

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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A Smurf love story

It was a love story at Harbour Town.

Two-year-old Kenzie O'Brien was completely smitten by a village of Smurfs.

Mum Zoey said Kenzie saw the Smurfs from a distance as the Frankston family made its way from the tram stop to the Melbourne

Star Observation Wheel.

"Look mum, Smurfs," she screamed before running into their embrace.

The Smurfs are living at Harbour Town until Christmas.

Finally, a Docklands school announcement

By **Shane Scanlan and Elliana Saltalamacchia**

After years of studies and reports, the State Government last month announced that a primary school would be built in Docklands.

The October 11 announcement by Education Minister James Merlino was part of a wider commitment to also start planning new schools at Fishermans Bend and North Melbourne.

The State Government has a school site at Digital Harbour but an education department official told the Docklands Community Forum in August that it was considered too small.

The government says it is assessing five Docklands locations and a decision will be made within six months.

Docklands News understands that the site previously set aside for a place of worship, on the corner of Little Docklands Drive and Footscray Rd would also be considered too small.

Docklands News believes that all other land parcels within Docklands contractually belong to developers and, if the government wanted a site for a school, it would have to effectively buy the land back.

It would make sense to site a school at

the end of Docklands Drive adjacent to Ron Barassi Snr Park. However, MAB Corporation would expect to extract the broad uplifted value of what it expects to make from the towers it has master-planning approval to build there.

Mr Merlino has been reported as saying the Docklands primary school would be open for classes within two years.

Inner-city enrolment boundaries would also be changed so Docklands families can send their children to Ferrars Street Primary School and University High School.

And while the announcement has been widely welcomed locally, pressure group City Schools 4 City Kids believes the announcement does not go far enough.

Spokesperson Jo Fallshaw said the Docklands school needed to cater for secondary students as well as primary students.

"While it is great news that the Docklands will finally have a primary school that can cater for the large population of the Docklands, CBD and West Melbourne, the decision to build a primary school rather than a prep-12 school is just deferring the problem and a wasted opportunity," Ms Fallshaw said.

"There are currently 1211 children between the age of five and 14 in these areas according to City of Melbourne data. What happens when they reach secondary school age?" Ms Fallshaw said.

Continued page 2.

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Group member Denise Fung-Henderson said: "Removing the discriminatory discontinuous secondary school zone that leap-frogged over University High to the immediate north to force these kids all the way to Flemington is welcome news. But Uni High is already at capacity - how are they going to cope with such a huge intake of kids over the next few years?"

"It seems like building a primary school in the Docklands rather than a Prep-12 school is incredibly short-sighted. The Uni High catchment zone has just doubled over night. The pain will shift as Uni High bursts at the seams due to short-sighted planning."

City Schools 4 City Kids also says that adequate open space is critical if a new school is going to be able to offer enough out of hours childcare spaces. They say six square metres per child is required. Without adequate numbers of before and after-school care places, they say schools become inaccessible.

Docklands families have for many years been forced to move out of the area when their children reached school age.

There are currently more than 300 children accessing 21 weekly playgroups at the Docklands Community Hub. In 2010, 13 playgroups were conducted in Docklands.

When announcing the Docklands school, Mr Merlino said 5000 school places would be created for inner-city families.



Local school activists (from left) Denise Fung-Henderson, Janine Standfield, Julie McLennan, Elaine Mills, Michelle Styles, Jo Fallshaw and David Spargo celebrate the schools announcement.

He said planning would also start on a new primary and secondary school at Fishermans Bend and a new primary school at North Melbourne.

Under the inner city schools announcement, the government said it would also:

- Secure a site to expand Albert Park College and provide five extra classrooms;
- Deliver the remaining funding for South

Melbourne Park Primary School and Prahran High School; and

- Open the new Richmond High School and Ferrars Street Primary School in 2018.

He said the principal of Ferrars Street Primary School would also be appointed 12 months before the school opens so local families could get enrolment support well in advance.

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Fireworks decision confirmed

By Nadia Dimattina

The City of Melbourne has confirmed that New Year's Eve fireworks will no longer be fired from barges in Victoria harbour.

The council says the fireworks will be fired from rooftops, but says it won't release specific details until early December.

It said it decided to relocate due to construction and safety concerns.

"The New Year's Eve fireworks have been moved from the water due to the development in the area, in particular building works in the NewQuay Piazza," a council spokesperson said.

"As we expect more than 35,000 people to attend the New Year's Eve fireworks in Docklands, we need to ensure public safety, particularly as the fireworks attract families and young children."

The council said moving the fireworks away from the waterways would only bring about positive change.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president, Joh Maxwell said she was disappointed with the council's decision.

"Feedback is that the fireworks on the water have been a major success and to remove them is making change for change's sake. People are befuddled as to why you would change something that has been so successful," Mrs Maxwell said.

The City of Melbourne is also yet to select a company to conduct major events in Docklands in 2017 and says it would not be announcing the successful candidate until the end of October.



Candidate Phillip Cleary addresses the Docklands meet the candidates night on October 6.

Team Doyle is sitting pretty

Team Doyle looks set to form a majority Melbourne City Council.

With the official result being still some days away from when *Docklands News* went to press, most pundits were backing Lord Mayor Robert Doyle to be returned with the power to govern in his own right.

Joining Cr Doyle will be Cr Arron Wood as deputy lord mayor and councillors Kevin Louey, Nicholas Reece, Tessa O'Sullivan and Susan Riley. If he gains six out of 11 places, Cr Doyle will have unprecedented power in his third successful term as lord mayor.

It is expected that Greens councillors Rohan Leppert and Cathy Oke will be returned, leaving three remaining councillor positions.

Most expect Queen Victoria trader Michael Caiafa to win a spot with the last two places to be contested between Philip Liu and councillors Jackie Watts and Stephen Mayne.

Docklands was potentially able to contribute 10,989 votes (out of a possible 133,805) at the October 22 election. However, an analysis



Robert Doyle debates other candidates at a Property Council function in Docklands on October 19.

of these figures show that there were more non-residential votes in Docklands than local residents registered with electoral commission.

While Docklands has an estimated population of more than 8000, only 4041 are registered to vote. In contrast, there are 6948 non-residential voting entitlements in Docklands - comprising 5160 non-resident owners, 920 owners of corporations, 33 occupier ratepayers and 835 corporations.

It is possible for four votes to be awarded to a single property under Melbourne's voting system - two for the property's owners and two for the business occupying the premises.

Pick me!

Docklanders heard from aspiring City of Melbourne council election candidates at a lively session at the Library at the Dock on October 6.

Representatives of 10 teams each spoke briefly before taking questions from the audience.

Representing teams were: Sue Morphet (Together Melbourne); Cr Jackie Watts (Team Morgan); Cr Richard Foster (Listening to Locals); Joseph Sarraf (Melburnian Voice); Phil Cleary (Phil Cleary Means Business); Cr Susan Riley (Tem Doyle); Cr Stephen Mayne (Stephen Mayne - Transparency, Independence, Accountability, Experience); Bruce Poon (Animal Justice Party); Ron Hunt (Strengthening Melbourne); Anthony Van Der Craats (The Light on the Hill Team); and Cr Cathy Oke (The Greens). Many other candidates from these teams also attended and also gave some specific responses to questions.

Popular themes emerging from the night included short-stay apartments, fireworks and the Harbour Esplanade development.

The session was organised by the Docklands Chamber of Commerce and was moderated by *Docklands News* publisher Shane Scanlan.



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Port Phillip Ferries ferry operations manager Jamie Ruscoe congratulates Sylvania on her 101st birthday.

A gift for the girl with everything

What do you give a lady for her 101st birthday?

A trip to Docklands and back from Portarlington with Port Phillip Ferries and a big bunch of flowers.

Sylvia Blegg's daughter Yvonne organised the surprise trip on September 28. The birthday girl was joined by son-in-law Vin and baby brother Don, 93.

The day was calm and sunny, with Docklands looking great. Sylvia was met at Water Plaza by Port Phillip Ferries manager Jamie Ruscoe who presented her with a huge bunch of flowers.

"This is the best thing that has happened," Sylvia said. "It's a wonderful birthday present."

Sylvia lives at Indented Head on the Bellarine Peninsula. The drive to Melbourne would take at least two hours during the morning the peak.

Vin Forder commented that it wasn't just time that was saved by taking the 7am commuter ferry.

"It's also the fuel saving and the wear and tear on the vehicle that needs to be considered," he said.

Sylvia was more interested in the relaxing trip on the water. And she knows a thing or two about sailing too.

She and her late husband Lyall still hold the record for the fastest 18-footer yacht crossing between St Kilda and Hobart.

"This ferry is the best thing that's happened," she said.

Low-floor trams coming

By Sunny Liu

Accessible low-floor trams will be running on Route 86 next month, making it the third route in Melbourne with the new fleet of trams.

The low-floor trams, also known as E-Class trams, are the newest and biggest in the fleet with the capacity to carry 210 passengers and enable more than 192 million passenger trips each year.

The new trams will provide better accessibility with dedicated spaces for passengers with mobility aids or prams.

Accessible trams are currently running on Routes 11 and 96, but neither of these routes run through Docklands.

Yarra Trams spokesperson Simon Murphy said the exact date for the arrival of the E-Class trams was not yet confirmed.

According to Yarra Trams, 80 per cent of Melbourne's trams will be accessible by 2017 and all trams and stops will be accessible by 2032.

"We are investigating a range of improvements to Route 86, including infrastructure upgrades for the rollout of bigger, safer, more accessible trams," Public Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said.

It is great news for Docklands residents with mobility aids or prams.

Vicky Silcock, whose son Chris is in a wheelchair, said her son often felt "abandoned" when using public transport.

"There is no accessible trams in Docklands. In a city that advocates for accessibility, sometimes it's almost like Docklands is not part of Melbourne," she said. "But with the accessible trams, it will be much easier for Chris to get around."

There are 34 E-Class trams and 36 more are expected to be running by 2018.

Ferry is done, for now

Locals will have missed seeing the sleek Port Phillip Ferries craft slipping in and out of Docklands since October 14.

The craft is undergoing maintenance and it is not known when it will resume commuter duties between here and Portarlington on the Bellarine Peninsula.

The company said in a statement that its trial period was over. While sources are privately saying it will be back, its language in its statement is ambiguous.

"During this maintenance period further announcements will be made on the recommencement of the service," it said.

"We wish to thank our loyal commuters and day-trippers who have strongly supported our service, as well as community partners for their support over the trial period."

Theft charges laid

Police have charged a man following the alleged theft of a motorcycle in Docklands last month.

A 27-year-old man of no fixed address was arrested in Laverton on October 18.

He was charged with 21 offences including theft of motor vehicle, theft

from motor vehicle, handling stolen goods, going equipped to steal, possess property suspected to be proceeds of crime, theft, obtain property by deception, unlicensed driving and careless driving.

The man faced an out of sessions court hearing and was remanded in custody.

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Tram bridge could be making a comeback

By Shane Scanlan

Docklanders opposed to a tram bridge connecting Victoria Harbour with Fishermans Bend should be alarmed that the concept is back on the agenda.

The Labor Party ruled out the bridge before the last state election, but is coming under increasing pressure to reverse its position.

The recently-released Fishermans Bend final vision document speaks openly about the need to link the new urban renewal area with Docklands and the CBD via river crossings.

On page 24 of the new "recast" vision document, it says: "River crossings for walking, cycling and public transport continue the legacy of connecting Melbourne - linking Fishermans Bend to Docklands, the CBD, and further afield to the renewal areas around North and West Melbourne."

It goes on to say: "Additional studies are also looking at river crossings, car parking and water transport options."

Diagrams with the vision document show more than one transport connection across the river into Docklands and beyond.

Planning Minister Richard Wynne is acutely aware that the tram bridge, which threatens the viability of Marina YE is against government policy.

In February this year he told a public forum: "That's been ruled out. It was ruled out before the last election by us in opposition."

"We will be coming up with proposals for how we address a light-rail link, just not that one," Mr Wynne said.

Following the release of the final vision document, he was asked specifically by *Docklands News* on October 6 whether he continued to rule out the bridge.

Mr Wynne replied: "We are looking at a



Diagram from the government's final Fishermans Bend vision document showing ambition to create river crossings into and beyond Docklands.

range of options in terms of how you get public transport into Fishermans Bend."

"It's a very thin peninsula of land. Think of how you come over the Charles Grimes Bridge and you want to turn right into Lorimer. It's a very difficult intersection there to get into Fishermans Bend."

"One of the options is obviously to come over the Charles Grimes Bridge. One of the other options that is being obviously looked at is potentially a rail bridge as well. But we've got a fair way to go."

Later, a ministerial spokesperson supplied this unsolicited, but crafted, answer attributable to Mr Wynne: "The success of Fishermans Bend depends on infrastructure and it needs good access to the city and we are working on a detailed transport strategy as part of long-term precinct planning."

"We are working through the options through the ministerial advisory committee and public transport bodies whilst delivering our election commitments."

Yarra's Edge-based, anti-bridge activist



Planning Minister Richard Wynne addressing the Property Council in Docklands on October 6. Mr Wynne opted to not rule out a Yarra's Edge tram bridge.

Phil Spender told *Docklands News* he was keeping an eye on developments.

"The Fishermans Bend vision recast clearly articulates the transport plan is central to its future success and that makes sense," Mr Spender said.

"I continue to urge Dockland residents, and those in Yarra's Edge in particular, to take active interest in Fishermans Bend and to participate in the process through the upcoming community consultation also mentioned in the vision document."

"This time, at least they are spelling out the next steps and committing to community consultation."



A previous Metropolitan Planning Authority illustration of the tram bridge.

More pedestrians in NewQuay

By Sunny Liu

Pedestrian numbers have been surging in NewQuay, according to the data from the City of Melbourne's pedestrian counting system.

For the past two years, the number of pedestrians at NewQuay has been increasing by 20,000 each year, from 114,000 in July 2014 to 160,000 this July.

The monitors detect the number of pedestrians during each hour of the day and send it to the pedestrian counting system, which generates data about pedestrian activities in various locations in Melbourne's CBD, Southbank, North Melbourne and Docklands.

Apart from two NewQuay monitors, there are three other pedestrian monitors in Docklands - Victoria Point, Southern Cross Station and Webb Bridge.

The system provides valuable information about how people use the city and helps the City of Melbourne develop future plans for Melbourne's infrastructure.

It also gives data about pedestrian numbers during major events such as White Night Melbourne and the AFL Grand Final Parade.

The surge in Docklands' residential population may contribute to the increasing pedestrian numbers.

However, the two NewQuay monitors were deactivated for more than two weeks in August this year, which the City of Melbourne says could be a result of building works in the area.

Southern Cross Station has the highest pedestrian numbers with a peak of more than 3000 per hour.

An interactive pedestrian map is available on the City of Melbourne's website, from which comprehensive data can be downloaded.



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Project director Peter Harris gets on with repairing the storm damage.

Storm can't upset Alma

The October 9 storm wreaked havoc with the temporary covers protecting the Alma Doepel from sun and rain.

It was the second time that the tarpaulins have been ripped off by winds during the restoration of the tall ship moored at North Wharf Rd.

Restoration project director Peter Harris was philosophical about the damage.

He said more permanent protection would have cost valuable funds and added weight to the barge suspending Alma out of the water.

Mr Harris said it was a minor task to patch the covers back together.

He estimated the winds at 50 knots but said this was nothing compared with the 90 knot winds which ripped the covers to shreds some three years ago.

With a 113 year history of enduring the worst weather that Australia can throw at her, the three-masted topsail schooner took the latest blow in her stride.

AFL buys Etihad Stadium nine years early

The Australian Football League (AFL) last month exercised its right to buy Etihad Stadium nine years earlier than when it would have automatically inherited the property.

The announcement on October 7 ended months of speculation about the future of the Docklands stadium.

In a statement, the league said it had been negotiating the sale with Melbourne Stadiums Limited for the past 15 months.

The statement contained no hint that the AFL intends anything but business as usual for the stadium. It appears the sale was motivated to help the financial situation of many of the tenanted clubs.

AFL chief executive Gillon McLachlan said: "Owning Etihad Stadium enables the AFL to continue to strengthen the financial health of several of our Victorian clubs, develop an asset for our whole industry and commit to being a serious stakeholder in the future of the Docklands precinct," Mr McLachlan said.

It has been recently revealed that the league has been speaking privately with the State Government about redeveloping the stadium - in particular, how it interfaces with Harbour Esplanade and Victoria Harbour.

A master plan for Harbour Esplanade is in place, with any developments being subject to publicly visible planning application to the City of Melbourne.

Mr McLachlan said: "Stadiums are a vital piece of community and public infrastructure that bring city precincts alive. The AFL will continue to operate Etihad Stadium as a multi-purpose

entertainment venue hosting AFL matches, other sports, concerts and a broad range of entertainment options."

"Our commitment as owners of Etihad Stadium is to work with government to provide a stadium experience for our fans equal to the best in the world, as well as explore how we can help improve the stadium's relationship to Docklands and the city."

Mr McLachlan said there would be no immediate changes to Etihad Stadium management, with Michael Green to continue in the CEO role. A new governance structure will shortly be finalised by the AFL.

Etihad Airways will continue as the naming rights partner to the stadium under its current agreement to 2019, with options to further extend that partnership.

Mr McLachlan said there were compelling reasons for the AFL Commission to sign off on the purchase of Etihad Stadium, once the agreement was acceptable for both parties.

The statement also said:

- The AFL was already strongly invested in the stadium's performance with the venue hosting 46 home and away matches during the 2016 AFL premierships season, representing more than 20 per cent of total AFL match-day attendances across the competition;
- The purchase of the stadium would allow the AFL to improve home-tenant club arrangements with the competition now having the ability to manage all stadium assets and inventory at the ground;
- The AFL now has the capacity to develop a long-term vision for the stadium and the precinct, to ensure the match-day experience for fans remains among the best in the competition; and
- The stadium's wider multi-purpose focus represents a new and significant asset to the AFL competition.



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Artist is feeling good about her work

Painter Barbara Tyson was certainly feeling good after being announced the winner of the 2016 ANL Maritime Art Prize on October 6.

The artist says she paints in a non-visual way. "It's all about feeling," she said to explain how she approached her prize-winning work, *The Voyagers Return*.

She said she aimed to evoke an emotional response from the viewer of her work.

In this case, she invites the viewer to share the emotion of home-coming after a grueling ordeal, as referenced by prominent charts and maps.

One of the judges, Libby Edwards, explained why Ms Tyson's work was unanimously selected for the \$15,000 acquisitive prize.

"It ticks all the boxes," she said. "The movement is fabulous. It says 'we know where we are going'. It's well executed in every way."

Ms Tyson's work in one of 85 that were on display until October 21 at the Mission to Seafarers building at 717 Flinders St, Docklands.

Held every year since 2002, the Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition is Australia's most prestigious maritime art competition.

The mission hosts the arts show every year and raises badly-needed funds to help it continue to look after the welfare of visiting seafarers when they are in the Port of Melbourne.

Ms Tyson has been a finalist in the Archibald Prize for a portrait of Dame Quentin Bryce and in 2012 won the Salon de Refusé prize for her representation of Ita Buttrose.

The former graphic designer said she was comfortable in all painting genres and had set out to win the ANL Prize after her partner entered a small painting of hers in last year's contest.

The official results of the show are:

ANL Maritime Art Award

Winner: *The Voyagers Return* by Barbara Tyson; runner up: *Opportunity* by Jane Flowers.

ASP Best in Traditional Award

Winner: *The Four Days Battle - 1666* by Julian Bruer; Equal second place: *Shanghai Shipping* by Don Braben and *She* by Joni Dennis.

Special commendations: *Making Way* by Maxwell Wilks and *Williamstown Docks - Arrangement in High-Vis* by Jason Roberts.

Bendigo Wealth Emerging Artist Award

Winner: *Lost at Sea* by Catherine Stringer; second place: *SCargo* by Belinda Eckermann.



First prize winner Barbara Tyson with her work "The Voyagers Return".

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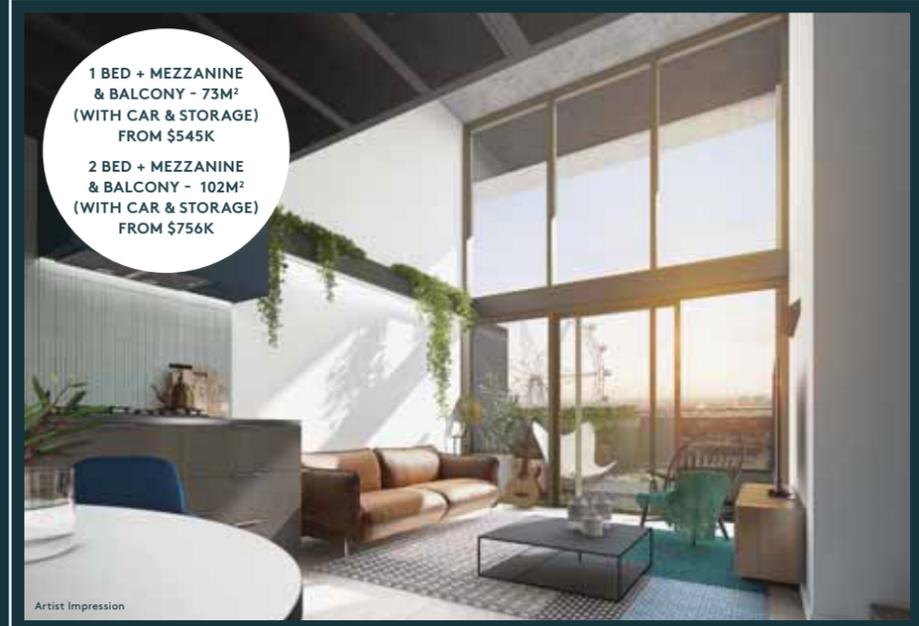
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Business in apartment disrupting resident

By Sunny Liu

New Quay resident Elena Tsapatolis feels her private life has been intruded by strangers attending workshops in her neighbour's apartment.

She is frustrated that her complaints to the owners' corporation (OC) and the City of Melbourne have not resulted in any action.

One Saturday in 2012, Ms Tsapatolis said she woke up to loud noises in the hallway. When she opened her door, she saw a big banner and a dozen people chatting right outside her apartment.

She later found out one of her neighbours was operating a commercial business in his apartment, with 15 to 20 people getting together for workshops on weekends.

The workshops are held at the apartment down the hall, but the apartment next to hers was also bought by this neighbour and has been since used as a chat room for his clients.

Ms Tsapatolis thinks her neighbour's business is a breach of security and her privacy.

"I used to not lock my doors because I knew all my neighbours. But now I do because there were a few times when some people



Elena Tsapatolis ... objects to her neighbour conducting a training business in his apartment.

attending the workshops opened my door by accident," she said. "I feel very threatened."

She has filed complaints to the building's owners' corporation a few times but the complaints never got through because, coincidentally, she says this particular neighbour is also the head of the OC's grievance committee.

Ms Tsapatolis suspects her neighbour and the former chairman of the owners' corporation were "covering for each other".

"The former chairman told me it was not an issue for the owners' corporation but an issue for the council," she said.

She filed complaints to the City of Melbourne, but has not received a response other than that it was "investigating on the issue".

Four years have passed, and the tension between Ms Tsapatolis and the business operator has since got nasty.

"He starts to verbally abuse me whenever he sees me in the building," she said.

"He also takes photos of me and my dogs in the hallway and it got so ugly that I had to call the police."

But the police can only act as mediators and

did not have the authority to press charges.

"It's not a good thing to have all these uncertainties around you, outside your apartment," Ms Tsapatolis said.

The constant chattering and slamming of doors have created anxiety and stress for Ms Tsapatolis, who stays at home most of the time and has two vigilant dogs that bark at strange noises.

"I'm not comfortable in my own home," she said. "What's the point of having a security guard and swipe passes for the lift if anyone can get into the building?"

Ms Tsapatolis says the business owner sometimes uses the communal resident lounge for the meetings.

She thinks her neighbour needs to rent commercial meeting rooms instead of holding workshops for dozens of people at a residential apartment building.

John Kakos, the current chairman of the building's owners' corporation, says he is concerned about the legality of conducting commercial business activities in residential areas.

"It's not allowed to run a business for commercial purposes without a permit from the council," he said.

"The resident's previous complaints have fallen on deaf ears because it was suggested that the former chairman and the business owner knew each other."



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Gatekeeper of cyber security

Victoria is one step closer to becoming one of the world's top five cyber security powerhouses and Docklands is the headquarters of the hub.

Data61 Cyber Security and Innovation Hub, a researching arm of the CSIRO, opened in Docklands' Goods Shed in Collins St on October 6, with industry leaders and the Minister for Innovation Philip Dalidakis overseeing the launch of this world-class facility.

Minister Dalidakis said the establishment of the hub meant the \$450 billion global cyber crimes would be confronted.

"Victoria is going to play a big part in ensuring that we can have families confident and comfortable in both the digital economy and in accessing their computers," he said.

The launch of the technology hub has seen a dramatic transformation of the Goods Shed from a heritage building used as a railway freight shed to the now gatekeeper of cyber security in Australia.

The cyber security industry has rapidly grown from a niche field to a \$98 billion global market today and the value is expected to increase to \$220 billion by 2020.

The Data61 hub will focus on the resilience of infrastructure and risk-based analytics and will offer an appropriate level of security for people interacting online.

In addition to protecting the digital system against cyber crimes, Data61 is able to provide a wide range of practical services and activities, including the mapping of high bushfire alert areas and an e-health system.

Data61's CEO Adrian Turner said the centre would facilitate the translation of research into the development of the industry.

"Every sector of the Australian economy

will be impacted by the move in data. The centre's role is to accelerate the development of data-driven industries and the transformation of the existing ones and underpinning all of that to cyber security," Mr Turner said.

Mr Turner said Australian internet users' privacy would be protected in the data monitoring and analysis processes with Data61's Confidential Computing, which analyses encrypted data without releasing the actual underlying data.

The Data61 centre will create 140 jobs for the next three years, reflecting the prosperity of the ever-growing industry.

Mr Dalidakis will visit Israel in December to discuss future trends in the cyber ecosystem.

Docklands is the central area for banking and finance industries, being the headquarters of several big names including Commonwealth, ANZ and NAB. With the arrival of Data61, Docklands will also be the centre for cyber technology and research in Victoria.



The Minister for Innovation Philip Dalidakis gets a taste of virtual reality at the Docklands launch.



Photographer Nick Leary and Dr Susan Carland at the "Respect" campaign launch.

Respect campaign launched in Docklands

An advertising campaign promoting respect has been officially launched by Porter Davis at its Docklands headquarters.

Leading academic and Muslim sociologist, Dr Susan Carland opened the campaign, speaking about the importance of respect in our community.

"Respecting others and viewing them with dignity is an acknowledgement that my way of being in the world is not the only acceptable or good way of being in the world," she said.

Dr Carland said the campaign demonstrated strong moral leadership by Porter Davis, which was rare in the corporate world.

"Launching a campaign about respect is a bold move for a company that belongs to traditionally quite a conservative industry," she said. "They are not just building homes, they are building societies," Dr Carland said.

Porter Davis founder and managing director, Anthony Roberts said the basis of the campaign lay in the company's beliefs.

"Our role is to respect, protect and nurture our customers' dreams," he said.

Mr Roberts said the campaign focused on the importance of respect, to change the conversation and accept everyone in our community.

"Respect is about celebrating our similarities and differences and moving away from division and fear," he said.

The company's head of marketing, Joanne Bradley, said the campaign demonstrated the respectful workplace at Porter Davis.

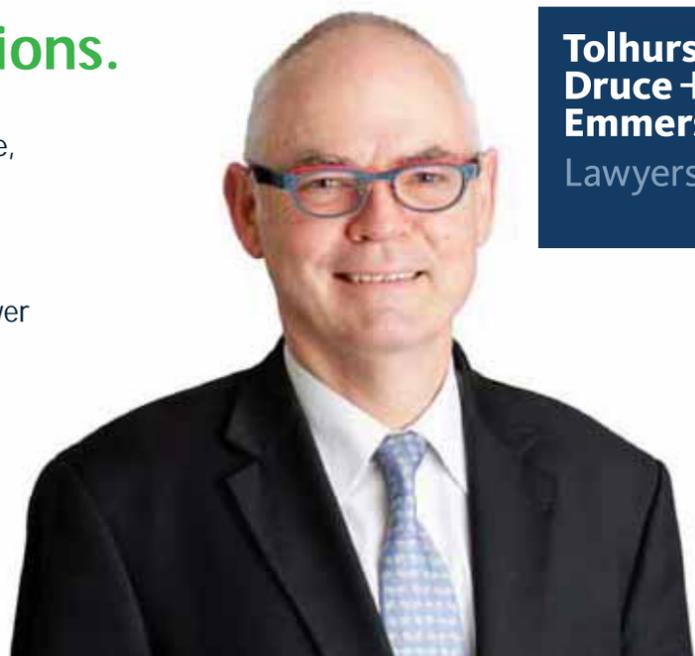
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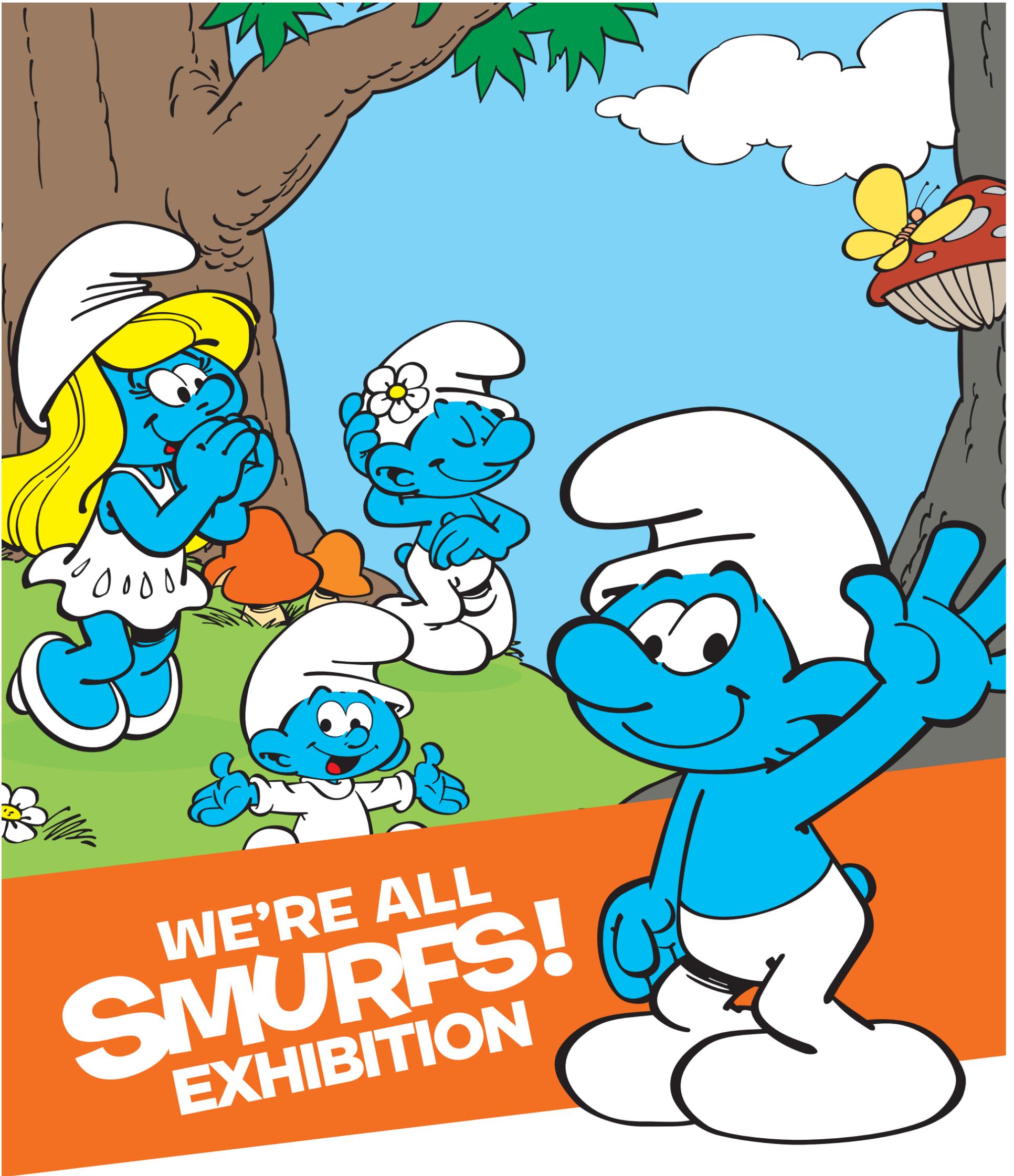
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Free WiFi is coming

By Nadia Dimattina

Docklanders will enjoy free WiFi by the end of this year.

The State Government launched its VicFreeWiFi in September and currently provides free WiFi to the City Loop, Bourke St Mall, Queen Victoria Market and South Wharf promenade.

The government says the 13 hotspots already installed in Docklands should be up and running later this year.

A government map shows seven TPG-powered modems in Harbour Esplanade, three in LaTrobe and three in NewQuay.

Once activated, users will have a 250MB data daily limit and will be able to access the WiFi without using personal logins or passwords.

This amount of data usage is equivalent to two hours of web browsing and sending up to 1000 Twitter or Facebook posts.

Communications advisor for the Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (DEDJTR), Jacqui Mullins said more locations, including Docklands would be given access to the free WiFi by the end of the year.

“We anticipate various points in Docklands and all major CBD streets and tourist precincts, will be available throughout Melbourne’s CBD by the end of 2016,” Ms Mullins said.

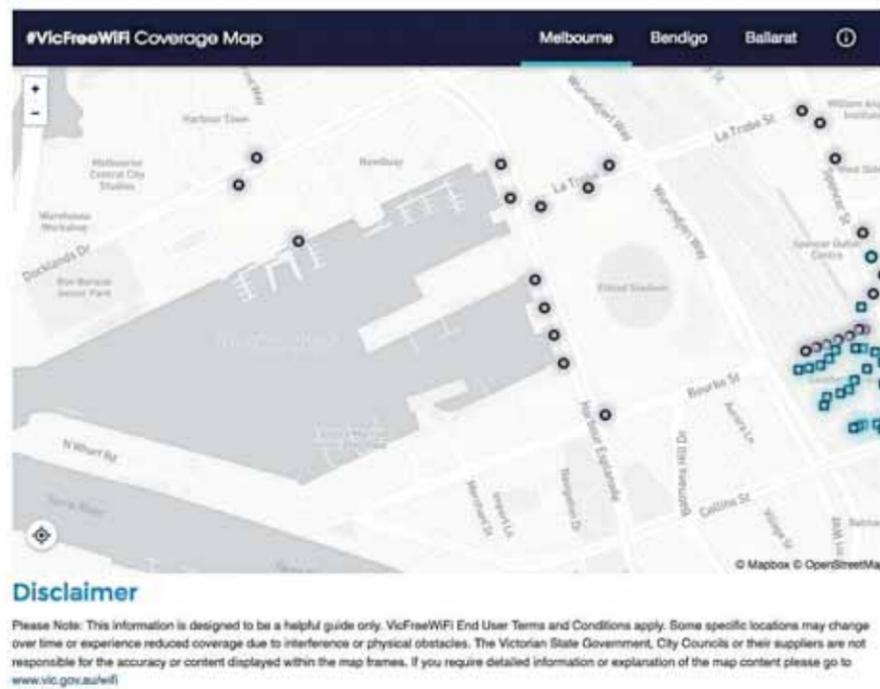
“We are working to a systematic schedule and will continue to make new locations available as they are ready for use - including various points in Docklands,” she said.

Ms Mullins believes free public WiFi will strongly benefit locals in Docklands.

“The Docklands area is a thriving business, tourism and residential precinct. Free public WiFi has a range benefits for locals and visitors. It will enhance the Docklands visitor experience - enabling them to get directions, book tickets and to find restaurants,” she said

The WiFi coverage is being provided

Find VicFreeWiFi Near You



outdoors, in and around public-owned spaces.

Victorian State Government media advisor, Caitlin Walsh, said the free WiFi network gave preference to particular areas.

“There is preference being given to higher-use areas including popular pedestrian streets, public transport, gathering points and tourist attractions,” she said.

Ms Walsh said the entire free WiFi network should be up and running by the end of the year catering to many Victorian’s demands for connectivity.

“Once complete, Victoria’s free Wi-Fi pilot will be the largest free public Wi-Fi network in Australia,” she said.

Docklands residents are able to access free

WiFi at Southern Cross station and at Etihad stadium until the new VicFreeWiFi modems are officially activated.



Networking lunch takes to the water

Numbers are building quickly for the last Docklands Networking Lunch for 2016.

On Friday, November 11, the lunch takes to the water for a 1.5 hour cruise down towards the bay on Melbourne’s Showboat, the Lady Cutler. Get there by noon for a 12.30pm departure. The cruise returns at 2pm.

This lunch is not to be missed, particularly if you haven’t seen this part of Melbourne from the water. The Port of Melbourne is a fascinating place to see from the river.

Captain Jeff’s hard-working crew have put together a cracker of a menu. It is:

Entree: Share platter with trio of Japanese panko prawn; shiitake, mushroom and mozzarella arancini; and salt and pepper calamari - all served on crispy coleslaw with kewpie mayonnaise.

Main: Porterhouse steak, green beans and roast vegetables served with beef jus; OR bacon and brie chicken supreme, broccolini and mashed potato served with mushroom sauce. (NB: Dietary requirements catered for).

Dessert: Triple chocolate mousse cake; OR mixed berry cheesecake.

As always, lunch is served with house red and white wine, full-strength and light beers and soft drinks.

Bookings must be received and paid before November 4.

The boat leaves Central Pier (northern side) at 12.30 sharp. So don’t get left behind!

Email lunch@docklandsnews.com.au or phone the office on 8689 7979 to book and pay.

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Wattle restoration continues

By Sunny Liu

Restoration continues for a historic steamboat, Steam Tug Wattle, which has been out of service for more than 10 years.

The boat is currently docked at Victoria Harbour and works are being undertaken to repair its engine and improve the woodwork on passenger seats.

Wattle was lifted back to the water by two of Melbourne's largest cranes in September last year after six years of restoration by a group of volunteers from the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum.

The ongoing restoration of the boat is expected to finish early next year.

Wattle was used as a tugboat by the Royal Australian Navy for 35 years and later became a chartered boat that provided a unique venue for parties and corporate functions and sailed back and forth between Docklands, Portarlington and Williamstown.

Jeff Malley from the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum said the group was working out new marketing strategies for Wattle when the restoration was completed.

"The market has changed due to the increasing number of chartered boats in the water in Melbourne. So we need to find a niche market for Wattle," he said.



Jeff Malley (left) and Tony Lewis beside the Steam Tug Wattle.

Wattle is one of the oldest steamboats in the Port of Melbourne and is classified by the National Trust.

The \$1 million funding of the restoration was provided by Sorrento Steam, the owner of Wattle, with some support from businesses and maritime enthusiasts.

Most of the workers on the restoration team

are professional engineers, construction workers and architects, who are volunteering their time to put the boat back in the water.

Tony Lewis, chairman of the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum, said the team wanted to preserve a valuable piece from the past.

"It's a very important part of Australia's

maritime history. It's a unique vessel that's Australian-designed and Australian-built," he said.

"We'd be lost if we didn't have any history behind us. We need to preserve works of art because they are embedded in our history."

The boat's name Wattle was given by the Royal Australian Navy, a reference to the floral emblem of Australia.

The boat has been in Docklands ever since it was out of service in 2003, apart from the time when it was sent to New South Wales for a check-up.

Wattle's location has been constantly changed due to the rapid transformation of Docklands, while buildings were soaring up from development sites.

But for the workers on the Wattle restoration team, the 83-year-old steamboat is a reminder of the good old times with some relevance to the future.

"In the challenge of climate change, the use of steam can provide some insight into energy use," Mr Malley said.

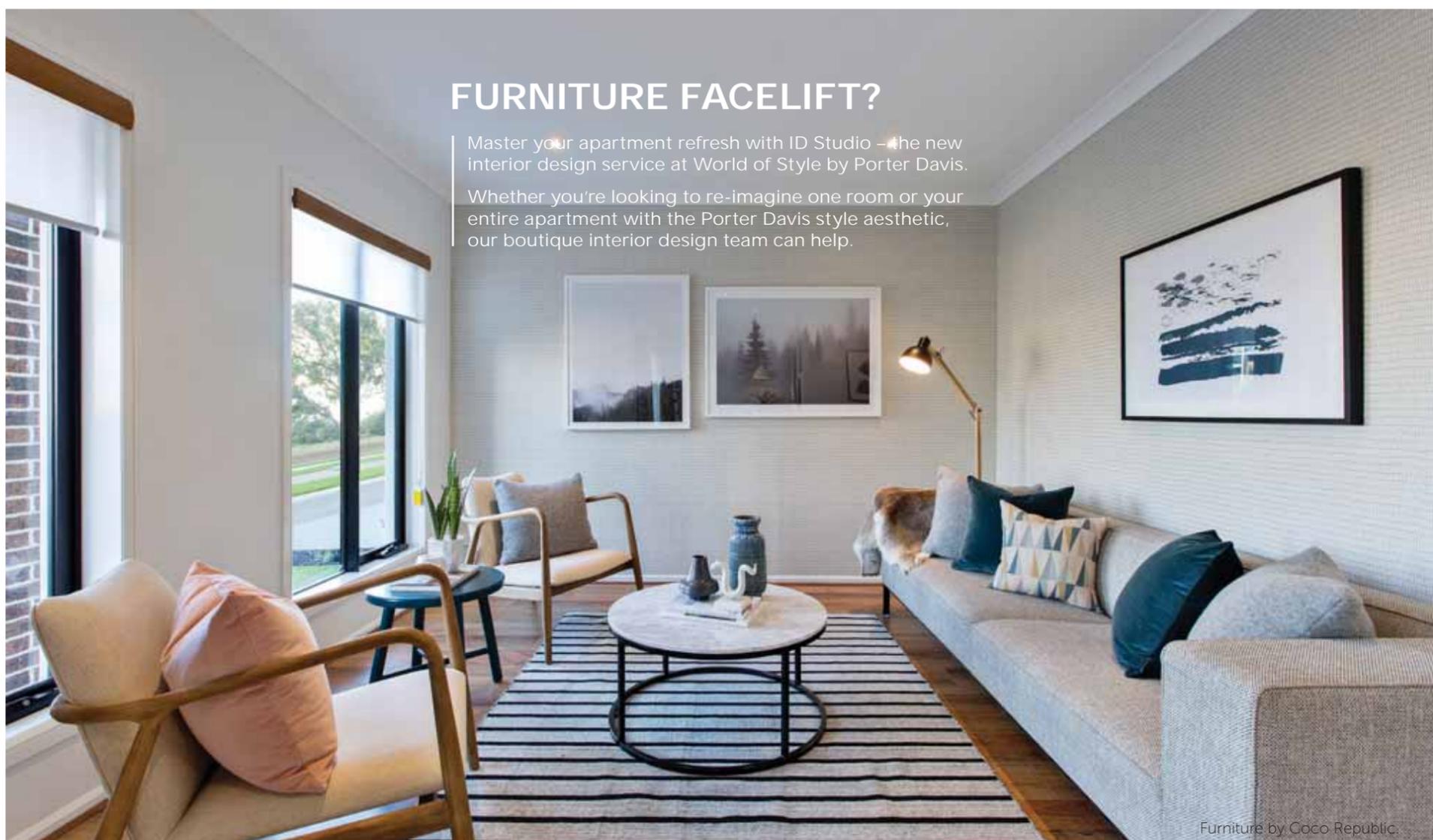
After the renovation, Wattle will be operated by Bay Steamers Maritime Museum volunteers and will be on a permanent exhibit.

Those interested in volunteering to help restore Wattle can find the recruitment information at the Boroondara Volunteer Resource Centre at www.bvrc.org.au.

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Happy birthday Elma

Docklander Elma Crosbie was surprised by friends and family with a party at Berth Restaurant on October 3.

Not one to enjoy a fuss, Elma tolerated the special attention with stoic forbearance. Thanks Elma!

Elma moved to Docklands in 2008 and has become a respected and valued member of the local community.

At just 79 years old, we're all hoping for plenty more birthdays to come.



Docklanders display a healthy travel pattern

Docklanders are the most prolific walkers, according to Victoria Walks data.

The walking advocate group says Docklands residents walk to work 10 times more than average metropolitan Melbourne residents. On average, about 3 per cent of Melbourne

residents walk to work while the number is 34 per cent for Docklanders.

The data also shows 86 per cent of the trips in Melbourne's CBD and surrounding suburbs are made on foot.

Senior advisor at Victoria Walks, Duane Burt, says walking is the main way for city dwellers to get around.

"One third of city residents achieve their

daily exercise requirements just by walking," he said.

"Studies have shown that walking has many physical and psychological benefits. Docklands residents are showing a healthy travel pattern."

About 30 per cent of Docklanders go to work by car, while 75 per cent of Melbourne metropolitan residents drive to work.

Many people are moving to suburbs that are within walking distance to work.

It is predicted that the number of walking trips made in Docklands will increase by 118 per cent in the next 10 years.

The City of Melbourne has introduced an "Access Docklands" plan that aims to deliver walking networks to make walking peoples' preferred way of getting around Docklands.

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Tick for speedway track

By Elliana Saltalamacchia

Riders were impressed with Etihad Stadium's transformation for the Australian FIM Speedway Grand Prix held on Saturday, October 22.

The Speedway Grand Prix is a series of speedway events that run over a season to decide a world champion.

500cc bikes with a single fixed gear and no brakes are used to complete four laps of the track, with riders reaching speeds of over 120kmh.

Etihad Stadium communications manager Bill Lane said 350 trucks brought 5500 tonnes of dirt into the stadium to convert the ground into the track.

He said the process began after the A-League's Melbourne derby on Saturday October 15, and was completed the following Thursday.

Three-time world champion Greg Hancock said that, like last year, he was happy with this year's track.

"Without a doubt I think you could say they definitely built the best track here last year," he said.



"It's a lot bigger here too so you have a lot more space to make a wider, better race track."

He said he hoped other venues learned from the way Etihad Stadium build its temporary track as the riders "can't complain".

Reigning world champion Tai Woffinden also said the track looked nice and that he enjoyed having the event at Etihad Stadium.

"I'd like to see the world championships come to stadiums like this for the whole series," Mr Woffinden said.

Mr Lane said experts from Europe came to

Melbourne to advise on the dirt used, which was sourced from Victorian quarries.

He said it was a "meticulous task" and that if the track wasn't right, it could be dangerous for the riders.

He also said that last year, around 75 per cent of ticket sales were made to people outside of Victoria, bringing many people to Docklands.

He said speedway was more popular in regional pockets of Australia, but there was a "big effort" to appeal to the mainstream this year.

Free wellness classes

A series of free outdoor exercise classes will be held at MPavilion in Docklands over the coming weeks.

Yoga, stretching and pilates classes will run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 12.30pm and 1pm.

The classes will be run by qualified trainers from Push! Fitness Docklands, and will be tailored to suit all fitness levels. Mats will be provided if needed.

The program encourages relaxation through gentle exercise, while allowing participants to enjoy the warmer weather. It has been running since October 17 and will conclude on Friday, December 9.

MPavilion was designed by Amanda Levete as part of the MPavilion program which sees architects design a temporary pavilion for the Queen Victoria Gardens.

Ms Levete's installation was relocated to its permanent Docklands home earlier this year - a gift from the Naomi Milgrom Foundation and the City of Melbourne.

MPavilion is located on the corner of Collins St and Batman's Hill Drive.

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Social Club set to return to Platform 28

The Docklands Social Club returns to Platform 28 from 7pm on Tuesday, November 8.

The informal gathering moves around Docklands each month and offers local people a great chance to get to know each other.

Last month, the club met at the Harbour



Town Hotel. All are welcome to attend.

The "club" is run by local people who have an interest in building the feeling of neighbourhood in Docklands.



Social Club members enjoying their latest outing to the Harbour Town Hotel.



Bendigo Bank local connection executive Alexandra Tullio, program chair Melanie Raymond and local Bendigo Bank branch manager Melissa Forester at the launch.

Connecting community

Community groups and companies are strengthening their connections as part of the Connected Communities Melbourne initiative launched at South Wharf last month.

Groups will be able to apply for grant funding for their projects under one of the 10 sectors including youth work, community safety, sport and the arts.

Grants will be given at both the grassroots and the larger levels to support community groups and collaborative projects that tackle social issues across Melbourne.

Program chairperson Melanie Raymond said: "Working with other local businesses and community partners, we hope to grow a central, sustainable funding model that helps support collaboration on projects that make Melbourne a great place for everyone to live."

The launch took place on October 12 and saw industry professional getting together to celebrate the community initiative.

The program supports local groups and companies working to make our city liveable.

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Rebecca Collins, partner Enspira Financial

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The Old Lady of Spencer St turns 130

By Elliana Saltamacchia

Formerly the offices for Victorian Railways, the Grand Hotel and Apartments on Spencer St celebrate 130 years this year. Resident Mike Kelly reflects on the Australians who have made it what it is today.

Mr Kelly lives in what he calls “The Old Lady of Spencer St”. He speaks of her magnificence and elegance, describing her as a “Victorian icon”.

She is the Grand Hotel and Apartments in Spencer St, and she is celebrating 130 years.

What was once the Victorian Railways administrative offices, Mr Kelly describes as one of Melbourne and Dockland’s “most impressive and historic buildings”.

Mr Kelly also speaks highly of the many Australians who have contributed to the development and restoration of the hotel. The story starts in 1886 when railway commissioners decided they had outgrown their wooden offices as the Victorian railways began to expand dramatically.

The location of the new offices was chosen because of its proximity to Spencer St, now Southern Cross, and Flinders St stations.

William Henry Greene

Engineer of existing lines William Henry Greene was appointed to draw plans for the grand building that would house the new railway offices.

“The scale of the building, even in the Marvellous Melbourne period of the 1880s, was remarkable,” Mr Kelly said. “She would become the largest office building built in Melbourne in the 19th century.”

Mr Kelly also said Greene was a “man of vision” who contributed to Melbourne in many ways.

In 1891 he planned and helped build the railway viaduct between Spencer St and Flinders St stations. Mr Kelly said he also drew the initial plans for Melbourne’s famous cable tram network.

Mr Greene is also grandfather to Dame Elisabeth Murdoch, and great grandfather to



The railway offices in circa 1890.

her son and media baron, Rupert Murdoch.

“William Henry Greene is perhaps not as well-known as he should be,” Mr Kelly said. “His legacy to Victoria should never be underestimated, nor forgotten.”

James Moore

In 1888, South Melbourne builder James Moore was given the task of turning “Greene’s vision into reality”.

Mr Moore was also the builder of the former banking chamber and vestibule of the Commercial Bank of Australia, now incorporated into the 333 Collins St complex.

The railway offices, and the banking chamber, were both completed in 1893.

At the turn of the century Victorian Railways was the largest government department. Despite the building’s huge size, the new offices were already under pressure, housing around 1000 employees by 1912.

Work began to increase the size of the building. The addition of a third floor (level five) in 1912 and a fourth floor (level six) in 1958 provided much needed extra space.

By 1958, there were more than 1800 employees working in the offices.

The building soon became known as “Head Office” to railway employees. It was so well known that it didn’t have a street number until the early 1960s when postal regulations numbered it 67 Spencer St.

“Head Office” employees

Many famous names worked in Head Office, among the most famous being Sir Robert Menzies.

“He was, prior to changing the face of Federal Australian politics, the Deputy Premier of Victoria, Attorney-General and Minister for Railways,” Mr Kelly said.

Between 1932 and 1934, during his time at Head Office, Sir Robert developed a close working relationship with chief commissioner for railways, Harold Clapp.

“Clapp pioneered the employment of large numbers of women into the railways,” Mr Kelly said.

“The first woman he employed at Head Office was a lady employed as secretary to the Superintendent of Refreshment Room Services in February 1922.”

Mr Kelly also said there were a number of railway men who played in the Victorian Football League, today the AFL.

“Head Office had Joseph (Joe) Kelly, no relation of mine but I wish he was,” Mr Kelly said.

“Joe was recruited to the Carlton Football Club in 1926. In a wonderful career spanning eight years he played 137 matches.”

In 1937, after the shock resignation of Syd Coventry, he stepped in to coach Footscray, and in 1941, South Melbourne.

“Again he took a struggling club and made them a competitive team,” Mr Kelly said. “Joe achieved champion status.”

Les Erdi

In 1985, the Ministry of Transport and the V-Line administration could no longer cope with the crowded environment of the building. They moved to Transport House at 589 Collins St, and the Victorian Railways Administrative Offices were vacated.

The Old Lady was earmarked for sale by the state government.

“There were a few attempts to restore her back to past glory, but the economy was in depression mode and she continued to fall into disrepair,” Mr Kelly said.

It was not until the mid-1990s that a lifeline for the building came along.

Businessman Les Erdi was contacted by the government to co-ordinate the restoration. With the assistance of around 63 other companies, the “formidable task” began.

Mezzanine floors were added into original offices giving for loft-style living with modern technology and comfort.

“The beautiful central staircase of the residential section was faithfully restored to its original splendour. The impressive lights which hang over the staircase were imported from Italy,” Mr Kelly said.

“Les mentioned that he had more sleepless nights on this project than all his many other achievements,” he said.

The result was the Grand Hotel, comprising 118 self-contained suites and The Grand Central Apartments, a three-level residential complex.

“‘The Old Lady of Spencer Street’ became ‘The Grand Old Lady of Spencer Street,’” Mr Kelly said.

In 1997, former Victorian premier Jeff Kennett opened the Grand Hotel. It became the first hotel and apartments in Docklands. In 2006 a cocktail function was organised to celebrate the building’s 120th anniversary. Dame Elisabeth and Mr and Mrs Erdi were special guests.

“Fast forward another 10 years and the amazing transformation of the CBD and Docklands, this famous, elegant building has witnessed it all,” Mr Kelly said. “Those who have enjoyed the Grand Hotel’s ambience would agree that she, and Melbourne, are truly marvellous.”



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City Schools for City Kids

The State Government announced on Tuesday, October 11 that it is going to buy land to build a primary school in Docklands and also to build new schools in North Melbourne and Fishermans Bend.

At last the government has decided to act. Families throughout the greater Melbourne area (including Docklands, the CBD and Southbank) have been waiting for years to have desperately needed schools in the inner city.

Whilst on the surface this announcement seems to be great news, local families and residents must now keep up the pressure on the Andrews Labour Government to quickly get on with purchasing land and getting these schools built.

A tireless campaign run by the City Schools for City Kids group and supported by the We Live Here movement has been conducted over a long period of time.

It shows that ongoing pressure by these groups is working. These ongoing efforts appear to be now reaping the rewards that inner city residents deserve and that their voice is at last being heard.

You the resident have a voice and are a voter.

Council elections

On Friday, October 7 the We Live Here movement had a meeting with Mr Phil Cleary, a candidate for the Lord Mayor's position at the upcoming City of Melbourne council election. Mr Cleary was also given a tour of a residential building.

We would like to thank Mr Cleary for showing great interest and taking time out of his busy schedule to see for himself and understand the problems that residential buildings across the city have with unregulated short-stay operators.

The We Live Here movement supports and embraces Airbnb and the mum and dad investors embracing sharing economy ideals.

We do not support the unregulated commercial short stay industry and their operators. They are not part of the "sharing economy" but of the "taking economy". The We Live Here movement encourages all residents, before voting, to carefully consider what the candidates are going to do for residents and what their policies are on short-stays in residential buildings. Make sure your voice counts.

Survey of candidates

To canvas the opinion of candidates on the issue of short-stays we sent a short questionnaire to all 58 candidates for lord mayoral and councillor positions.

The questions asked were:

1. Are you or anyone or entity associated with you engaged in commercial short-stay operations?
2. If elected would you support amendments to the Melbourne Planning Scheme to insert the requirement for a planning permit to be obtained before apartments in residential buildings can be used for commercial short-stay operations, including those using Airbnb?
3. Would you support the regulation of short-stay accommodation in residential buildings so owners' corporations have a right to determine the use of their building and to create a level playing field for the accommodation industry?

Summary of the preliminary findings:

- A total of 11/14 teams (85.7 per cent) responded to the questionnaire; and
- 1/3 of the ungrouped candidates also responded.
- A partial response (1/4 candidates) was received from The Light on the Hill and this team was excluded from the analysis. No response was received from The Heritage Agenda, or An Indigenous Voice for Council.

Results:

10/14 teams said no to Q1 and yes to Q2 and Q3.

One team (Together Melbourne) said yes to Q1 and one team (Melburnian Voice) gave a qualified yes to Q1 because short-stays had infiltrated the building where they lived. Both teams said yes to Q2 and Q3.

One team (Animal Justice) said yes to Q1, was not sure how to answer question 2, but said yes to Q3.

One team (Stephen Mayne: Transparency, Independence, Accountability, Experience) said no to Q1, Q2 and Q3.

Conclusions:

We Live Here is delighted with the response to the questionnaire: thank you so much to everyone who took the time to participate.

We were also very gratified to see the level of support shown for one of the major aims of We Live Here, which is to see regulation of the short-stay industry in residential buildings. It was, therefore surprising and

disappointing to see that just one team - Stephen Mayne's - did not share those views.

Detailed results, including additional comments provided by some of the teams, will be posted on the We Live Here website in due course.

"We live here" buildings



Supporters of We Live Here

The supporter base of We Live Here continues to grow. As at August 31, a total of 141 buildings (see diagram below) and more than 350 individuals had registered on our website at www.welivehere.net.

Supporters are the first to hear breaking news and details of forthcoming events. We also welcome your feed-back and suggestions about issues that can be aired in this column or on our website. Please send to campaign@welivehere.net.

Contributions are also very welcome and can be made online at www.welivehere.net



www.welivehere.net
emails to campaign@welivehere.net

FISHERMANS BEND

Help shape the next stage of planning for Fishermans Bend

Fishermans Bend is an opportunity to be a game changer for Melbourne, setting new benchmarks for inner city renewal. The next step in planning is underway to develop a draft framework for the four neighbourhoods and employment precinct.

Come along to one of our sessions to hear the latest progress update, with a focus on the strategies for community infrastructure and public space. Your feedback can help shape the draft framework, which will be released for further consultation in early 2017.

ATTEND A COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Wednesday 23 November – 7pm to 9pm
North Port Oval – Sandridge Room
541 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne.

Spaces are limited so please register your attendance at www.fishermansbend.vic.gov.au by Wednesday 16 November 2016.

VISIT A DROP IN SESSION

Wednesday 16 November – 10am to 12 noon
Life Saving Victoria State Centre
Perce White Reserve
200 The Boulevard, Port Melbourne

Sunday 20 November – 1pm to 4pm
North Port Oval – Sandridge Room
541 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne

Wednesday 23 November – 1pm to 3pm
North Port Oval – Sandridge Room,
541 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne

Sunday 27 November – 1pm to 4pm
Port Melbourne Primary School Fete
415 Graham St, Port Melbourne

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Docklander

Docklands' inclusive community is worth the move

By Sunny Liu

Chris Silcock and his parents moved from Ringwood to Docklands a year ago and have not looked back.

Mr Silcock, 32, has cerebral palsy and is in a wheelchair. But he says Docklands has a very inclusive and accessible community.

"Docklands is so vibrant. Ringwood is very sleepy," he said.

Mr Silcock's parent sold their four-bedroom Ringwood family house and bought a small two-bedroom apartment with an unblocked harbour view.

When he was living in Ringwood, he had to rely on his parents to drive him around. But in Docklands, he goes to art galleries, museums and cinemas all by himself.

"It was like being stuck in a box in Ringwood," Mr Silcock's mother Vicky said.

"Everything is very accessible here in Docklands," Mr Silcock said. The great thing is I'm independent here."

The community bond in Docklands was something they did not expect when they arrived.

Their neighbours are always happy to help and often invite Chris to dinner and activities.

"Apartment living is not isolated at all. We feel included in this neighbourhood," Mrs Silcock said.

She says Chris was not invited to other people's homes in Ringwood often because people felt uncomfortable with the limited accessibility of their houses.

But in Docklands, everyone's apartment is easily accessible and they all go to restaurants.

"It's very natural and easy to invite Chris.



Chris Silcock loves living in Docklands.

People here have the willingness to be open," she said.

In the high-rise apartment building, many people have become friends with Mr Silcock.

"I felt inclusion and support, which has never happened before," Mr Silcock said.

Mr Silcock's social life has become much busier in Docklands. He is an active member

of a Disney-lovers' group and goes to the movies with other group members.

No one else in the group has a disability and Mr Silcock is a valued member of the team. After the movies, they often sit down for dinner and drinks and a discussion of the movie.

Mr Silcock says he is going to expand his expertise and write movie reviews for an activity centre's newsletter.

He is also a die-hard fan of the St Kilda Swans, an avid video game player and a loyal member with the Melbourne Zoo.

"There's always something for him to do here," Mrs Silcock said.

Despite all the merits of living in Docklands, Mr Silcock says he is still in the transition phase.

He and his parents want to have low-floor trams on Harbour Esplanade because, at the moments, all the trams at their doorstep are not wheelchair-friendly.

His father works full-time and his mother works two days a week. Finding reliable help is not easy.

Mrs Silcock says support for people with special needs is reducing and they are finding it hard to get people to care for their son.

Luckily, Mr Silcock is very independent and is enjoying the city life.

"It's a dream come true for me. Life in Docklands has exceeded my expectations greatly," he said.



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Chamber Update

Docklands secret – We have our own Spiegeltent

Yes, can you believe we have our own Spiegeltent? It's aptly called "Wonderland Spiegeltent".

Spiegeltent (Dutch for "Mirror Tent", from spiegel+tent). It is a large travelling tent, constructed in wood and canvas and decorated with mirrors and stained glass and used as an entertainment venue.

They were originally built in Belgium during the late 19th and early 20th centuries and only a handful of these Spiegeltentents remain in existence today. These survivors continue to provide an up close and personal entertainment experience.

The Wonderland Spiegeltent in Docklands is an inner city venue that is home to world-class performances including comedy, acrobatics, circus, music and dance as well as a unique venue to host your next event.

Check the website www.wonderlandspiegelent.com.au and set aside a night to really relax and enjoy what's on offer.

The Wonderland Spiegeltent is located on city side under the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel.

Did you miss *Scotch & Soda*? – a circus with jazz, served straight up. A show that was an actual cocktail of exciting artistic personalities, world-class circus, heart pounding bar-room and junkyard jazz and one final ingredient – you, the audience.

It was the vibe of a rowdy whiskey joint set in a dusty parallel universe, somewhere between depression-era travelling circuses and Europe's 19th century carnival past.

With a heartfelt blend of brass, wood and strings, the virtuosic Uncanny Carnival Band had everyone jumping, whooping and clapping. Each musician is one of Sydney's finest – plucked from the top shelf. They were set loose on the stage and things were spectacularly messy. With the musicians getting in on the acts and the acrobats playing music, this unique genre-bending party was one you should not have missed.

If you did miss *Scotch & Soda*, don't

miss *Papillion* in December. It offers something stunning, naughty and new, just for you.

The chamber is also hosting its Christmas network function on December 9 and is incorporating this hit performance. Details are on our website.

Chamber AGM

The annual general meeting of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce will be held on November 10 and you are invited to join us to hear what we have achieved and what is proposed for the next 12 months.

Check the website for venue details and, if you are in business, join us for the evening and meet with people who provide the services, shopping and facilities to your local community.

You can add value to the Docklands business community by becoming a chamber member today!

Join the chamber and have your say in developing the Docklands community. Connect your business with like minds who are actively encouraging and developing the precinct.

If you have something on your mind or an idea you wish to share, or you simply want to join email: admin@docklandsc.com.au or visit our web site www.docklandsc.com.au



Paul Salter
Executive Committee member
www.docklandsc.com.au



Owners Corporation Law

How to communicate with OC managers

The owners' corporation management industry is well overdue for a shake-up. Even the very best managers that I deal with agree that the cowboy managers out there in strata-land (and there are a few of them) are spoiling the industry.

Consumer Affairs Victoria has legislation all drawn up to clean up the industry to introduce much-needed regulations and reforms. However, this legislation has been collecting dust on the bookshelf at Exhibition St for the past two years.

The current government has seen fit to delay the introduction of these reforms until at least 2018 when the Owners Corporation Act reforms are introduced.

It remains to be seen as to whether these reforms will even be introduced prior to or after the next election, and if the current government is returned by the people of Victoria.

In the meantime, owners' corporations will just have to continue muddling through.

I advise my clients that a building is only as good as its building manager, cleaning staff and OC manager.

These three "run" the building's daily operations and should leave the committee to simply administer the building by approving quotations, periodically checking expenditure to ensure the budgets are being adhered to and to provide further instructions to the manager. Pretty simple stuff really, huh?

Committees that don't have the above management model flourishing in their buildings need to look very carefully at the roles your managers are playing and what their expectations are. A good place to start will be the source documents and the standing delegations to the manager that would have been provided by the developer at the first annual general meeting (FAGM) or by an earlier committee decision.

The OC managers' contracts (which should be in the approved form) will contain the schedule of duties that the OC manager must perform to earn the base fee. The contract

will also contain the duties that manager shall perform for an additional hourly rate.

Committees should also take care to review the minutes of the FAGMs and any early committee meetings where the developer controlled the committee, as the minutes of these meetings will likely specify the standing delegations (if any) that have been provided to the OC manager.

If those delegations stretch too far (or not far enough as the case may be) then these can be reviewed at the next AGM for the building.

The terms of appointment and the procedure for automatic rollovers and extensions should also be well understood by the committee. Moving from one OC management company to another can be a very stressful and laborious process. It is best practice to start this process early and with strong communication to the current OC manager about performance expectations.

Finally, communication is a two-way street. OC managers have a lot of experience in acting for hundreds of buildings and they are best placed to provide case studies and help to solve problems for committees by suggesting solutions that have worked for other buildings.

Remember, there is hardly ever a unique situation that has not been before at least a dozen other buildings before.

Having said that, nothing surprises me in the strata industry these days ...



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What Women Want

Some clarification ...

Last month I wrote to you about how content I am with my life ... My single life, with my busy business plans and tiny family to love.

My single life that is free of relationship hassles and partner issues. My single life that is mine to live, in the way I choose, in the manner I wish. My single life - hmm.

I think perhaps I should have framed my last column a little differently. I think perhaps I should have had greater clarity, that I should have checked the picture I was painting. You see, I think I might have over sold my single life.

The truth is, that I have managed or learnt or simply evolved to being content with my life just the way it is. And that just happens to be as a single person. And I think there's a very important differentiation between saying "I am happily single", and saying "I am happy and happen to be single" ... Let me elaborate.

Happiness itself is not found in or out of a relationship. Happiness itself is not the absence of relationship issues, nor the privilege of only having to make the bed if you want to. Happiness can only be found from within and that happiness - or contentedness - gives you the "lens" to see the positives in the situation that you are in. Happiness from within has given me a sense of peace and a perspective that has helped me to focus on all the beautiful things that can be attributed to being single - because the fact is I'm single and meeting the right person is not something that I can take control of or make happen. So I have, fortunately, learnt to love my single life.

It does not mean that I don't ache to fall into the arms of a loving partner at the end of a tough day. It does not mean that I wouldn't love to crack a champagne with my beloved after a business triumph and it does not mean that I don't dream of an idyllic tropical holiday complete with summer love ... All it means is that I have learnt to love what I do have. But it has taken some time to reach this point.

So the clarity I have, is that you can find happiness within yourself if you can focus on what is right about your situation rather than what is missing. And when I say that you are

enough to make your greatest dreams come true, and that you are everything you need to have a magnificent life - I do not mean that you need to be single to realise this.

You just need to be you and I find that if you believe your life is perfect just the way it is, well it makes it a lot better!

I still have big goals for my life and I believe we all should still have big goals no matter how "content" we are. Content is not a finite place, but rather a realisation that all that we are, and all that we have within, is beautiful enough to bring us happiness. And being content doesn't mean we wish for nothing, but that we love what we have.

So I say to all my friends - those single, those married, those not sure they're with the right person, those working, those retired, those seeking, those who feel lost, those who feel elated, those succeeding and those struggling - that great things come from making peace with the journey you are on and seeing what is great about exactly where you are right now. And it's important, because life is what is happening right now, not what you wish could happen in the future.

What a woman wants is for every aspect of her life to be perfect and happy, but what a woman needs to realise is that life is not like that - and isn't it about time we all made some peace with ourselves and gave ourselves a little love?

Thank you for your emails this month, I feel privileged to receive them.

With much love

Abby

PS you can reach me at life@docklandsnews.com.au



Abby Crawford

life@docklandsnews.com.au

Secret

Monument to insensitivity

The City of Melbourne must have thought there was something missing from Monument Park in NewQuay.

So it installed this traffic sign, so passing vehicles (on NewQuay Promenade!) knew where a "no stopping" area finished.

Docklands News says the signage was a monument to the council's artistic ignorance and insensitivity.

The council must have thought so too, because the sign was removed the day after we raised the issue.

Disappointingly, the council refused to admit fault. Instead, it said the sign came first and the park was built around it.

The council spokesperson said: "The No Stopping sign was initially installed as part of a City of Melbourne signage strategy to stop cars from illegally parking along NewQuay Promenade after accessing the area from various surrounding streets."

"Since the installation of the sign in question, the area between Palmyra Way and the promenade was landscaped and the artwork was installed, effectively blocking vehicle access."

"The sign has been marked for removal as it is now redundant."



The secret is out

Tommy Collins' Secret Garden is coming to Docklands after all, but not to Harbour Esplanade.

The popular "pop-up" events venue has teamed up with Docklands' Atlantic Group and will hold its first event at North Wharf on November 10.

A brochure advertising the space says it has permission to play amplified music until midnight.

It is advising guests to meet at the Library at the Dock, from where they will be

guided down the old dock towards the Bolte Bridge.

It is offering event parking at Central Pier, with the option of crossing Victoria Harbour by boat.

The organisation is calling the location "North Pier". It had previously announced that the venue would be at Central Pier.

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Dockland Story



The little bent tree

Once upon a time there was a little Norfolk Pine tree growing up on a tree farm.

The little trees had a wonderful life. They played together and the kindly farm owner fed and watered them regularly.

They all knew that one day, when they were big and strong, they would be taken somewhere new, where they would make new lives for themselves.

One day a delivery truck arrived with a crane. The little trees were so excited and chatted frenetically amongst themselves.

“Where could we be going?” one asked. “What joy it will be to join the outside world and play our role in society,” said another.

“We’re going to the beach,” they all sang in unison.

After quite a long journey, the truck turned into Harbour Esplanade in Docklands, where about 12 pines had recently died.

“Oh no,” they shrieked. “Not Docklands. Anywhere but Docklands!”

Some of the little tree’s friends were planted in relatively sheltered spots. But our little tree was popped right in the path of the maddening wind tunnel caused by The Conder building at NewQuay.

Council workers put him in a hole, filled it in and went away. They had to come back soon though, because the little tree was bending so much, he nearly blew out of his hole.

This time the council workers came with poles and strapping to restrain the little tree – much like a deranged human might be put into a straight jacket.

Now, when the wind blows, it just bends the little tree at severe and painful angles.

Will he be able to grow up tall and strong? In a fairytale, it might happen. In Docklands it doesn’t seem likely.

By “Toby” of Docklands

Send us your story of Docklands. Email news@docklandsnews.com.au

Pet’s Corner



Cats of Docklands

By Nadia Dimattina

It is not common to see cats walking around the Docklands, but Molly is known as the local “cat in the pram”.

Molly, a two-and-a-half-year-old cat, loves exploring Docklands in his personal pram, alongside owner Olivia Lee.

Olivia believes that people underestimate cats and give preference to dogs when purchasing a pet.

“Some people say cats are not very friendly like dogs but I think this cat really gets along with people,” she said.

Olivia describes her cat as “very lovely with a great personality”.

“He is curious about everything so I think he is very smart,” she said.

Molly and Olivia have recently moved to the Docklands and are really loving the area.

“I like it because it is very close to the city. There are waterfront views and it is a very relaxing area. So I’m very happy I moved here,” she said

In terms of apartment living, Molly has adapted quite well and it’s not a problem for him or Olivia.

“Apartment living is very easy because my building is very open which is suitable for cats,” Ms Lee said.



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Health and Wellbeing

Exercising outdoors – It's prime time!

November is a fantastic time to break away from the desk and get outside for a quick workout. The sun is out, the wind speed drops and the temperature is mild and moderate – all perfect for exercising outdoors.

Here are four outdoor exercise ideas and their benefits for you to consider:

- **Outdoor boxing circuit** – recently I have been watching groups boxing and training around the Docklands green spaces having a ball during their lunch breaks. Boxing is a great way to release stress, build cardio-vascular fitness and improve agility and co-ordination. (A side benefit is you can learn to PUNCH!) Group classes are social and encourage partner work and group interaction with other corporate workers which is healthy. Because of the intensity of boxing, 30 minute sessions work well, and that can fit easily within your lunch break.
- **Go for a brisk walk or jog** – the flat paths and walking tracks around the Docklands are ideal to pound with your new runners on a sunny afternoon. Encourage others to join you and lock in some regular sessions with you.
- **Take a yoga or pilates class** – The new MPavilion in Docklands is hosting free lunchtime yoga, pilates and stretching sessions right through until mid-December. Try one of these classes for some variation on your indoor routine.
- **Seek some personal quiet time** – There are lots of new spaces in Docklands where you can sit, relax and recharge in the sun. Maybe download some new chill out music on your iPod, find that space, close your eyes and breathe deeply.
- **Exercising outside will help you get some healthy sun that your body needs.** Be careful though, exercising outside isn't sun tanning time – if you are planning to spend time exposed to the sun, make sure your skin is protected with a hat and sunscreen.

Move and stretch more at work

A quick five-minute stretch combined with some mobility exercises at work can do

wonders for your posture, circulation and general wellbeing. Corporate workers spend long hours in meetings, staring at screens and devices without moving too much.

Poor posture and poor ergonomics at a work station can lead to headaches, a sore neck, back and shoulders. In the medium to long-term, if left unaddressed, muscles shorten further and the poor posture becomes more permanent, as does the impact to general health.

Here are some ideas and exercises you can do at work quietly, or if you can, try and motivate others to join you in your quick mobility session!

Generally, hold stretches for 20-30 seconds and repeat two or three times. Try the following in any order:

- **Chest and shoulder stretch** – Stand up, join your hands behind your back and open up the chest.
- **Neck release** – When seated, hold the base of your chair then tilt your head to the side, taking the ear to shoulder. Then move slowly to the other side. Once completed, roll the head in a semi-circle forwards
- **Forearm and bicep stretch** – Straighten your arm and pull the hand back towards the body (think Spiderman). This helps release the muscles in the arm that shorten when typing on your keyboard. Stretch both arms.
- **Calf raises** – Blood pools in the lower legs when you don't move. Calf raises will help circulate blood and oxygen back to the lungs and brain. You can do calf raises while seated or standing, but standing would be better. Complete 20 calf raises down and lifting your heels up, then lowering down – rest and repeat.
- **Standing quadriceps stretch / hip flexor release** – Balance yourself by holding on to a fixed object, lift the leg and grab the



foot. Pull your heel into your backside. Push the hip forwards. Repeat on both legs.

I would like to encourage you to incorporate regular and more extended stretching sessions into your weekly routine. Try taking a yoga, pilates or stretching class once or twice per week. You should also learn how to use a foam roller self-massage and deeper tissue work.

Exercise to improve physical and mental health

We all know that a regular exercise routine can have great benefits for our health and well-being. The National Guidelines for Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour recommends:

Adults (aged 18-64) should exercise with moderate intensity for at least 300 min/week.

Children and young people (aged 5-17) need at least 60 minutes of vigorous activity EVERY day.

Please take a minute to check where you, your family and friends are in this regard. Do they need your help to live a healthier

life? Working out or exercising with family and friends is a great way to build healthier and happier families and communities. Why don't you take the lead?

Have you heard about the brain chemical serotonin? Exercise helps stimulate the synthesis of serotonin and maintain healthy levels within the brain and body. Low levels of serotonin are associated with depression, whereas higher levels are associated with feeling great!

Aerobic activities like walking, running, riding and swimming are noted as better forms of exercise for the serotonin production but of course any form of activity is better than none at all.

So if you notice any of your friends are going through a tough time, one of the best things you could do is to get them exercising!



Andrew Ward

Andrew Ward from Push! Fitness.

www.push-fitness.com.au



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COME IN AND SEE PETER, LYN AND THE FRIENDLY TEAM



DOCKLANDS
FACES OF

By: Rhianna Busler

Question: What is a skill you would like to learn and why?



ANTHONY CLARK, 47

I've always wanted to be able to play the piano so I could break out my talent at a party or something, a bit of Billy Joel action.



KELLIE TRUBIANO, 42

A useful skill I would like to learn would be to speak Mandarin. I work in a real estate office here in Docklands so it would come in handy when conversing with my clients.



VISHAL YADOV, 29

A skill I would like to learn is to be able to drink like an Australian and be able to handle my drink. I moved to Australia two years ago and the drinking culture is very different over here - it's great.



BRONOY BHUYAN, 27

I have never gone fishing before but I've always wanted to try it with friends. It looks like fun, so that would probably be the skill I would want to learn.



MISHELLE RUMINTS, 19

I would really like to get into the medical profession. I would like to study to become a nurse. I want to help people in need so that's the skill I would like to learn.



WAYNE SPENCER, 59

I've always been really good at playing the air guitar so I would love to be able to step up my game and actually learn how to play the guitar properly. I've always loved music and I'm a frustrated guitarist at the moment so it would definitely be a skill that would come in handy.

SKYPAD Living

Use your apartment space better

Space may well be the final frontier, but it is the lack of it that is the daily challenge for many high-rise residents.

While the Tiny House and Compact Life movements are promoting the virtues of stripped down living, many vertical dwellers don't aspire to such ambitious minimalism.

In fact space, and specifically storage space, continue to be major bugbears for high-rise residents.

There are, however, some clever products emerging that use space-age technology to help vertical dwellers make their available space work harder for them.

One such range is movable internal walls, which are not as popular as might be expected. In their simplest manifestation, a wall, such as one dividing a lounge and a second bedroom, travels compactus-like along a predetermined pathway to the other side of the apartment. Depending upon direction of travel, this could increase the entertaining space or, by moving it in the opposite direction, reveal a work space, an exercise area or guest sleeping quarters.

Stepping up a notch, the moving wall itself may feature inbuilt storage, taking on the appearance of an integrated unit.

While there are several variations to

these movable walls, some pivot to reveal entertainment units on one-side and work spaces on the other. One issue of concern is the physical effort required to slide these wall-units.

Enter ORI, which has announced that its new modular system will be available in 2017.

Deriving its name from origami (the Japanese art of folding paper), ORI's offerings are interesting for two reasons.

Firstly, they utilise robotic technology to transform internal space, activated through the touch of a button - the harder the button is pressed, the faster the unit travels. Included in this robotic unit is, on one side, a closet and a bed that retracts into the unit, and on the other side is a home office and an entertainment suite.

The second point of interest is that these transforming robotic units were the result of a partnership between MIT Media Lab and the designer, Yves Béhar.

In Australia, we bemoan the gap between the fine minds at our universities and the pragmatic needs of our economy. It is offerings such as those by ORI that show just



Clever furniture can mean the difference between being comfortable or cramped.

how well this gap can be bridged with the right partnerships.

Over the next months, this column will keep watch on our universities and our local designers to discover Australian innovations that boldly go where none have gone before to the benefit of our vertical dwellers.



Janette Corcoran
Apartment living expert
skypadliving@gmail.com

Business

A safer community in the digital world

Docklands is continuing down the path to becoming the digital centre of Melbourne, with the installation of digital security systems by local company DockCom.

DockCom was one of the first IT companies to find a home in Docklands.

Mark Stytsenko, founder and technical director of DockCom, saw the potential in Docklands when no one else believed in the ghost town back in 2008.

Since then, the start-up grew at the same speed of Docklands, expanding its services from IT system management to security system support.

The company launched its new branch Secure City earlier this year when there was a surging demand in security protection networks in Docklands buildings.

"With the increase in the number of buildings and businesses, our company has expanded too," Mr Stytsenko said.

DockCom supports the IT systems at apartment buildings such as Watergate and at Yarra's Edge.

"Docklands is now a high-density area and the small geographical footprint means we can attend to our clients quickly," Mr Stytsenko said.

To Mr Stytsenko's delight, people get to know DockCom easily in the tightly-knit Docklands business community.

"In Docklands, everyone knows each other. People recommend our services so we keep



DockCom staff (from left) Gill, Gary, Carla, Mark, Mikhail, Carlo and Alissa.

growing," he said.

For Mr Stytsenko and DockCom's co-founder and director Gary Sibson, Docklands is the hub for the country's digital economy.

"A lot of companies in Docklands take technology very seriously. They are taking on all the latest technology developments," Mr Stytsenko said.

The services DockCom provides include designing, installing and supporting CCTV surveillance, swipe access control, security and intercom systems for residential and

commercial buildings and retail premises.

DockCom is a 21st century business that meets the demand of businesses in today's fast paced digital world.

With the increase in crime, its face-recognition CCTV surveillance network offers an extra layer of security to clients.

Mr Stytsenko says the company takes pride in providing innovative technology solutions that are fully digital and of the best quality.

The vision of DockCom is to support local businesses with its IT and security systems to

facilitate a safer community.

"The industry is growing all the time and Docklands is starting to feel home now home to many innovative businesses," Mr Stytsenko said.

DockCom Pty Ltd is a licensed security installers and advisors firm. Vic Security Registration: 906-339-10S.

DockCom can be contacted at level 2, 710 Collins St, Docklands, Ph: **9008 7908** E: mark@dockcom.com.au W: www.dockcom.com.au

Putting your sleep health first

Forty Winks South Wharf is teaming up with a leading bedding manufacturer as part of its mission to improve the lives of locals via a better night's sleep.

According to the ABC's 2016 study *Reboot Your Life*, 75 per cent of Australians are currently having trouble falling asleep, while only 12 per cent are waking up feeling refreshed.

Forty Winks South Wharf owner Virginia Williams said the brand had teamed up with a leading bedding manufacturer AH Beard to provide customers with the best advice on how to consistently get a good night's shut-eye.

According to AH Beard, the top five tips for helping people waking up feeling wonderful are:

- Make sure you have a comfortable mattress that provides the correct support;
- Make sleep a priority – sticking to a schedule helps reinforce your body's sleep-wake cycle and can help you to fall asleep;
- Create the ideal sleep environment – create a room that's ideal for sleeping to create a suitable environment for you;

- Avoid caffeine before bed time – your body doesn't store caffeine but it takes many hours to eliminate the stimulant and its effects; and
- Wind down and keep a routine – do the same things each night to tell your body it's time to wind down. Take a warm bath or shower, read a book or listen to soothing music.

With many inner-city locals leading busy and high-pressure working lives, Virginia said Forty Winks South Wharf was committed to providing a holistic approach to helping customers to get a good sleep.

Having operated at South Wharf for seven years, she said the team was well equipped to providing the right advice, service and of course, beds to the local community!

"All our team are sleep experts. Most of our team have been in the bedding industry for many years," she said. "All our team has extensive product knowledge to help customers select the right mattress for their needs."



"Like any industry, there are constantly new developments and new innovative technology so training and education is ongoing. This means our team can offer our customers the very best sleep solution."

The store will host free sleep education seminars on November 12 and 13 between 2pm and 3pm with leading sleep educator Gillian Wise, who will share her insights and information on how to transform peoples' sleeping habits.

Customers can also currently enjoy great

deals across the King Koil bedding range, including package deals with adjustable bases, an up-size offer, two free King Koil pocket spring pillows upon purchase, free delivery with every purchase over \$1000 and the chance to win a King Koil mattress.

Forty Winks South Wharf is located on level 1 of the DFO Homemaker Centre.

To RSVP to the free health seminar call **9682 4425** or email southwharf@fortywinks.com.au

Docklands-based businesses wishing to be profiled in this section should email: advertising@docklandsnews.com.au

WHAT'S ON

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | **NOV** | DEC

FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
6PM - 7PM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP
 Share a cuppa and stories with other local history enthusiasts and learn about people, places and industries from times gone by.

EVERY SUNDAY
THE JAMES HOTEL
LIVE MUSIC
 Live music at The James Hotel every Sunday night - free entry.
 Every Sunday: Stand and Deliver 80s tribute band, from 7.30pm

EVERY FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
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SAM KRISTY ON PIANO
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EVERY SUNDAY
SUNDAY WORSHIP
 City Light Methodist Church at St Peter the Mariner's Chapel.
 Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St.
 11am English service
 5pm Chinese service 中文

EVERY SUNDAY FROM 10AM UNTIL 5PM
NEWQUAY PROMENADE
DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET
 A variety market featuring arts and crafts, books and more. More info, ring **0412 910 496**



EVERY TUESDAY 2PM - 4PM +
@ THE LOADING DOCK, 70 LORIMER ST
YARRA'S EDGE SOCIAL CLUB
 Come along to connect with your neighbours, and/or join one of our mini-clubs.
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TUESDAYS 6PM - 7PM
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WEDNESDAYS 5.45PM-7PM
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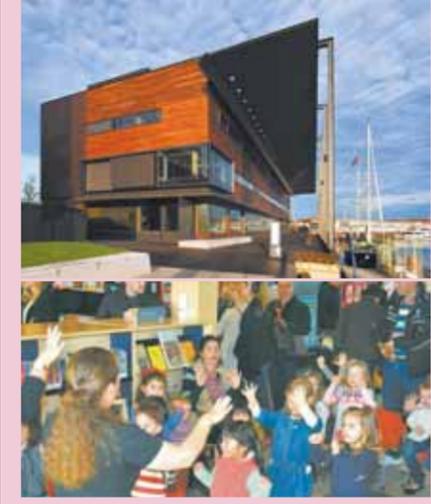
MONDAYS 11AM
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LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB
 Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities. Contact the club via mspc.docklands@gmail.com

WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM TO 7.30PM
THE LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
 Docklands Daily Reflections group meets in meeting rooms two and three on level two.
VISIT AATIMES.ORG.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM AND SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM
SHED 2, NORTH WHARF RD
DRAGON MASTERS DRAGON BOATING
 Dragon Masters has something for everyone. Contact Jeff Saunders on 0417 219 888 or Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au
WWW.DRAGONMASTERS.COM.AU



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STOMPERS
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 Encourage your child to have a life-long love of books by coming along to Stompers, Melbourne Library Services weekly program for toddlers aged 18 months to three years.

SONGBIRDS
 Wednesdays at 10.30am
 Come along for songs, rhymes and stories to engage your budding book worm's mind and introduce them to the fun and rhythm of language. Suitable for babies and toddlers aged up to 18 months old.

CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
 Wednesdays 4.30pm to 5.30 pm.
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DOCKLANDS NEWS

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Channel your inner dragon

Dragon boat paddling was once seen as a novelty event only in Melbourne's Moomba Festival on the Yarra River, but now it's a thriving and growing sport in Australia.

Originally from China and popular in all Asian countries, the sport is now worldwide with just as many competitions and teams in Western countries as there are in Asia.

In Victoria the local association now has 22 teams with 700 members right across the state – with six of those teams based at the purpose-built Community Hub here in Docklands.

The Southern Storm Paddle Club was formed in March 2012 by a handful of members from other clubs to create the sixth Melbourne club with the aims of fun, fitness and friendship at the core. In just a couple of years the club has become a strong competitor at state and national level and has also travelled overseas to compete in China.

Teams compete against each other in various categories including men, woman, mixed, masters and junior divisions.

Spokesperson Mal Bowker said: "We are a very inclusive mixed team. We have had up to 60 members at one time with an age range spanning 30 years and 20 different nationalities from right across the world."

"It's very reflective of the makeup of Melbourne. And dragon boating truly is a team sport where 20 people in a boat have to do exactly the same thing at the same time or it just doesn't work."

But in this sport, as in life in general, at the



end of the season people move on or travel and each year the teams look to rebuild, strengthen and train hard for the next season of competition.

The 2016-17 racing season is just underway with regional competitions around the state.

"We hold monthly 'team try-out' days at Docklands where you get to experience

dragon boat paddling to see if it's your new sport!" Mr Bowker said.

"Our next try-out day is Saturday, November 5 at 10.45am at the Community Boat Hub next door to the Library at Dock. People may think that you need strong arms to paddle but that's for canoe and kayak. Dragon Boating is more a body movement like rowing and requires more core strength and

flexibility and, oh, a good attitude!"

Melbourne Docklands will again host the Victorian State Championships for dragon boating in March 2017 and the Australian Championships will be in Albury-Wodonga in April. To register for the free try-out day or for more information go to www.southernstorm.com.au



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