteer mentors who can help them achieve their licence and reach their full potential.

Stephen Harvy, program manager (and volunteer mentor), is seeking new mentors to help more young people achieve their licence, and their dreams.

“We take family for granted. Not everyone is able to ask mum or dad to take them out in the car. Volunteers power the Drive for Life TAC L2P program,” Mr Harvy said.

“Some young people really don’t have any other way to get their licence and it’s a really big thing in their lives if you can help them achieve that goal. If you have some spare time, becoming a Drive for Life TAC L2P program mentor is a really worthwhile and rewarding way to spend it.”

“We welcomed and provided training for our latest intake of volunteers in December readying them for matching with learner drivers in the year ahead but are always



seeking to attract and recruit more volunteer mentors.”

To be eligible, you need a current unrestricted driver’s licence, maturity to bring to a mentoring relationship with a young person, a desire to improve road safety, and just two hours per fortnight or month.

Learners must be aged 16 to 21, with a current learner’s permit, and without access to a vehicle, a supervising driver, or both.

To apply to be a mentor or learner, visit salvationarmy.org.au/driveforlife, phone 0477 408 533, or email driveforlifel2p@salvationarmy.org.au ●

Tackling the cost of living in Macnamara

Southbank is a beautiful place to live, and in my many conversations with you, I know that the people of Southbank love this community.

WORDS BY
JOSH BURNS
FEDERAL MP FOR MACNAMARA

However, I also understand that many people in our community are doing it tough. Young people have been telling me how difficult it is to find an affordable place to live while studying. Renters have raised how much pressure the increase in rent have put on their household budgets. Parents have raised concerns with me about the increasing cost of groceries and childcare. First homeowners are struggling to pay off their mortgage repayments with rates increasing. A once-in-100-year pandemic, conflict

overseas, a global inflation spike and higher interest rates has meant that cost of living pressures have been felt right across our community. While inflation is easing, I know it's been hard for members of our community, and so many of my conversations over the past year have been advocating for much-needed relief to ease some of that pressure. No matter who you are, what you do for work or where you live, under our fairer and updated tax reform, every Australian taxpayer will be getting a tax cut on July 1. The changes we have made to the tax cuts means that everyone gets to keep a bit more of the money that they earn, not just the higher earners. If you are working in tech earning \$100,000 a year you will be getting a tax cut of \$2179, that's more than \$800 more than you would have been getting under Scott Morrison's plan. If your household income is \$150,000 a year, you could be getting a tax cut of \$3108. I know changes like this will make a real difference to so many members of our community who are under the pump. As we dive into 2024, hearing from our community about what we can do more of to ease cost of living relief is one of my

priorities. I already have heard concerns about the price of groceries and increasing supermarket costs, which is why the Prime Minister announced that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) will be launching a 12-month investigation into supermarket prices. This inquiry will look at how major supermarkets cost their products and what can be done to make sure that prices are fair for both the customers and the producers. The tax cuts and the ACCC inquiry come on top of delivering cheaper medicines, energy-bill relief, and cheaper childcare. In fact, this year is Medicare's 40th birthday. It was a Labor government that created Medicare and I am proud to be part of a Labor government today that has saved Macnamara \$1,785,199 on cheaper medicines in the past year. Many in our community are struggling, and I won't deny that there isn't more to do, but I am proud of the steps we have taken so far to ease some of that cost-of-living pressures. I know how important easing the cost of living is to many in our community, and I will keep listening and working to help people ease their financial pressures. ●



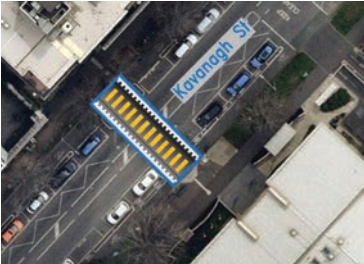
SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Welcome to 2024, Southbank

We trust that everyone was able to find some downtime over the break to recharge for hopefully an exciting 2024.

The Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) committee certainly has lots planned for the year ahead and we are looking forward to hitting the ground running. This year will certainly keep us on our toes, particularly the launch of our community app, Civitas, which is expected in the coming month. Later in 2024 will see the City of Melbourne council elections. We always find elections to be a big focus as they draw nearer, and we don't expect these elections to be any different.

Naturally our big focus will be the launch of our community app which is going to be filled with special offers from our local businesses. The developer has been busy putting this together and local businesses are excited with how this can assist them with reaching out to our community. We have been busy canvassing all Southbank businesses and so far of all the businesses that we have spoken with all are committed to be a part of it. There will be some exceptional offers from some very generous businesses. We anticipate members will get their membership fee back with saving from their first couple of redemptions. We are also taking a keen interest in the progress of the proposed pedestrian safety initiatives canvassed by the City of Melbourne at the end of last year. You may recall my November column



where I was scathing about how the council asked for community feedback, yet the selected projects didn't correlate with the feedback received. We will be working hard to ensure these works are completed in a timely manner and to keep pressure and focus on the sites which the community highlighted needed attention. Of growing concern, and to many in the community, is the traffic on the corner of Power and Kavanagh streets. There are many

issues with this intersection and the traffic flow. We are also very mindful there are still a further four towers to be built as part of the Melbourne Square development which is going to add unprecedented additional traffic volumes at this intersection. We certainly don't have the answers, but we will be working closely with the Department of Transport to investigate possible solutions. We are also going to keep pressure on the council to finish the works on stage one of Southbank Promenade. You may recall, late last year the council announced the completion of this project, yet in reality is was far from finished (based on their initial stage one masterplan) and we received a response from the Lord Mayor at the Southbank Future Melbourne Committee meeting (after we raised this issue) that there was

a misstatement from council officers, and the Lord Mayor agreed that more still needed to be done. The condition of the promenade is a blight on our riverside precinct and compared to other such precincts around Australia, it's an embarrassment. Our AGM will be towards the end of the year. As usual, we are always in need of volunteers to assist us with our committee deliberations and works. If you have an interest in what we do and how you could contribute, we would certainly love to hear from you. We can be reached at info@southbankresidents.org.au. ●

Tony Penna
PRESIDENT





Ash Wednesday
Wednesday 14 February
7:30pm Eucharist
with Bach cantata
Ich armer Mensch, ich Sündenknecht (BWV55)
for tenor solo, choir, strings, oboe d'amore,
flute and continuo
St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra
directed by Graham Lieschke
Robert Macfarlane (tenor)



Every Sunday
9am Worship
Check our website for updates

St Johns Southgate
welcomes our new pastor
Pastor James Winderlich

20 City Road Southbank Telephone 9682 4995

www.stjohnssouthgate.com.au



QUESTION:
What's your New Year's resolution?

Faces of Southbank



BRENDAN
To run a marathon



FRANK
To be less messy



JOAN
To take my partner
and my child on lots of
adventures



SARAH
To read more books



OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

Embedded networks review by Victorian Government not comprehensive enough

The Victorian Government announced back in October 2018 an election commitment to ban embedded networks in new residential apartment buildings, with appropriate exemptions for buildings that use renewable energy microgrids to deliver low-cost renewable energy to apartment buildings.

The commitment was made in response to ongoing concerns that customers currently living in embedded networks pay higher prices and do not have access to the same level of consumer protections as other Victorians.

An Expert Panel was appointed and developed a comprehensive package of recommendations to the Victorian Government on how to best implement its commitment to ban embedded networks in new residential apartment buildings.

The government supported all of the

panel's recommendations.

This includes transitioning embedded networks into Victoria's electricity licensing framework, which will ensure that consumers in both new and existing residential embedded networks will have the same retail market access, legal protections, and regulatory oversight as other Victorian consumers.

The first phase of reforms was completed with a new General Exemption Order (GEO) published on September 29, 2022. The revised GEO contains a new renewable energy condition which new residential embedded networks will need to meet to operate legally.

The second phase of reforms will improve outcomes for all customers living in embedded networks, including those in existing sites.

The Victorian Government supported the additional recommendations and will legislate further reforms through 2024 to introduce licensing, and to enhance consumer protections and provide access to competitive retail offers for all embedded network customers.

However, in the meantime much harm is still occurring in existing residential and commercial buildings where embedded

network operators are flexing their muscles.

The fundamental issue is that the developers of these buildings permitted the network operators to install their electricity and water/gas infrastructure while the building was still being constructed.

Therefore, regardless of any reform, the equipment and infrastructure will always be owned by the network operator. If an owners' corporation (OC) decides to switch providers, it will have to buy the equipment from the network operator.

In the meantime, of course, the network operator has depreciated its equipment, but then stands to make a profit on selling the equipment back to the OC.

This should never have been allowed to happen, and unfortunately it is nearly impossible to put the genie back into this particular bottle.

The other point is that embedded networks come in all types and varieties. For instance, a lot owner recently lost a case in November 2023 in relation to his building's embedded internet network.

Mr Lieu, who lives in the Nightingale Village development in Brunswick, filed a claim seeking to have the embedded internet network installed by the developer

to be classified as a lot owner service, and therefore payable by only those owners that use the internet service, and not all owners.

However, the company involved – Net 360 – had not only installed internet infrastructure but had also installed on behalf of the developer an interface module to operate the intercoms, vehicle entry gates, and "call to lift" buttons which were all typical common property services.

Therefore, the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) had to conclude that all lot owners were liable to pay Net 360 the costs that the developer had committed them to paying when it signed the agreement while the building was still under the developers' ownership.

Not fair for unit owners, but very profitable for developers and network operators. Further reform is still required. ●

Tom Bacon
STRATA TITLE LAWYERS
TOM@STRATATITLELAWYERS.COM.AU



WE LIVE HERE

New Year, new hope?

Is 2024 a year to dream that the impossible might happen?

Shall we dare believe what We Live Here has been advocating for, since we launched in 2016, might become a reality?

Our reason for cautious hope is that Victoria has a new Premier and a new Minister for Consumer Affairs.

If these politicians are to do justice to their new roles, they must revisit the appallingly weak legislation on short-stays that was introduced into the Victorian Parliament in

2016 following the dismal failure of the so-called "independent panel" on short-stays.

That panel failed to reach consensus after two lengthy sittings – unsurprisingly because litigious, industrial-scale short-stay operators were invited to be members of the "independent panel"!

By the time the legislation was introduced into parliament in 2016, Airbnb was already well embedded in the local body politic. In a cringeworthy photo op, the then Minister for Consumer Affairs was snapped shaking hands with the Airbnb Australian Manager on the steps of Parliament House.

Now, eight years on, this is the state of play:

- a housing crisis of unprecedented severity;
- high-rise apartment buildings taking over the city skyline and neighbouring suburbs;
- the toothless short-stay legislation yielding zero successes after more than 50 VCAT cases; and
- Victoria continues to be regarded as the most penetrated city in the world.

This status quo is scarcely something the

state government should be proud of.

To top it off, the parting gesture of the outgoing Premier was to declare a risible short-stay micro-levy, a self-proclaimed fundraiser. ●

Barbara Francis & Rus Littleson

 WELIVEHERE.NET.AU



Southbank Sustainability Group in 2024

It has been lovely to hear from Southbank Sustainability Group (SSG) members that they were grateful the fortnightly gardening meetups kept going throughout the end-of-year period making participants feel engaged and part of a community.

The new year started with a community call-out for unwanted gardening pots. We will be delivering those to Gardenworld where they will be reused or recycled.

Over the past few weeks, some of us had the chance to visit Southbank cafes, sit in the sun and slurp yummy beverages. During those excursions, we were happy to see that some cafes, such as the Broad Bean, the Hoff cafe and House of Cards, were offering a 30- to 50-cent discount for all customers who bring along their own reusable cups.

This brings us to the extensive use of disposable single use cups in the hospitality industry. It is estimated that Australians use around 1.8 billion single use cups per year and that approximately 90 per cent of those will become landfill.

Surprisingly, even the single use cups that are marked as biodegradable, plant-based or compostable mostly go to landfill since they need to be delivered to an industrial composting facility in order to turn into compost and degrade.

Most producers of single-use cups and most cafes and restaurants do not organise for this to happen so what is claimed cannot be delivered. Furthermore, single-use cups cannot be recycled as they are lined with a non-paper coating.

What you can do:

- Try to bring your own reusable cup whenever you can.
- Ask your cafe about a discount for bringing your own cup (this saves costs for the cafe and you).
- Try to support cafes that engage in sustainable practices and compliment them for it.



Flowers in the Southbank Community Garden

- If you use disposable single use cups, try to dispose of them in the special single use cup bins at the South Melbourne Market.

If you own or work in a cafe or restaurant and would like to jump on the "sustainability bandwagon" and maybe get a mention in this column, go to: greencaffeen.com.au and energy.gov.au/rebates/salon-and-hospitality-waste-repurposing-program and discover free council programs including a collection service for industrial compostable single-use cups and other packaging and a reusable coffee cup system.

About the group

SSG is an inclusive community group working to bring positive change in sustainability practices through hands-on action including gardening at the Southbank Community Gardens next to the Boyd Community Hub, coffee meet-ups and community events.

If you are interested in getting involved with SSG, come to one of the upcoming gardening meet-ups at the Boyd Community Centre on February 3 and 17 and March 2, 16 and 30.

If you want to get in touch to share your ideas or simply to make contact, send us a message via: southbanksustainability@gmail.com or [facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup](https://www.facebook.com/SouthbankSustainabilityGroup)



As the rain poured down, the people poured in!

Southbank3006's A Very Merry Friend-mas event has fast become the most successful community event held in Southbank, drawing an impressive 1000 attendees from all parts of the community, despite the wet day on Saturday, December 9.

The event echoed the season's sentiments featuring a wide array of performances celebrating the different cultures that make up our vertical village.

Fellow Southbank resident, the very talented actor and comedian Courtney Crisfield, commanded the audience as she served as MC for an impressive line-up including Salsa dancers from MBassy Dance Studio, Tai Chi demonstrations, K.Pop dancers from Dare Crew and The SJ Crew Bollywood dancers whirling in a dazzling kaleidoscope of colour.

The sound of loud drumming summoned Chinese Lions, who danced their way down the rickety staircase at Boyd Community Hub, performing an inspiring display and sprinkling good luck among the community.

Undeterred by the weather outside, we made use of every room in Boyd. Upstairs, Mr Twist and Jay Christo entertained children and adults alike with amazing and mind-bending magic tricks.

Downstairs, the Assembly Hall was filled with festive music masterfully played by the traditional sounds of the Salvation Army

Band followed by Madii Leeds with a contemporary twist on the classic carols.

The Junior Rangers set up a wildlife display and spent time sharing their knowledge with a stream of inquisitive Southbankers.

Three professional face painters churned out works of art on smiling faces, the young, and the young at heart, took part in the interactive circus play, spinning cups, juggling balls twirling ribbons with the ever-so-sparkly Donna Sparx and the City of Melbourne staff members ran a Fairy Floss station that put a sweet touch on the day.

Not to be forgotten, neighbourhood doggos took part in the annual Southbank Dog Parade donning their best outfits, performing their best trick, or relying on sheer cuteness to win prizes.

Southbank comedian Adam Sparnon ran the dog show with typical flare and managed an illustrious panel of judges including Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece, Nina Taylor MP and Josh Burns MP.

A visit from Santa Clause rounded off the event where children sat wide-eyed with excitement and wiggled impatiently as they waited for their turn to share their wish list with the man in the big red suit.

A Very Merry Friend-mas was made possible by the tireless work of Southbank3006 committee volunteers, generous financial support of Platinum Sponsors, MICM and DGtek Pineapple Net, and a community grant from The City of Melbourne. ●

Jannine Pattison



VICE PRESIDENT
COMMUNITY@
SOUTHBANK3006.COM



The 2024 Southbank Directory is out now

The Directory is a guide to, and celebration of, business throughout Southbank, as well as our world-class waterfront surrounding Yarra River.

To explore all that the precinct has to offer or find a local business, visit southbankdirectory.com.au.

To get your copy, advertise, contribute or feature your business, please contact jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au



- ## QUIZ SOLUTIONS

2. *Queen Anne's Revenge*
ough to make three
Emerald Hill 5. Special
Stairs (Southbank Prom)
wards the sun 8. Allen's
James Gandolfini
argaret Court
ble

No. 033

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

B		S		L
	M		T	
A		N		A
	L		M	
T		R		E

SOLUTIONS

BASIL, EMOTE, APNEA, SLAMS, TERSE

PUZZLES AND PAGINATION
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PAGEMASTERS.COM February 2024

No. 032

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

			6				2	3
				7	2	1		
6	4		1				8	
		4	9				7	
	5		8	6	4		1	
	9				1	6		
	3				7		6	8
		5	3	8				
8	1				5			

HARD

6	3		1			9		
2								
1					4	7	2	
5					6			
		3	5		8	1		
			2					7
	4	5	7					8
								9
		8			2		3	5

SOLUTIONS

5	7	1	6	4	8	9	2	3
6	9	4	3	5	7	2	1	4
6	8	4	2	1	3	9	7	8
1	6	4	9	5	3	8	7	5
2	5	7	8	6	4	3	1	9
3	9	8	7	2	1	6	5	4
4	3	9	8	6	5	4	9	1
7	2	5	3	8	6	4	9	1
8	1	6	4	9	5	2	3	7

HARD

HARD	
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6	6
5	5
4	4
7	7

Theme: Rodents

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

E	H	A	M	S	T	E	R	A	O	G
S	L	P	A	L	R	L	S	L	P	N
U	L	O	O	E	A	W	W	L	O	I
O	A	E	M	R	C	I	A	I	S	W
M	M	N	A	R	C	T	P	H	S	A
R	M	I	R	I	O	U	A	C	U	N
O	A	R	M	U	O	O	P	N	M	G
D	M	U	O	Q	N	G	Y	I	S	N
I	B	M	T	S	R	A	T	H	N	B
K	N	U	M	P	I	H	C	C	L	E
I	N	C	A	P	Y	B	A	R	A	G

AGOUTI
CAPYBARA
CHINCHILLA
CHIPMUNK
DORMOUSE
GNAWING
HAMSTER
MAMMAL
MARMOT

MOLE
MURINE
OPOSSUM
PAWS
PORCUPINE
RACCOON
RAT
SQUIRREL

Secret message: Always nibbling

No. 032

ACROSS

- 1 Solid geometric figure (5)
4 Thwart (9)
9 Energy (11)
10 Ovum (3)
11 Presented for the first time (10)
12 Free from danger (4)
14 Looked at (8)
15 Modern (6)
18 Strand (6)
20 Drink (8)
23 Conceal (4)
24 Perks (10)
26 Nothing (3)
27 Coiffeur (11)
28 Jocks, etc. (9)
29 Flanks (5)

DOWN

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Head of state (9) | | | | |
| 2 | Passivity (7) | 17 | Protector (8) | | |
| 3 | Systematic (10) | 19 | Filled (with | | |
| 4 | Losers (8) | | holes, e.g.) (7) | | |
| 5 | As one (6) | 21 | Recommended; | | |
| 6 | Playthings (4) | | guided (7) | | |
| 7 | Mean (7) | 22 | Imprudent (6) | | |
| 8 | Bird of prey (5) | 23 | Vishnu | | |
| 13 | Inexorable (10) | | worshipper (5) | | |
| 16 | Prized items (9) | 25 | Scorch (4) | | |

[illegible]

SOLUTION

R	I	S	M	F	R	A	T	E
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
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N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
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N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
A	V	E	R	E	D	I	O	C
R	E	C	E	N	T	R	O	D
N	O	N	A	L	E	C	T	R
E	G	G	R	E	D	I	O	C
S	H	R	E	D	I	O	C	E
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No. 032

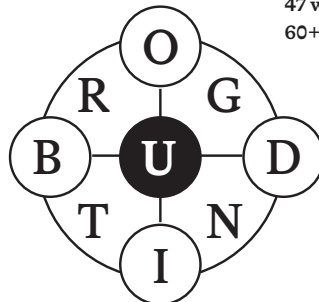
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SOLUTIONS

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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Q	P	Y	L	C	N	H	X	V	O	D	Z	J

No. 032

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

[illegible]

Today's Focus:

30 words: Good

47 words: Very good

60+ words: Excellent

WHAT'S ON

February



The weather is getting warmer and Southbank's events season is just getting started. Here's our list of the best community events this month.



NGV LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Extending the celebration over two days for the first time, this year's NGV Lunar New Year Celebration features lion and dragon dances weaving through the Great Hall, Korean Samul Nori performances, art-making activities, and more.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10 AND 11, 10PM - 5PM



SOUNDS OF AOTEAROA

The stellar lineup will be headlined by chart-topping SIX60, a globally acclaimed five-piece band from Dunedin with a unique blend of soul, rock, and reggae.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 6PM - LATE



MELBOURNE CONVERSATIONS: LOVE SONG DEDICATIONS TO MELBOURNE

Melbourne's longest-running free public event series 'Melbourne Conversations' is back, with a bold line-up of special guests – making knowledge more accessible for all Melburnians. Main stage, Fed Square


WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 6PM - 7.15PM



BUDJERAH BY CANDLELIGHT

Amidst an enchanting ambience with over 3,000 twinkling candles in the heart of Fed Square, attendees will have the perfect opportunity to witness Budjerah in action as he performs a set of his top hits and latest singles.

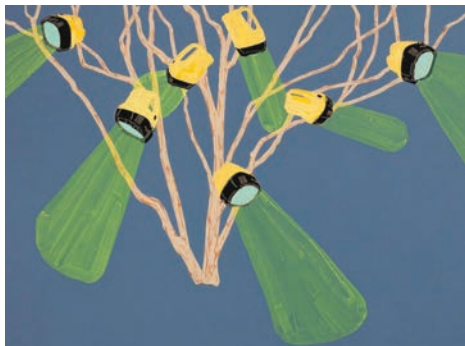
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 8.30PM - LATE



NGV TRIENNIAL

NGV Triennial 2023 is a powerful and moving snapshot of the world today as captured through the work of 100 artists, designers, and collectives at the forefront of global contemporary practice.


UNTIL APRIL 7, 10AM - 5PM



NADINE CHRISTENSEN: AROUND

The first major survey exhibition of Melbourne-based artist Nadine Christensen's career brings together key works spanning two decades of her practice, alongside ambitious new commissions.


UNTIL APRIL 7, 11AM - 5PM



FROM THE OTHER SIDE AT ACCA

From the other side brings together nineteen Australian and international artists, integrating historical and contemporary works. The exhibition summons the impulse for rage and revenge, while embracing feelings of vulnerability and unease.

UNTIL MARCH 3, 10AM - 5PM



LIVE MUSIC AT PJ O'BRIEN'S

Their stage hosts Live Music every Tuesday to Sunday, traditional Irish Music, duos playing laid back tunes as well as party bands to get you on the dance floor.

TUESDAY TO SUNDAY, FROM 6PM



LADAKH: RACE AGAINST TIME

One of the most acclaimed Indian travel and lifestyle photographers, Aman Chotani, best known for his tremendous project 'The Last Avatar', has released a series of works devoted to the northernmost region of India, Ladakh.


FEBRUARY 24 - MARCH 24



RUN WITH US MELBOURNE

Run With Us Melbourne is not just a running club, it's a lifestyle. The group meets every Sunday and embarks on a 10km journey through Melbourne's diverse cityscape.

SUNDAYS, 9AM - 12PM



TECH CONNECT - TECH HELP FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Tech Connect offers FREE weekly one-on-one hour sessions and monthly group workshops with trained and skilled 'Lively Tech Helpers'.

LAST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH, 9.30AM - 12PM

Business Directory

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

PHYSIOTHERAPIST

Elite Sports Physiotherapy

Sports & Spinal Physiotherapy
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Clinical Pilates
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Mezzanine Level, 13-15/1 Freshwater Place, Southbank
PHONE: 8640 0328 WEB: www.elitesportsphysio.com.au



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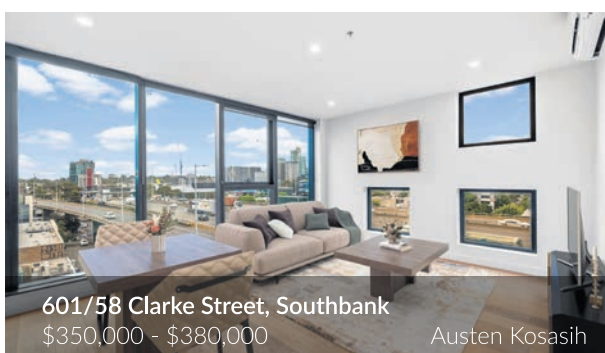
Here today, gone tomorrow.

Scan the QR code

RayWhite



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.



601/58 Clarke Street, Southbank
\$350,000 - \$380,000

Austen Kosasih



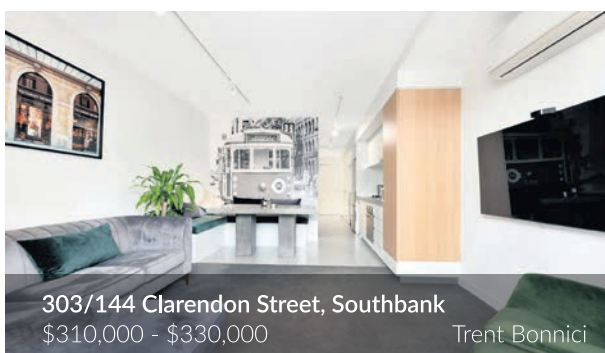
3304/58 Clarke Street, Southbank
\$370,000 - \$400,000

Austen Kosasih



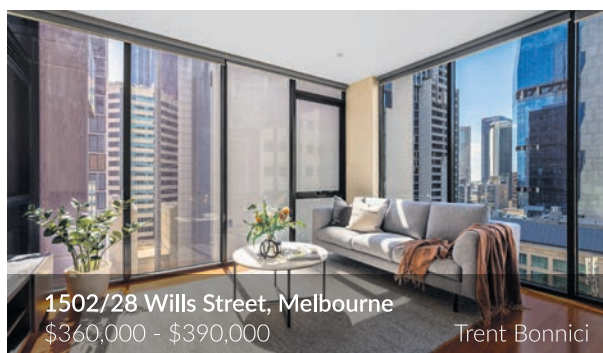
1201/45 Clarke Street, Southbank
\$580,000 - \$615,000

Tommy-Lee Davies



303/144 Clarendon Street, Southbank
\$310,000 - \$330,000

Trent Bonnici



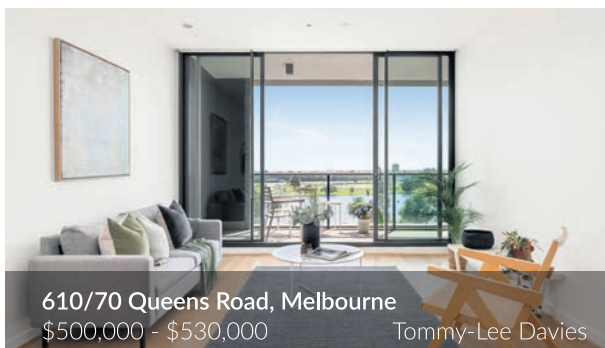
1502/28 Wills Street, Melbourne
\$360,000 - \$390,000

Trent Bonnici



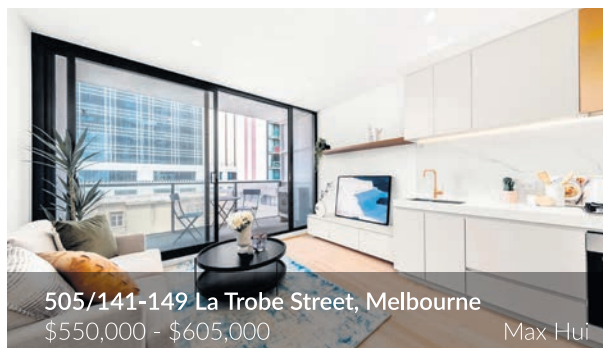
3806/568 Collins Street, Melbourne
\$330,000

Austen Kosasih



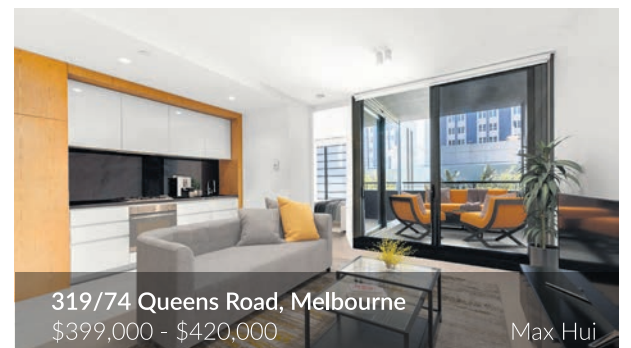
610/70 Queens Road, Melbourne
\$500,000 - \$530,000

Tommy-Lee Davies



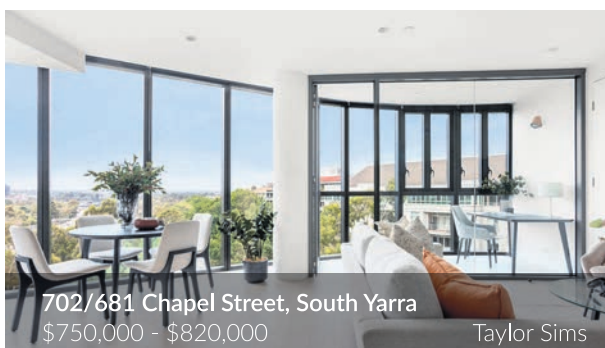
505/141-149 La Trobe Street, Melbourne
\$550,000 - \$605,000

Max Hui



319/74 Queens Road, Melbourne
\$399,000 - \$420,000

Max Hui



702/681 Chapel Street, South Yarra
\$750,000 - \$820,000

Taylor Sims



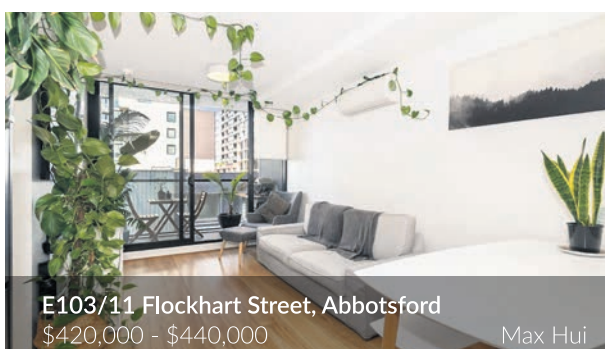
D204/18 Grosvenor Street, Abbotsford
\$440,000 - \$460,000

Max Hui



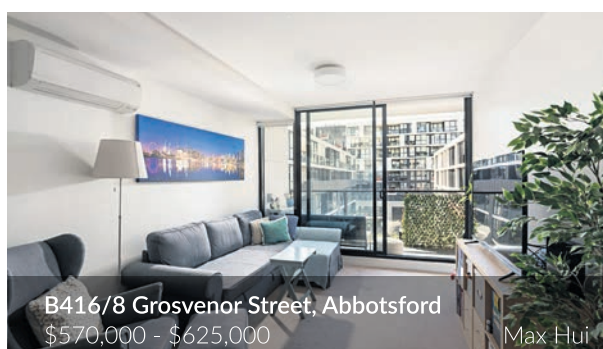
B325/8 Grosvenor Street, Abbotsford
\$435,000 - \$465,000

Max Hui



E103/11 Flockhart Street, Abbotsford
\$420,000 - \$440,000

Max Hui



B416/8 Grosvenor Street, Abbotsford
\$570,000 - \$625,000

Max Hui

Michael Pastrokos: 0404 282 864

Max Hui: 0430 238 021

Tommy-Lee Davies: 0416 823 173

Austen Kosasih: 0422 396 900

Taylor Sims: 0403 485 210

Trent Bonnici: 0402 670 441

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