

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Docklands offered major attraction

Exclusive
By Bethany Williams

A one-of-a-kind giant fountain and flame show in Victoria Harbour would attract more than five million people to Docklands annually, according to the consortium behind the bold concept.

The developers conservatively estimate the fountain show would generate at least \$230 million for Victoria each year.

The plan, being touted by the FCT Flames and Avante-Garde de Studio, has the support of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, which says it would put Docklands on the map as a visitor destination.

"It will make Docklands a must-see destination," Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell said.

FCT Flames general manager of business development Mark Ryan said the proposal paired both fountains and flames, something he says has never been done in a permanent attraction.

"Fountains captivate the crowds and we have designed a permanent show for Docklands that will be one of the best in the world," Mr Ryan said.

The fountain, which could also be transformed into a floating performance and event stage, would be located in Victoria Harbour, at the end of Central Pier.

Choreographed to music, the fountain would be programmed to music during the day and flames, pyrotechnics, video projection and lasers could be added at night for an even more awe-inspiring show.



The consortium behind the fountain and flame show proposal say it would transform Docklands.

With each show running for around 15 minutes, the fountain could be programmed to run multiple times per day or just a few nights per week.

It could also be programmed to match particular themes or special events.

Music would play a big part in the fountain show but wouldn't disrupt surrounding residents, with speakers designed to direct sound below the first floor. The fountain show could also play silently, with viewers tuning in via wi-fi headsets.

Readers can get a better idea of the scope of the proposal by visiting the Docklands TV YouTube channel and watching this clip http://youtu.be/R_5zugCFij4

The consortium responsible for the proposal includes FCT Flames, the company that built the cauldron for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, the Athens Olympic rings and the London petals.

"In fact, if you have watched any of the

Olympic games since 2000, you have seen our work," FCT Flames CEO David Retallack said.

"We are the best in the world at entertaining the masses with flames and we want to do this in Docklands."

The company is working in partnership with Peter Kok of Avante-Garde de Studio, which has built iconic fountain shows internationally.

"My work is very distinctive and you will know the dancing cranes in Singapore or the fantastic Banpo Bridge in Korea," Mr Kok said.

According to Mr Kok, the fountain and flame show would be a unique attraction in the southern hemisphere and would generate over \$230 million in economic activity annually.

The proposal is yet to receive council or state government approval and has not been funded.

Mr Ryan said the fountain would cost over \$10 million to build along with annual operating costs of \$600,000, but foresaw no issues with securing funding for the project.

"At a cost of over \$10 million we believe that corporate and state investment will bring this project to life easily."

According to Mr Ryan, the fountain would easily provide a return on council, state and corporate investment through increased visitation, increasing investment returns on Docklands properties, advertising revenue and sponsored events.

"We know in Dubai the fountain system cost \$230 million and has paid for itself 10 times over," Mr Ryan said. "We believe this would revitalise Docklands within 24 hours."

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce is certainly convinced by the plan.

"Looking at the figures around the world

Continued on page 4.

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It could take up to 75 years for the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel to turn a profit, if passenger numbers during its first year of operation are anything to go by.

In December the *Herald Sun* newspaper reported the wheel had carried "more than 300,000 passengers" since opening 12 months earlier.

Melbourne Star Management confirmed this number and its CEO Chris Kelly told *Docklands News* the company was "delighted" with the first year of operations.

But this was despite it falling short of the predicted 1.5 million passengers who were expected to ride the wheel annually.

In October 2008, former Southern Star chairman Fred Maybury predicted 40,000 people would ride the wheel every day, totally 1.5 million passengers per year.

At the launch of the Southern Star the premier of the day, John Brumby, said Victoria would benefit from 100 permanent and ongoing jobs in tourism.

Based on the costs of a standard \$32 adult ticket, 300,000 passengers equates to \$9.6 million income in the wheel's first year of operation.

After deducting annual staff, operating and marketing costs, which are estimated to cost at least \$7 million each year, this leaves behind a meagre \$2.6 surplus.

If the wheel continues to attract passengers at the same rate as it did in its first year of operation, it will take around 76 years for Japanese owners Sanoyas Rides Corporation to see any profit from its estimated \$200 million investment in the wheel.



The Melbourne Star Observation Wheel is failing to attract predicted crowds.

Docklands News understands that Sanoyas contributed about \$40 million to the original 2008-version of the wheel, spent \$100 million rebuilding the structure under warranty and then bought the wheel from ING Real Estate Development for about \$60 million in 2013.

The wheel continues to be managed by the Melbourne Star Management Group.

When asked if Sanoyas Rides Corporation and the management group were happy with the first year's passenger figures CEO Chris Kelly said: "We are delighted with our first year of operations and how Melburnians and regional Victorians have so warmly embraced us."

"Our numbers are steadily increasing and we are seeing a large repeat visitation, whilst the overwhelming reaction to the experience is extremely positive."

When *Docklands News* asked how both parties could be happy considering the results were significantly less than anticipated passenger numbers and that it was estimated take at least 75 years for the wheel to return a profit, a Melbourne Star Management Group spokesperson said she could not comment.

"However, the figures used in your commentary are guesswork and significantly inaccurate," the spokesperson said.



Damage to a sculpture at Monument Park.

Damage to public art

Skateboarders have significantly damaged a \$3 million public artwork in Docklands.

Monument Park at NewQuay was officially opened just two months ago and is already showing wear and tear. Skateboarders have frequently been seen skating on the sculptures that comprise the large-scale artwork.

The artwork was commissioned by MAB Corporation and general manager of residential David Allt-Graham said the company was aware and disappointed by the damage caused by skateboarders at Monument Park.

"Skateboarders are welcome in NewQuay, but we ask that they show respect to the artist and the local community by refraining from skating on the actual monuments and damaging public property," Mr Allt-Graham said.

"MAB will be undertaking some remedial work to remove or at least significantly reduce the incidence of skating on the monuments."

"We encourage the members of the community to contact the local police if they see skateboarders causing damage to the park by skating on the monuments."



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Aussie day fun

More than 30,000 people flooded into Docklands on Australia Day last month.

Crowds gathered along NewQuay and Victoria Harbour, with music, performers, markets and a range of activities on offer.

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce and Alma Doepel Restoration team took the opportunity to raise awareness and funds.

The Alma was moored next to Victoria Harbour Promenade, giving visitors and locals an up-close look at the historic ship.

The chamber organised ferry trips across the harbour and tin-rattlers to help raise funds for the Alma's restoration. See our Alma Update on page 9 for more details.

Esplanade masterplan released

Harbour Esplanade will become a nationally-significant destination, according to a master plan released by Places Victoria last year.

The plan, released in December, details seven different zones that will facilitate a staged delivery over the next 10 to 15 years.

The plan allows for up to 50 per cent built form, up to one storey high, in the "shed zone" along the waterfront and 50 per cent built form, up to three storeys high, in the "street zone" along the street edge.

The allowable built form appears to depart from the results of last year's community consultation, which indicated that the majority of respondents (67 per cent) were comfortable with 40 per cent development and 60 per cent open space.

But Places Victoria denies this, saying the 50 per cent built form figure is only within particular zones, but not the site as a whole.

"The master plan respects the community's desire for passive, open spaces through the incorporation of green areas along Harbour Esplanade and makes provision for slightly

less than 40 per cent built form," Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson said.

"A redeveloped Harbour Esplanade will include some buildings to bring new attractors and activity to the harbour's edge and may also include restored heritage sheds or elements of heritage sheds," he said.

"Places Victoria and the City of Melbourne will encourage buildings that integrate public space and make a positive contribution to the street and waterfront through design and innovation."

Uses could include fresh food markets, event and performance spaces, gallery spaces and on-shore facilities to support berthing of heritage vessels.

According to the master plan, Harbour Esplanade will be "a place of increased national significance and one of the great post-industrial waterfronts anywhere in the world."

The master plan also includes the reinstatement of the wharf decks that were removed last year.

While the southern-most wharf deck and deck north of Central Pier will be restored at the ground level, the northern-most deck and deck south of Central Pier will be raised.

The plan divides Harbour Esplanade into seven zones for redevelopment. These include:

- Recreation zone: The redevelopment of the northern end of Harbour Esplanade could include a water play space for families, a green area, improved east-west connections and crossings for pedestrians. This zone will include some buildings and potentially restored heritage sheds or elements of sheds. Views from LaTrobe St to the harbour would be protected.
- Heritage vessel zone: Provision for

heritage vessels to be moored in the harbour north of Central Pier.

- Event and exhibition zone: Flexible spaces for events and exhibitions south of Central Pier. Would include some buildings and the potential for restored heritage sheds or elements of heritage sheds.
- Urban plaza zone: Development of a green area and improved east-west connections and crossings for pedestrians at the southern end of Harbour Esplanade.
- Water transport zone: Provision for a future ferry terminal south of Central Pier.

The master plan has been submitted to the City of Melbourne for planning approval and is expected to be presented at a Future Melbourne Committee in the next few months with a decision expected early this year.



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New confidence for Harbour Town

There's a fresh breeze of confidence blowing through Harbour Town Shopping Centre since new owners Ashe Morgan settled the purchase from ING Real Estate in December.

The deal ends a decade of involvement by ING in Docklands, with Ashe Morgan now responsible for the rest of the undeveloped land in the Waterfront City precinct.

The Sydney-based private investment company has taken on nearly 10 ha, including the Icehouse and the 40,000sqm shopping centre. The Melbourne Star Observation Wheel is on its own title and has separate ownership.

Of course, for many Harbour Town retailers, the change of ownership has come too late, with many closing their doors during the five-year observation wheel reconstruction period.

But, for the survivors, a new owner with a passion, know-how and will to make the centre succeed is a welcomed tonic.

Restaurateur John Dimos said he was excited by what he knew of the new owners' plans.

"I can look ahead and see a time when families will come to Harbour Town and spend a whole day here," he said. "I've already had a little taste of that."

Ashe Morgan principal Alton Abrahams explained that his company had both short-term and long-term plans for Waterfront City, with the first task being the revitalisation of Harbour Town.

He said the keys to making the shopping centre a destination were: entertainment, food, great new tenants and sound management.

"Because of the internet, people don't have to go out to shop, so you've got to give them another reason to go out to shop," Mr Abrahams said.

"You've got to give them an experience. So here we've already got the wheel, the ice rink and a couple of other entertainment uses. And people like to go out to eat, so food is going to be a big focus of ours."

Mr Abrahams said new key staff – general manager Steve Beaumont and marketing



New faces at Harbour Town (from left) Steve Beaumont, Rita Simonetta and Alton Abrahams.

director Rita Simonetta – were the best in their field.

"The fact that Steve and Rita can also see the potential of this centre gives us great confidence for the future," Mr Abrahams said.

Ms Simonetta said she was attracted to the role by Ashe Morgan's commitment to make it work.

"For me, the long and the short of it is about Ashe Morgan wanting to spend significant capital funds improving the asset," Ms Simonetta said.

Mr Abrahams said plans were already progressed on roofing part of the centre for weather protection and "serious money" was going to be spent on a total overhaul of the centre's "ambiance".

"We're looking for value retailers as well as lifestyle retailers. And we want more national and international brands," he said. "We've done a couple of deals with some of the existing brands to expand. We're looking for better operators as well as to move on some of the weaker operators."

Mr Abrahams said Ashe Morgan was

attracted to Harbour Town because of its location, the build-value of its assets and the yet-to-be-realised potential of Docklands.

He drew a parallel with Darling Harbour in Sydney which, in its early days, suffered a similar negative public image to Docklands but which turned around in time.

"Docklands will evolve and the negative attitudes will dissipate," he said.

Mr Abrahams said he was personally excited by the opportunity to make Harbour Town work.

"Someone's spent hundreds of millions of dollars putting a whole lot of infrastructure here, which you couldn't do if you were starting out today," he said. "The bones of what is here is amazing."

"We've got 40,000 sqm of retail space over two levels. We've got an ice rink. There's the wheel. We're on the doorstep to the CBD, which is going through a massive residential expansion," he said.

"We've got 2880 car spaces and we're on the free tram line. We have massive infrastructure here, so there's enormous potential."

Docklands offered major attraction

Continued from page 1.

where these things are in play, they attract very large numbers every day," Mrs Maxwell said.

"The chamber is supporting it from a business perspective because it will help activate our businesses, our charter boats, our restaurants, our entertainment."

"It complements what we already have here and it's family friendly."

According to Mr Ryan, Docklands is the perfect location for the fountain and flames show.

"Docklands is a wonderful development that needs energising and there needs to be a real reason for the public to visit, to stay and to enjoy its unique ambience," he said.

"A harbour, in the midst off a city makes it perfect for the fountain show."

What do you think of the Docklands fountain show proposal? Do you think it will put Docklands on the map? Let us know by completing our survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/XY5KQYJ

Social Club in February

Come out and meet your fellow Docklanders at the monthly Docklands Social Club.

It's held on the second Wednesday of the month and the venue changes every time.

In February, the gathering is at the brand new Conder Restaurant and Bar (8 New Quay Promenade) on February 11. Networking from 7.30pm.

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PESCE DEL GIORNO

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Italian meringue with marinated maraschino strawberries and fresh cream

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Destination Docklands Jubilation Festival ran for three days in December, raising just over \$4000 for the CFA.

Destination Docklands CEO resigns

Anita Donnelly has resigned as CEO of Destination Docklands.

Docklands News understands Ms Donnelly's decision to resign from the destination marketing organisation, after more than two years in the role, was unexpected.

Ms Donnelly's last day with the organisation was on January 9.

Destination Docklands chairperson David Cochrane expressed his sincere thanks to Ms Donnelly.

"Anita had made a significant contribution to Destination Docklands and had been instrumental in driving the regeneration of Docklands and delivering a number of successful events and marketing projects," Dr Cochrane said.

"The Destination Docklands board thanks Anita for her tenure and wish her the best for the future," he said.

The organisation is yet to begin the recruitment process to fill the now vacant CEO role.

"While the Destination Docklands board will be recruiting a new CEO, the board wishes to consider the long term requirements of the organisation before commencing the process," Dr Cochrane said.

"Therefore we will be putting interim arrangements in place."



Former Destination Docklands CEO Anita Donnelly.

Marketers jubilant over Christmas festival metrics

Destination Docklands Jubilation Festival attracted around 15,600 people to Docklands in December and took a \$100,000 chunk out of the marketing company's budget.

The three-day festival ran from December 12 to December 14 and aimed to celebrate the festive season while raising money and awareness for the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

Destination Docklands engagement and events manager Kelly Jensen said the three-day event raised just over \$4000 for the CFA.

"We know from previous Docklands market research studies that those who visit Docklands, and understand the servicescape it provides, have a much more positive perception of the area than those who do not visit, which is why it is a key objective of all of our events to drive visitation to Docklands," Ms Jensen said.

"The cost to Destination Docklands to deliver Jubilation before contra and sponsorship arrangements was approximately \$100,000."

Ms Jensen said City of Melbourne's pedestrian counting system tracked more than 30,000

people during Jubilation event hours.

She said this was nearly 20,000 more than the recorded average at the site and equated to a 159 per cent increase in visitation across the three-day event.

However, *Docklands News's* analysis of the pedestrian figures from the NewQuay and Victoria Point monitors indicate a total event attendance of 15,649.

Our figure was calculated by determining the margin between the pedestrian figures during the event hours and the average pedestrian traffic at the same times in the previous four weeks.

The event included youth displays from the CFA, vintage fire trucks from the fire museum, brand new CFA fire trucks, light installations, floating lanterns, food trucks, Christmas markets and visits from Santa.

The Jubilation stage near Victoria Promenade featured performances by The

Bamboos, Alex & Andy, CFA band The Red Austins, Kayla Dwyer and Captain Koala.

"We're thrilled with the success of our first-ever Jubilation Christmas Festival," Ms Jensen said. "And to be able to help the CFA as well is just icing on the cake."

"We're proud to have been able to support our volunteer CFA fire fighters and to showcase Christmas at Docklands with a fun, free event."

"At the same time, it was a chance to remind the public about important fire safety messages to promote awareness in the lead-up to the holiday season."

The Jubilation festival also included a best-dressed Docklands shop window and office space competition.

Suz Salon and The Sebel Docklands were announced as the winners of the competition and were each presented with a \$2000 Atlantic Group catering voucher.



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TPG temporarily halts fibre rollout

TPG was forced to halt its fibre-to-the-basement (FTTB) campaign after the Federal Government introduced new regulations last month.

The company said it would recommence its campaign by the end of January.

However, at the time of printing TPG's website indicated the FTTB campaign was yet to restart.

TPG-owned company Pipe Networks had been attempting to install FTTB connections to 500,000 apartments in high-density areas throughout Australia, including Docklands, the CBD and Southbank, in direct competition with the NBN.

But in early January, TPG posted a notice stating it has been advised of a regulation that precluded it from selling FTTB products unless it had taken "certain steps."

"There has been insufficient time to complete those steps before January 1 so until we complete the required changes we are required to remove our FTTP products from sale," the statement said.

On December 14, Communications Minister Malcolm Turnbull released a statement outlining the "Carrier Licence Conditions Declaration", which requires affected carriers to offer wholesale services on a non-discriminatory basis and to separate their wholesale and retail businesses.

As of January 1, carriers were required to offer wholesale services on a non-discriminatory basis and as of July 1 will need to have separate wholesale and retail companies with separate directors, management, staff and operational support systems.

According to the statement, the wholesale company will be required to supply services to other service providers on the same terms it supplies them to its own retail companies.

TPG spokesperson Tony Moffatt said: "We aim to return to selling services on the FTTB network by the end of January"

When TPG began its FTTB campaign, both owners' corporations and NBN Co raised concerns that buildings which signed up to TPGs network would be restricted to using

TPG as its sole provider.

TPG was technically allowed to compete with the NBN Co because its fibre network was already in the ground before 2011.

Networks that were capable of supplying high-speed broadband services to small businesses or residential customers before January 1, 2011 were not caught by level playing field provisions as long as they did not extend their existing network footprint by more than a kilometre.

Jane Kinsey, national development manager for local provider Harbour ISP, said she was happy the Government had intervened, as its action has levelled the playing field.

"Under the NBN approach, all service providers have an equal opportunity to attract the business of individual apartment dwellers," she said. "The ability to choose is the most important thing."

The introduction of the new rules comes after the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission announced in September last year that it would not be taking action to block TPG's FTTB network rollout.

The commission ruled that TPG was technically allowed to compete with NBN Co in the race to connect FTTB within the apartment tower market because its fibre network was already in the ground before 2011, making use of a loophole in federal law.

Following the ACCC's decision Mr Turnbull released a statement saying he proposed to consult the industry on the new telecommunications licence conditions.

Now that the new conditions have been introduced, the ACCC will be responsible for monitoring compliance with the new rules.



"Look mum, no hands!" Performers entertain the crowds at the Monument Park mini-fest.

Festive welcome for park

Docklands' newest public space received a warm welcome last month when MAB Corporation held a mini-festival to celebrate the launch of Monument Park.

The artwork and public space at NewQuay was celebrated with acrobats, music, face-painting, a balloon artist, along with plenty of food and fun.

The warm weather saw plenty of families

take advantage of the activities on offer.

Funded by MAB Corporation and Places Victoria, the 2000sqm sculpture park was designed by award-winning artist Callum Morton and cost \$3.1 million to create.

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An offer too good to refuse

For Tony De Domenico, the chance to chair Places Victoria was an offer too good to refuse.

"To have the ability to have a say in the direction of the world's most liveable city is exciting," Mr De Domenico said. "I really believe in the great work that Places is doing."

Mr De Domenico was appointed to the position in November, resigning from his decade-long role as executive director of the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) to take up the job.

He comes to the position with a varied history, including working in the trade service in Milan on behalf of Australia, as deputy chief minister of the ACT, deputy chancellor of LaTrobe University, serving on the board of the Prahran Market and as president of the Melbourne Italian Chamber of Commerce.

After a few months in his role as chair, Mr De Domenico says, from his perspective, Docklands has so far achieved exactly what it set out to.

"The original brief for the Docklands project was to develop the area into usable space, stimulate the economy, create jobs, retain blue-chip companies in Victoria and raise the profile of Melbourne," Mr De Domenico said.

"Commercial success was considered the most critical factor and in fact remains part of our legislative requirements."

"I look back now and in the 15 years it's been going, when you look at the facts and figures, it's achieved the goals set out by the then Victorian Government."

Keeping in mind that Docklands is only 55 per cent complete, Mr De Domenico said there was plenty more to look forward to.

"Melbourne is lucky with Docklands, E-Gate and Fishermans Bend. We have the most amazing opportunity for redevelopment into fantastic urban spaces of any city in the world," he said.

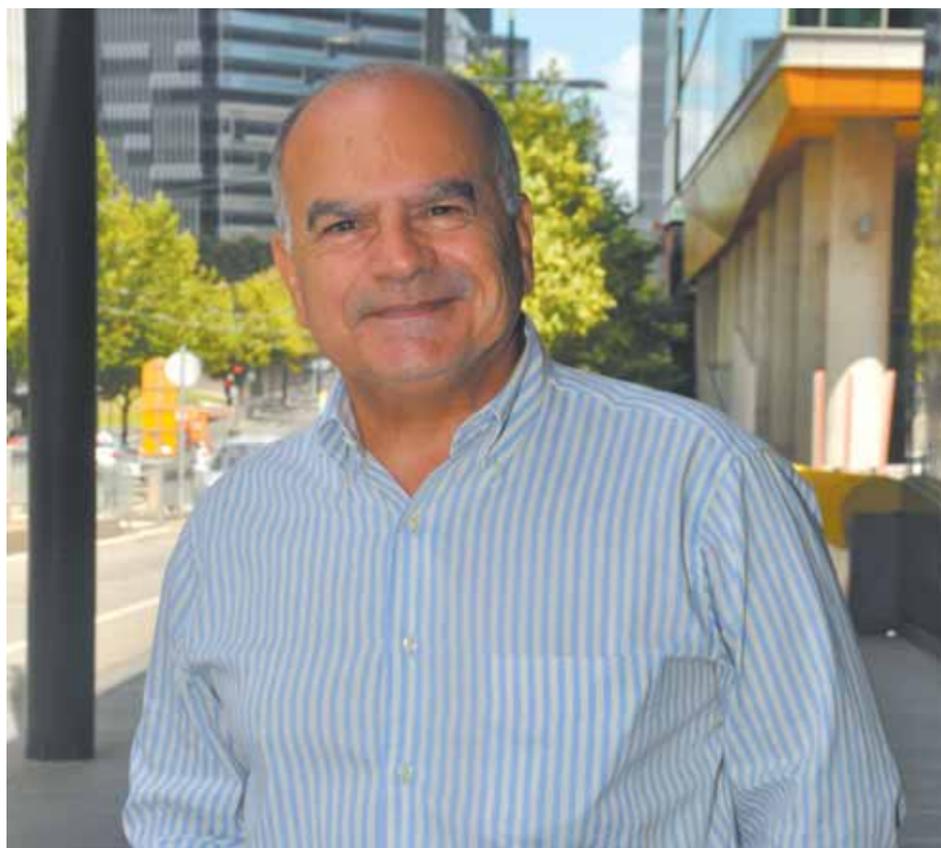
"We've got to make sure we return value for money for excess government land to the people of Victoria and we need to bring the community with us."

Given his former role with the UDIA, an association that represents the interests of the residential property development industry, Mr De Domenico is familiar with Docklands' developers.

"It's comforting I think for them to know there's someone in the chair who's been involved in the industry and that makes it easy to deal with them I suppose," Mr De Domenico said.

"I hope that after 10 years of being in the one job I've earned the respect of most of them."

Long-term, Mr De Domenico says there are many plans for Docklands.



New Places Victoria chairperson Tony De Domenico.

"We want it to be a vibrant place for both people who live here and people who don't," he said.

"It's slowly but surely getting there and we've got some exciting things in mind to make that happen."

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2 bed 2 bath 2 car
Private Sale \$780,000
Inspect By appointment

Captivating views from this 20th floor, 2 bedroom apartment located in Mirvac's most sought after Tower 1 at Yarra's Edge. Boasting spectacular views across the Marina and down the Yarra all the way to the Bolte from every room. Offering a large living/dining adjoining a modern kitchen which include quality Smeg stainless steel appliances, glamorous stone bench tops, integrated fridge/freezer and plenty of cupboard space. The large main bedroom features double robes and a luxury en-suite with deep relaxing bath, separate shower.



Docklands 2706/241 Harbour Esp
THIS WILL NOT LAST LONG
2 bed 2 bath 1 car
Private Sale \$700,000
Inspect By appointment

Located on the 27th floor in The Quays building and has a car park and a storage cage. Located on the harbour in New Quay and minutes from Melbourne City Centre, The Quays harbour-side development puts you in a location that is close to everything. You will be only minutes away from fantastic shopping, great food and Etihad Stadium in Docklands, as well as tram stops literally at your front door. Residents have exclusive access to The Quays Health Club - complete with gym, swimming pool and spa, rooftop garden.



Docklands 1705 / 60 Siddeley Street
FANTASTIC VIEWS OVER DOCKLANDS
2 bed 2 bath 1 car
Private Sale \$690,000
Inspect By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 17th floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 2 bedrooms, 2 toilets, a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The two bedrooms have built in robes, perfect for entertaining family and friends before heading into the City for a night of fun. Includes fully equipped gymnasium, steam and sauna rooms & spa.



Docklands 1402/60 Siddeley Street
VIEWS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE
2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale \$640,000 plus
Inspect By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 14th floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 2 bedrooms, a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The two bedrooms have built in robes, perfect for entertaining family and friends before heading into the City for a night of fun. You have the option to use the impressive facilities which include a fully equipped gymnasium.



Docklands 1122 / 60 Siddeley Street
WATERFRONT APARTMENT
1 bed 1 bath 1 car
Private Sale \$470,000
Inspect By appointment

Walk in your door to the large open plan living / dining area and step out on to your private balcony and gaze down the Yarra river with views of the Yarra River, this delightful one bedroom apartment features a gourmet kitchen with stainless steel SMEG appliances including dishwasher generous bedroom with built in robes and a bathroom that contains a luxurious bath, separate shower and European laundry. All of this in the highly sought after Flinders Wharf building which also features an indoor pool, spa, sauna, gym.



Docklands 705 / 1 Point Park Cres
ABSOLUTE WATERFRONT
1 bed 1 bath 1 car
Private Sale \$610,000
Inspect By appointment

Fully furnished north facing luxurious apartment with spectacular panoramic views of the harbour, Docklands and Melbourne's dynamic cityscape; This light filled luxury apartment on the 7th floor of this near new Yarra Point development boasts a spacious 63 sq.m of internal space, plus 7 sqm of balcony ideal for entertaining family and friends. The bedroom has amazing views and soaks up the sunlight through glorious floor to ceiling windows. This prestigious apartment / home consists of: 1 car park, spacious living area and dining.



Docklands 1201 / 2 New Quay Prom
THE BEST IN THE CONDOR
3 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car
Private Sale \$530,000
Inspect By appointment

Luxuriously appointed in the Condor, this enviable residence is a must see for those who expect the best. The gourmet kitchen is complemented with a large island stone bench top, Miele stainless steel appliances and generous storage space. The double size main bedroom is huge in size with a luxurious en-suite. The apartment is located on the 12th floor and captures over 280 degree vistas of the Yarra River, CBD and Docklands precinct. Other features include air-conditioning throughout, 2 bathrooms, separate laundry, 2 secure car spaces.



Docklands 204 / 80 Lorimer Street
STUNNING PODIUM APARTMENT
2 bed 2 bath 2 car
Private Sale \$770,000
Inspect By appointment

Offering state-of-the-art finishes podium apartment comprises high quality designer kitchen with stainless steel appliances, stone bench tops and ample cupboard space, open plan to a huge living-family room leading to large terrace ideal for entertaining guests, huge master bedroom with exquisite ensuite, second double bedroom and second bathroom. Features include 2 secure car park spaces located on the same level, European style laundry and resident access to the famous RekDek with heated indoor pool, spa, sauna, and fully equipped gymnasium.



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The Docklands dragon will be installed on Harbour Esplanade this month.

Docklands dragon to roar again

The Docklands dragon will roar again, returning to Harbour Esplanade after a year in hibernation.

The 100-metre long, illuminated dragon will be installed on Harbour Esplanade this month in celebration of Chinese New Year.

Thursday, February 19 signals the beginning of the lunar new year and a major celebration will see the dragon accompanied by floating lanterns, dragon boats, drummers, dance troupes, fire twirlers and lion dances.

Sponsored by City of Melbourne, China Southern Airlines, Eureka Skydeck, Destination Docklands and Lend Lease, the dragon is part of wider Chinese New Year celebrations across Melbourne.

Eureka Skydeck general manager John Forman said this year, in addition to the dragon, five illuminated dragons would also be positioned along Harbour Esplanade and

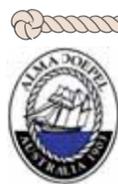
food trucks would also visit.

"We also have 1000 good luck lanterns to hand out at the beginning of the celebrations on February 19," Mr Forman said.

"I'm very excited about growing Chinese New Year in Docklands," he said. "It's another step forward in growing Chinese New Year festivities across Melbourne."

The dragon will be in place on Harbour Esplanade from February 19 through to March 1. Entertainment will accompany the dragon on the evenings of February 19, 20, 27 and 28.

For more information about Chinese New Year celebrations across Melbourne visit www.cnymelbourne.com.au



Alma Doepel Update

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce and Alma Doepel restoration team have had a busy few months raising money for the continued restoration of Docklands' historic top-sail schooner.

The chamber has partnered with the restoration team in an attempt to raise funds for the completion of the project.

With at least a further \$1.7 million needed to complete the project, *Docklands News* will be tracking the fundraising progress in each edition, throughout the year.

Throughout January the chamber and restoration team have been working on a shipping container display, providing information about the Alma Doepel's history and restoration and charting the fund-raising progress.

The container was installed on Harbour Esplanade last month.

The Alma Doepel team also had a presence at the Jubilation Festival in December and the Monument Park mini-festival on January 17, raising money and awareness about the Alma.

Australia Day also proved to be successful for the team. Entertainment on the Alma Doepel barge was well received and a ferry service across the harbour attracted plenty of donations.

The chamber and restoration team also continue to champion the "Buy a Plank" scheme, which allows individuals or businesses to fund the purchase of a \$500 plank for the restoration of the ship's hull.

Fund-raising tally for December and January - \$5566:

- Jubilation Festival fundraising: \$232
- Australia Day fundraising: \$4225
- Monument Park mini-festival fundraising: \$509
- Watermark: \$300
- Black Cod: \$300



Docklands Chamber of Commerce's Joh Maxwell and Bill Reid present the Alma Doepel's Tim Horton (left) and Peter Harris (second from left) with a cheque following fund-raising throughout December and January.

Annette Esposito answers your legal questions.

Q My mother passed away making no provision for me in her will. Can I make a claim against her estate?

A Under new laws which came into effect in January 2015, "eligible persons" may make a claim for provision against a deceased estate. Broadly, if you are an "eligible person", to make a claim for provision from your mother's estate you would need to show three things. That your mother had a moral obligation to provide for you; that your mother's will fails to make adequate provision for your proper maintenance and support and; whether you are capable of adequately providing for yourself. It is important that you seek our professional advice promptly in these matters.

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Docklands Chamber of Commerce President Joh Maxwell (left) and treasurer Josephine Tan (right) with one of the delegates (centre).

Chamber hosts Beijing delegates

Docklands' Chamber of Commerce has forged a relationship with one of Beijing's largest districts.

The Docklands chamber hosted five delegates from the Chaoyang District Federation of Industry and Commerce in December.

Founded in 1951 the group has more than 1500 members and is the peak body representing the interests of small and large businesses operating in the district, reporting to the Chaoyang District People's Government.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell told the December 17 Docklands Community Forum that an ongoing relationship had been established between the chamber and the federation.

"We already have a member of Chamber of Commerce taking the opportunity to meet in China in the next month to discuss opportunities," Mrs Maxwell said.

According to Mrs Maxwell, the delegates were from finance, chemical manufacturing and retail shopping centre backgrounds.

She said the president and vice president of the Chaoyang Federation were full-time employees and had a team of 11 full-time staff, while its executive council comprised 94 members.

In contrast, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce has one part-time employee and nine voluntary executive committee members.

"We are looking forward to an ongoing relationship moving forward and we have been invited to China to visit and learn about their operations and how we can do business across the countries," Mrs Maxwell said.

Local workforce has doubled

Docklands' workforce has increased by almost 50 per cent since 2012, according to a report released by the City of Melbourne last month.

The Census of Land Use and Employment (CLUE) 2014 report shows last year there were 53,268 jobs in Docklands.

In comparison, the 2012 CLUE report recorded 38,198 jobs in Docklands, equating to an increase of 44.8 per cent over the two-year period between reports.

This increase in employment can partly be attributed to businesses moving CBD-based headquarters to Docklands.

However, the report says half of the employment growth between 2012 and 2014 was due to businesses re-locating from outside of the municipality and new businesses establishing themselves in Docklands.

The report also provides further evidence that Docklands is increasingly becoming Melbourne's finance and insurance centre.

With the ANZ, Bendigo Bank, NAB and Medibank all setting up headquarters in

Docklands, it's no surprise the finance and insurance industry is the area's biggest employer.

At the time of the 2014 census 22,731 people working in Docklands were employed in finance or insurance.

This was followed by business services, with 6126 employees and public administration and safety, which provided 5193 jobs.

These three industries have also experienced the biggest employment growth since 2012, according to the report.

Despite the increase in jobs in Docklands, office vacancy rates are also on the rise, with 54,842 square metres, or 7.5 per cent of all office space vacant at the time of the census, up from 2.1 per cent in 2012.

However, the report suggests the higher vacancy rate is the result of the recent completion of a large amount of new offices. According to the report, Docklands' office vacancy rate is expected to decline as tenants begin to move into the buildings.

While office space is the major use of land in Docklands, the CLUE report also highlights the 200 per cent increase in residences.

According to the report, in 2004 there were 1755 dwellings in Docklands, compared with 5272 dwellings in 2014.

Luxury yacht ablaze

A luxury yacht was engulfed by flames at Yarra's Edge on January 21.

The owner, his two sons, and guests were evacuated with help from the fire brigade. Some 32 fire fighters contained the fire,

which they believe started in the engine room of the large double-storey craft.

The small electrical fire started just after 6pm when the occupants noticed black smoke coming from within the engine bay.

Fire investigators inspected the vessel and declared it was all under control after 20 minutes.

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Australian tennis legend visits Docklands

While current tennis champions battled it out at the Australian Open last month, Docklands welcomed one of Australia's tennis greats.

Three-time winner of the Australian Open, two time grand slam champion and former world number one, Rod Laver stopped by at Medibank on January 28.

As an ambassador for Medibank's "Generation Better" initiative, Mr Laver visited the Docklands office to present a cheque on behalf of the company to the Kids Tennis Foundation.

The foundation provides tennis coaching for socially and financially disadvantaged children.

Medibank staff had been challenged to track their steps over the past few months and work together to reach a collective target of 400 million steps.

Upon reaching this benchmark the company then made a \$10,000 donation to the foundation.



Tennis great Rod Laver with children from the Kids Tennis Foundation.

Time for Summerfest

Summerfest is coming to Victoria Harbour this month.

Hosted by Lend Lease, the free festival on February 28 will feature live entertainment by Sneaky Sound System, Ruby Rose, Chunky Jam and local DJs.

With food trucks, pop-up bars and giveaways along Victoria Harbour Promenade, Summerfest is sure to keep visitors and locals entertained.

Victoria Harbour project director Tim Campbell said he was excited that Lend Lease was able to host such a high calibre event.

"We've been able to secure some big names and an excellent entertainment line-up, and to be able to offer it to Victoria Harbour residents, workers and visitors at no cost is fantastic for our local community," Mr Campbell said.

"I'm really looking forward to relaxing by the waterfront and enjoying the entertainment at VH Summerfest later in the month."

Summerfest will be held on Victoria Harbour Promenade on Saturday, February 28 from 12 noon until 7pm. For more information visit www.vhsummerfest.com.au

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Rotary's first "Festival of Giving" a success

The Rotary Club of Docklands' organising committee has announced its first annual Festival of Giving as a success.

Held on November 30 at the NewQuay Piazza, the festival attracted around 7000 people according to Rotary member Loryn Clark.

The event featured performances, face-painting, multicultural stalls, roving entertainers, a zumba-thon and a modified car show featuring more than 100 cars.

According to Ms Clark, the car show, along with the music and entertainment attracted a young crowd.

"Rotary is often made up of older people so it was great to see a lot of the younger generation attend the festival," Ms Clark said.

"We gave a lot of young entertainers the opportunity to perform, which was great," Rotary member Mark Nutter added.

The event aimed to showcase how Docklands' corporates contribute to the community, however the organising committee had difficulty engaging local businesses.

However, Mr Nutter said the experience had allowed the Rotary Club to form connections with stakeholders and gain knowledge about how to present the event to local corporates next time they hold the event.

"It was a great stepping stone for our next event," Mr Nutter said.

While corporate involvement in the event did not eventuate, the Rotary Club agrees it was a great day for the local community and helped to raise \$8000 for the Royal Children's Hospital.

"In terms of a community event it certainly ticked all the boxes," Rotary member Jim Hardy said.

Docklands Rotary Club plans to hold its second Festival of Giving in October or November this year.

If you're interested in becoming a Rotary Club of Docklands member or volunteering at rotary events contact Loryn Clark on **0418 390 334**.



A range of performers got people up on their feet at the Rotary Festival of Giving.

Photo by John Tadigir



A Yarra's Edge OC has installed 190 solar panels on its building.

OC breaks solar energy record

An owner's corporation (OC) at Yarra's Edge has set a renewable energy record by installing the largest solar system ever retrofitted to a Melbourne apartment block.

The (OC) at Yarra's Edge towers two and three has installed a 47.5 kilowatt solar system, with 190 solar panels.

The system will save 92.568 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year, which is enough to fill 21 Olympic swimming pools.

OC member Peter Taylor said the system cost around \$67,000, but one of the benefits of living in an apartment building was that the costs were shared, equating to around \$230 for each of the 290 owners.

"The final price was very affordable when we acted together and it's an investment in the future value of the whole block," Mr Taylor said.

"A lot of people think you can't install solar in a high-rise, but we've proved that you can and the savings are real."

The OC took advantage of a \$3000 rebate from the City of Melbourne and support from the national Smart Blocks program.

A limited number of rebated up to \$3000 are still available for apartment buildings in the municipality to install solar electricity systems to power common areas.

Councillor Arron Wood said the initiative benefited the environment and the OC.

"This huge 47.5 kilowatt solar system is the largest every retrofitted to a Melbourne apartment block, with 190 solar panels converting sunlight into electricity," Cr Wood said.

"It's not just the environment that is the winner here, it's the 290 owners who will pay less to power the lighting and ventilation systems in their common areas."

Cr Wood said the Smart Blocks program supported City of Melbourne's goal to become a carbon neutral municipality by 2020. High-rise apartment dwellers consume more than 25 per cent more energy than people living in a detached dwelling.

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Docklands is heating up

A music festival coming to Docklands next month aims to support new independent artists.

The first "Hot Wave Music Festival" is being organised by Docklands-based company AMG Media and will showcase a range of independent Melbourne musicians.

The free festival will be held at the NewQuay Piazza on March 7 and the company hopes it will also promote Docklands to a wider audience.

AMG marketing manager Rebecca Qiao said the festival would benefit both the musicians and Docklands.

"We wanted to support original, independent musicians," Ms Qiao said.

"If you asked me to choose one word to describe Melbourne I'd choose art. Walking through the city you find many musical artists who are really good. Sometimes I just want to stand there and listen."

"We wanted to provide a platform for these artists to perform for larger audience and they're supporting us as well by performing free of charge."

Ms Qiao said the company hoped to partner with a charity group and raise money through the event.

Apart from music performances the festival will also feature flash-mobs, public dancing, food and drink stalls.



AMG Media staff pictured with some of the artists who will perform at next month's "Hot Wave Music Festival".

"The event is going to be very family friendly," Ms Qiao said.

"Our office is in Docklands and we really love the area."

"We want to promote Docklands, promote our companies and support independent

musicians and original music."

The Hot Wave Music Festival will run from 12pm - 11pm on Saturday March 7 at the NewQuay Piazza.

For more information visit www.facebook.com/hotwavemusicfestival2015

Survey for local seniors

Local seniors are invited to take part in a survey that will explore the experiences of older residents in Docklands' retail and hospitality sectors.

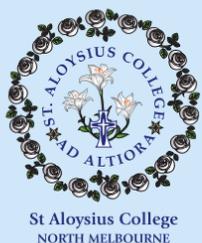
The survey is part of the Age Friendly Partners Program, which involves the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, the City of Melbourne and the Victorian Seniors Card Program.

The program aims to make Docklands more age-friendly and involves Docklands being promoted to seniors as a place to visit.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell said receiving feedback from the community would further inform the development of the program.

"Our aims for the program this year include growing membership of seniors program partners amongst Docklands businesses," Mrs Maxwell said.

Seniors can complete the survey at www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/ForOlderPeople/Pages/DocklandsAgeFriendlySurvey.aspx until February 16.



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Docklander honoured

Yarra's Edge local Peter Wright (pictured above) was honoured with an Order of Australia medal on Australia Day.

Mr Wright received the recognition for services to the sport of squash, through a range of executive roles.

He is currently chairman of the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) squash section and president of the Australian Masters Squash Association.

Mr Wright has also served as tournament director of Victorian Open Squash and the Victorian and Australian Masters Squash Association.

He was championship director for the World Masters Squash Championships in

Melbourne in both 1995 and 2001 and was an executive committee member and volunteer for squash at the 2005 Melbourne Commonwealth Games.

"I've been on committees non-stop since I was 19 and I've loved every minute of it," Mr Wright said.

He said he was surprised to be nominated for the award and was looking forward to the presentation ceremony at Government House later this year.

"It will be very, very special," Mr Wright said. "My family is very chuffed about it."

Docklands' unique essence displayed

Local artists Joseph Flynn and Jake Stollery will launch an exhibition inspired by Docklands this month.

"Contemporary Convergence" at The Front in Harbour Town will feature a range of individual works and collaborations from the Docklands residents.

Both are multi-disciplinarian artists and the exhibition will focus on the merging of digital media and physical materials, including digital prints, an installation sculpture, photographic work and projection.

"I've tried to capture certain essences of Docklands in my work," Mr Stollery said.

Mr Flynn agreed, adding: "The colours and general aesthetic of Docklands inspired the work"

"The colours and the water, the architecture - there's a futuristic sort of feel to Docklands and to our work."

The exhibition will be held at The Front,

which is part of Renew Australia's Docklands Spaces project and allows creative enterprises to use unleased spaces rent-free on short-term, rolling leases.

Mr Stollery and Mr Flynn said Docklands Spaces was a great initiative for both artists and for the wider community.

"It gives artists the opportunity to use empty spaces, which I think is fantastic," Mr Flynn said. "But it's really important for Docklands' local community as well."

"It brings culture to the area that might not necessarily have been here otherwise," Mr Stollery added.

"Contemporary Convergence" opens at The Front on Friday, February 6 and closes on February 28.

The Front is located at 424 Docklands Drive.



Jake Stollery and Joseph Flynn with one of the pieces that will feature in the exhibition.

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Cargo staff members Deandra and Gaggi with two of the guests at the Christmas brunch.

Christmas at Cargo

Local restaurant Cargo added some festive cheer to Docklands when it hosted the Salvation Army's Christmas Day brunch.

The event was a team effort, with the restaurant's staff, friends, family and suppliers contributing to a great start to Christmas Day for some of Melbourne's less fortunate.

Around 100 guests attended the brunch and Cargo manager and part-owner Jerry Dimas said there was a great atmosphere.

"It was the social occasion more than the

food. All the people who were here were just happy to have a chat," Mr Dimas said.

"The Salvation Army organised gifts for the children and Santa made an appearance as well."

"It was a really joyful occasion," Mr Dimas said. "It was really festive."

Cargo chef and part-owner Diana Desensi agreed and said the 30 staff, family and friends who took part in the brunch also got a lot out of it.

"I think everyone who came along to volunteer was really humbled by the experience," Ms Desensi said.

"It was good to be able to give back," Mr Dimas added.

Outdoor cinema at Yarra's Edge

Hollywood comes to Docklands this month when a free outdoor cinema opens at Point Park.

Following last year's cinema series, Destination Docklands, in partnership with Mirvac and City of Melbourne, is bringing "Movies Under the Stars at Yarra's Edge" back for another season.

Running on Thursday evenings over three weeks, starting on February 26, the movie schedule is sure to feature a film to suit every movie-lovers' taste.

Kicking things off on February 26 will be *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*, followed by *Skyfall* on March 5 and *Frozen* on March 12.

A free ferry service will run from Federation Square, departing at 6.30pm and will return at the end of each movie.

Guests can bring along a picnic or can take advantage of pre-movie specials on offer at nearby restaurants or at the mini food truck park.

Gold coin donations will be collected at each movie night and will go towards Kids Under Cover, an organisation that works to prevent youth homelessness.

The cinema site opens at 6.30pm and films will start at 8.30pm.



Destination Docklands' outdoor cinema returns to Point Park this month.

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Inspirational Docklands

Docklands is where Lyn Beattie gets her creative writing juices flowing.

Currently writing her second novel, Lyn is the writer-in-residence at the Mission to Seafarer's Maritime Porthole gallery at Harbour Town.

A mother of four, Lyn found she wasn't getting any writing done at her home on 8 ha of land in Panton Hill and now spends two days a week in Docklands.

"I visited about six months ago and really loved the feel of it," Lyn said of Docklands.

"It's a great atmosphere and I love the way there's an understanding that by bringing art and artists into a new area they begin to bring some more emotional aspects and heart and soul."

Lyn self-published her first book *One Tree in the Garden* last year is currently working on a sequel, which she believes will be part of a larger series.

"I don't have a writing background. I actually have a science background, so this is a real shift for me," Lyn said.

As part of her residency in Docklands Lyn will also be conducting a workshop and presenting her findings at Docklands Spaces initiative The Food Court.

"As part of my time here I'm also interested in how people explore concepts through art," Lyn said.



Maritime Porthole Gallery writer-in-residence Lyn Beattie and her debut novel.

"I'm gathering a group to look at the theme of home and sanctuary. I always find a harbour area feels to me like a bit of a sanctuary and as people make a new home in this area I wanted to explore that with a group of artists," Lyn said.

The group will hold a celebration and

presentation of art, dance, music and poetry around this theme on March 6 from 6pm to 8pm at The Food Court.

For more information on the workshop or celebration contact Ms Beattie at lyn@adapa.com.au

Learn about the future of Collins Wharf

Lend Lease will host drop-in sessions this month to inform the local community about amendments to the Collins Wharf master plan.

The aim of the sessions is to inform local residents and workers about the plans for the development of the wharf section of Victoria Harbour.

The planned development will see Docklands grow significantly, extending past the Library at the Dock and planned community and boating hub.

Local residents and business owners are invited to attend one of three sessions at the Lifestyle Working building on Collins St in the "G Room".

Information sessions will be held at different times to allow both residents and workers to attend.

There will be an after work session on Thursday, February 5 from 5pm to 6pm, a mid-morning session on Saturday, February 7 from 9am to 10am and a lunch session on Monday, February 9 from 12pm to 1pm.



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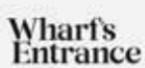


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First lunch is at Renzo's

Don't forget to book your seat at the first Docklands Networking Lunch of the year.

The March networking lunch will be held at Renzo's Bar Café Italiano at 46 NewQuay Promenade on March 13, from 12 noon.

As always, the lunch is \$60 and must be paid in advance.

The menu for the March lunch is:

Entrée: Selection of Italian style appetisers to share.

Main: Pesce Del Giorno; grilled salmon fillet served with avocado dressing and sautéed spinach, OR Pollo Ripieno; chicken breast filled with Brie cheese and wrapped in prosciutto and served with sautéed spinach and mashed potato.

Dessert: Pannacota, Torta al Limone and Semifreddo al Cioccolato.

Beverages: White and red wine, heavy and

light beers.

Contact Docklands News via lunch@docklandsnews.com.au or call the office on **8689 7979** to book.

Local stakeholders also enjoyed the December Networking Lunch late last year. Around 60 people attended the lunch at Yarra's Edge restaurant Hooks.



Guests at the lunch enjoy a ride on a Green Monkey pedicab.



Kristi Harris, Fran Welsh and David McGlashan.



Chris Vernon, Jeremy Vincent and Antony Darvill.

A woman in a red tank top is taking a selfie with a smartphone. To her right is a large yellow WiFi symbol. Below the symbol, the text reads 'CONNECT NOW WITH FREE WiFi' and 'harbour town melbourne'.

Docklands designer

For fashion designer Dhar Ekanayke, Docklands will always be the place where she designed her very first line of clothing.

The young designer last month released her first line of swimwear under her own label "Dhar Exclusive".

The line is the culmination of three years of hard work for Dhar.

Describing herself as a "workaholic", she balanced her day-job as a graphic designer for an apparel company, with evenings spent in her apartment designing, producing and marketing her label.

"I know every business is going to be hard work, especially to begin with," she said.

Dhar said she was inspired to start her own label after completing an internship with Victoria's Secret in New York.

"I'm originally from Sri Lanka and, after studying in Australia, I worked in Sri Lanka for four years and then went to Victoria's Secret in New York for an internship. That exposed me to so much."

Dhar said the swimwear line itself was inspired by nature.

"All the prints and designs are my own," Dhar said. "I am so into nature and the environment, so all the prints and colours are nature-inspired."

In particular, Dhar said she loved the colours of the ocean and said her favourite part of Docklands was the waterfront.

Dhar has lived in Docklands for the past four years and said she loved the convenience, peacefulness and safeness of the suburb.

"I can walk to work, or catch the tram. It's so safe, I love it," Dhar said.

And living in such a friendly suburb doesn't hurt either. "Our neighbours are amazing," Dhar said.

"I absolutely love living in Docklands. It's been four years now and this is home for me.

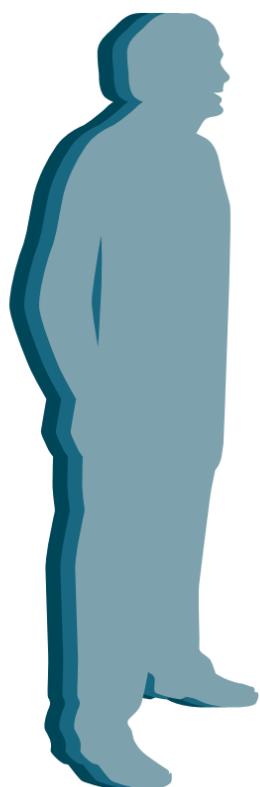


I can't imagine moving."

As for the future of her label, Dhar has plenty of grand plans.

"It's a crazy journey, but I have a lot of passion."

Visit www.dharexclusive.com.au for more information about Dhar's swimwear line.



DOCKLANDER

Profile by
Bethany Williams

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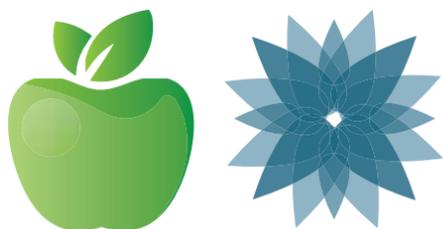
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HEALTH & WELLBEING



By Andrew Ward
YMCA Docklands manager

A healthy and active Docklands summer

Compared with the CBD, and many other corporate hubs in the state, Docklands is the perfect base for a corporate worker to remain active.

Our position alongside the water in a relatively flat environment makes it easy and pleasurable to be out and about. Here are some ideas to make getting active in Docklands fun this summer:

- Take a walk to see the restoration of the Alma Doepel;
- Form a team and join in the corporate sports played at the courts near the Hub;
- Play a game of table tennis at the library;
- Run some laps of the Etihad concourse;
- Join a lunch-time Bootcamp program;
- Jump on a blue Ride Melbourne Bike and tour the piers;
- Walk to Harbour Town for lunch and some shopping;
- Explore the art and sculptures scattered throughout Docklands - there are more than 40 pieces!;
- Walk through the marinas and look at all the vessels that call Docklands home;
- Join a gym, do some weight training, take a PT session or take a yoga, pilates or high-intensity exercise class; and
- Take a walk into the CBD and see just how lucky we are!

Technology, health and wellness

Technology is rapidly changing the way we measure, motivate and engage in exercise and physical activity.

Whether it's the latest cardio equipment, wearable gadget, mobile app or how you enrol and access your fitness club - it's all changing fast and for the better.

Wearable gadgets - the latest generation of FitBits have hit the market and right now are the preferred device for anyone looking to measure and monitor their lifestyle.

With the support of a great App and online programs, you can set targets, measure performance and track progress of steps taken, kilometres walked, calories burned and even see how long and how well you are sleeping.

One other fun aspect of the FitBit is creating and linking with online communities where you can work together on common goals or have some fun with "healthy" competitions. Look out for the Apple Watch due for release in April.

New-age cardio equipment: Keep an eye out for the latest Precor cardio equipment with Preva networked technology. Preva helps users set goals and monitor progress across a global network when using Precor equipment.

Lastly, check out these five fun free fitness apps: Runtastic, Run Keeper, Nexercise, Lose it and Strava.

Sit less, stand up and move more!

In the battle against sedentary and lifestyle diseases like diabetes and obesity, corporate workers need to stand up and be counted!

Sitting for long periods of time can increase your risk of heart disease by up to 50 per cent. Research shows that some workers are sedentary or seated for up to 10 hours per day.

Here are 10 practical ideas that you can integrate into your working day to get you and your colleagues moving more in 2015!

- Take the stairs, not the escalator/elevator;
- Always stand on public transport;
- Establish a lunch-time walking group at work;
- Alter your tram/train/bus stop so that you need to walk further each day;
- Review your work station. Can you access a standing space?;
- Introduce walking meetings;
- Implement a standing stretch into every meeting you participate in;
- Set a 5000 step goal for 12 noon every day - measure the steps on your FitBit;
- Suggest your company introduces a 5X program - five key exercises for all employees, every day; and
- Set a "maximum sitting time" for meetings - participants must stand and move every 20 minutes of the meeting.



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DOCKLANDS DAZE

by Michelle Commandeur

Must have been to that new grooming place.

©Commandeur

Lot's of love from Gonzo



Gonzo the parrot loves exploring Docklands.

When he's not flying around the NewQuay apartment he shares with owner Ania Pietruszewicz you might find him taking a stroll along the promenade or enjoying a visit to a local cafe.

Indeed, Gonzo was enjoying a trip outdoors when Docklands News met the six-year-old eclectic parrot last month.

"He doesn't mind living in an apartment because I play with him all the time and bring him outside quite often," Ania said.

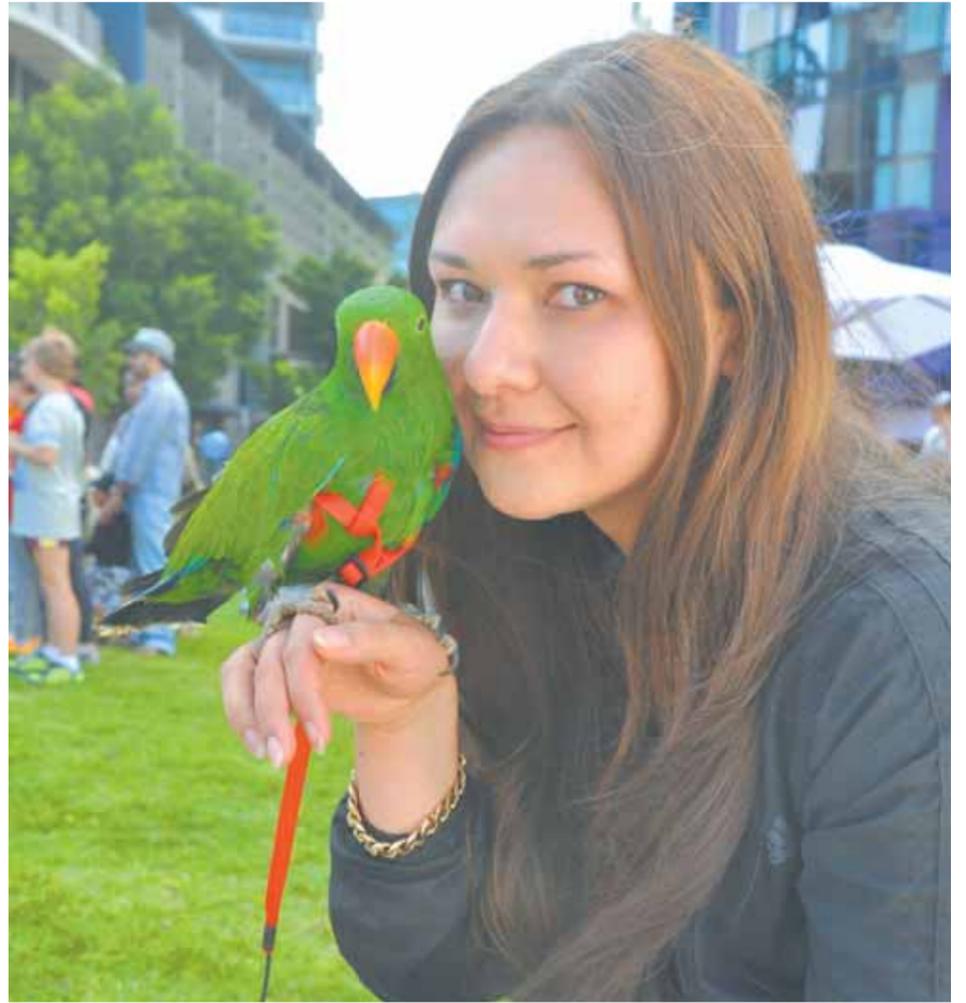
"I take him to cafes with me. Renzo (from Renzo's Bar) loves him."

Given his bright plumage, Gonzo definitely attracts a lot of attention and Ania said he enjoyed meeting new people.

"He's very friendly and loves attention."

Gonzo also loves to have a chat, according to Ania. She said his favourite phrase at the moment was: "Hello, I love you, you're my favourite parrot in the world."

While he's not phased by much, Ania said the one thing Gonzo didn't like was the robot vacuum cleaner she used to clean the mess he left.



Ania and Gonzo out and about in NewQuay.



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DOCKLANDS FACES OF



MICHAEL SDREGAS, 19

Going down to the beach at Rye. We have a holiday house down there. I think that the beach in Rye is quieter and the water is much nicer.



KAPIL SIGTIA, 27

Wearing singlets instead of long shirts, and it is very important to keep hydrated by drinking lots of fluids.



ANTONY PAVONE, 32

I keep cool by going to my local beach in Hampton. The sand feels nicer between my toes at Hampton beach.



KARLA PARKER, 27

I like to go to the beach. No one beach in particular, but I do love to drive to Lorne if I can get away for a few days.



NAOMI DAVIS, 35

At home I find that lying on my tiled floors in the bathroom can keep me really cool. Otherwise I would just go to the beach.



SANKET DAGA, 26

I drink 300ml of coconut water every hot day. I think it keeps you more hydrated than normal water, and it tastes nicer.

“How do you like to keep cool in summer?”



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IT'S A GOOD REID

REPORTING FROM THE DOCKLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Happy New Year to all! The Docklands community is back from its summer holidays and is looking forward to what 2015 brings.

Last year, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce announced that it would be supporting the Alma Doepel restoration project for 2015.

The chamber recognises that the Alma Doepel, supported by LendLease, is hidden away in a soon-to-be-developed part of Docklands and is trying hard to find the money to acquire the necessary materials to complete the task.

Much has been done already. The hard preparation work has been completed. Alma has been raised out of the water, and her old planks removed. Many parts have been removed and lovingly restored in Shed 2 down the end of North Wharf Rd, waiting to be put back into place.

To celebrate Australia Day and bring the Alma Doepel into the limelight, Korevaars tugs threw in its support and towed the Alma from her home to a location outside the

NAB building. The exercise even caught the attention of Channel 9 news!

The Department of Premier and Cabinet organised a spectacular Australia Day event at the NewQuay Piazza and, with its support, the chamber engaged with two local vessels, Grower and Barkoona, to provide a low-cost ferry service for Australia Day revellers to enjoy time out on the water.

The chamber celebrated Australia Day with live music from Safari Motel and Callum Gleeson aboard the Alma Doepel barge, creating a carnival atmosphere around local restaurants with Black Cod, Tataki and Watermark making the most of the day.

Also open were VinTam Bakery, Little Nyonya and Igg. These businesses did very well out of the day and agree they would like a festival every weekend!

The day finished up with DJ Donnie James

Truong playing music from the Alma barge and the finale was the hugely-popular Department of Premier and Cabinet-sponsored fireworks display.

Supporters of the Alma Doepel and chamber members were out in force as volunteers ensuring safe passage on the ferry service, which raised a total of \$4,825.15 towards the Alma Doepel restoration fund.

Watermark and Black Cod each donated \$300. Tours on Trikes joined in the fun with visitors posing for photographs for a gold coin donation, with one generous visitor contributing \$50.

Volunteers reported many passengers were asking if there were water transport options for South Wharf, Federation Square, St Kilda and Williamstown. Now wouldn't that be something - and why ever not?

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle reported in the

news that the ferry rides proved popular with people queuing to buy tickets.

The chamber would like to acknowledge the support of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Lend Lease, MAB and, as always, the City of Melbourne.

And now for the next great event to come to Docklands - Chinese New Year.

You will remember the Chinese Dragon along Harbour Esplanade from last year. Well be prepared - it is coming back to Docklands bigger and better in this the year of the Goat! Keep February 19 free and be ready.

The chamber currently has more than 200 members and this number is growing. If you are a small business, join up and become part of our community.

Contact admin@docklandsc.com.au or go to the website. Docklands is Beautiful!



With
Maria Doogan

A monument to touchy feely art

I love the sculptures in Monument Park.

They are great for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that they give me an excuse to use words like "juxtaposition", "fusion" and "organic", all of which should be a part of regular conversation but for some reason are under-utilised.

So ... back to the sculptures, which my friend Mikey and I wander past, admire, lean into and - wait for it - STROKE - from time to time on our meanderings down NewQuay.

I say stroke because there is a kind of softness - kinda like suede - to the look of the sculptures that encourages a tactile response. So there is a juxtaposition of hard, unyielding concrete and soft, pliable suede. Organic, a fusion of the senses. Ha. How's

that for a general exercising of the vocab? Not to mention the interactivity of it all that encourages engagement by sitting (on them).

Encountering art on lunchtime strolls is a feature of working at Docklands, and one which comes to mind whenever someone, who usually doesn't and never has worked here, asks me what I think of it. Usually I mention the water first, followed by the relaxed pace of life here, oh, and there's also the library.

All of which make the transition from holidays spent sleeping in, brunching, chatting to friends, letting the kids off doing any reading or chores, late nights and long cocktails all the easier.

My youngest started high school this year. Speaking of touchy feely, this is probably the last year that he will willingly grab me in

a bear hug and hold me close. That's if his 15-year-old brother is anything to go by!

Enjoying each stage of life, and work, and play, and lunchtime, being fully present in the experience can be challenging. Our minds tend to race ahead determined to conjure up future problems and feverishly invent theoretical solutions to the imagined mishaps we will encounter.

However you characterise it - worry, anxiety, stress - it takes us out of the here and now and puts us into a kind of twilight zone.

Art that is good brings us into the present in that it fully engages. Like a bear hug from a loved one. Or these precious little moments we have on holidays when the summer seems endless and our worries far away.

Til next time.

X Maria

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Ken and the art of political independence

By Shane Scanlan

Cr Ken Ong is very much his own man.

He's a supremely self-confident and forthright maverick with a big, bass voice and an even bigger presence.

Unaligned with any other councillors, the self-made-man does things his own way and would prefer not to care what his colleagues think of him.

But reality dictates that he needs majority support for his views – which is clearly a frustration for the Malaysian-born entrepreneur.

Now half-way through his second four-year term as a City of Melbourne councillor, Cr Ong says this time around has been tougher.

"We have developed along certain lines," he said. "There seems to be factions forming."

"I don't know whether this is because of how the election turned out with five for Team Doyle, effectively four from the left, myself – a Liberal but sitting in the middle – and then there's Stephen Mayne who loves to play his politics."

"So you end up with: the governing faction, the opposition faction and the balance of power. On one side you have a strong personality in the Lord Mayor and, on the other side, people whose sole objective is to fight the Lord Mayor. I can't understand that."

"For me, this has been difficult because this is not what I signed up for – spending half the time playing politics – and politics associated with certain egos," he said.

Cr Ong would prefer all councillors to vote on the merits of each argument and says party political affiliations should be left at the town hall door.

"I came into council with the mindset that this was just an extension of my community work. It's not a political thing. If you want it to be political, you should go to either the state or federal level," he said.

Interestingly, he says he was offered the Liberal candidacy for the safe lower house seat of Mt Waverly in the lead up to the 2010 election but chose to finish what he started as a Melbourne councillor.

But it's hard to see how he would tolerate toeing the party line as a parliamentary back-bencher. He says blind adherence to ideology is the cause of many of the world's problems.

"Here (at council) I am clear in my conscience that when I vote it is because I believe it is the right way to go – and not along party lines," he said.

"I have a clear view of what I want to achieve and I also have a clear conscience that I am not selling my soul. Maybe I'm not meant to be a party-political person."

Cr Ong says he'll remain a councillor for as



long as he has goals to achieve. He would consider attempting to become deputy lord mayor in the future.

He says his involvement in council is an extension of his vast community and charitable involvements. He is particularly active within the Chinese community.

"I can always put my time into the philanthropic sector as well," he said. "Being a councillor is not the be-all and end-all. If I find there are one or two key areas that I want to do, I might come back and focus on those."

"I don't want to be here as a councillor just because it's great to be a councillor with a nice title and all that stuff," he said.

Cr Ong says he started developing self-confidence and leadership skills as a youth.

The ninth-born of a family of 13 children, he faced particular challenges after his father died when he was only 10-years-old.

"There is an ethic in my family that we have to work hard," he said.

In Cr Ong's case, hard work resulted in being selected for Malaysia's premier public school, the Victoria Institution in Kuala Lumpur.

He didn't become school captain, despite being destined for the position. Instead, he took the decision at the end of year 11, to travel to Australia for his final year of schooling.

"I said to my mum: 'give me an air ticket and enough money for a couple of months' rent and I will find my own way," he said.

Cr Ong found private board near Caulfield

High School (now Glen Eira College) and worked in restaurants and factories to fund his completion of high school as well as a double engineering degree in computer and electrical systems at Monash University.

He spent a brief period back in Malaysia upon graduating in 1983 before returning, marrying and starting a 19-year career in various roles with Ericsson.

He moved from technical to business development roles within the company following completion of a part-time MBA in 1993.

In 2002 he left the electronics giant and concentrated on his own business interests – in childcare centres.

Now independently well-off, Cr Ong chooses to serve the community via his council and charitable involvements.

He attributes his abundant self-confidence to achievements as well as a capacity and interest in ongoing learning.

"About three or four years after my dad passed away I joined the army cadets (becoming drum major and warrant officer) and that helped a lot in terms of self-discipline and focus," he said.

"Then I got involved in the Red Cross, the Scouts, played a lot of sports and built up confidence and leadership skills."

And his also apparent high level of energy and commitment?

"It's more determination than energy," he laughed. "Determination overcomes fatigue."

COUNCILLOR PROFILE

In next month's Councillor Profile we look at: Cr Jackie Watts

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DOCKLANDS FASHION

Caring for your clothes

By Laura Timberlake

Maintaining a wardrobe can be hard work.

What do you do when a favourite jumper gets too pilled, or the ironing pile has reached the ceiling? There are simple ways to clear the clutter and care for your clothing.

The first step is to evaluate your wardrobe. Do you really need 15 old t-shirts that have been relegated to the "painting clothes" draw? That's not to say that recycling isn't a good thing. For example, an old linen shirt makes an excellent window and mirror buffer.

But maximising the space in your closet allows the clothes you do wear to breathe properly. Rule of thumb: if it hasn't been worn for six months to a year, donate or sell it!

Many people find that rotating their clothes by season creates a streamlined wardrobe (this means storing your summer clothes in another spot during the winter months and vice versa). It also makes it easier to quickly pick an outfit.

There are some common mistakes made when storing clothes. For example, don't hang knits. It causes them to lose their shape. Also, those wire hangers from the dry cleaners are a no-no. Invest in good quality hangers that will help your garments stay in pristine shape.

Caring for the clothing itself is another matter. There are two items I can't live without: a clothes steamer and a fabric shaver (or fabric pill remover). I tend to wear my favourite knits over and over and, in time, they start to get pilled - this refers to those little balls that appear on knitwear items after they've been through the washing machine.

An electric fabric pill remover shaves those right off for you! Lint rollers are also handy little devices to own. (They are especially helpful in removing cat/dog hair before leaving the house.)

The second necessity is a clothes steamer. This is a marvellous invention for everyone who hates ironing and has the space for one. A steamer can cut dry cleaning costs and help keep your clothes wrinkle-free.



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Amanda Henderson, 27

LOCATION: NAB forecourt.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

WEARING? Kids jeans from Target and a flowing jacket from the internet website St Frocks.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM

OF CLOTHING? My hippy pants from a local market. They are rainbow happy pants.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

DOCKLANDS? On holidays.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Very bohemian, Nina Proudman style. Comfy but easy. Items that you can wear with lots of stuff or colours that you can put with everything. Necklaces and scarves are great accessories.

Ariana Heemi, 26

LOCATION: Harbour Esplanade.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

WEARING? A shift dress from Cue, Tony Bianco heels and a Mimco watch.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM

OF CLOTHING? I'm a jeans and T-shirt kind of gal. You don't have to put much effort into it, just throw on heels and it becomes a night outfit too.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

DOCKLANDS? Work at Bendigo Bank, on a coffee break.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Something that fits well and is worn with confidence.

Anna Streater, 31

LOCATION: Harbour Esplanade.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

WEARING? A Cue peplum top and pencil skirt with Witchery heels.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE

ITEM OF CLOTHING? My Claire Underwood Rayban glasses. I love to channel a bit of Claire Underwood into my work outfits.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

DOCKLANDS? Work at Bendigo Bank, on a coffee break.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Wear it with confidence.



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What *With* Women *Abby* Want *Crawford*

It feels calmer, doesn't it? So many people I've spoken to feel the same - it's different, more peaceful. More reassured. More likely to happen ... don't you think? It just feels different. I mean, sure, there are still some people who have their list of "resolutions", their "action plan", their "new year, new me" schemes ... But I think that there is a much bigger sense of knowing. Knowing that things will fall into place, that what is meant to be will, this year, finally be.

When I reflect on the decade gone by, I realise that it has been a tumultuous time, certainly there's been some incredible highs and some spectacular lows, unexpected turns and totally random twists to the careful plans I've set out each new year. I wouldn't change it (well, ok some of it I would - Stoli in the Bolli is only cute on Ab Fab and those heels that nearly broke my ankle weren't worth it in the end!), it was a path that brought me to where I am today and

it is a path that highlighted to me our own vulnerability to the bigger forces at play - a lesson in how little control we really have over the big things in life, despite our best planning and vision of how we'd like it to be.

I also have realised something, something I think is fairly significant. You see, as a single working mother I am no different to a successful career woman, or to a wife in a mansion with four kids, or to any woman really - we are all time poor.

Our days are busy, consumed with what needs to be done, fulfilling the demands of our businesses, partners, children ... And I recall reading many self-help articles and books, how to have it all, how to be you, how to be free - and certainly what seemed to come out if it was the power of "learning to say no".

Say no to invitations you don't have time for, say no to working back at the office to get a

project done, say no to helping out a friend when it doesn't suit. And slowly, I think we all started to believe that this empowerment of saying "no" would grant us more freedom, more space, more chance to be the masters of our own destiny Did it work?

Well, I don't think so. So this year, I'm going to do things a little differently - this year, I'm going to start to say "yes". Yes, I'd love to meet you for dinner. Yes, of course your kid can have a sleepover. Yes, I do want to work back to make sure that project is kick-arse. Yes, I want to have fun and be part of it all!

I'm going to say yes to the things I want to do and just make them all fit in.... I'm going to say yes, even to some things I don't think I want to do, just to see where it might lead ... And I'm going to say yes to pushing myself, just to see what I can achieve

What a woman wants is the world to know that when she says no, she means no ...

but what a girl can't forget is that life is the biggest adventure of all time, and it's quite exciting to jump in there and find out what it's all about.

Say yes to something that challenges you. Say yes to learning something new. Say yes to helping a friend even if you're time poor - imagine what we could all achieve if we did put more of ourselves into our own lives, and into those around us, imagine what a wonderful world it could be.

So say yes to letting 2015 guide you to achieve your dreams, to rediscover love, to embrace passion, to find peace.

Say yes to opening your heart to the call of the universe, and letting your instincts guide you. Make participation your resolution and communication your key.

I look forward to sharing our journey.

Abby x

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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Greetings everybody

Best wishes for a happy and successful year in 2015! We're going to be busy!

Consumer Affairs Victoria has advised that the updated rules of the DCA adopted at the AGM in November have been approved and became effective in January. They confirm that the DCA is a resident association. Essentially, our rules follow the model rules laid down under the Act, except for election procedures where the rules that have been in use for the last seven years have been retained.

Our Christmas party held on December 10 was a great night. Prizes donated by eight local businesses totalled nearly \$1000. Thank you to them. They are listed with logos on our Facebook page. Thirty new members also signed up. Also not forgetting the fireworks on Australia Day night - great display.

Esplanade re-development

Our campaign against the Places Victoria/council sheds/pavilions plan received a "shot in the arm" when I was contacted by a major developer who agrees with us and intends to take the matter up with the council. He supports the idea of a linear park. We intend to canvass other key businesses to obtain their responses. A key

restaurant has also supported our linear park proposal.

Skateboarders

This continues to be a major problem in Docklands and seems to be increasing. We have received a number of complaints from residents recently, not only because of ground noise but also of rowdy behaviour and vandalism, including hand rails being pulled off and thrown in the water. They are onto Monument Park and the slopes on the installations. We suggested to council in December that a "no skateboarding" sign be put there.

Council and the police say there is no law against skateboarding but action can be taken against disturbances or vandalism. Council has agreed to patrol the affected areas at times including Victoria Harbour near Dock 5; the difficulty being to catch them in the act. For this purpose it is suggested that residents keep a log of place and times to show any patterns to report and also to report as it happens - to council and, more serious cases, to the police. The same applies to hoon driving around the area, which is a police matter.

Waterways clearing of rubbish

Residents have also been complaining

about the rubbish that accumulates along the waterfront edges. We see the traps for collection on the accessible waterways but not the shorelines, particularly at the rear of pylons.

Council has responded that its boat contractor cleans where accessible every day except on Sundays - unless there are storms. Some of the debris that comes down the Yarra River is swept into Victoria Harbour. The staff on the boat also have nets that they use to scoop up accessible litter in corners and edges. Over the years, a lot of litter has gathered under the old wharves. Some of these wash in and out with tidal movements and present a continuing challenge. In regard to the litter gathered along the water's edge at Harbour Esplanade, this is the responsibility of Places Victoria. This has become a noticeable problem with the works carried out. Places Victoria says it has identified a viable solution, which will be implemented shortly.

Ron Barassi Snr [Western] Park

Residents got a shock recently to see a long section of Docklands Drive from the tram terminus to the bridge closed off, dug up and built over. Upon enquiring of Places Victoria, it stated this has been planned for some time

to extend the park area. Whilst this is fine, we replied that it is not detailed on their website and that layouts including the Community and Place Plan do not show the road diversion. The residents/community had not been informed which was not good enough. The last time a possible diversion was advised to us was three years ago when the Melbourne Football Club was considering putting a training facility there but dropped the idea. Places Victoria have agreed to provide updates in future.

Coming events

A list provided by council showing events out through July has been emailed to members. It is quite extensive.

If any reader would like to become a member of the DCA or has any suggestions they wish to put forward regarding activities or issues, they are welcome to contact us on docklandscommunityassociation@gmail.com. We're also on Facebook.

If you would like to talk to me about any aspect or becoming a committee member you are welcome to call me on **0412 097 706**.

Regards to all
Roger Gardner
President DCA



OWNERS CORPORATION LAW *With Tom Bacon*

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.
Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au

Working from home in high-rise

Australian employers are starting to offer their employees flexible working solutions to enhance productivity and sustain employee engagement by allowing them to work from a home office.

At the same time, due to technical innovations and a rapidly-changing marketplace, more and more tech-savvy entrepreneurs are starting businesses using no more than a mobile phone and a laptop and working out of their bedrooms.

Owners' corporations need to be aware that owners and residents will frequently engage in commerce from their residential units, and may conduct a full-time business activity from their homes.

From a legal perspective, the starting point is that any resident or owner who wishes to run a stand-alone business from their residential

unit should check with their local council to see if the building's planning permit and zoning allows for commercial activity.

Consideration also needs to be given to the issue of insurance - a public liability policy ought to be taken out in the name of the company, trading name or entity - to cover any damage caused to the building or to other owners or residents that may result from the business (for example - fire, flood and electrical shocks).

Most importantly, owners or residents need to carefully review the rules of the owners' corporation to check whether the owners'

corporation has any specific requirements or criteria to satisfy before starting the business activity.

Most owners' corporations will already have a registered rule that permits a home office activity to be carried on, so long as there is only one full-time employee working out of the lot.

Some types of businesses (such as beauty salons, remedial massage clinics, hairdressers and childcare centres) will have specific and additional council-imposed criteria to satisfy before they can operate.

As the world continues to change around us, owners' corporations need to be aware that rules should be flexible and sometimes need to change if they are out of date.

For instance, a rule that prohibits a non-residential use of a lot is open to challenge at VCAT and could be struck down for being unreasonable.

A regular review and audit of the registered rules of the owners' corporation should be completed every five years to take account of changes in the legislation and the common law decisions that come out of the tribunals and courts around Australia.



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IT'S ALL ABOUT THE FOOD

At the The Local Burger Co it's all about the food!

Located at North Wharf, the dine-in and takeaway restaurant has been serving up a range of freshly-made burgers to Docklands workers and residents for the past three months.

According to co-owner Graeme Critchley, fresh, locally sourced ingredients are used in all burgers, and pickles, sauces and syrups are made and not bought.

"I think that's what makes us different," Mr Critchley said. "If I bought the same sauce everyone else buys it would taste like every other burger."

"We try to do things differently."

The restaurant's specials menu is testament to that approach, with a changing menu of burgers, milk shakes, chicken wings and more.

"We've done kangaroo, duck, surf and turf and teriyaki tofu," Mr Critchley said.

While the standard menu features 12 burgers, the specials change every three weeks.

"That's what we're about," Mr Critchley said. "The food."

"I could talk as much as I like about the food, but it's really something people need to come and experience for themselves."

And while enjoying your burger, fries or wings you can also sample a soft drink or juice that you wouldn't normally find in an Australian burger shop.

"All of our stores have these crazy fridges full of drinks from the USA, Mexico. It's a pretty diverse range," Mr Critchley said.

"Anything whacky I can get my hands on we'll stock."

And if you're a hot sauce aficionado a visit to The Local Burger Co should definitely be on your to-do list.

"We stock around 40 varieties of hot sauces, from the milder ones to sauces that could peel paint," Mr Critchley said.

The Local Burger Co also caters for dietary requirements such as gluten intolerance - "making all of our own products allows us to do that."

So for those who are yet to sample a burger from The Local Burger Co, what does Mr



The Local Burger Co's Docklands manager Yu Kawai with one of the many burgers on offer.

Critchley recommend for first timers?

"I love chicken, so our new burger, the buttermilk fried chicken burger, is my favourite."

"But the best thing on the menu is the liquid cheese that goes on the chilli fries," Mr Critchley said.

"It's by far the best thing we make and you can put it on anything."

The Local Burger Co is located at shop 15/60 Siddeley St (near Seafarers Bridge).

Visit www.thelocalburgerco.com.au or www.facebook.com/thelocalburgerco for more information.

LOOKING OUT FOR EYE HEALTH



Eyes on Docklands manager, technician and dispenser Gary Billings and optometrist Sue Callahan.

Being fit and healthy are often top priorities and, according to optometrist Sue Callahan, eye health should be no exception.

Ms Callahan has been practising for more than 20 years and opened Docklands' first optometrical practice, Eyes on Docklands, in December.

Ms Callahan opened the practice with the aim of providing a professional, efficient and friendly service for Docklands' residents and workers.

"We want to look after our patients and provide them with the highest quality equipment," Ms Callahan said.

"We want to work out what their needs are and service them and also provide continuity of care so they're seeing the same person each time they come back."

While many people might associate optometry simply with needing to wear glasses or contact lenses, Ms Callahan can also assist in other areas of eye health from dry-eye management to eye disease diagnosis.

"We have state-of-the-art equipment which enables us to test people's eyes to a higher degree and check not just for glasses prescriptions but also the health of their eyes," Ms Callahan said.

"We have a machine called an OCT, which is like an MRI of the retina so we can pick up diseases like diabetes and glaucoma much

earlier than you can without the machine."

And for clients who require glasses, Eyes on Docklands has a wide range of spectacles, from fashion frames to sunglasses and safety glasses or sporting frames.

According to Ms Callahan, practice technician, dispenser and manager Gary Billings is on hand to ensure each customer gets the right glasses for them.

"Gary is here full-time. He's our manager but also a highly-trained dispenser and technician and he's very qualified and experienced in frame selection, adjustments and all of that expertise," Ms Callahan said.

Ms Callahan said the practice's "Eye Fit" consultation meant eye care could be tailored precisely to the client's needs.

"We do a whole analysis of the individual to determine what they need for their lifestyle," Ms Callahan said.

"We want to provide a service where people know they are completely covered for their needs."

Eyes on Docklands is located at shop 5, 840 Bourke St.

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Renegades suffer familiar fate

By Robert Bremner

Melbourne Renegades have finished the 2015 season in a disappointing sixth position and missed out on the finals for a second consecutive year.

The final was eventually played out between the Perth Scorchers and the Sydney Sixers with the Scorchers winning by four wickets.

In one of the most exciting finishes of the season, Brett Lee almost stole the win in his final match. He took two wickets in the final over but on the final ball the Scorchers snatched the victory taking out back-to-back titles.

The match was played in Canberra, much to the disappointment of the Scorchers which, as the highest-ranked team, believed the match should have been played in Western Australia. The Scorchers were playing in their fourth consecutive Big Bash League final – the best of any side in the league.

The Renegades' season was filled with plenty of promise with Aaron Finch leading at the front along with Dwayne Bravo.

Unfortunately, the batting was down on expectations with Wade top scoring with 168 runs for the season. The Renegades only managed to score one total above 160 and were one of only two sides to never reach a total of 180.

They also had only two players reach half centuries, the lowest total of any clubs this season. Captain Aaron Finch also had a disappointing season having a batting average of less than 25.

Coach Simon Helmot was disappointed with the performances of his batters this season.

"I'm staggered at our disappointing batting results. I didn't predict we would be boasting only two fifties for the whole tournament, and only post a score over 160 once," Helmot said.

Arguably, their worst batting performance was against the Stars. The Renegades were bowled out for a measly 57, with the team only lasting 12.4 overs. Tom Cooper top scored with only 10 runs.

The boys in red finished with only three wins for the season, the same result as 2014.

The one shining light this season for the Renegades was the bowling attack. The bowlers helped the Renegades to a number of their wins, including keeping the Brisbane Heat to a low total of 80.

They also sent out five Heat batsman for a duck. The boys also had fantastic numbers for this match with Ahmed being 1-7 after his four overs and Shakib 4-13. Shakib and Patterson both lead the way in terms of overall wickets, with



A friendly hit between two friends Sam Frost (left) and Jake Sullivan (right).

Match point for Docklands

By Kara Bertoncini

Tennis fever is in full swing and what better way for Docklands to capitalise on this buzz than to install a public ping-pong table.

The 700 kg weatherproof table is situated on Harbour Esplanade right next to quasi pop-up Hortus café.

Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson said he hoped the new attraction would encourage residents and workers to get out into the sunshine and encourage new visitors to the area.

"We see Harbour Esplanade and Docklands as the city's new waterfront and hope this will encourage more people to discover what Docklands has to offer," he said.

Hortus barista Jake Sullivan said the ping-pong table had brought many newcomers to the store and was the start of a great

community initiative.

"It's been very exciting down here. Lots of people have been getting involved. Lots of families are having a hit. It has definitely brought a few more people down to the area and kind of given them a reason to hang around," Mr Sullivan said.

As Docklands works towards building stronger community appeal, Places Victoria hopes this new initiative will encourage more activity along the waterfront.

Avid tennis fans can serve it up between 7am and 4pm Monday to Friday and between 9am and 4pm on weekends.

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