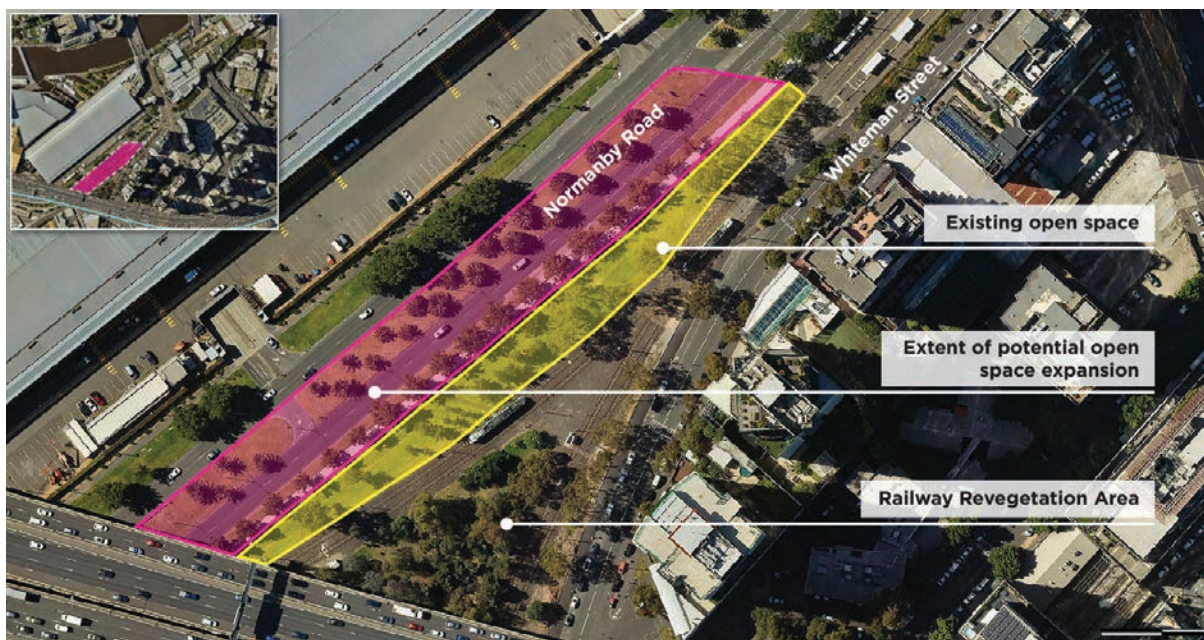


Locals fight plans for “adult lifestyle meeting place” on City Rd

Push mounts for upgrade or removal of “eye-sore” red stairs

NEWS



▲ An image from the City of Melbourne report highlighting how an expanded Normanby Road Reserve could look.

Council to inject \$22.5m to expand Normandy Rd Reserve

“A bold plan to expand Southbank’s Normandy Rd Reserve by 1.2 hectares has been revealed in a City of Melbourne pre-budget announcement in what shapes as a big win for Southbankers.”

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



Local mum Casey Nott and her three children enjoy new space at Dodds St.

“The Normanby Rd Reserve is unique in Southbank for its access to northern sunlight and its size. No other opportunities in the neighbourhood could achieve a similar size,” the report said.

Three phases of community engagement for the proposal would be developed, and the Department of Transport and Planning would also have to approve any plans.

A final concept plan is earmarked to be presented to council in June 2025.

The additional green space would be a welcome reprieve for Southbank, which is the city’s most densely populated residential neighbourhood.

It’s also the fifth fastest growing suburb in Victoria with new developments and population growth squeezing Southbank’s already few open spaces.

The reserve’s expansion, which would take three years to be delivered, comes as the council is set to progress key projects delivering more open space, including the

Continued on page 3.



LOCAL NEWS, PAGE 09

Southbank dads empowered by innovative Dadfit program

On a mission to “make dadding a team sport”, Dadfit’s five-week program kicked off in Southbank on May 6 at Boyd Community Hub, encouraging new dads to support their physical health, while aiming to address the often-overlooked challenges they face during early stages of parenthood.



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Community engagement and construction progress continues for Arts Precinct

The Melbourne Arts Precinct is a bustling hub of activity as construction continues to move forward for the Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation (MAPT).

Deconstruction is well under way at 77 Southbank Boulevard for the new contemporary art and design gallery The Fox: NGV Contemporary.

In construction, the process of “deconstructing” means taking apart or removing some of the existing building components for reuse. This methodology is being employed for the project, as environmental sustainability and reducing waste are some of key objectives for the MAPT.

For the deconstruction of the 77 Southbank building, 95 per cent of the material will be reused or recycled. For example, the lift cables will go to the Werribee Open Range Zoo Expansion for the new 21-hectare Asian elephant habitat, housing Zoos Victoria’s growing herd, currently living at Melbourne Zoo.

The next stage of deconstruction at the site is expected to start in May when a long reach excavator will begin working on site. The long reach excavator will deconstruct the building from the inside, working from the top down. Throughout construction, the project teams are continuing to work to minimise impacts in the area for residents and businesses.

To provide locals and visitors with up-to-date information about access and directions, more wayfinding signage is also going up around the precinct. The new signage will be installed along Southbank Boulevard and on Kavanagh St, containing project information and updated maps.



The project’s Community Reference Group (CRG) continues to meet regularly to help ensure the local Southbank community is updated with the project’s progress and any potential construction impacts. The CRG held its fifth meeting on April 16 and meeting minutes can be viewed online: artsprecinct.melbourne/community-reference-group

For those attending the F@B Southbank community event at Boyd Hall on May 19, you can collect a free raffle ticket to win a prize made possible by Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation. Recipients will go in the draw to win a \$100 Chocolate Buddha or a \$100 Mabu Mabu dining voucher. The project team will also be at the Korea

Festival at Fed Square this Sunday, May 11. Visitors at the festival can check out the pop-up MAPT marquee and meet some of the team working on the city-shaping project.

To stay up to date with all the latest project news and updates, follow us on Instagram: @artsprecinctmelbourne and LinkedIn: @Melbourne Arts Precinct Corporation ●

La Camera celebrates 25 years at Southgate

The party has started at La Camera to celebrate 25 years at Southgate, with the favourite riverside restaurant marking the milestone with a bumper year of events and festivities.

WORDS BY JACK HAYES



2024 also ushers in 20 years for the restaurant’s Southbank Community Nights. Locals can expect the usual line-up of events,

including Opera Night, Jazz and Shiraz, Booze and Blues and Cooking Class, but with an extra “special” treat to honour the birthday.

La Camera’s Paul Scidone told Southbank News to stay tuned for more surprises, not only to celebrate 25 years at Southgate but more than 40 years in Melbourne.

“We have our usual line-up of events; we are just making it a little bit more special. For example, as part of our Jazz and Shiraz night Cliff Fry will be on the sax and Rob Severini, who is a singer, songwriter, and director, who will be doing the vocals,” Mr Scidone said.

“We asked more than 20,000 of our followers to submit their favourite dishes from the past 25 years and we will be putting them on the menu, we are getting old staff back together and we are currently running Giro De Talia specials with regional dishes following the where the race will travel throughout Italy.”

“It was looking pretty doubtful that we would be here [following COVID-19 lockdowns], I think it’s an amazing achievement. Seventy per cent of our current staff have remained since those days.”

“A lot is owed to them for standing by us and showing their loyalty.” ●



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Council to inject \$22.5m to expand Normandy Rd Reserve

Continued from page 1.

Australian Centre of Contemporary Art forecourt and the Miles and Dodds St Reserve, as well as Chapman St Reserve in North Melbourne.

Construction of the Dodds St linear park (between Grant St and Southbank Boulevard) is also nearing completion with crews recently installed amphitheatre seating and tree pits and preparing the site for landscaping.

The council report said investigations into suitable open spaces including valuations in Southbank had been undertaken on eight properties.

"Discussions on purchase price have been held with the owners of four of these properties, and of these, further investigations and negotiations on two are ongoing as of April 2024," it said.

Council management has also advised councillors to abandon plans (pictured below) of a master plan and business case for the decking of the City Link tunnel entrance "due to constraints of land ownership, structural feasibility and prohibitive cost", which would exceed \$1.5 billion.



In other developments, community consultation will begin on the council's City Rd Masterplan for the northern undercroft, which proposes to convert a 5000-square-metre area into multi-function spaces, gardens and public plazas.

Councillors also received an update on the City Road Master Plan from council management on May 7, which sought endorsement of a draft concept design for the new space at the undercroft.

This is in addition to the new Southbank Boulevard Reserves adding a further 4000 square metres of new open space in Southbank.

The proposal to expand the Normandy Road Reserve is part of a \$29.5 million investment in open space in the council's draft budget to be revealed on May 14.

It would see the city consider or progress work on nine new parks and open spaces across the municipality.

Local resident Casey Nott, a writer and mum of three (pictured), said she was thrilled to see more urban green spaces being created, including the Dodds St linear park.

"The more the merrier I say for green spaces especially with little kids, we're always outside," she said.

"Purposeful smaller spaces are a good idea in general for people's wellbeing, biophilia and when people were locked up in the pandemic; we need that air and trees."

Major construction will begin later this month on the Greenline Project, which will deliver four kilometres of interconnected promenades, parks, open spaces, plants and more between Birrarung Marr and the Bolte Bridge.

The council has also committed to building toward its zero-carbon target through a \$281,000 investment in Retrofit Melbourne that would support commercial building

retrofits for a healthier, more sustainable city.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the draft budget was delivering on promises, including transforming the "city from grey to green in neighbourhoods that need it most, like Southbank".

"As more and more people choose to make the City of Melbourne their home, we want to ensure all our residents have access to green, open space," she said.

The council's environment portfolio lead Cr Rohan Leppert said, "Our significant investment will ensure nature in our city flourishes – improving the wellbeing of our community and creating a more resilient city in the face of climate change."

Community group Southbank3006 president David Hamilton commended the council for proposing to expand the Normandy Rd reserve into open public space.

"This is exactly the imaginative and creative thinking Southbank3006 has been arguing is required for in tackling the open space problem across the neighbourhood," he said.

"[With] this development, like at ACCA, the council is bringing public space close to where people live. Southbank is much more than the Boyd and its limitations."

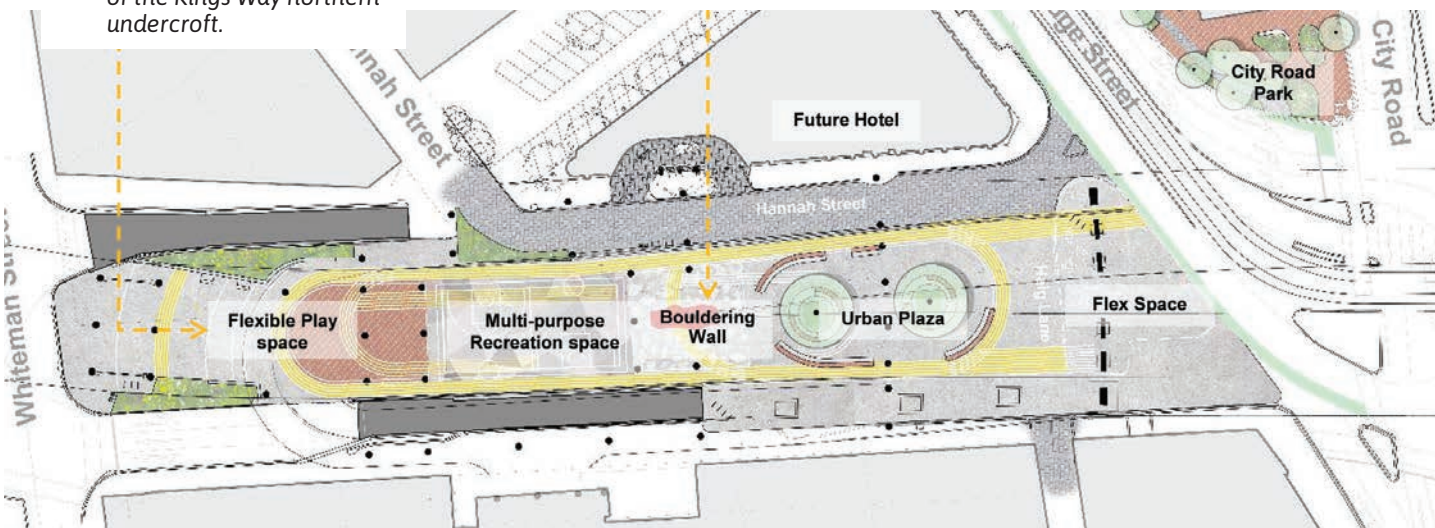
The council said it was well on track to achieve its goal of 40 per cent canopy cover by 2040, with more than 33,000 planted since 2012.

Cr Capp said the council was looking at opportunities to return to surplus in 2024-25, noting it was on track to for the Gross Local Product to reach \$120 billion by the end of this financial year.

"We invested strongly and boldly to help kickstart Melbourne following lockdowns, which came at a significant cost and multiple deficit budgets," she said. ●



▼ The draft concept design of the Kings Way northern undercroft.



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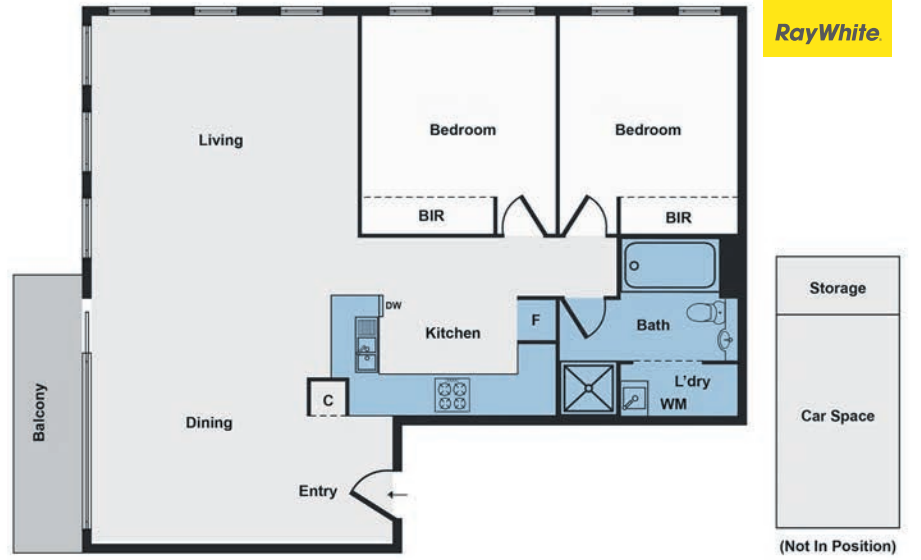
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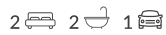
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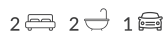
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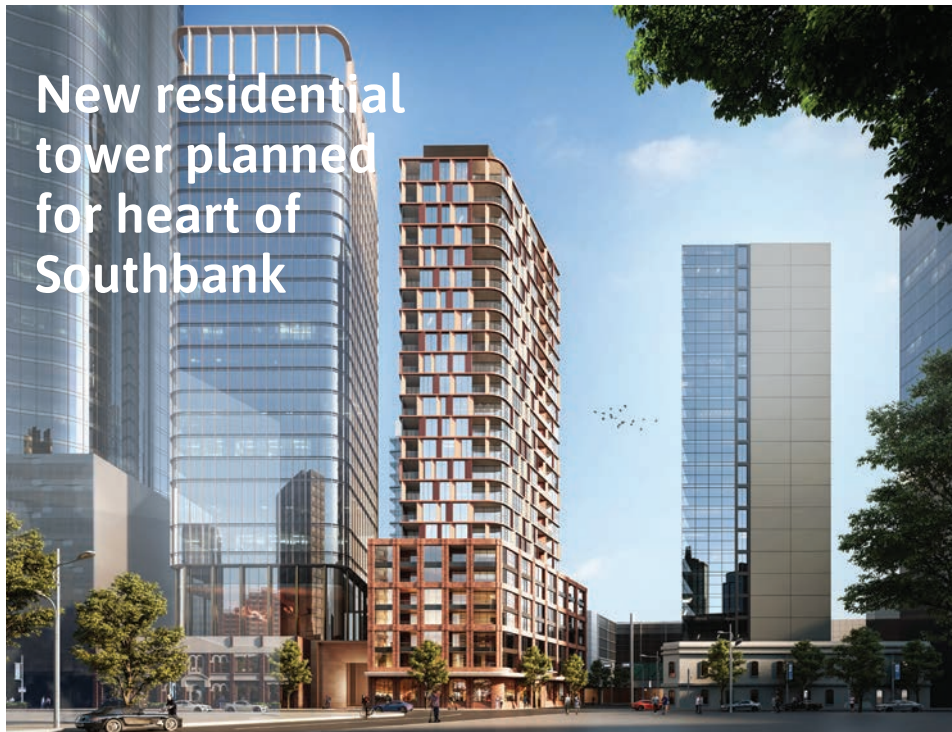


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SOUTHBANK AGENT OF THE YEAR 2017, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 + 2024

New residential tower planned for heart of Southbank



A 25-storey residential tower has been proposed for Southbank under a \$70 million plan.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The City of Melbourne will consider the planning application for 38 Clarke St, which would include with a green rooftop on level seven.

The plans would also include three apartments to be transferred to a not-for-profit, registered housing association or housing provider.

Melbourne-based developer LAS Group has submitted the application together with award-winning architects Fender Katsalidis, which was behind the design of Melbourne's tallest tower Australia 108, as well as Eureka Tower in Southbank.

Located between City Rd and Crown Casino, the developer said that it intended to embrace the industrial heritage of the area and feature 188 one- and two-bedroom apartments, as well as a pool, gym, a bike lobby, and parking area.

Fender Katsalidis associate principal Kianson Tay said the tower's design would respect the context of the site and the surrounding area, while "offering a fresh, timeless expression for residents to connect with, both within the development and beyond".

"City Rd has a heritage of 19th century masonry warehouse buildings, which we believe offers opportunities for contemporary reinterpretation," he said.

"There is an architectural language here of tactile materiality and brickwork detailing, which we are excited to interpret into 38 Clarke St. The material palette of

our scheme has a sense of solidity and tactility, with materials that will patina and age gracefully over time."

Under the proposal, the tower would comprise two interlocking forms with the top podium featuring a densely planted native garden bed designed by renowned Tract Landscape Architects.

Mr Tay said to enhance the pedestrian experience and engagement along the street frontages, "we have carefully considered the podium ground level experience through human-scaled elements with a sense of craft and detailed design".

"An off-form concrete canopy establishes a datum line at the base, with a composition of arched brick bay windows that evoke the industrial past of the neighbourhood," he said.

"We were conscious that City Rd can be a busy and hard-edged environment, and so we wanted to introduce architectural detailing and fine-scaled elements to enrich the experience at street level."

To address flood level requirements of the low-lying site, the building's ground floor has been designed 2.5 metres above street level.

LAS Group spokesperson Les Smith said, "One- and two-bedroom apartments are highly sought after in Melbourne's Southbank, particularly at a mid-tier price point".

The building would target a 5-star Green Star rating.

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said the application would be carefully considered.

"As one of the city's most central locations – we can see why there's demand from developers to continue making their mark in Southbank," he said.

"Southbank is the city's most densely populated suburb – so we welcome the opportunity to review plans for new residential digs." ●

Locals fight plans for "adult lifestyle meeting place" on City Rd

Thirty residents and business owners have objected to plans for an "adult lifestyle meeting place" to be established in South Melbourne, labelling the proposal as "inappropriate for the area".

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



A planning application from the Pine Bar has been submitted to the City of Port Phillip seeking to convert a two-storey building at 427 City Rd into a "burlesque bar" that would operate seven days a week.

According to the plans, the applicant Emanuel Cachia of Pine Bar has proposed to have a main ground floor area that would host live entertainment events including live music, DJ, comedy, cabaret, and burlesque.

The application, which proposes to have a limit of 200 patrons, has also sought an "sex on premises venue exemption" but the plans maintain it would not be operating as a brothel.

Local business owners and residents have objected to the plans with concerns that it was inappropriate and would impact the amenity of the area.

The proposed venue would be located between York and Ferrars streets, which is near the South Melbourne Primary School and about 50 metres from nearby residences.

Among those objecting to the proposal is Tony Baenziger, who owns architectural business Baenziger Coles on City Rd.

He said that despite the applicant's claim that they had "spent a great deal of time considering the best location for their business and preparing their permit application, there still seems to be a lot of unresolved issues".

Mr Baenziger said the venue would also "serve to detract from employment generating uses along City Rd and would also "raise safety and security concerns for local businesses should evening workers be present".

He also questioned how loud noise would be controlled and "there is no guarantee that the amenity of properties in the area will be protected from intoxicated patrons during late or early morning hours".

Angus Wallace, a resident and business owner in the City of Port Phillip, said a "swingers club like this is not innocent, or funny or harmless; it poses a high risk to personal safety".



"My wife and daughter have both been hassled and followed on City Rd near the other 'massage parlours' in more than one instance. I'm grateful that other people were nearby to actively protect my wife in one scary incident, to prevent something worse from happening," they said.

"These types of experiences are not something that can be brushed off and they have left my family feeling unsafe in our own neighbourhood, in our own street."

"If you allow a new business to operate and attract the same people that plan sexual encounters with strangers, what do you think will happen?"

The plans state that the venue would not permit walk-ins from the street, with all patrons having to pre-book to attend.

Live music would be played until 12am while liquor would be served until 1am. The venue proposes to close at 2am.

Objectors are also baffled why a website called "Pineapples Lifestyle Bar" is promoting the City Rd venue despite the plans still being considered by the council.

According to the Department of Health website, sex on premises venues "are venues where persons are required to pay an admission fee to enter for the purpose of engaging in sexual activities with other people who have entered the venue on the same terms and who did not receive payment for engaging in sexual activities".

Port Phillip Mayor Heather Cunsolo confirmed the council had received the application.

"The planning application has been advertised within the surrounding area and has received approximately 30 objections. The applicant is reviewing the objections," she said.

"Council will make a decision about the application at an upcoming council meeting." ●

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- Upgraded Southbank Promenade to create a safer, more accessible space with better lighting, new seating and bluestone paving.
- Improved Southbank Boulevard with a new playspace, barbecues, landscaping and walkways, and better lighting.
- Across the municipality, renewed more than 59,000m² of roads and 26,000m² of footpaths.

Safety and community wellbeing

- Launched a new 24/7 cleaning and graffiti removal service to ensure the city always looks its best.
- In addition to our Safe City Camera network, we worked with our business community to maintain their security equipment and enhance neighbourhood safety.
- Supported local groups and activities, including the Freshwater Place Gardening Group, South Yarra Residents' Group, and Toorak Prahran Cricket Club.
- Launched the Connection and Wellbeing Map to support community participation, inclusion and connection.

Boosting our economy

- Through our Business Concierge team, we supported and engaged with more than 13,000 businesses – small, big, or just starting – across the city last financial year.
- Invested more than \$4 million in grant funding to support local business owners and activation.
- Attracted 67 major projects to the city through Invest Melbourne, creating more than 1,650 jobs and \$430 million in capital expenditure.

Culture

- Welcomed 65,000 visitors each year to Southbank Library for education programs, makerspace, community space, computer access, and more.



- In 2023, we enticed more than 4.6 million people to the city to enjoy 64 Council-run or supported events – pumping \$152 million into the economy.

Sustainability and city greening

- Progressed our Power Melbourne initiative to improve access to affordable renewable electricity, with a battery in Southbank scheduled for installation mid-2024.
- Maintained 25 public parks and spaces, including Fawkner Park and the Domain Parklands.
- Facilitated water management projects to reduce flooding around Yarra River – Birrarung.

Recreation

- Managed Riverslide Skate Park with lessons and events, welcoming 110,000 visitors each year.
- Installed new digital clocks at the iconic Tan Track running route.



Get ready to share your thoughts

The draft Budget 2024-25, which will deliver the final year of the current Council Plan, will be available for community feedback from 14 May.

To read more about what we've delivered in your neighbourhood visit news.melbourne.vic.gov.au/doing-what-counts



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Yarra River Business Association president Jeremy Vincent (left) and executive officer Tim Bracher (right).

Push mounts for upgrade of “eyesore” red stairs

The Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) is hoping funding can be found to either remove or revamp the Queensbridge Square’s “eyesore” red stairs ahead of the City of Melbourne’s May budget.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The trader group would like “something concrete” done about it after Lord Mayor Sally Capp flagged the structure’s potential removal at a council meeting last November, conceding “the stairs and that precinct could do with some love”.

The Red Stairs amphitheatre was built in 2006 and designed for buskers and entertainers to complement the cafes and shops that surround the Queensbridge Square pedestrian plaza next to the Yarra River.

But since late last year the YRBA has been advocating for the council to either significantly modify or remove the red stairs as it had become a “unsightly lump of concrete”. “Lack of maintenance has now seen the structure devolve into a sad reflection of its former self,” the YRBA’s executive officer Tim Bracher said.

“It was always a flawed idea from its installation in 2006. It is rarely used for performances because Queensbridge Square was never set up properly to be able to host major events.”

“I think the key thing is it’s such a prominent landmark on Southbank and

it’s looking quite delapidated now so it’s really affecting [visitors’] perception of Melbourne’s key tourist precinct.”

In a statement, the City of Melbourne said it was continuing to explore a range of options for the future of the Red Stairs.

“Further information will be brought to the public for consultation at a later date,” it said.

Mr Bracher said the YRBA had been in talks with the council after Cr Capp said it would “look into it” and more recently City of Melbourne CEO Alison Leighton “reported to the YRBA board that an examination of what could be done would be undertaken in 2024”.

Mr Bracher said a meeting with the council was flagged for May, but he added, “we’re concerned that we’re going to miss the budget cycle [to be announced on May 14] and that would be a great shame to have to put up with that eyesore for yet another 12 to 18 months”.

In April, Mr Bracher said the YRBA wrote to Ms Alison’s office asking that the structure’s timber top section be removed, “which would eliminate the most unsightly part of it and open up the vista along Southbank Boulevard”. “The original concept plans for the council’s revamped Southbank Boulevard showed the top of the red stairs cut-off, as part of stage six of the boulevard project,” he said.

“Stage six has now stalled indefinitely, pending the outcome of some major private sector projects and, of course, council funding.”

“At the very least you can just take down that wooden bit at the back so we’ve got the views and if you want to you can still use it as a public performance.” ●

New 56-storey tower set to add to the Southbank skyline

Construction of a \$220 million mixed-use tower in Southbank is set to begin later this year.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The 56-storey residential tower at 42 Moray St by renowned Southbank developer Salvo will comprise 305 apartments, mainly two and three bedrooms, as well as two double-storey penthouse suites across the top two levels.

The development, called Moray House, will also feature eight levels of office space, co-working facilities and two floors of residential amenity, as well as “resort-grade facilities” including a spa, yoga and steam rooms, pool, gym, and massage suite accessed by a spiral staircase.

Designed by architects Rothelowman and interior designer David Hicks, other features include a hotel-style reception, concierge, ground floor café and bar, private dining rooms, outdoor barbecue areas, residents’ lounges, and additional storage spaces.

Co-working spaces include 40 hot desks, meeting rooms and collaboration zones, video conferencing, printing, and other services.

Standing 180 metres above street level, the tower’s residences will have views of the city skyline, Albert Park Lake, and Port Phillip Bay.

Demolition of the existing building at the site, located between City Rd and the West Gate Freeway, has been earmarked to start soon.

The development is expected to be completed in late 2026.

Salvo said the tower would deliver a “bold architectural statement with a glistening façade and beautifully curated homes, built for how people live today”.

“More than 240 apartments have already been snapped up by a range of buyers including local first home buyers, parents purchasing apartments for their children, professionals seeking a city base, families moving back to inner Melbourne post COVID and investors,” it said.

Salvo managing partner James Maitland said the project’s design was centred around wellness, connectivity, work life balance, and practical luxuries.



“The pandemic accelerated a shift in the way people live and awareness of the critical role that internal and external environments play in our physical and mental health and wellbeing,” he said.

“Traditional apartment living has evolved to vertical communities and urban place-making where residents can make new social connections in various communal indoor and outdoor spaces. They also expect resort-style amenities and connectivity with their local environment.”

According to Salvo, industry data showed 16,000 dwellings were required in the City of Melbourne alone over the next three years to meet demand.

It also referenced data from Charter Keck Cramer that showed only 2600 new apartments were launched in Melbourne in 2023, the lowest in a decade.

“We’re keen to see the right investment and planning settings that provide confidence for both developers and buyers regarding delivery of key infrastructure in urban renewal projects to enable multi-unit developments to do the heaving lifting to boost housing supply,” Mr Maitland said.

“On the demand side, revisiting off-the-plan stamp duty exemptions and reducing taxes on foreign investors would go some way to speed up the much-needed delivery of housing and easing the rental crisis.” ●



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Six-storey mixed-use tower planned for Montague

The City of Port Phillip has given its endorsement of a proposal for a six-storey mixed-use tower in the Montague Precinct of Fishermans Bend on City Rd, subject to certain conditions.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



Applicant City Road Properties Pty Ltd wants to demolish an existing two-storey commercial building at 592-598 City Rd, South Melbourne to make way for a "boutique hotel" development, that would include offices, retail, and dwellings.

The six-storey project would see a ground floor café and a hotel lobby, with levels one to five incorporating a total of 47 hotel rooms, with a communal gym and swimming pool on level four.

It would also include a rooftop terrace with a barbecue space and two separate seating areas, one covered with a pergola.

The application for a planning scheme amendment which proposes to apply a "specific control overlay" is being considered by the state government as the determining authority, which sought the views of the City of Port Phillip as part of its decision.

In its report tabled at the April 17 council meeting, council officers recommended changes to address built form concerns, including varying the presentation of the building's northern and western elevation.

This included "using a greater mix of materials to break up the building mass, and implementing the waste management, traffic engineering and landscape architect recommendation", as well as "several other design, operational and amenity concerns will be highlighted and recommended to be addressed by conditions".

The recommendations were unanimously supported by councillors. ●

SOUTHBANKER

Southbank couple support local artists with new tattoo studio



After investing their savings in their boutique tattoo business just over two years ago, Southbank residents Dylan and Munzo have turned their dream into a reality.

WORDS BY
BRENDAN REES



The couple runs Studio Absent in Flinders Lane, in which they pride themselves on offering unique, high-quality tattoos with a focus on customer satisfaction.

Studio Absent calls one of Melbourne's heritage buildings Tavistock House its home, which the couple said offered a unique atmosphere of old meeting new, with the minimalist interior decoration combined with the heritage features such as high ceilings, large windows, and heavy doors.

"We wanted somewhere a bit private that feels like a sanctuary. Somewhere to escape the bustle of the city, but not so far away that it was a chore to get to," Dylan said.

The couple said their studio had a focus on blackwork, surrealist, and abstract tattoos, though their artists covered a wide range of other styles such as anime and traditional Japanese tattoos.

"The artists go the extra mile by altering a design on the day to fit the unique contours of a client's body," Dylan added.

The studio was launched just after the Melbourne's lockdowns with the new parents admitting that running the business as a new family had been a challenging

experience "but the people we work with and have met on our journey so far have really lightened the load".

"We love to support local artists by featuring their work and are looking forward to hosting many more events in the future," Munzo said, who has been working in the tattoo industry for some time and felt that there was "something missing that I could bring to the table".

Together, Munzo and Dylan poured their savings into equipment, licences, and finding the right premises.

They said Studio Absent has since collaborated with other local businesses on crossover events, including a Halloween Flash Day with Yarra Falls, also in Flinders Lane, in which food and a beverage were provided by Yarra Falls with each tattoo.

All the artists as well as the owner of Yarra Falls Brendan Keown dressed up in their favourite Halloween garb. "A more recent event took a different approach. It was not a tattooing event, but a literal underground art exhibition at Sub Club. Complete with a DJ, UV-painted performer, and finger food provided by The Bao Project, local Melbourne artists, as well as Studio Absent's more canvas-inclined tattoo artists, kindly created stunning original pieces for the event," the couple said.

For more information contact Studio Absent on **0470 327 633**, or book through their website at studioabsent.com ●



Debut novel highlights urgent need to address violence against women

Southbank resident Cedric Saldanha is the author of recently published book, *Quest for Freedom*, which sheds light on the poignant reality of violence against women in a time where the topic demands urgent attention.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



With a background in the public sector, Mr Saldanha took up writing in retirement, with *Quest for Freedom* his first published novel.

The book follows the journey of Smita, a young woman hailing from Mumbai, whose fate leads her into an arranged marriage and a relocation to Melbourne.

Through Smita's eyes, Mr Saldanha confronts the pervasive issue of violence against women, a theme he has been "deeply worried about for a long time".

"The main underlying theme is a woman fighting for her rights against male domination," he said.

"She is an Indian woman and there are aspects of the Indian culture coming in, but it also applies generally across society here in Australia, where males take women too much for granted."

As citizens took to the streets across the nation in a series of rallies organised by What Were You Wearing? Australia (WWYW) across April 26 to 28, women called on the government to declare the disturbing rise in violence against women a national emergency.

With one woman killed violently every four days, the need for education through avenues such as Mr Saldanha's books is even more crucial.

Quest For Freedom is now available online from Amazon and Booktopia, as well as in-store at Mary Martin Bookstore in Southbank. ●

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Southbank dads empowered by innovative Dadfit program

On a mission to “make dadding a team sport”, Dadfit’s five-week program kicked off in Southbank on May 6 at Boyd Community Hub.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



Having run for just over a year, Dadfit not only encourages new dads to support their physical health, but also aims to address the often-overlooked challenges they face during early stages of parenthood.

Founded by former pro cricketer Ryan Carters, the program seeks to empower dads to navigate the complexities of fatherhood, and “support each other to be the best dads they can be”.

“I’m a dad of three now, but in that first one to two years of parenting, I found it really challenging,” he told *Southbank News*.

“Sometimes it was to do with me, sometimes it was health issues for our children, sometimes it was my wife. What I noticed is that often mothers were getting together and supporting each other in those early stages, and dads were tending to go it alone – including me.”

Meeting once a week for two hours, participants partake in an hour of Dadfit exercises, which are “all about having fun and being active together” in a “noncompetitive” environment. The session is then followed by an hour of “dad chat”.

“This is where we sit around a table and talk about different aspects of dad life – like connecting with our kids, supporting our partners, trying to find the right balance between work and family, and also looking after our own mental health and wellbeing,” Mr Carters said.

During the past 12 months, Dadfit has already made a profound impact, with 150 dads going through the program.

An overwhelming 97 per cent reported improvements in their mental health, while 92 per cent credited the program with enhancing their parenting skills.

“It’s a really fun and inclusive group. We have a great time, plenty of laughs, but it’s also a space to talk about the serious stuff when you need to – we find that balance is something so many dads are looking for and it’s great to have that locally,” Mr Carters said.

“It can be quite a lonely experience and there’s a lot to work out on your own, it’s so much better when you have a team of dads around you who are meeting up regularly and sharing experiences.”

With grant support from the City of Melbourne, Dadfit has been able to run programs across Melbourne in Southbank, Tarneit and Fitzroy North, with Mr Carters hopeful that the program can expand for more dads to access support. ●



Family and community underpins Southbank businessman

Finding a home and community in Southbank was a case of third-time lucky for Mosa Gherjestani.

WORDS BY
JACK HAYES



I did, I knew it was time.”

“I help customers buy property, restructure and refinance personal or business loans, as well as car or equipment finance.”

“It helps as a banker to become a broker because you know both sides of the system. From a customer perspective, my clients are very loyal to me because they have had brokers in the past and they compare them to how I do things.”

According to Mr Gherjestani, the benefit of using a broker over an accountant or working directly with a bank is that you can access more than 70 different loans.

“If you’re getting information from a bank, you will only get it from their perspective, they will never say by the way, try another bank as well,” Mr Gherjestani said.

“Accountants play a big role in many people’s lives, but not many of them are acutely aware of how the banking and lending world works.”

“If you compare a broker to a bank lender, the broker should know a lot more than the lender because the lender only deals with one bank and one policy, whereas brokers work with 70 to 80.”

Away from work, Mr Gherjestani’s effort in the community is ever-present. He sits on the committee of his building’s owners’ corporation committee; he is a member of the South Melbourne Primary School council and is currently applying for a \$2000 City of Melbourne grant to help build the connection between residents in neighbouring towers.

“We prefer to live in the city rather than the suburbs, we love the Melbourne city, and we love Southbank,” he said.

“We wanted to live in a place where we could raise a family and still enjoy the community, education, healthcare, and vibrancy of the city.” ●

After some considered deliberation, the former banker, now broker, moved from Sydney with his wife and two sons just over a year ago to set up a new life in Melbourne.

While he has called Australia home for almost three decades, Mr Gherjestani originally migrated from Afghanistan as a refugee in 1997.

Landing in Western Sydney, he went to school, worked hard at TAFE, did paper deliveries, even shifts at Pizza Hut and then graduated from university, all the while building community connections and supporting organisations to help families integrate in Australia.

Community has meant many things in many places for Mr Gherjestani, and it’s through this sense of civic duty he continues to forge his life and work.

With more than 18 years of experience in mortgage and finance, serving in senior roles at Westpac and Commonwealth Bank across mortgage lending, retail, and premier banking, Mr Gherjestani now runs Premier Finance Brokers, a finance firm “helping families and business owners to realise their dreams.”

“I always wanted to do something on my own, but I never had the courage to do it,” he said. “You have a comfortable job, you have a fortnightly salary and a prominent title, why would you move? It took me a while to answer these questions, but when

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ACTION not words.

GUIDE TO WASTE-FREE SHOPPING AT QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET



Bettina de Chateaubourg has all the tips for waste-free shopping at Queen Victoria Market

Bring your reusable containers and bags to Queen Victoria Market to stock up on meat, fish, cheese, antipasto, wine, olive oil, grains, fruit, vegies, soap and more.

Join the Melburnians changing the way they do their grocery shopping to help save waste from landfill and live more sustainably.

Waste-free alternatives to almost every packaged grocery item are on hand at Melbourne's iconic market, along with a hearty serving of cost savings and community connection.

Shop waste-free with Bettina

Bettina de Chateaubourg has worked at Queen Victoria Market for 10 years. She started as a tour guide, and she's now the market's Tours and Visitor Experience Coordinator.

Low-waste living isn't something new for Bettina – the routine of shopping with her powder-blue vintage trolley, old flour sacks and reused containers is innate, and a great source of joy.

"When you shop at the market, you know that what you're buying is super fresh, and you can ask for the exact weight you need, so nothing is wasted," Bettina said.

"The traders are the produce experts. They know what the cucumbers or apples are like on any given day, what cheeses to buy and what to pair them with. We even swap recipes.

"These are great interactions – you don't get that at the supermarket."

Check off your shopping list

Bettina says she can get just about everything she needs at Queen Victoria Market, except for toothpaste. If you'd like to try shopping more sustainably, it's easy to get started.

"Just come along to the market and explore what's on offer," Bettina said. "Shopping waste free is great because you can buy in small amounts, and only what you need."

Beyond bananas and broccoli, there are plenty of specialty and gourmet items to be found at Queen Victoria Market that can also be purchased waste-free.

Head to Bill's Farm to pick up Meredith Dairy Goat Cheese in your own jar, or browse the beloved Dairy Hall for smallgoods, antipasto, or any other treats that takes your fancy.

Bring a cloth bag to purchase grains, pulses, dried fruits at Market Organics. And forget the cleaning aisle at the supermarket – refill your liquid soap and dishwashing liquid at Soapbox.

Then head to Rewine where you can refill bottles with premium wine straight from the barrel.

How to prepare for a waste-free shop

Queen Victoria Market has a plastic bag ban in place and encourages the use of cloth bags, reusable containers and coffee cups.

"Bring along plastic containers for meat, fish, cheese and butter. Bring jars for dips and antipasto. And bring

cloth bags, or reused plastic bags, for your fruit and veg," Bettina said.

"All the traders are very comfortable weighing and using your reusable containers. Just make sure the containers are really clean so they're pleasant for the traders to handle.

"Many fruits and vegetables don't need to be put in a bag because they have their own skin – like bananas and mangoes, to name a few," Bettina said.

Shaping Queen Victoria Market for the future

The historic Queen Victoria Market is the biggest open-air market in the southern hemisphere, spanning seven hectares and housing almost 600 traders.

The Queen Victoria Market Precinct Renewal is City of Melbourne's biggest investment to date.

Alongside renewal works – like shed restoration, modernising trader amenities and turning the old car park into a vibrant public space – sustainability is a primary goal for the market.

Learn more about the market's achievements at qvm.com.au/sustainability

Plan your shopping trip

The market is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. To learn more, visit qvm.com.au

IN BRIEF

CITY CLEANING AROUND THE CLOCK

We're supercharging our cleaning efforts like never before. The city's clean team will now be scrubbing, pressure washing and removing graffiti 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Report cleaning or graffiti issues at melbourne.vic.gov.au or phone 9658 9658.

FIRELIGHT FESTIVAL RETURNS

Melbourne's epic winter festival will be back from 28 to 30 June with fiery installations, live music and pop-up foodie feasts. And this year, get ready to experience Firelight Labyrinth, a colourful immersive experience like nothing you've ever seen before. From 28 June to 14 July. For festival details, visit whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au

CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION NOW OPEN

Are you an aspiring storyteller? Enter the Lord Mayor's Creative Writing Awards to win a share of \$12,000 in prizes. Choose your literary path with one of our five writing categories: short stories, poetry, non-fiction, First Nations writers or this year's special feature category, Stories by Trans and Gender Diverse Writers. Entries close 3 June. Find out more at melbourne.vic.gov.au/writingawards

FREE EVENTS IN 2025

Are you looking to host an event in Melbourne in 2025? Our Event Partnership Program supports free, accessible events that make lasting memories for locals and visitors. Whether it's a community, music, sports, food, arts, or cultural event, we want to hear from you. Applications are open until 31 May. Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au and search Event Partnership Program to learn more.



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Your City of Melbourne community update

How we're helping keep the community safe

As the third most liveable city in the world, we take safety and security seriously here in Melbourne.

We know how important it is to feel safe in the city - it is the most fundamental aspect of a liveable city. If people don't feel safe, they won't want to live, work or visit here.

That's why we work closely with Victoria Police and other agencies to monitor antisocial behaviour and support city safety.



CREATING SAFER, MORE SECURE STREETS

This year, we've invested \$6 million in critical safety infrastructure and resources, including more safety lighting to reduce antisocial behaviour at night.

In partnership with the Victorian Government, we've expanded our closed-circuit television camera network into new neighbourhoods - like Carlton - with eight cameras installed in key locations like Lygon Street and Argle Square by July.

We've also upgraded our safe city cameras in the CBD, along with upgrading lighting in key precincts such as Bourke Street, between Exhibition and Spring streets.

We know police can't be everywhere at once but this network of closed-circuit TV surveillance cameras helps

create a safer environment and reduce crime levels by deterring potential offending and helping in crime detection.

The cameras operate in areas where antisocial behaviour or criminal activity is historically more likely to occur.

Signage is placed in the monitored areas to alert the community of the surveillance.

Our specially trained security contractors in our Safe City Cameras Program Control Room monitor these cameras 24 hours a day, seven days a week, recording incidents and alerting police.

The footage can also be viewed at police stations and on officers' devices when responding to an incident.

In the past decade, the Safe City Cameras Program has:

- Recorded 47,258 incidents
- Provided 9,706 copies of recorded footage to Victoria Police
- And transferred 30,160 occurrences of live vision to police and triple 000.

What started with 23 cameras in 1995 and a team of one has grown to a slick operation of 254 cameras and a mobile CCTV car, plus 11 dedicated contract security staff, comprising two round-the-clock operators and a full-time technician and apprentice.

And we're not stopping there. In May, we're adding a Safe City Supervisor role from Monday to Friday.

This will enhance our proactive monitoring capability on the streets, improve training of existing and new Safe City Operators, streamline our administrative functions by processing police applications for footage faster, and provide us with a resource to constantly look at improvement of the system and operations.



Our Safe City CCTV car, which operates from 10pm to 6am on Friday and Saturday nights, will also be expanded to Thursday nights this year.

This vehicle is fitted with 360-degree CCTV surveillance cameras to record in real-time with electronic media downloaded at the end of each shift.

The car's movements are directed via the Safe City Control Room and tasked to jobs where our permanent cameras can't view - for example, if there's an incident in a small laneway.

This means we are able to report live incidents of crime, with accurate descriptions and paths of travel, to triple 000, and support police responses.

This is just one example of our collaborative efforts with emergency services across the city.

TRENDS WE'RE SEEING IN MELBOURNE

We constantly identify and respond to emerging security trends.

One of these is an increase in high-level criminal damage and arson in some of our main amenity blocks in our parks.

Thanks to our security team's innovative approach, we're trialling an environmental sensor - the HALO - that can detect smoke, spray paint and yelling to alert us to incidents for potential monitoring.

The sensor is linked to our CCTV management system.

Already, footage has been provided to police from arson events in an amenity block in South Yarra; and incidents of arson have reduced in the past five months.

BOOSTING SECURITY FOR BUSINESS

Our investment in security infrastructure is not only about liveability, it's also about supporting our business community.

We know that security done well supports local business and gives customers the confidence to visit our local traders.

That's why we work with our business community, encouraging them to maintain their own security equipment - such as lighting, CCTV cameras, door hardware and signage - to enhance the perception of safety in and around a property.

This also includes reporting faulty public lighting, dumped rubbish, graffiti or overflowing bins so we can rectify this as soon as possible.

If you notice an issue, report it via our hotline on 9658 9658 or at melbourne.vic.gov.au/pages/report-issue

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Buxton Contemporary presents: *The same crowd never gathers twice*

Buxton Contemporary is set to unveil its latest exhibition titled *The same crowd never gathers twice*, running from May 10 to October 13.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



Featuring the works of six esteemed international and Australian artists, this exhibition explores the dynamic interplay between public spaces and the social constructs that shape collective experiences.

Curated by “one of the most exciting curators in Australia today” Annika Aitken, *The same crowd never gathers twice* pushes the boundaries of conventional arenas, delving into the implicit codes and structures that influence public behaviour.

Through mediums ranging from moving image to sound, sculptural intervention, and performance, the exhibited works dissect the social and structural architectures underpinning communal spaces.

Among the featured artists is local Melbourne talent and VCA lecturer, Cate Consandine, debuting her groundbreaking film *RINGER*.



“The form from which the work is exploring or responding to is roller derby and the idea of non-performing performance coming together in different configurations and moving apart again,” Ms Consandine told *Southbank News*.

“It’s thinking about performative strategies that are not in a traditional performative space – it’s a space of contest and a site of incredible speed and combat and violence between all-female players.”

Working with six female world championship roller derby players, Ms Consandine presents *RINGER* as a circular, three-channel projection, placing viewers within the space and encouraging an “active gaze”.

“When you enter the centre of the

work, you can’t see all screens at once, it places the viewer in a kind of space where they’re feeling this movement around them,” she said.

“Unlike action film sequences that might be directed by a male director that are very focal and are cut and edited in a particular way, I’m more interested in the peripheral gaze – in the sense of what you can’t see as well as what you can.”

Designed to be an interactive work and “get under the skin” of viewers, *RINGER* aims to explore “the notion of embodiment”, both in terms of the players’ physicality and the moving image.

“It’s quite a different work to a visual image or photograph, it’s something that transforms the viewer through a range of emotional and psychological registers and experiences,” she said.

“I’m hoping that viewers will leave the space and carry something of that with them into the world, but I think there’s also a really important contemplation in this work about violence and about those kinds of intensities that are part of our experience as human beings.”

Throughout the exhibition season, Buxton Contemporary will also host an extensive program of live events, including performances, talks, and a symposium.

The same crowd never gathers twice will run at Buxton Contemporary from May 10 to October 13. ●



Get to know a student’s experience studying at The University of Melbourne’s Faculty of Fine Arts and Music. **Xiaole Khan** is studying a Bachelor of Music (Honours) at the Melbourne Conservatorium of Music.



What attracted you to your study?

Melbourne Conservatorium of Music’s (MCM) world-class faculty and facilities as well as its location at the centre of the bustling arts scene of Melbourne. I was also extremely encouraged by my performance audition results and scholarship offer. It was really thrilling to be invited to be a part of a community of top musicians. I moved to Melbourne from Auckland for university, so it was quite a big decision to study at the Melbourne Conservatorium! But I feel I’ve found a sense of home both as an artist and as a person through my studies at the MCM. I remember walking across Princes Bridge in my first year and seeing the Arts Centre spire and lights of the city reflecting on the water and feeling extremely excited that I was a part of the city now too.

Describe a typical day or week?

I’m currently in my Honours year of specialising in composition. Beyond my academic subjects, I’ve also had a lot of fun getting involved in extra-curricular projects with my peers or through IgniteLab, the professional development programme at VCA and MCM led by Susan Eldridge. A typical week involves having a composition lesson with my teacher Miriama Young and then attending composition seminars with all composition students across all stages of our degrees. I also have a passion for research, so I am writing an Honours thesis this year through the thesis/dissertation elective.

What’s been your favourite experience?

Collaborating with other students! My most recent musical project *Comma Means Breathe* was the result of eight months of collaboration with four student composers, four world premieres, eight student performers, a guest choir, and excerpts from 10 hours of student interview recordings that snapshot the joys, struggles, hopes and fears of student life. The first half of the concert involved a collection of student-composed chamber works while the second half of the concert was a premiere of a five movement co-composed work for piano, percussion, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, two singers and electronics titled “comma means breathe” which excerpted and responded to recordings of student interviews. It was thrilling seeing our work culminate in a final, incredibly successful concert. ●





MARG ALEXANDER


**PHOTOGRAPHY
STUDIES COLLEGE**

Marg Alexander reignites her love of photography at PSC

Marg Alexander, a first-year Bachelor of Photography student at Photography Studies College (PSC), has embarked on a remarkable journey of rediscovering her passion for photography.

WORDS BY
GEORGIE ATKINS



Despite a "35-year gap" in-between picking up the camera, Marg's love for capturing landscapes, particularly flowers, has been reignited through her studies at PSC.

Her fascination with photography was first kindled when she delved into a black and white film elective at TAFE after finishing high school, where she learnt to produce and develop her own film.

"I was really keen back then but got stuck into working and starting a family and getting life going," Marg said.

"Photography slipped out of my mind for a lot of years, until my

children were adults and grown up and left home, then I had some time to follow my own hobbies."

Marg is particularly drawn to capturing the beauty of dying flower arrangements, where she enjoys the "post-production" of the photography process.

Utilising software such as Photoshop and Lightroom that she has become more familiar with through classes at PSC, Marg has been able to craft her own unique style of photography.

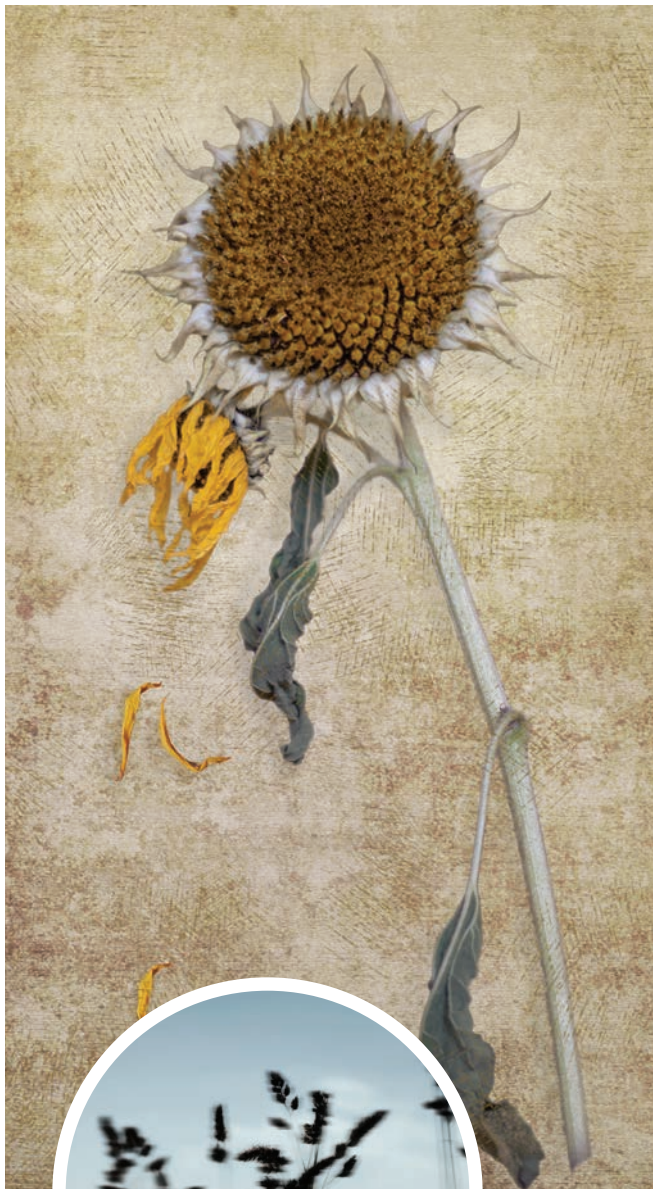
"I'm looking forward to working on my self-portraiture project, which is something I've not really done a lot of, but we have an assignment to work on it and I'm looking at putting a bit of a creative spin on it," she told *Southbank News*.

Describing her experience at PSC as a welcoming and familial environment, Marg finds solace and mindfulness in the art of photography, viewing it as a therapeutic activity and allowing her to express her creativity.

"I absolutely love the environment, it's a fantastic setup," she said.

"To be with like-minded adults is fantastic, and it feels like a great big family situation, it doesn't feel like tertiary education. I find it very calming and satisfying – it's my me time activity."

Despite the gap in time, Margaret's dedication to photography shines through in her commitment to learning and exploring new techniques. ●



Joel Bray presents new production at Malthouse in May

Aboriginal queer dancer Joel Bray's new work *Homo Pentecostus* will be staged at the Malthouse Theatre this month.

WORDS BY
RUIXUE SU



This is the story of how Joel came to be a secret queer identity in the 1990s under the influence of Pentecostalism.

This latest work blends choreography and theatre in a series of confessions about how to be yourself and not lose your family and community.

Homo Pentecostus is an unusual play that will be an adventure of self-discovery and liberation.

Joel is a Melbourne actor, dancer and writer. As a gay Indigenous man who grew up largely in a white world, Joel found his purpose and identity through dance.

Joel's grew up in a Pentecostal household with his devout white mother and stepdad – but he also spent a lot of his time with his Indigenous father, a land rights activist who was heavily involved in the land rights movement of the 1980s. He spent his life flicking between two worlds, but never felt that he fitted into either of them.

Later, Joel realised that he was gay, and the lack of support from his mother and stepfather because of his faith made him even more broken. Influenced and inspired by his living environment, he created *Homo Pentecostus*.

"This work has been bubbling away inside me for years. I'm so excited to be on the cusp of sharing it with audiences," Joel said.

Homo Pentecostus runs from May 10 to 25.

malthousetheatre.com.au ●

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Find out more



Two new train stations for Southbank

The state government has announced two new underground train stations to service Southbank as part of its 2014-15 State Budget.

The new train line will go underground at Southern Cross Station, travel under the Yarra River near South Wharf, and eventually emerge at South Yarra. It includes two new stations, called Montague and Domain.

Montague Station will be on the border of Southbank and new suburb Fishermans Bend, while Domain Station will be underneath the Domain interchange on St Kilda Rd. The two new stations will also have tram interchanges.

The Melbourne Rail Link project also includes a train link to the airport. This plan replaces the Melbourne Metro Plan, which had four new stations, including one at Domain. But before we get too excited at the estimated \$8.5-\$11 billion investment, just \$40 million (less than 0.5 per cent) is committed to the 2014-15 Budget.

Funnily enough, there's an election before the other 99.5 per cent of the money on the project will be spent.

Construction is due to begin in mid-2017.

Premier Denis Napthine said the tunnel would accommodate for the growth in the area. "This is about the future. It is about building a better Victoria by ensuring we provide the services Victorians will need as our population grows," Dr Napthine explained.

"The Melbourne Rail Link will support the growing office and residential precinct in the west of the CBD and will further develop Southern Cross as a transport hub," he added.

"The Melbourne Rail Link will help ensure Melbourne's position as one of the world's most liveable cities."

Public Transport Minister Terry Mulder said: "The 2014-15 Victorian State Budget will transform Victoria's public transport network by building a better Victoria through major new job-creating infrastructure." ●

How lovely to see the autumn rains

Our garden beds have been refreshed ready for autumn and winter planting. Rocket and garlic chives have been very popular, while the chillies and eggplants have struggled in the wind.

WORDS BY
RAHUL SUJAN &
SEEMA MISRA THAKUR

At our first meeting on April 13, we held an Australian Native Edibles Workshop at Boyd Community Hub. The workshop was conducted by Melissa – a qualified horticulturist and Gardens for Wildlife gardening guide.

The workshop was completely booked out and attended by enthusiastic gardeners and budding green thumbs alike. The participants learnt about the native species planting rules and how Victorian native edibles could add new flavours to their recipes in the kitchen.

A lemon myrtle tree (check our socials for our lemon myrtle cookie recipe) was planted in our garden tree tub along with sea celery, native mint, appleberry, muntries and native violets. All participants went home with a new potted native edible plant to add to their balcony gardens.

The Southbank Sustainability Group (SSG) hosted Lorraine, a visiting US exchange student studying community gardens in Australia. Volunteers introduced her to Australian native plant species and gardening practices in Melbourne.

As we go into autumn, there are opportunities to integrate sustainability into daily routines through simple, seasonal adjustments. Here are some tips to get started:

- **Energy sealing:** seal drafts and install thermal curtains to minimise heat loss.
- **Autumn gardening:** plant seasonal vegetables and herbs like spinach, kale, and broccoli.
- **Local produce:** buy seasonal fruits and vegetables like apples and pumpkins from local farmers markets, such as South Melbourne Market.
- **Eco-transport:** as it's cooler, it's perfect to bike or walk and cut down on motor vehicle use.
- **Composting:** compost autumn leaves and kitchen scraps to enrich your garden soil.
- **Layering up:** wear extra layers indoors to avoid excessive heating.



- **Efficient lighting:** utilise natural daylight; switch to energy-efficient bulbs as days shorten.
- **Heating maintenance:** regularly service heating systems for winter efficiency.
- **Cash-in your containers:** as a more general tip, for container recycling (including aluminium cans, plastic bottles, glass bottles, paperboard cartons, steel bottles/cans, etc.), Southbank residents can use the over-the-counter plastic bottle collection point at Great Asia World (located at 200 City Rd), or the South Melbourne Collection Depot at 30 Thistlethwaite St. For the most up-to-date information on this, please visit cdsvic.org.au/locations.
- **Medicine Blister Pack Recycling:** blister pack foils are also recyclable at Chemist Warehouse.

Upcoming events in May

Food Sustainability Workshop/Empower "Give Hunger The Boot!" at Boyd Community Hub – May 25. Admission is free and registration is required via Eventbrite.

Festival at Boyd – May 19. Come for pre-loved treasures, live music, table tennis, and children's activities. Look out for interactive and informative activities, games, and food!



About the group
SSG is a solution-focused community group of Southbank residents, working to bring positive change in sustainability practices. Article Input by Rahul Sujan and Seema Misra Thakur. ●

For more information:
facebook.com/southbank-sustainabilitygroup or email southbanksustainability@gmail.com



Ascension Day Thursday 9 May

7:30pm Vespers

with Bach cantata

Lobet Gott in seinen Reichen (BWV11)
for 4 soloists, choir, strings, 2 oboes,
2 flutes, 3 trumpets, timpani and continuo
St Johns Bach Choir and Orchestra
directed by Graham Lieschke
Judith Dodsworth (soprano)
Sally-Anne Russell (mezzosoprano)
Timothy Reynolds (tenor)
Christopher Tonkin (bass)

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



St Johns
Southgate

Every Sunday
9am Worship

METRO TUNNEL



Heritage-inspired art for Anzac Station

The Metro Tunnel's five new stations will create a new city art trail, with works by some of Australia's foremost artists.

At Anzac Station work has begun to install *Future Wall Painting*, by Dr Raafat Ishak, head of painting at the Victorian College of the Arts. Designed to be taken in as you pass by

on a journey, Ishak's work is a nod to the history of Melbourne's famous St Kilda Rd boulevard, visible as passengers enter the station's Albert Rd entrance and begin the descent underground.

"The overriding concept behind my design for Anzac Station is to create a work that people will walk past at that very special moment of moving from above ground to the tunnel underneath," Ishak says.

"The work becomes part of that experience of being in transit."

Sure to brighten up even the gloomiest of Melbourne days, the bright and colourful art is printed on glass panels and will be displayed in the pedestrian underpass below St Kilda Rd.

The abstract work features native flora and fauna in reference to the pre-colonial landscape of the area, in combination with architectural and cultural landmarks.

In his role at the Victorian College of the Arts, Ishak is just a stone's throw away from Anzac Station teaching upcoming artists.

Future Wall Painting was produced in Melbourne by local manufacturers Viridian Glass at their Clayton South facility.

Construction at Anzac Station continues, with scaffolding coming down near the Shrine of Remembrance station entrance after the structure beams and entrance roof were installed.

Domain Rd tram tracks have also been connected to St Kilda Rd following around-the-clock work in the April school holidays.

Crews are preparing for the return of the South African Soldiers' Memorial on Albert Rd, after it was taken down for Metro Tunnel construction in 2018. The memorial has been refurbished and will be installed close to its previous site in the Albert Rd Reserve.

The Metro Tunnel will connect the busy Sunbury and Cranbourne/Pakenham lines via a new tunnel under the city, creating an end-to-end rail line from Melbourne's north-west to its south-east, freeing up space in the City Loop to run more trains on other lines. ●



SOUTHBANK RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Open space

We note some exciting, but interesting, items on the council Future Melbourne Committee agenda for May 7.

Firstly, movement on the City Road Master Plan. They called the agenda item an update, yet it was only providing an update on one specific item of the master plan. The master plan is quite a significant plan which covers Alexandra Ave to Clarendon St. Southbank Residents' Association (SRA) has been an integral part of the engagement which began in February 2014, including significant community consultation.

The City Road Master Plan was supposed to be completed in 2023 yet very little has occurred since it was endorsed in 2016. Almost every year since its endorsement SRA has been questioning and advocating for funds to be allocated

to the budget at each council budget presentation. We had some small wins on small aspects of the plan thanks to the support of Cr Rohan Leppert.

The council officers are also claiming the expansion of the bicycle network along City Rd as complete, when in our opinion, it hasn't started. We will be questioning them on this when we make our presentation to the council Future Melbourne Committee.

SRA is delighted that finally we are making some traction on the undercroft redevelopment. This is an important component to Southbank's open space fabric which is long overdue.

However, we have concerns where the funds will come from to complete this project. It will be a significant investment at a time when the City of Melbourne is committed to its \$300 million Greenline project. There is very little left! Sadly, I am not getting my hopes up that this will be finished anytime soon, let alone started.

Another motion at the same meeting is for an opportunity to deliver new open space to

Southbank. This space is identified as Normanby Road Reserve, directly behind the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

It proposes to reclaim the whole southern carriageway and create an additional 1.2 hectares of open space. The project would cost \$22.5 million to deliver and take around three years.

This is certainly good news for the residents whom live on Whiteman St and surrounds. The council's open space policy advises residents should be within a 500-metre walk of their nearest space, so this fits perfectly for those locals.

However, this will also mean most of the \$25 million currently being held to source open space in Southbank will be spent on this project, which leaves me to question what plan the council will have to continue to provide open space for Southbank. The council's policy is 22 sqm of open space per resident and currently this is well below three sqms – a significant shortfall, one that will never be balanced.

Yet, the council has decided

to sneak a line into the motion to not proceed with Southbank Structure Plan Recommendation L3 – "Prepare a master plan and business case for decking of the City Link tunnel entrance".

This proposed open space, which was spriuked in the 2010 Southbank Structure Plan, was the answer to Southbank's open space shortfall. Council planners had the community believing they had it all under control. However, since this announcement in the structure plan 14 years ago SRA has been questioning when council will do the costings and feasibility study to no success.

It is a travesty council officers believe they can just discount this significant component of the structure plan with a simple line in a motion, which even more surprisingly is on a topic unrelated to the Citylink decking.

SRA will be advocating for this line to be removed from the motion and for the council to at least consult with the community on the significance of this and where to next. Once again SRA won't allow the council to feel they can

hoodwink us as they have tried to many times in the past, such as declaring Southbank Boulevard project finished (stage six is still outstanding), and stage one of Southbank promenade completed when there is still a long way to go.

Please council, stop giving us this lip-service and give us some respect and have some open and honest conversations with the community.

This is a big meeting, and we will be holding them to account to provide for Southbank.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at Southbank Residents' Association. If you are not a member, please consider supporting our work by signing-up via Facebook or our website: southbankresidents.org.au. It's only \$10 per FY year. ●

Tony Penna
PRESIDENT



Scott Alley is now open for business

Works are now complete at Scott Alley to prepare a pedestrian entrance to the new Town Hall Station.

With Scott Alley now open, your favourite businesses are looking forward to seeing you. Come check out the laneway and support your local favourites.

For more information on the Metro Tunnel, visit metro.tunnel.vic.gov.au

Supporting business

Construction partner:

CYP-BS00407



QUESTION:

What's the most relaxing way to enjoy Southbank?

Faces of Southbank



TREVOR

For me it's to having my lunch on the bench overlooking the river every day.



LUCY

Sitting on the bench and reading a book.



GRANT

Just sit and watch the river and people go by.



POLLY

Having an ice-cream and watch the boats go by.



OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

Keeping watch on your property manager

Choosing the right property manager for your investment property is essential, and a vigilant eye needs to be kept on them too.

One of the more lucrative business models associated with the short-term letting industry is for a company to take a long-term lease of a couple of dozen apartments within the one building, and then offer them as short-term rentals on booking platforms such as Airbnb, Booking.com and hotel.com.

There are great economies of scale for a business operating this business model because the cleaning services and changes of linen can all be done by the same cleaners within the same building, without having to send the cleaners all over the city to different buildings.

For instance, a company can acquire a standard two-bedroom residential

apartment on a 12-month lease for say, \$650 per week. It can then let out the unit on the internet for between \$200 to \$250 per night, plus passing on costs for cleaning.

If done right, a plucky operator can generate revenue of \$70k per annum, and only pay \$30k to the landlord. Replicate that in another 15 to 20 apartments and an operator could net almost \$1 million in revenue per annum.

What has been discovered however, is that hardly any of the owners of the apartments that have been incorporated into these types of accommodation businesses are actually aware their apartment is being used for short-term letting at all.

Lazy property managers are usually the reason as to why this occurs. The agent lists the apartment for rent, and then does not engage in enough due diligence to work out whether the person that rents it from the agent then immediately relists it on the short-term letting platforms.

Owners of investment properties that

reside overseas have repeatedly been targeted by these short-term letting companies, as these owners often do not keep a close eye on what is happening onsite and rely on their property manager to be their eyes and ears.

The unfortunate position that these investment property owners may find themselves in is if the Australian Tax Office (ATO) assesses the activity being run from the apartment as part of a commercial enterprise, rather than as a residential property.

This can impact lot owners' ability to negatively gear the property, even if they are completely unaware as to what the tenant is up to.

The ATO can also audit retrospectively and assess lot owners for unpaid tax and penalties dating back a number of years.

So, it pays for investors to make the time to carry out inspections themselves periodically, and to ask proper questions of their property managers, and to hold them accountable. ●



Tom Bacon

STRATA TITLE LAWYERS

TOM@STRATATITLAWYERS.COM.AU

New public art announcement and pop-up basketball courts open at Melbourne Square

Guardian Lion, an eye-catching nearly 20-metre-wide multi-coloured piece of public art from local artist Troy Emery will soon become a Southbank fixture when installed on Melbourne Square's Power St-facing wall later this year.

WORDS BY
JACK HAYES



Global art firm Urban Arts Project (UAP) was called upon to oversee the competition which distilled down three finalists, with *Guardian Lion* coming out on top due to its vibrancy, ability to engage with the site and representation of Melbourne's rich tapestry of public artworks.

Emery, whose works have exhibited in the NGV and been commissioned by global fashion house Hermes, drew inspiration from traditional Chinese architecture and Japanese symbolism, whereby lions and dogs guard the entrances to shrines and

signify strength.

Inspiration also came from the Victorian folklore, come conspiracy theory, of the "Grampians big cat" – a mythical big cat living in the Grampians mountain range.

"I want *Guardian Lion* to make people happy, to give people a sense of companionship as they travel through the area, like a friendly neighbourhood cat that greets passers-by," Emery said. "*Guardian Lion* is a surrogate pet for the neighbourhood and for the city."

Guardian Lion measures in at 15.4 metres

in height, 18.7 metres wide and is cut from aluminium with LED flex lighting. The artwork is expected to be installed later this year.

From art to sports, it will come as no surprise to many Southbankers to learn the Melbourne Square pop-up basketball courts are now open.

Despite being open and used by the public for more than six weeks at the time of publishing, *Southbank News* understands the City of Melbourne is still finalising its funding commitment towards the project.

First announced in April 2023 by this masthead, the temporary basketball courts have been warmly welcomed by Southbankers following the demolition of the Boyd Park basketball courts to make way for developer PDG's 42-storey "Boyd Village", which will be home to 434 build-to-rent (BTR) apartments.

A permanent basketball court will be installed in the coming years at the Kings Way undercroft as part of the City Road Master Plan.

The public can access the Melbourne Square courts from 11am to 5pm daily. ●

Let's get the "undercroft" on the national agenda

Southbank, known for its soaring skyscrapers and bustling streets, stands as the most densely populated neighbourhood in both the City of Melbourne and Australia.

WORDS BY
DAVID HAMILTON - PRESIDENT



However, despite its vibrant atmosphere, residents lament the glaring absence of social and community development facilities.

The genesis of this issue lies in the initial land use planning for Southbank, which overlooked the essential social development needs of its future inhabitants. The planning process occurred on a building-by-building basis, neglecting considerations for recreational requirements.

Consequently, Southbank falls significantly below the open space standards set by the council, leaving a stark absence of facilities for passive and active recreational activities.

In response to persistent advocacy by Southbank3006, the council has initiated steps to address this gap. One notable project involves the transformation of the ACCA forecourt by the council and the state government, replacing granitic sand



with a green space for passive recreation – a project for which Southbank3006 was the prime advocate. Structural limitations imposed by the Citylink tunnel confine the use of this space for passive recreation. Similarly, Southbank3006 advocates for investment and expansion of the Sturt St reserve into adjacent land parcels used as a car park.

In 2022 the removal of the only active recreation element in Southbank, a basketball court at Boyd Park, to accommodate a residential tower in late 2022, underscored the lack of foresight by a previous council

administration's planning and their total disregard for resident social and community development needs.

Although a temporary basketball facility has been negotiated with OSK, the developer of Melbourne Square, it remains evident that there is a substantial gap in active recreation facilities. The immediate response from young adults and families to the OSK temporary facility highlights the unmet demand for such amenities in the community. Likewise, the playground developed as part of the Southbank Boulevard project sees active daily use, indicating the community's desire for active recreational spaces.

Reflecting on these issues, Southbank3006 proposes a comprehensive solution to the council:

Redevelopment of the "undercroft"

The vast area under Kings Way, known as the "undercroft", presents an opportunity for the development of various active recreation facilities such as half-courts for basketball, netball, padel board and pickleboard, soccer, outdoor gym spaces, and practice nets for cricket. This underutilised space, akin to Crown's use of another part of the undercroft, holds immense potential with proper planning and forethought.

Conscious investment decision

Instead of allocating resources to neighbourhoods already well-served with recreation facilities, such as Parkville and South Yarra, the council should prioritise

addressing the needs of Southbank. This strategic investment would tackle the deficiencies rather than relegating them to the "too hard" basket.

Government collaboration

The project requires collaboration at all levels of government. The Commonwealth Government should provide financial support, the state government should facilitate access to land, and the council should lead delivery, management, and integration with the local community.

The redevelopment of the undercroft not only addresses the council's diversity, health wellbeing, and neighbourhood strategies, but most importantly enhances the liveability of Southbank residents, spanning from Montague St to the heart of the neighbourhood.

While acknowledging the complexity of the project, Southbank3006 emphasises the necessity of government support, Commonwealth and state, to rectify past failures of governments and developers to deliver essential recreation facilities to the community.

At ACCA, progress has been made in closing the passive recreation gap. Now, the focus shifts to the undercroft, offering a similar opportunity to repurpose a wasteland to address the active recreation shortfall and pave the way for a healthier, more vibrant Southbank community.

Join us at southbank3006.com to become part of making Southbank Liveable. ●

APARTMENT LIVING

Living in a world of apartments is complex, so ask your question

Inside every building is a story but it is a complex story that is told from many different perspectives. Join us as we answer your questions so we can all understand that world a little bit better.

WORDS BY
TAHLA MOLLAH - CONTRIBUTOR
COMMERCIAL FACILITY SERVICES

Q: What's the best approach for handling difficult neighbours?

A: This can be challenging, but approaching the situation with patience, empathy, and open communication is often best.

It's important to address any concerns respectfully to understand their perspective while also expressing your own needs.

Initiating a friendly conversation or mediation with the help of a building manager or community mediator can often lead to a resolution that benefits both parties. If the issue persists, documenting incidents and seeking assistance from local authorities or strata management may be necessary to ensure a peaceful living environment.

In cases that escalate to a dispute, residents can file a formal complaint via the owners' corporation (OC) manager, which can only be lodged against a lot owner, occupier of a lot or the OC manager and not a third party. The *Owners' Corporations Act 2006* outlines a process for handling formal complaints, comprising three steps:

- **Internal complaints process:** lodging complaints with the OC manager, and then following a procedure that includes holding a grievance meeting with the grievance committee and, if as a consequence, issuing a breach notice. Breach notices typically allow 28 days for the respondent to remedy the breach before it would escalate. If the complainant isn't satisfied with the outcome, they have the option to resolve the dispute via the Dispute

Settlement Centre of Victoria (DSCV) or go directly to VCAT.

- **Resolving disputes with the DSCV:** Parties can seek assistance from DSCV, which aims to facilitate resolution through mutual agreement. This is optional, and many residents may find this path is quicker and more cost effective. DSCV can only try to resolve a dispute if all parties agree to take part in this process.
- **Applying to VCAT:** If disputes remain unresolved, parties can apply to VCAT, which has authority to issue various orders and penalties.

Throughout the process, record-keeping is essential, and any complaints and actions that have occurred since the previous meeting must be reported at the OC's AGM. VCAT prioritises cases based on urgency and can issue a variety of orders to resolve disputes.

Q: How long can I hold lift doors open?

A: Only momentarily to accommodate additional passengers, but it's important to not hold it for too long. Extended holding or misuse can lead to breakdowns and lift shutdowns. Repair costs are substantial, so residents should be conscious of this.

Technicians emphasise that given a lift's continuous operation, they are programmed to regularly assess their safety status. Should an obstruction persist at the doors for an extended period, the lift automatically shuts off to mitigate the risk of injury. Although some lifts may self-correct, it often requires a technician to ensure proper functionality is restored.

True story

Who knew that the role of a building manager would transform into a professional translator overnight?

One day, a resident approached, holding a translating app on their phone. As the building manager I mirrored the action, and before we knew it, we were having a conversation in entirely different languages! It looks like building managers have added "multilingual mediator" to their resume. Indeed, you never know what surprises each day holds in this job!

Have a question you'd like answered? Submit yours to admin@commercialfs.net.au and stay tuned to future editions. ●

STATE MP

Supporting the rights of renters

We are delivering a targeted campaign across Victoria to ensure renters know their rights and rental providers know their legal obligations.

WORDS BY
NINA TAYLOR MP

Every Victorian renter has the right to live in a safe and secure home – that is why we introduced the minimum standards back in 2021 and it is why we established the renting taskforce to crack down on rental law breaches.

Our new renting taskforce will be scaling up operations throughout the year to crack down on offences such as renting out properties that do not meet the minimum standards – but in the meantime this campaign will ensure everyone interacting with our rental market is aware of their rights and obligations.

A state-wide campaign has begun, giving easy-to-understand information to Victorian rental providers about their obligations to deliver a safer and secure home, and to renters about their rights while renting.

Rental properties in Victoria must meet minimum safety and quality standards and include things that people would reasonably expect of a home – like a functional kitchen, lockable external doors, and being structurally sound and weatherproof.

We will not tolerate wrongdoing, but we also know most people want to do the right thing. This campaign will support

rental providers and agents to know what they need to do to ensure their rental property meets the legal requirements.

Letting a new renter move into a rental property that doesn't meet these standards is a criminal offence, with maximum penalties of more than \$11,000 for individuals and \$57,000 for companies.

There has been an increase in reports of poorly maintained rentals with repairs and maintenance in the top five issues that people contacted Consumer Affairs Victoria about last financial year.

The Labor Government recently announced a dedicated renting taskforce, backed by a \$4 million investment, to crack down on offences like renting out properties that don't meet the minimum standards.

The renting taskforce builds on work being done through the Labor Government's Housing Statement, including banning all types of rental bidding, restricting rent increases between successive fixed-term rental agreements, and extending the notice of rent increase and notice to vacate periods to 90 days.

We're also establishing Rental Dispute Resolution Victoria and delivering a Rental Stress Support Package to support tenants doing it tough.

For more information on the minimum standards for rental properties, visit consumer.vic.gov.au/rentalstandards ●

Quiz



- 1. Which theatre recently received a donation of \$15 million from the Ian Potter Foundation?
2. What word can refer to the defensive walls surrounding a town or the process of adding spirits to wine?
3. Gables, Gilead and Glebe are suburbs in which Australian city?
4. Name the elven queen in The Lord of the Rings, played by Cate Blanchett in the film series.
5. The Melbourne Recital Centre has received \$2 million to construct a 'transformative' new public arts space, with breathtaking views of the Melbourne Arts Precinct. Where will it be?
6. Dr Carmen Lawrence was premier of which Australian state from 1990-1993?
7. Which Marvel star appeared in the music video for Elton John's I Want Love in 2001?
8. What was the original function of the heritage-listed building known as 'The Bond Store'?
9. THE LUME Melbourne will present the work of which famous artist in its latest exhibition?
10. What is the name of John David Washington's (pictured) character in the movie Tenet?
11. Which acclaimed Australian artist created the monumental public artwork titled Angel located near the entrance of the Southgate complex in Southbank?
12. During the mid-20th century, Southbank faced challenges such as urban decay and decline. What factors contributed to this decline, leading to the area's neglect?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS
conditions and suburbanisation trends
of industrial facilities, changing economic
Protagonist 11. Deborah Halpern 12. Closure
Melbourne 9. Leonardo da Vinci 10. The
goods imported through the Port of
8. A warehouse and storage facility for
Australia 7. Robert Downey Jr.
1. State Theatre 2. Fortification 3. Sydney
4. Galadriel 5. On the rooftop 6. Western

5x5 No. 036

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

Grid for 5x5 puzzle with letters A, P, E, A, O, D, E, S, E, G, D

SOLUTIONS
DOWN: ABATE, PALED, PRONG, LOUSE, ENDED
ACROSS: APPLE, BARON, ALOUD, TENSE, EDGED

PUZZLES AND PAGINATION
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May, 2024

Sudoku

No. 035

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

EASY

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

HARD

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

SOLUTIONS

EASY

Solution grid for Easy Sudoku

HARD

Solution grid for Hard Sudoku

Wordfind

Theme: Forests

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

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

- ASPEN, BARK, BRANCHES, CEDAR, CONIFERS, CYPRESS, EUCALYPTS, FAUNA, FIR, FLORA, GLADE, HABITAT, LARCH, LEAVES, MOSS, PINE, SEQUOIAS, TIMBER, TREES, WOODLAND

Secret message: In green shadows

Crossword

No. 035

ACROSS

- 1 Schools (9)
6 Vote for (5)
9 Establish (3,2)
10 Ad (9)
11 Reject (5)
12 Listed in a hierarchy (6)
15 Attacker (9)
17 Discover (5)
18 Felony (5)
19 Provisional (9)
20 Resting (6)
23 Cars (5)
26 Bandit (9)
27 Earth in Latin (5)
28 Result (5)
29 Dangled (9)

DOWN

- 1 Aid (10)
2 Benevolent (10)
3 Dear (9)
4 Major (9)
5 Faint (5)
6 Summon (5)
7 Discharge (4)
8 Aquarium (4)
13 Enlisted (10)
14 Comprehend (10)
16 Dogged (9)
17 Underwrite (9)

Crossword grid with numbers 1-29

- 21 Subject (5)
22 Sporting sides (5)
24 Unemployed (4)
25 Purposes (4)

SOLUTION

Solution grid for Crossword

Codeword

No. 035

Codeword grid with letters W, Q, W

SOLUTIONS

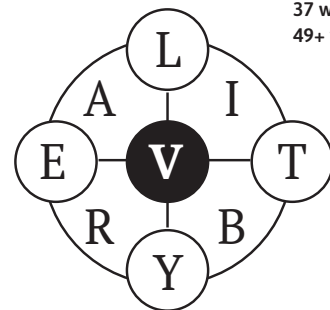
Solution grid for Codeword

9-Letter

No. 035

Today's Focus:
25 words: Good
37 words: Very good
49+ words: Excellent

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



Reference: Collins Concise English Dictionary

SOLUTIONS
alive, aver, avert, bevy, brave, bravely, brevity, evil, lave, laver, levity, levy, live, liver, liverr, rave, ravel, rival, rive, rivet, rive, travel, trave, travel, vail, vale, vail, varlet, vary, veal, veil, vela, velar, verbal, verily, vert, very, viable, viably, vial, vibe, vibrate, vie, viler, viral, virelay, viree, vital, vlei

WHAT'S ON May



Discover Southbank this May with cultural extravaganzas, culinary delights, and captivating performances to be enjoyed by the whole family.



BRANDENBURG – BAROQUE KALEIDOSCOPE

This is no ordinary night at the orchestra! Relish the sounds of the past intertwining with the creative verve of the present with classics featuring the homegrown stars of Australia's early music scene. **Melbourne Recital Centre, corner Southbank Blvd and Sturt St**

MAY 9, 11 AND 12



THE SAME CROWD NEVER GATHERS TWICE

This new group exhibition tests the limits of the 'arena' — the setting where people come together to witness and participate in public life. **Buxton Contemporary, Dodds St, Southbank**

MAY 10 - OCT 13, 11AM - 5PM



NAT BARTSCH QUARTET – BUSY/QUIET

Experience the evocative and transformative music of acclaimed pianist and composer Nat Bartsch. melbournerecital.com.au/events/2024/nat-bartsch-quartet-busyquiet

Melbourne Recital Centre, corner Southbank Blvd and Sturt St

FRIDAY MAY 17, 7PM



CHARLES MAIMAROSIA

Witness tradition and innovation come together through the evocative music of Solomon Islands singer Charles Maimarosia. **Melbourne Recital Centre, Corner Southbank Blvd and Sturt St** melbournerecital.com.au/events/2024

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 7PM



FESTIVAL@BOYD SOUTHBANK

With a mission to foster a sense of belonging and celebrate the city's multicultural community, FAB Southbank promises an inclusive experience filled with activities, music, dance and delectable cuisine. **207 City Rd, Southbank**

SUNDAY MAY 19, 10AM - 4PM



PURE SOUTH BOUCHARD VS TASMANIA WINE DINNER

Guests will be treated to Champagne on arrival, 5 courses, and 2 matched wines per course. Inspired by each wine course, the team will pair only the freshest produce for the most premium dining experience puresouth.com.au

MONDAY, MAY 20, 6.30PM



COOKING CLASS (TIRAMISU) @ LA CAMERA

To celebrate 25 years in Southgate, 20 years of our innovative event nights and over 40 years in Melbourne, La Camera will be giving away their secret Venetian Tiramisu recipe, later this month. Book online or call 9699 3600. **MR2/3 Southgate Ave, Southbank**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29



LAURE PROUVOST: OUI MOVE IN YOU @ ACCA

Continuing the annual ACCA International series of solo exhibitions by influential artists on the international stage, the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art presents *Oui Move in You*, a major solo exhibition by French artist Laure Prouvost. **111 Sturt St**

UNTIL JUNE 10, 10AM - 5PM



AC BY MARRIOTT FREE-FLOW FIESTA

Get ready to embark on a Spanish culinary escapade like no other at Sorolla! In celebration of World Gin Day, immerse in a Free Flow Fiesta with four Saturday evenings of tantalizing tapas in June. **201 Normanby Rd, Southbank**

JUNE 8, 15, 22 AND 29, 6.30PM



STUDY PHOTOGRAPHY PART TIME IN THE EVENING OR DAY

Learn skills with likeminded people: Landscape; street; still life; creative expression; digital workflow, for all ages and skill levels. Register for an upcoming info session. psc.edu.au

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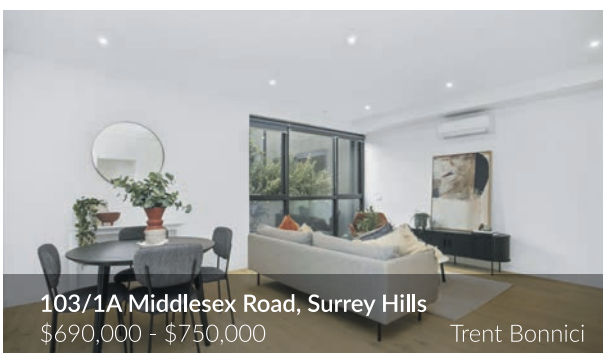
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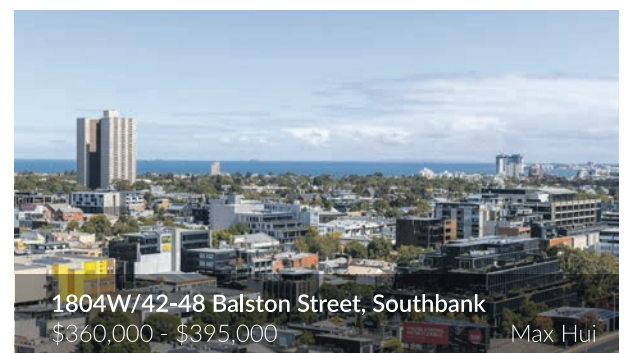
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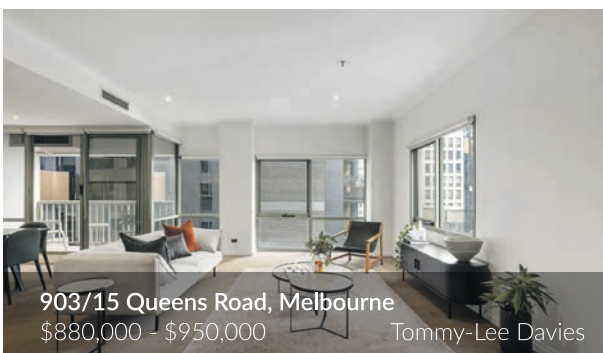
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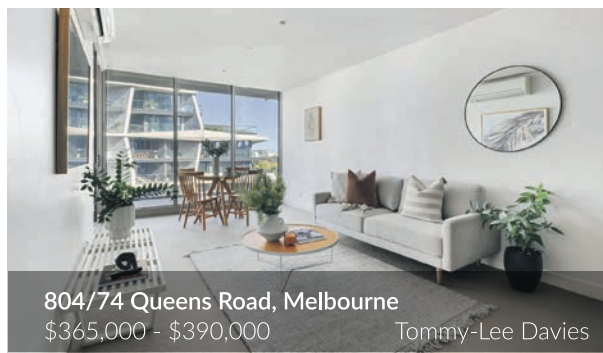
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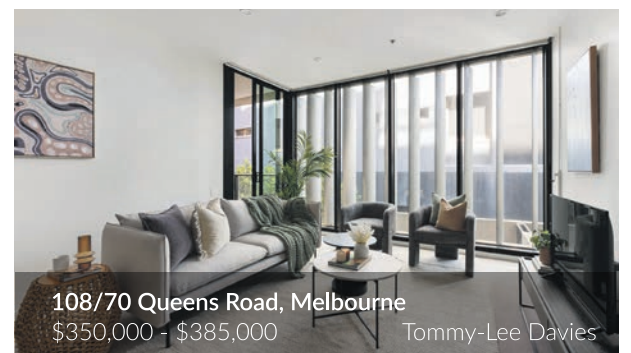
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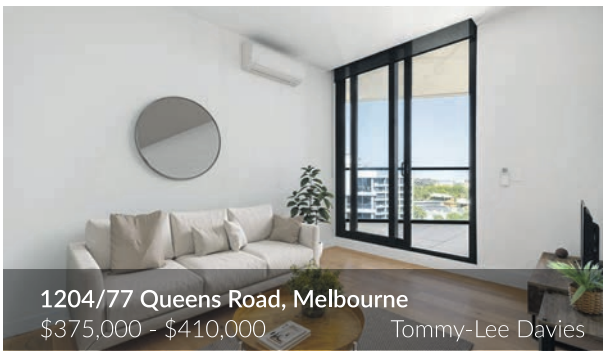
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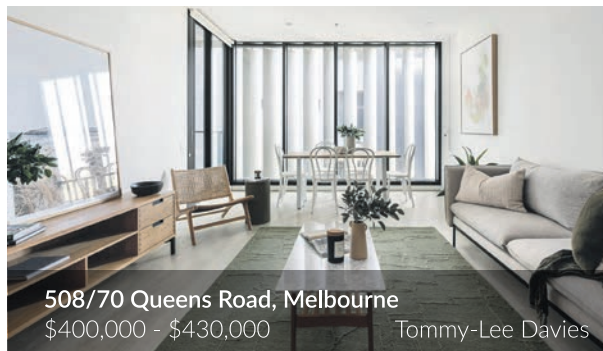
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\$350,000 - \$385,000
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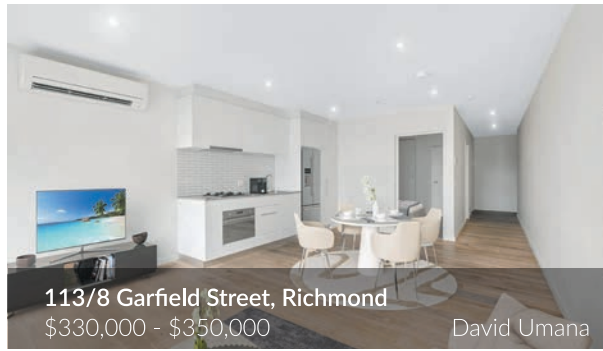
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Tommy-Lee Davies



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