

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Let there be Firelight

Docklands erupted in a festival of flame over three nights at the start of this month. The verdict is a big thumbs up for the organisers. For the full story, see page 7.

Another blow to maritime industry

By Shane Scanlan

Docklands' maritime industry has been dealt another blow with a South Wharf shed, which has long been earmarked for an on-shore facility, being given over to urban fringe sports for at least five years.

From as early as 2009, the western section of Shed 21 has been designated in planning documents as a "working quay area" for the maritime industry.

A 2016 draft amended precinct development plan, which is currently before the state government for endorsement, maintains this vision and allocates almost half of the 1950s-built shed to a "waterways/working quay area".

But a later 2017 "master plan" for the area evicts the boating community entirely in favour of fringe sports – at least for the life of the "temporary activation".

A current Development Victoria expression of interest (EoI) is offering the entire 4200sqm shed to urban fringe sports operators for at least five years and possibly more.

"The opportunity involves occupancy of the space for initially up to a five-year

period with the possibility to consider an extension if the operation is successful," the EoI, which closes on July 4, says.

Development Victoria development manager Harry Polydouroou told the July 27 Docklands Community Forum (DCF) that a 2017 consultation had identified a shortfall of urban fringe sports.

"It's basically sports like basketball, skating, roller sports, climbing, etc," Mr Polydouroou said. "So, there's a real opportunity for those types of uses."

Mr Polydouroou told the forum there was a future "opportunity" for a "working pier" adjacent to the site.

"In terms of the longer-term vision for the Bolte Precinct West, we see it as a mixed-use precinct – retaining the sheds, creating flexible spaces for community and recreation," Mr Polydouroou said.

"There is an opportunity for a working pier to accommodate a maritime and waterways function for the City of Melbourne. There's also the opportunity for a new wharf and promenade along the Yarra River."

Mr Polydouroou said DV had spent \$2.83 million so far removing lead paint, fixing the structure and demolishing the adjacent wharf.

The *Docklands Waterways Strategy 2009-18* earmarks the site as a maritime precinct for:

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Local Docklands developer Mohan Du will no longer sell apartments to investors planning to use them for short-term letting.

An apartment dweller himself, the Capital Alliance CEO said he was taking a stand against short-stays in residential buildings because it was the right thing to do – even if it alienated short-stay investors.

“I’m very happy to be doing that because we don’t want them in the building,” he said.

“To put it bluntly, if you want to do short-stay accommodation in one of our projects, you’re not welcome. Don’t buy in it. We don’t want you to buy in it.”

“But if you do want to buy in it, then you’ve got to sign the agreements and the covenants that we set. It’s a free market. If you want us to sell it to you, we can, but these are the terms. And we’re not negotiating those terms.”

“If you’re happy to sign all these documents and you still do it, then we’re happy to take you to court.”

Mr Du said his first experience of short-stay was as a resident in Southbank.

“I remember coming home with my partner often, not late, and on numerous occasions we would walk into the lift and there are a bunch of drunk hooligans,” he said.



Mohan Du.

“Do I feel safe? No. Did I feel like my personal space was being invaded? Of course I did. Because, when the lifts open onto my floor, nothing is stopping anybody from following me out into my home.”

Mr Du says market considerations weren’t a factor in his decision to place a restrictive covenant on titles on his current “The Docklands” mixed-use development in Waterfront City and all future residential developments.

Purchasers must accept a restriction on title

in the plan of subdivision, which applies to all residential lot holders and their successors as well as a personal contractual guarantee from each purchaser to Capital Alliance that the apartment will not be used for short-stay and an obligation on each purchaser to grant restrictive covenant over its apartment in favour of Capital Alliance.

But, he said, he had been pleasantly surprised by the response from the market.

“From the positive response we have received from this, it is clear that this is the right thing to do,” he said.

“For us, it’s a very conscious decision. We didn’t have to do it. We would like to think that we’re doing the right thing.”

“I didn’t think it would be a selling point, because this is a conscious decision we have made ourselves. But buyers are loving it, because apartment living should be your home,” he said.

“This is not a sales pitch, but we’ve sold our large two and three-bedroom apartments. There are zero left.”

Strata expert Tom Bacon agrees with the protections that Mr Du has introduced and predicts it will be a winner with buyers.

“Mirvac did this with the Yarra’s Edge development to ensure that it could not be used for short-stay apartments, and it has been very successful down there,” he said. “It is very rare that developers register these types of covenants, but they absolutely do work.”



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Lord Mayor Sally Capp introduces the new Docklands Representative Group to the June 27 Docklands Community Forum.

This is the future

Lord Mayor Sally Capp introduced 20 new local leaders at the June 27 Docklands Community Forum (DCF).

The new Docklands Representative Group (DRG) was selected by the City of Melbourne from 40 nominations to drive the DCF into the future.

The forum was established in 2012 and continues to meet every two months. DRG members were honoured by Cr Capp and were presented with certificates of appreciation.

Cr Capp said: "These people have provided incredible energy, leadership and initiative over the years."

Retiring were Joh Maxwell, Janine Standfield, Keith Rankin, David Wong and Andrew Ward. Mark Scholem and Phil Spender renominated, and were selected for the new 20-member DRG.

Other new members are: Aditee Rawal,

Ahmed Masri, Alixx Ackland, Ben Ball, Campbell Daff, Carolynne Venn, Dan Knaggs, Daniel Lim, Deepika Jaduram, Filipe Paiva, Jacqueline Graham, Janette Corcoran, Jason Ting, Jaynaya Winmar, Kebrasca King, Kelly Mercer, Sarah Kumar and Tessa Fisher.

Cr Capp remarked that the new DRG reflected the diversity of the Docklands

community. She also said creating community in Docklands had been challenging.

"We can look back with pride and there is still lots to look forward to," Cr Capp said.

The Docklands Community Forum meets every two months (generally at Library at the Dock). Look out for details of the next meeting in the August *Docklands News*.

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Another blow to maritime industry

Continued from page 1

Vessel refuelling and servicing; Wet maintenance berths; Repair facility; Water shuttle stop; Dry stack facility for boats; Boating Education Centre; Potential for travel lift; Offices for service providers (i.e. brokerage, upholsterer, mechanic); On-shore support facility; and Small heritage boats under restoration.

And the *Bolte Precinct West Addendum to the Yarra's Edge Bolte Precinct Development Plan* (November 2016) clearly shows two bays of Shed 21 reserved for a "working quay area".

But the Mr Polydouro's EoI shows no future potential maritime use of the shed. In his document the marine industry has been pushed underneath the Bolte Bridge which, in earlier planning documents had been reserved as a parking and storage area.

The 2016 document says: "An active working quay is to be located at the western of the existing shed structure. This area will be directly accessed from Lorimer St via an access road adjacent to Bolte Bridge."

"The space has a 'working quay' flavour and is expected to accommodate maritime and waterways functions, including council's waterways maintenance and water events operations. It could also include potential boat refuelling activities. The western edge of this area is expected to have close ties to the use of the area below the Bolte Bridge."

The president of the Melbourne Passenger



2015 document showing two bays allocated for marine use (section 2).



The current EoI shows the maritime precinct under the Bolte Bridge with no shed space.

Boating Association, Jeff Gordon, said: "My question for the government is does the state government believe that the Yarra deserves a healthy and vibrant water-based industry?"

"If the answer is no, then tell us all to bugger off - take our boats and go elsewhere - but if the answer is yes, then the government needs to get behind us and support the industry. We are not going to survive without properly-planned, shore-based infrastructure and back of house facilities."

"Vessels operating in Victoria Harbour continue to be squeezed out by developers, with Development Victoria, treating the

industry as a second-class citizen, with the head of security on Central Pier now the mouthpiece for Development Victoria, as they don't speak to us directly anymore."

Mr Polydouro told the DCF that the EoI would close on July 4 with an operator to be appointed by the end of the year.

A Development Victoria spokesperson said: "Development Victoria's long term vision for Bolte Precinct West includes provision for both community spaces and waterways operations for the City of Melbourne (CoMs)."

"Development Victoria is currently working with stakeholders to progress planning and design for the precinct, including its ability

to support effective growth of maritime activities in Docklands."

"In the meantime, via an Expression of Interest process, DV is seeking to activate the site in the short term with sport and recreation use. In line with the results of community consultation undertaken in 2016, the preference is for urban fringe sports. DV is committed to managing the evolution of the precinct to realise the long-term vision."

"DV and CoM are also progressing plans for Harbour Esplanade that could include a zone allocated for heritage vessels, as part of the wider Stadium Precinct project."

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Obituary for our local boating industry

Comment

Shane Scanlan



It's just so sad that no one in authority cares about our local boating industry.

The few operators who are left have hung on for decades now, encouraged by periodic but brief acknowledgements of their contribution and promises of better treatment in the future.

But they're tired – worn down by a litany of betrayals that now looks terminal and spells the end of the dream – not just for the individuals involved, but for Melbourne as a whole.

There are two stories about this in this

edition, but they are essentially variations on the same theme.

At the end of my Parks Victoria rant (below), I conclude that the government might as well fill in Victoria Harbour and subdivide the land. It might surprise readers to know that this concept was actively considered not so long ago.

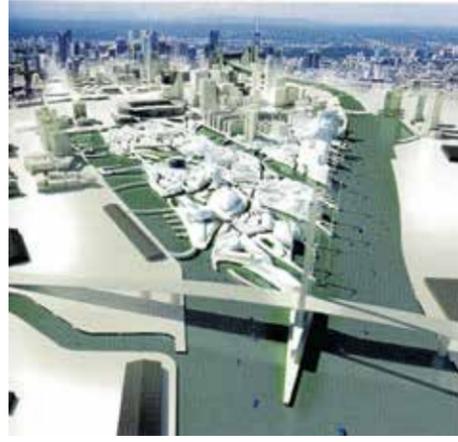
And this mentality lives on at all levels of government in Melbourne.

We see this clearly in the other story about Shed 21 (page 1). Development Victoria has effectively stolen this facility and gifted it to the hip, young urban fringe sports enthusiasts. It's like telling a cancer patient to wait five years before treatment can begin.

There's no doubt these sports are cool. Rock hopping and skating and climbing, etc. They're great, right? We all agree. And they should be supported.

So some bright spark has thought it cool to give them water frontage at South Wharf under the Bolte Bridge. That makes Development Victoria cool too. Uber cool.

The tragedy is that no one has defended the site for the boaties.



Architect Keith Brewis's 2009 concept to fill in Victoria Harbour.

Urban fringe sports can be located anywhere – from Dandenong, to Doncaster, to Diamond Creek, to Deer Park.

But onshore boating facilities can only be in one place, on the waterfront. You need water – a river bank or the edge of a harbour. The options are extremely limited and now look exhausted.

On the other side of the harbour the

government is giving the AFL 1500sqm of waterfront at NewQuay West. How strategic is that? Footballers need water as much as a duck needs a bicycle.

Had the state acquiesced to industry demands in 2015 and established a single, independent, local waterways authority this pending disaster would probably have been averted. The industry would have had someone in its corner to say: This site is reserved, hands off. They might have even had their onshore facilities by now.

But they HAVE no one and there IS no one supporting them. And they will leave.

The commercial operators will leave and the heritage fleet will leave too.

And the government will proceed with its three new bridges to choke the life out of our river and harbour.

And we'll sit there looking at the water. And it will be still, because there will be no boats moving around. And waterfront restaurants in Docklands will continue to close and re-emerge as storage spaces or offices, because there will be no visitors because there is no buzz – no life on the water.

It's time to get serious on governance

By Shane Scanlan

It's ungracious to say "I told you so". But Parks Victoria was always part of the problem when the state government three years ago gave it "one more chance" to fix our local waterways.

As a regulatory agency (read "ticket inspector") it lacked the vision, foresight, capacity and general wherewithal to bring the lower Yarra to life.

What was always needed (and still is) was a cut-through, nimble, single authority – a one-stop shop where people who shared the dream of a dynamic waterway would be encouraged and empowered to give it their best shot.

Such an authority would be given the mandate and the power to get things done – to achieve results and give Victoria the economic return that is crying out to be leveraged from such a down-trodden and underperforming asset.

This is what all the participants (including

Parks Victoria) unanimously asked for at the conclusion in 2015 of the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group (LYRUFDDG).

Among other things, LYRUFDDG asked that a new local port be established for the navigable sections of the Yarra and Maribyrnong rivers (excluding the Port of Melbourne).

A list of other, quite pressing, practical necessities were called for to help prevent the immediate collapse of Melbourne's charter boat industry.

Instead, Parks refused to let go and manipulated an outcome whereby another committee was established (the 15th to examine this issue in 20 years!) – this time called the "Lower Yarra River Management

Advisory Committee".

This committee finished up on June 30 and it is difficult to see that it has achieved anything since the conclusion of the LYRUFDDG nearly three years ago.

Former Minister Lisa Neville said in April 2016 that she was "not ruling out" the eventual establishment of a single waterways authority but said more work needed to be done to determine a long-term solution.

"More work will be needed to get the long-term management right, but these first steps get key groups at the table to ensure consistent and clear decision making and accountability," she said.

Parks regional director Chris Hardman told

a group of angry boaties in May 2017 they should get over not getting their way with the LYRUFDDG recommendations.

"Everyone should get on board and see if we can make a good show of this. If we can, then the problem is solved," he said.

"What's the problem we are trying to solve? We need to activate the waterways, get the investment in the waterways and those sorts of things."

"So we can work together and do that of we can lament a recommendation that wasn't taken up by the government of the day."

"And, you know what? If it doesn't work and

Continued on page 6.



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Time to get serious on governance

Continued from page 5.

you're not satisfied, then re-prosecute the case in the future," Mr Hardman said.

So what has been achieved in the interim and what does the future hold? *Docklands News* asked Parks Victoria what the Lower Yarra River Management Advisory Committee would be recommending.

"In particular, what is its recommendation regarding an ongoing governance model for the lower Yarra? The LYRUFDDG recommended a local port authority be established and funded.

Other outstanding recommendations of the LYRUFDDG when it was wound up in November 2015 include:

- A \$2 million floating wharf for Southgate (with the cost to be recouped from the industry itself);
- 20-year leases for boat operators;
- Land and funding set aside for back of house facilities;
- Parks to complete a dredging study by October 2015 and the government then fund a dredging program for the river; and
- Streamlined approvals process for events.

Can you please tell me what progress has been made on these items in the last two and a half years?"

A spokesperson for Parks Victoria replied: "The Lower Yarra River Management Advisory Committee (LYRMAC) is due to wind up at the end of June 2018. The committee will provide a report to the Minister for Environment at the end of their term. Once the minister has reviewed the LYRMAC report, a public update will be issued."

A more accurate answer would have been "nothing".

The president of the Melbourne Passenger

Boating Association Jeff Gordon said the LYRMAC had not been in touch with the industry.

"We've been led up the cul-de-sac of good ideas and there they all sadly stay," Mr Gordon said. "Many of us in the Industry feel we've given it our best shot and no one is listening."

"No one in government is in our corner and fighting for us. We haven't heard from Parks Victoria or the reference committee, so I doubt they will report anything of worth to the Minister."

"Melbourne is supposedly the best Ccty in the world, but I have been to many great river cities that understand and obviously support their vibrant water based industries."

"It's time the death grip of Parks Victoria was removed from the waterway and an inner port proclaimed with an emphasis and understanding of the maritime issues," Mr Gordon concluded.

The government has been playing political games with our waterways when our third-world charter fleet has been (metaphorically) sinking.

It's time to tailor-make an organisation that can actually make the waterways work. Had an independent local waterways authority been established at the end of 2015, it could have advocated against further government plans to choke the river and Victoria Harbour with three more bridges.

As it stands, no one in government, it seems, attributes any value to the water. Docklanders know that our economic future is directly commensurate with the numbers of boats on the water.

The ways things are going, the Victoria Government might as well announce that it intends to fill in Victoria Harbour and subdivide the reclaimed land.



Mikhail Rogachevsky creating music out of chaos.

Making music at The Dock

By Niccola Anthony

A number of budding young music producers turned out at The Dock on June 21 for a musical production workshop.

The City of Melbourne ran a "junior producer" workshop for Make Music Day, a worldwide celebration of music making.

About a dozen children and their mums made "music" through their voices, hands and feet.

Sound engineer Mikhail Rogachevsky has been running his own workshops for a couple of years, using the production software FL Studio to create music and experiment with sounds.

"The goals of the workshops are really

to encourage children to have a go at the different equipment and to give them an introduction into seeing how things work," he said.

"Every workshop is completely different, so I'm still learning a lot about producing with other people."

Mr Rogachevsky says the space provided at The Dock has been a fantastic venue to conduct his workshops from.

"It's a great space by the water. I couldn't ask for anything better," he said.

"Secret" works at primary school site

Work has started on the Docklands Primary School site, but the government is refusing to reveal its timeline.



Preliminary earthworks are underway at the site on the corner of Footscray Rd and Little Docklands Drive.

Department of Education and Training spokesperson Alex Munro declined to return emails or phone calls from *Docklands News*.

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Let there be Firelight!

The second annual Firelight Festival erupted successfully in Docklands at the end of June.

The footprint was bigger, the surging crowds were larger and the weather was perfectly cold over June 29, June 30 and July 1.

Pitched perfectly at families (starting and finishing early) the vibe suggested that Docklands has now found an event that can be sustained and grown in the future.

The festival expanded to include Harbour Esplanade and Victoria Harbour Promenade, but NewQuay still offered the best ambience.

The Victoria Harbour side was darker, colder and far less inviting with many harbourside businesses ignoring the opportunity and choosing to remain closed.

In contrast, Berth and Cargo owners turned their patch into a mini-festival in its own right, investing heavily in infrastructure and putting on an extra 30 staff each night.

Proprietor John Scardamaglia said he sold about 30 per cent more paella through a pop-up food stall than in 2017.

“It was a ripper weekend,” Mr Scardamaglia said. “We had lines at the paella stand on all three nights.”

“The whole event was executed really well and the city should be congratulated.”

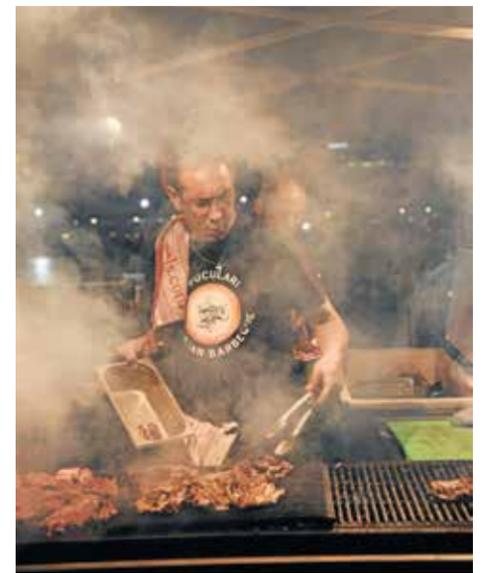
“For us, it ticked all the boxes. It has a great family feel, so they were definitely pitching to the right demographic.”

He said the introduction of a DJ also set an interactive tone, with people more inclined to break into spontaneous dancing.

He said the restaurants themselves were quiet, which he interpreted as people wanting to participate in the festival itself.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president, Joh Maxwell, said: “The festival warmed up further each night and the flame shows every 15 minutes were magnificent.”

“The traders who didn’t participate let themselves down because they had every opportunity to participate.”



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A future for wooden boat building

By Meg Hill

The Wooden Boat Centre, on the western end of North Wharf, floats along the trajectory of Docklands history – if you take it for granted that a rising tide lifts all boats.

Docklands has always been subject to change. It was first hand witness to the industrial revolution – the Melbourne gasworks were built in 1857 and a pollution problem was reported in Docklands as early as 1860.

Victoria Harbour was once a swamp with a lively natural ecosystem. It was dug out in the late 1800s and filled with water for better boat access to Melbourne.

Since then, water and boats have been central to Docklands' identity, despite the technological development of container shipping moving port activity away from Victoria Harbour.

The shipping industry moved increasingly westward to docks like Appleton and Swanston. By the 1980s the harbour was largely in a state of disuse.

That decade also marks the boat centre's birth. Before moving to North Wharf, it was poised in the middle of Victoria Harbour on



Boat builder Nicholas Atkins.

Central Pier. Brian Atkins ran the centre out of Shed 10 for more than 21 years.

His 29-year-old grandson Nicholas took over the business two years ago. He'd been learning from his grandfather since he was six.

"I spent after school and the weekends in the workshop. He never told me specifically how to do something. He was more interested in teaching the process," Nicholas said.

"If I was stuck he would give me options, but

he was about problem solving. I could build my first traditional boat when I was 10."

Of course, the history of Docklands isn't just one of changing water activity. Nicholas and his grandfather know the kind of interest that inner-city land attracts better than most.

"When my grandfather first moved into the shed at central pier he was told not to spend any money or invest in the future, that he was only going to be there six months before development took over," Nicholas said.

"18-and-a-half years later they told him he had two years left. After that they said a year."

Eventually the move did take place, but a similar situation looms over North Wharf.

"In this precarious business that we're under, in the shadow of development, it's hard to get long term courses and projects going."

Currently, Lendlease plans to start development on the wharf sometime in 2019 – creating room for another 3500 residents and workers with five new towers.

Recognising the significance of the Wooden Boat Centre to Docklands and the water front, Lendlease has offered to house the centre in one of its future towers.

The new space will be significantly smaller than where the centre is now in Shed 2, where Nicholas can fit around 30 clients at a time.

"I won't have the room in the future to help all these clients build their own boats, but I

will be able to do group projects," Nicholas said.

Group projects involve 10 or so people building a boat together. After its finished, the boat is left in Docklands to be used by the community.

Nicholas said he would have to find separate space to accommodate other aspects of his business, like his manufacturing of boat making kits and more client-customised projects.

"The new space will be just an educational facility with boats that people can use in the water. The idea is that they're happy for us to keep building and teaching and passing on the ideas behind the traditional boat building."

Patience is a virtue for small businesses dealing with large developers. Luckily, it's a central aspect of the boat making tradition.

"Boats are not instant gratification, they're self-development," Nicholas said.



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Doubt cast on lord mayoral result

By Shane Scanlan

There is doubt over Melbourne's recent lord mayoral by-election as up to 8313 enrolled voters were potentially denied a vote due to a known electoral flaw.

With Lord Mayor Sally Capp beating candidate Jennifer Yang by just 4666 votes in May, there is every possibility that the wrong woman is wearing the robes and chain.

The flaw results from the City of Melbourne's practice of nominating to the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) the address of third-party agencies rather than the actual address of many non-resident ratepayers.

At the recent by-election some 6889 ballots were posted "care of" real estate agencies and further 1424 were sent "care of" law firms. In the case of overseas non-resident owners, both the agents and VEC agree that there is not enough time allowed for these ballots to be returned.

The VEC admits the flaw, but says Victorian legislation dictates the timing of the postal voting.

Spokesperson Sue Lang told *Docklands News*: "The timing is legislated and we have advised the Minister and Parliament (through submissions and reports) that mail delivery times are not adequate given the changes to the Australia Post delivery model, even within the Victorian context."

Ms Lang said it was likely that Australian-based non-resident owners did have enough time to return their ballots.

The way the electoral roll is compiled, there is no way of knowing which non-resident ratepayers live in Australia and how many live overseas. But, with the vast majority being Chinese or of Chinese descent, it is likely they would have voted for losing candidate Jennifer Yang.

A further problem with the voting system is that there is no audit of what actually happened to the 8313 "care of" votes that were posted or delivered to real estate agencies and law firms.



Docklanders meet the candidates in April.

Because there is no record of the signatures for this category of voter, it is possible for the agents to fill out and return the ballots.

Docklands News asked the VEC if it was willing to check how many of the "care of" votes were actually counted among the 76,492 formal votes received. But Ms Lang said, again, legislation prevented the commission checking for this type of electoral fraud.

"I've checked and it is now too late to conduct this exercise as all ballot material has been sealed as required by law," she said.

However, this response appears to be inconsistent with an earlier comment from Ms Lang that the VEC intended to generate a "non-voters" list "in couple of months" time.

To audit for fraud, the VEC could count how many ballots from overseas owners had been returned and included in the count. Given that it was not possible for overseas voters to participate because there was not enough time allocated, it would be easy for the VEC see how many had been illegally returned by locally-based third parties.

One of the many real estate agents that *Docklands News* spoke to actually innocently admitted to filling out 59 ballots in good faith on behalf of overseas owners.

The agent said, because there was no possibility of the ballots being returned in time, he emailed owners seeking their voting instructions.

Asked whether any took up the offer, he said: "Yes they did. We only had four non-takers."

Ms Lang said: "Only the voter nominated/ to whom the ballot pack is addressed may complete the ballot paper, sign the declaration envelope and return to the VEC."

Without a formal audit of this large cohort of votes (5.75 per cent of the total enrolment), the system is open to abuse.

Among the larger allocations of ballots sent to third parties were: MICM - 1700; Apex - 304; Ironfish - 258; Melcorp - 199; Ausin - 196 and Dingle - 145.

Some 14 ballots were simply addressed c/- "building manager" at a street address and a further four were addressed c/- "managers office".

Just why so many ballots were not sent directly to non-resident voters remains a mystery, with different explanations offered by the VEC and the City of Melbourne.

Ms Lang told *Docklands News*: "You should also keep in mind that the voter has nominated the third parties to deal with their

mail on their behalf."

But the City of Melbourne, which compiles this section of the electoral roll, admits it mostly has the residential addresses of non-resident owners on its rates database, but only uses it when an owner has more than one property.

"With regards to absentee owners, where they own one investment property we forward all correspondence to the real estate agent, but record their residential address if it is provided on the system for reference purposes only," a spokesperson said.

"The reason we send all correspondence via the agent is because we have found that the owner does not advise council when they move from their residential address. The agent, on the other hand, does advise council when they no longer manage a property."

The agents themselves would prefer not to be involved, not just because of the postage cost burden it imposes but also because of the responsibility it foists on them for such an important civil function.

NPM managing director Sam Nathan summed up the response of many agents when he told *Docklands News*: "It's a fundamentally flawed system. The pure inefficiency is staggering."

But, what's worse, is the responsibility it puts on a third party. If someone wanted to, they could fill them all in and send them back."

"There's two lots of snail mail involved, not to mention relying on someone in the middle doing the right thing," Mr Nathan said.

"I think someone has screwed up," he said. "The council would know the address of the ratepayer. Why send it to us?"

David Sonenberg answers your legal questions

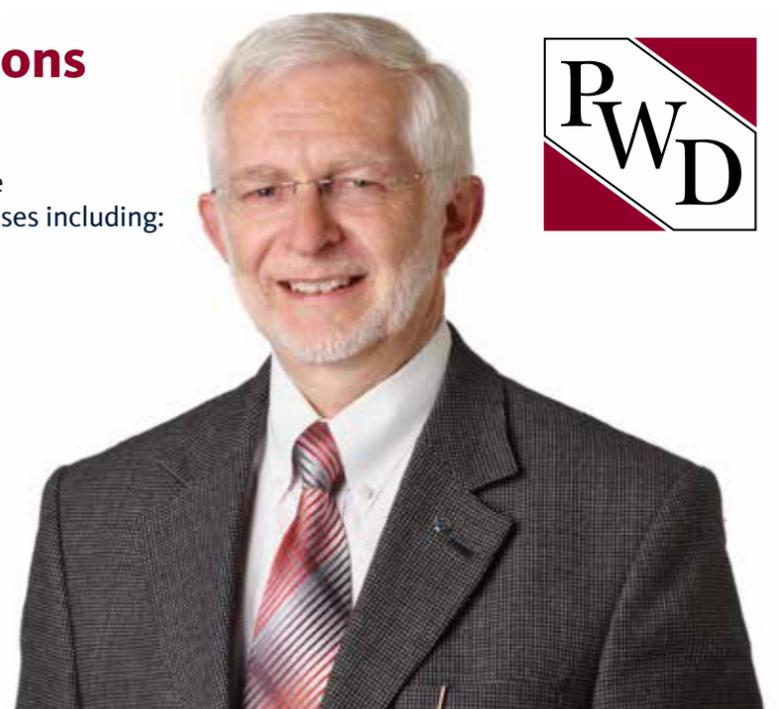
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Come out and get social

The next Docklands Social Club event is on Wednesday July 11 at the Woolshed, 161 Harbour Esplanade at 7.00pm.

The "social club" is a monthly get together over a drink and dinner at a different venue. It is open to all, so come on down.

Last month's event was held at Hooks restaurant at Yarra's Edge (pictured).



How many agencies does it take to change a lightbulb?

By Stephanie Zhang

Chris Stewart found himself asking this question when he decided to finally file a complaint about the two D4 Docklands Park/Harbour Esplanade tram shelters, which have been sitting in the dark for at least over a year now.



However, he soon found himself caught in a bureaucratic mess as Yarra Trams directed him to the power supplier Citipower, which redirected him back to Yarra Trams.

Public Transport Victoria's (PTV) 2015-2018 Accessibility Action Plan specifically aims to improve shelter environment through enhanced lighting, but according to Mr Stewart, the tram shelters have missed out.

The D4 tram shelter is particularly hazardous without suitable lighting as it steps out into traffic when entering and exiting the tram.

PTV told Mr Stewart the power was never connected when the shelter was built because it was too expensive.

However, according to PTV customer advocacy officer Simon Black, both shelter builders and the tram franchise holders had

changed since the shelter was built.

Mr Stewart contacted Yarra Trams back in August 2017 and then contacted Citipower, who advised him it was up to Yarra Trams to maintain tram shelters. He did not hear back again from Yarra Trams.

Twitter user Justin Paraskevis (@justin_p) had also tweeted at Yarra Trams in June 2017 complaining that the shelter was not lit, to which Yarra Trams directed him to lodge feedback to PTV.

A Yarra Trams spokesperson told *Docklands News*: "All feedback received is investigated by our infrastructure team, and action is taken where required."

Yarra Trams believes that lighting is not required because of street lighting, one of which is current not working - and is the responsibility of the City of Melbourne.

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Richard Foster.



Nicolas Frances Gilley.



Brooke Wandin.

Melbourne is still Green

The latest federal electorate redistribution has removed Flemington and Travancore – strong Greens areas – from the seat of Melbourne held by Green MP Adam Bandt.

Mr Bandt said the changes wouldn't affect the Greens' margin in Melbourne, saying he opposed the changes on principle.

"Some independent people have published analyses that the changes actually helped me," Mr Bandt said. "I was arguing for something that might not help me vote-wise. I'm disappointed that I won't be representing Flemington and Travancore."

Changes to inner-city seats were necessitated by population growth, with the transfer of Flemington and Travancore to Bill Shorten's seat of Maribyrnong to keep Melbourne within its quota of voters.

It is still unclear whether or not the Liberal Party will run a candidate in Melbourne after announcing a potential strategy of abandoning inner-city seats late last year.

Melbourne councillor and former Liberal candidate for Melbourne Philip Le Liu said he didn't think the redistribution was significant but supported running a Liberal candidate.

"The result of the last federal election, where the two-party preferred vote is now Green versus Liberal, shows we are making in-roads into Melbourne," he said.

"I will be doing as much as I can to ensure the Liberal vote in Melbourne is well represented and will be working with the party to increase that vote in state and federal elections."

Richard Foster "lied to us"

Melbourne councillor Nic Frances Gilley used the occasion of endorsement of the council's Reconciliation Action Plan 2018-20 on June 5 to accuse former councillor Richard Foster of lying.

Speaking at the Future Melbourne Committee, Cr Frances Gilley said how sorry and ashamed he felt for letting down his former running mate, Aboriginal woman Brooke Wandin, at the 2016 election.

Ms Wandin was elected to the council but was found to be ineligible and was brought before the courts on electoral fraud charges. She was not convicted and received a diversion order.

And, as much as he blamed himself, Cr Frances Gilley said none of it would have happened if Mr Foster had not lied to them.

"I am only here (as a councillor) because I spent quite some time, energy and effort to get an Aboriginal woman, the first Wurundjeri woman, elected to council – Brooke Wandin," he said in a personal explanation. "I encouraged her to stand and she said 'I'm only doing this because I feel safe with you.'"

Mr Foster enlisted Cr Frances Gilley and Ms Wandin as lord mayoral candidates to channel votes to him in the councillor section of the 2016 election. However, the pair incorrectly nominated in the councillor election and Ms Wandin was successful. Mr Foster was not.

Mr Foster subsequently reported Ms Wandin to the Victorian Electoral Commission for falsely using his Kensington home address to nominate.

Cr Frances Gilley said: "We were lied to by a former councillor who needed our votes – I didn't understand that at the time – needed us to stand as lord mayoral candidates."

"As a consequence of that need, he lied to her about her accommodation and she tried several times to get clarity from him, to the point where it was minuted and recorded."

"And, as a consequence of that, she found herself in court. She was made ineligible. She had to stand down. Her family felt that she had let the family name down."

"She had a whole period of time where it was very difficult in her own community – and anywhere else. She couldn't find a job and actually feared going to get a job. That is not where Brooke is right now."

"But I was the person who encouraged her. I was the person who stood behind her that she trusted. And I then trusted somebody else who was not trustworthy."

"What's interesting is that she went through the court system and so did he – and he got

let off for good character with a reference from one of my council colleagues, who's actually not with us today."

"I want to say sorry to her. I want to acknowledge that I am the white guy. Who's six foot, two. Who actually got the job. And she didn't."

"I want to acknowledge that the court recognised – saw the good behaviour of the man involved – and not hers."

"I want to acknowledge that the *Herald Sun*, every single time that they told that story, that was leaked to them from that former councillor, put her picture in the paper and not his."

"So, I want to just acknowledge that I am part of the problem and acknowledge that it has not changed enough yet because, if it had, the welcome to country would have been done in Woiwurrung, by a Wurundjeri woman who is a direct descendant of William Barrack."

"And that would have been historic!" Cr Frances Gilley concluded.

Mr Foster declined an invitation from *Docklands News* to respond to Cr Frances Gilley's claims.

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Geelong ferry trial

Port Phillip Ferries is looking to expand its Docklands ferry routes, with two free trial dates being scheduled for Geelong this month.

The service is inviting Geelong residents to take advantage of the free return-trip offers on July 24 and July 31.

Port Phillip Ferries says the success of the Geelong trial services will help determine if it is to consider central Geelong as a permanent fixture on its schedule.

It has been running a permanent daily service between Portarlington on the Bellarine Peninsula and Docklands since November 2016.

Port Phillip Ferries CEO Murray Rance said: "Port Phillip Ferries is thrilled to be part of the first ferry services connecting residents between Geelong and Melbourne, and we look forward to introducing an alternative means of commuting to work."

"As witnessed on the Bellarine Peninsula, a ferry service in and out of central Geelong will not only benefit daily commuters, and offer an alternative to train and road travel, but it will provide a huge benefit for tourism, visiting friends and relatives, business, education and other unrealised opportunities."

Mapping from the Star

On June 19, the Melbourne Map team took a flight on the Melbourne Star to view the city from new angles.

The (new) Melbourne Map project is the re-invigorated version of the original project completed in 1990.

Research for the new project began in 2014. While originally the team wanted to use modern technology to overlay new buildings onto the old map, they discovered too much had changed and decided to start a new map.



839 Collins St is on track for completion early next year.

Final office tower tops out

Lendlease's on June 15 celebrated the topping out of 839 Collins St, Victoria Harbour's last major commercial building.

Designed by award-winning architect Denton Corker Marshall, the building's open and flexible office plan integrates with a roof terrace and garden, setting a new design standard in healthy work environments.

Lendlease General Manager for Building, Victoria, Bill Alexandrakis, said: "The topping out of 839 Collins Street represents a significant milestone for Lendlease as it completes a total of 270,000 sqm of commercial space delivered in Victoria Harbour to date."

Victoria Harbour has one of the highest concentration of Green Star-rated buildings in Australia and a 6 Star Green Star Communities rating by the Green Building Council of Australia, recognising world leadership in master planning.

ANZ will tenant 12 of the 20 levels of the building, with the top six floors available for lease.

839 Collins Street is on track for completion in early 2019.

Councillors attempt to lift the veil

In the post-Robert Doyle era, city councillors are attempting to make the City of Melbourne less secretive and more transparent.

At the June 5 Future Melbourne Committee, they unanimously resolved to bring consideration of "discretionary grants" into the public arena.

The mover of the motion, Cr Arron Wood, said many of these grants were already discussed in open council, but the motion would make this the "default setting".

Cr Wood said: "With our discretionary funding and our grant applications, we've been doing that in open session in recent times. By bringing it out of confidential, this will make it the default setting. I just note that it says 'unless doing so is not appropriate'. So there would be certain instances where it would not be appropriate to do that in open session."

The other part of Cr Wood's motion instructed officers to install cameras to allow live-streaming of meetings.

"What we'll probably see in this Future Melbourne Committee room is three locked-off cameras, so it won't require an operator, per se, to be here," he said.

Cr Cathy Oke said: "I think it's incredibly important and long overdue."

Cr Rohan Leppert said he didn't want councillors self-consciously avoiding making the difficult decisions. He warned that if councillors avoided the difficult decisions, they would be made elsewhere – a reference to delegating decisions to officers.

As reported by *CBD News* in our February edition, the City of Melbourne is the most secretive of all metropolitan councils – making 28.85 per cent of its decisions behind closed doors in 2016/17.

Cr Leppert said: "I'm loving how easy this is and I congratulate the mover for putting this forward. This is what some of us pushed for five years ago, but it is fantastic that we are going to do this now."

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Docklands Studios cranks up

By Meg Hill

Docklands Studios says it is approaching one of its busiest periods ever in the second half of 2018.

The thriller *Upgrade* is in cinemas now, *Ride Like a Girl* is just finishing production, and *The True History of the Kelly Gang* – starring Russell Crowe – is just starting up.

And the government on June 29 announced filming will start for *The Whistleblower* – the largest Australian-Chinese official co-production in Victoria's history.

The Minister for Creative Industries, Martin Foley greeted acclaimed co-producers Bill Kong (*Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, House of Flying Daggers*), Greg Bassler (*Concussion, Goosebumps* and Chinese productions *Cold Wall II, Rise of the Legend*), female director Xue Xiaolu (*Together*), lead actor Jiayin Lei (*Guns and Roses, Brotherhood of Blades II*), and key cast and crew who are producing the ambitious feature in Victoria.

The Whistleblower is expected to generate more than \$40 million in Victoria's economy. It will also increase trade for more than 800 businesses with 220 employment opportunities created for local screen workers.



A scene from "Upgrade" which was released in Australia last month.

A big showcase will be the state's versatile locations with filming to take place in the cities of Melbourne and Geelong. Additional locations include Dandenong, Footscray, Werribee and in the Latrobe Valley at the de-commissioned Hazelwood Power station. The region can expect significant flow-on tourism benefits through the accommodation of more than 250 film crew over a two-week regional shoot.

The studios are also hosting the TV series *Playing for Keeps*, as well as the regular filming of *The Footy Show, Millionaire Hot Seat* and *Talking 'Bout Your Generation*.

The studios were built in 2004 and were originally run privately, with encouragement and assistance from the state government.

"They always had a stake in the studio because they saw it as valuable for the

Victorian film industry," CEO Rod Allan said.

The studios were sold back to the Victorian Government in 2008. Mr Allan said government ownership guided its philosophy.

"We're not strictly driven by the demands of a commercial business," he said.

"We have to be able to cover our operating costs and make an operational profit, but we respect the fact that this facility is here to support the industry."

This helps the studios maintain its unique range of clients, from large international projects like *Winchester* (starring Helen Mirren) to a number of small Australian projects.

"Our aim is to service all production types for the screen industry – everything from short films though to long-form dramas," Mr Allan said.

"We want to encourage young film makers, making short films or low budget films, to consider using the studio."

Mr Allan said the operational model of the studios allowed it to give discounts or compromise on finances with smaller projects.

Small projects run at Docklands Studios during the past year include Australian documentary *Guilty*, Melbourne independent film *Choir Girl* and sci-fi *The Wheel*.

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Container-inspired apartment block

Digital Harbour Holdings has applied for planning permission to build a new 25-storey apartment tower on Harbour Esplanade.

With a 60-metre frontage at 218 Harbour Esplanade, the proposed building will sit between the LifeLab building and the permitted-but-yet-to-be-constructed "Altus" tower on the Dudley St corner.

Digital Harbour director David Napier told *Docklands News*, the Jackson Clements Burrows architectural design was inspired by a vision of containers stacked on a wharf. Wharf-type timbers will also be employed on the lower podium levels to complete the metaphor.

Some 183 apartments are planned for the 82m structure and 117 car spaces are included – a very generous allocation by today's standards. Also "very now" is a 111-space automated car stacker.

Mr Napier said future owners would drive into a loading area, collect what they wanted to take with them, walk out and touch a button to activate automatic parking.

The apartments are generously sized too. Six will have three bedrooms, 44 will have two bedrooms and a study, 74 will have two bedrooms and 55 will have a single bedroom.

Also in the mix will be four, two-storey offices and four "home offices" on the ground floor. There will not be any retail.

Most of the larger apartments will, in fact, have water views to the front and city views to the rear. This has been achieved by making them double-storey and an ingenious use of corridor layouts.



Effectively, the "half-size" downstairs unit is the entrance, with the entire upstairs component straddling the width of the building.

The target market is squarely owner occupiers, with a covenant on the title of each property to protect against short-stay rentals.

The complex also features a gymnasium, pool (12.5m x 5m), function room, 60 bicycle spaces and each unit will have a six square metre storage locker.

Single bedroom units will be 52sqm, two-bedders will range between 80 and 95sqm and the three-bedroom apartments will be up to 200sqm.

Docklands crime rate soars

The crime rate in Docklands continues to soar, with the latest figures showing a jump in the overall crime rate of 23.5 per cent in the year to March 31, 2018.

The latest rise in the crime rate is a continuation of a trend that shows a rise of 281.5 per cent in the number of reports crimes in Docklands since 2009. In that year, only 492 crimes were reported. The 2018 Crime Statistics Agency (CSA) data reveals 1877 crimes were reported in Docklands in 2018.

The biggest crime-category rise since last year was in "drug offences". In 2017, 85 drug offences were reported but in 2018 this number has risen to 139 – a jump of 63 per cent.

"Crimes against the person" were also up steeply, with a 28 per cent rise since 2017. The number of reports jumped from 257 last year to 329 in 2018.

The largest number of crimes continues to be in the "property and deception offences" category where 1101 incidents were reported in 2018 – up 20 per cent on the 917 which were reported in 2017.

"Public order and security offences" were up 23 per cent in 2018 – from 143 to 176 reports.

"Justice procedures offences" also rose 16.6 per cent between 2017 and 2018 – from 108 – 126 incidents.

The number of "other offences" fell from nine to six in the same period.

And, while the crime rate soars in Docklands, it is still relatively low compared with the CBD, where 16,364 incidents were recorded in 2018.



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BY PHOTO JOURNALIST SHANE SCANLAN

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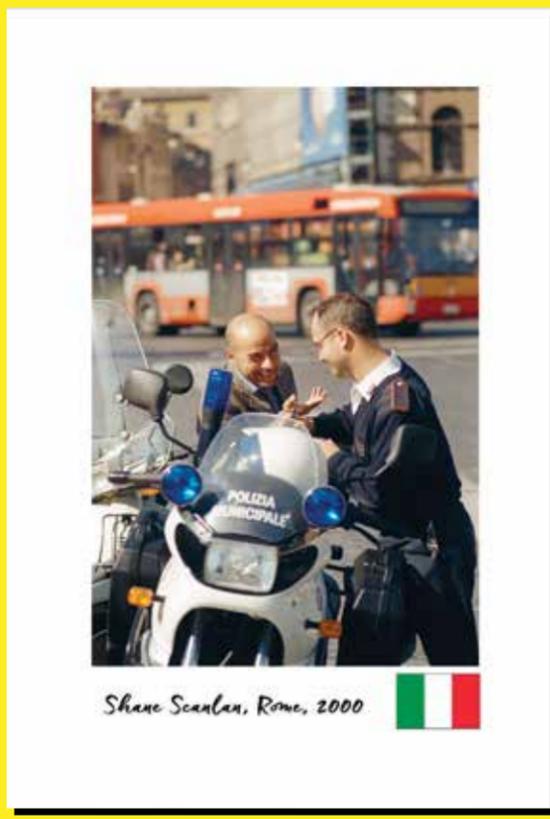
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Shane Scanlan, Rome, 2000





Not just walking the talk

Premier Yachting put on its own mini-boat show at Yarra's Edge from June 28 to July 1.

While Jim Sismanes and crew talked the talk at the Melbourne Boat Show at the nearby Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, they were displaying the real thing back at the office in Docklands.

A small fleet of vessels were displayed for sale at Marina YE opposite Premier Yachting's new office at 52 River Esplanade. The business recently moved from St Mangos Lane in NewQuay.

Topping the price chart was a 2007 model Sunseeker 50 at \$795,000, while the discerning buyer could navigate away in a 2007 Mustang 35 for just \$195,000.

Consultation on park

By Stephanie Zhang

Consultation with the local community for usage of Ron Barassi Snr Park started on June 27.

"What we'd like to find out is how we can work together to activate Ron Barassi Snr Park to the benefit of the local community," City of Melbourne recreation planner Dale Stewart, told the Docklands Community Forum on June 27.

Ron Barassi Snr Park opened in October 2015 as a key part of the Docklands Community and Place plan and includes formal sports facilities and even sports lighting for night time activities.

However, it does not seem to have reached the level of engagement the council had hoped for.

External sports clubs have been denied access to the park due to the City of Melbourne's initial decision to reserve the park for local community use.

"There's been a deliberate approach by council to see a degree of flexibility in that space and to ensure external clubs don't take over the space," Mr Stewart said.

While no current Docklands-based sports clubs exist, Mr Stewart suggested the



City of Melbourne recreation planner Dale Stewart

possibility of some forming as a result of this consultation process.

He emphasised that the park could be suitable for a variety of activities.

"We're open to a broad range of activities. We'd love to see it activated. More importantly we'd love to see it activated for the local community," Mr Stewart said.

The consultation will be open until August 8 at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ronbarassi.

Run Melbourne road closures

By Stephanie Zhang

Run Melbourne, a health and fitness event held on Sunday, July 29, will cause some road closures throughout Docklands.

All road closures will occur from 4am to no later than 9am.

Westbound access into Docklands precinct via Flinders St will be closed, as will Spencer St access northbound from Flinders St into Collins St.

Moving west, Collins St access westbound from Spencer St to Docklands Park, as well as northbound traffic for all of Harbour Esplanade will be closed.

Westbound traffic from Harbour Esplanade to Pearl River Rd will also be closed but local access will be maintained.

In addition, those heading south should be aware that Spencer St bridge, Queens Bridge and Princes Bridge will be closed until 9am, and should opt instead for King St Bridge or Charles Grimes Bridge in the west.

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Pet projects show allegiances

By Shane Scanlan

As the City of Melbourne in June moved closer to adopting its 2018/19 budget, councillors negotiated extra spending on some “pet” projects.

With an operating revenue of \$470.6 million, the additional spending is small change, but it is interesting to note what particular councillors were prepared to fight for.

Leading the charge was new lord mayor Sally Capp who took the opportunity to extend the olive branch to disaffected traders with a \$770,000 maintenance “blitz” at the Queen Victoria Market.

Cr Capp had another dip with \$200,000 to “prepare concepts” for the “HighLine-like project of public space connecting Flinders Street Station to Docklands” she promised during her election campaign.

Hopefully, potential costings will be at the centre of this exercise so she can effect an expedient and dignified about-face should the “does-she-know-the-real-costs” critics of this idea be proven correct.

Cr Jackie Watts’ successful extension of this exercise – all the way to Ron Barassi Snr Park in the shadow of the Bolte Bridge – certainly won’t help the numbers. But her advocacy for Docklands will be appreciated by harbour-side locals.

Cr Watts didn’t stop there though in her support for Docklands. She successfully put on the agenda a serious look at a “maritime commercial heritage museum” for Docklands as part of the long-overdue Harbour Esplanade upgrade.

Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood had earlier put Harbour Esplanade in the spotlight, successfully securing \$200,000 to: “Partner with Development Victoria and the AFL to develop a Stadium Precinct Masterplan to deliver exemplar connected public spaces in Harbour Esplanade, Bourke and LaTrobe streets, integrated with the future direction of Etihad Stadium, Southern Cross Station and Central Pier.”

Cr Rohan Leppert was also active, going into bat for both the Southbank and the LGBTI communities.

He secured \$500,000 to kick-start the long-promised City Rd transformation project and \$75,000 to help All The Queens Men produce and present this year’s Coming Back Out Ball.

Cr Philip Le Liu, on the other hand, was content to bind the council to create a “property portfolio plan” in the future.

Open House Docklands guide

Four Docklands locations will be opening up over the weekend of July 28 - 29 for Open House 2018.

The festival features a series of talks, events, tours, screenings, performances and more, all celebrating architecture and history.

Port of Melbourne Boat Tours

Saturday July 28, 40-minute tours from 10am

The tour will start in Victoria Harbour and move west to the Swanston and Appleton.

Around 36 per cent of Australia’s trade moves through Melbourne and around 3000 ships which visit each year.

www.openhousemelbourne.org/melbourne/buildings/port-of-melbourne-boat-tours

Mission to Seafarers Victoria

Saturday and Sunday, 10am – 4pm, self-guided

The Spanish mission/arts and crafts-style building complex was designed by Walter Butler. It was constructed in 1917, with the addition of the Norla Dome completed in 1919. The funds to build the complex came from fundraising by the Ladies Harbour Lights Guild (established in 1906) and a

government grant. The building is significant for operating with its original purpose as a mission to the welfare of seafarers for 100 years. The historical mission complex is architecturally significant as being a fine urban example of the arts and crafts-style in Melbourne.

www.openhousemelbourne.org/melbourne/buildings/mission-to-seafarers-victoria

Medibank Place

Saturday, 30-minute tours from 10am

Tour this award-winning building, designed in partnership with the architects at Hassell – who created a space that represented Medibank first, before looking at how to enable greater collaboration, engagement and productivity.

The vibrant headquarters is an oasis – with its sweeping white curves and brightly coloured accents set amidst the drab greys of busy urban life.

www.openhousemelbourne.org/melbourne/buildings/medibank-place

Banksia

Saturday, 25-minute tours from 10am

Banksia continues the award-winning collaboration between MAB and celebrated Melbourne architects McBride Charles Ryan (MCR).

Banksia’s circular floorplan allows for each apartment to view water, city or park, while nautical-inspired designs have brought the facade to life. Circles and organic shapes can be found throughout the building.

MCR’s signature use of colour is on display here with purple walls, lime-green lounge, multi-coloured tiles, and magenta kitchen. Marking the entrance to Banksia is Robert Bridgewater’s art installation, *Beaded Samphire*.

The specially curated piece continues the Australian flora theme, with pillars modelled on a local indigenous plant known as Beaded Samphire or Beaded Glasswort, which can be found along the Moonee Ponds Creek.

www.openhousemelbourne.org/melbourne/buildings/banksia

Deliveries in Docklands



Government buys Seven building

Development Victoria (DV) now owns the Channel Seven building in Harbour Esplanade, having last month bought it from motoring body NRMA.

The purchase (reported in the *Australian Financial Review* as worth about \$100 million) gives the government developer more options as it collaborates with the AFL to redevelop Etihad Stadium and the Harbour Esplanade precinct more generally.

A DV spokesperson said: “The purchase of 160 Harbour Esplanade presents an opportunity for the Victorian Government to develop long-term strategies to revitalise the Docklands Stadium and waterfront.”

“The Victorian State Government is funding \$225 million towards the redevelopment of Docklands Stadium so it can continue to bring Victorians world-class sport and entertainment events for the next 30 years.”

The AFR reported that the 8237 sqm building was fully leased to Seven, with about seven years remaining on the lease.

Local school holiday program

June 30 to July 15

Library at the Dock

Beauty and the Beast screening

July 11, 10.00am - Midday

Get comfy as we watch and sing along with Belle as she discovers that there's more to the angry beast than meets the eye.

Movie fun for all the family. Free

Bookings: eventbrite.com.au/e/beauty-and-the-beast-tickets-46788312101

Flip book animation

July 5, 2pm - 3.30pm

Let's make a short animation using a flip book. Draw your cartoon, slowly changing with each page until it starts to move!

Great fun for kids, ages 8 to 12 years.

Free

Bookings: eventbrite.com.au/e/flip-book-animation-tickets-46748845054

Star Struck Stompers

July 9, 10.30am - 11am

Get ready for your time in the spotlight!

We're singing and dancing and reading in this special Stompers!

Ages 18 months to 3 years.

Free, no bookings required.

O'Brien Group Arena

Inter Skate

Visit O'Brien Group Arena these school holidays to experience live performances from state and national champions skating to iconic family soundtracks including *The Wizard of Oz*, *Singing in the Rain* and Disney classics.

The winter school holiday program will include: Live skating performances every day of the school holidays between 11am to 3pm.

All day unlimited public skating - From 9am to late every day, skate with DJs playing your favourite music across the two Olympic-sized ice rinks.



Free craft activities - Where the kids can take a break from the ice and let their crafty side take over.

Under 8s Ice Fun - Between 9am to 11am daily. Toys, games and music, plus snow play areas for children to enjoy a totally different toddler experience with ice ambassadors to make sure both parents and children have some cool ice fun.

Free lessons - Beginners. Free with entry and designed to give non-skaters the skills they require to enjoy their experience. Every hour from 11am to 2pm daily.

Meet our Mascots - The Yeti and Skater Dude on the ice.

Melbourne Star

Spy in the Sky Challenge

Do you have the sharpest eyes in the sky? Find out these school holidays!

With the special Eyes in the Sky binoculars at the ready, all kids will need to do is to listen out for clues and act fast to identify landmarks from the Melbourne Star! Who will be first to spot them all?



The District

Winter Slide

Slide into the winter school holidays at The District Docklands - literally!

Jump on The District Ice Slide and hurtle on a tube down the whopping 15m-long slide, sure to be a thrilling experience.

Even better, you'll be sliding for a fantastic cause, with a gold coin donation collected from every slide donated to not-for-profit organisation, Kids Under Cover, to help combat youth homelessness.

Children under 3 OR under 80cm in height are not permitted on the ice slide.

Children under 4 must be accompanied by an adult on the ice slide - so mums and dads, we hope you're ready!

Don't forget your beanies, scarves and gloves to keep you warm!

The Lost Forests

Toy making workshop: \$25 a child, no charge for adults.

Join The Lost Forests expert storytellers and their fabulous toy maker Bridie for a 1.5 hour creative toy-making session. Learn the art of fabric manipulation in a safe and welcoming environment. Let your creativity flow and design your very own abstract Lost Forests creature. Will it have one eye or five? Who knows, it's up you!

Session 1: Friday, July 6, 11am

Session 2: Friday, July 6, 2pm

Session 3: Friday, July 13, 11am

Session 4: Friday, July 13, 2pm

BOOK: www.puggle.com/shop/

Winter Warmer Movie Night: \$15 a child, no charge for adults.

5.30pm arrival to The Lost Forests for a 5.45pm movie screening start.

Join The Lost Forests Storytellers for a cosy night in! With everyone dressed up to the nines in their PYJAMAS! They've got lots of cosy cushions, bears, toadstools and lily-pads for everyone to get comfy during a movie screening.

Session 1: Monday, July 2, 5.30pm

Session 2: Thursday, July 12, 5.30pm

BOOK: www.puggle.com/shop/



Docklands growth is "hot"

By Niccola Anthony

Docklands has been named as a national "hotspot" in the Housing Industry Association's (HIA) 2018 report on Population and Residential Building Hotspots.

The report identifies Australia's fastest growing towns, cities and regions for the 2016/17 financial year.

Hotspots are defined as those areas currently enjoying "a combination of strong population growth as well as high levels of residential building".

For an area to qualify as a "hotspot", there must be more than \$150 million worth of residential building work approved in the financial year and the area's rate of

population growth must be greater than the national average.

Docklands came in at seventh on the list, with almost \$200 million worth of building works approved in the 2016/17 financial year, and an annual population growth rate of 14.7 per cent.

Docklands also made the Building Momentum Shortlist in the report, which identifies areas that are likely to qualify as hotspots in next year's HIA report.

"The Docklands is still drawing in additional population growth as the mix of housing in the area changes to higher density living," the report's summary states.

"With a large volume of work still to be commenced, no downturn evident in approvals and population growth still exceeding 2 per cent, Melbourne and its surrounding areas are still likely to produce many Hotspots for building activity going into 2019."

ANL Maritime Art Awards

The 2018 ANL Maritime Art Awards Exhibition is open for entries.

The exhibition is staged by Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) in Flinders St, Docklands.

It follows the theme of maritime and seafaring subjects and calls artists to respond either thematically or literally to "the relationship of humanity to the sea".

Previous award winners include Jamie Preisz, who MtSV congratulates on his win of the 2018 Archibald Packing Room Prize.

2018 Maritime Art Awards:

- \$15,000 - ANL Maritime Art Award (Acquisitive)
- \$5000 - ASP Best Traditional Maritime Art Award (Acquisitive)

■ \$2000 - DP World Emerging Artist Award (Acquisitive)

■ \$2000 - VIVA Energy People's Choice Award and

■ \$2000 - Neville & Co Runners-up Award

Key dates:

■ Entries open: June 1

■ Entries close: August 31

■ Exhibition Opening and Awards Ceremony (invitation only): October 4

■ Exhibition: October 5 - October 26 at 717 Flinders St, Docklands.

Further information can be found at missiontoseafarers.com.au/artprize

Julian Bruere, vice president of the Australian Society of Marine Artists is a participating artist and an award winner from 2016. He said: "The award and exhibition gives relevance to the niche subject of maritime art."



DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Alex Shearer, 27, Moonee Ponds

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:

I'm wearing tan boots which I've dyed crimson, blue chinos, a maroon Ted Baker jacket and a scarf I found on the floor at a pub.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING:

The jacket - I bought it when I was in London, its pure wool, it fits really nicely and it's really warm.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS:

Blended Beard's coffee - they do a really good decaf! Also their chicken schnitzel burgers are really good.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE:

I like clean-cut - like tailored jackets, fitted chinos. A lot of the stuff I wear is a bit like this.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

A good outfit is an expression of someone's personality, so I don't think people should wear clothes which they don't feel express who they are. A good outfit can completely change your mood.

Victoria Harrington, 25, South Yarra

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:

I'm wearing a pair of Dolce Firma boots that I love, Ginger & Smart trousers, a Zara jacket with a Witchery trench coat over the top.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING:

My Chanel "Boy" bag would be my favourite item in my wardrobe. I got it as a gift in Europe.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS:

I work here. Lendlease is my office. I work in sales and settlements.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE:

I like to be really classy and elegant. I don't like to have everything on display. I think fashion-forward pieces are really important and I try and be really smart with my purchases and strategic, to make sure that they'll all match my wardrobe and that I'll be able to get a lot of good wear out of them long-term

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

Being honest to who you are and feeling confident and owning it. It's not really about the piece of clothing, but who is wearing it and the attitude they bring to it.

William Tang Felman, 30, Malvern East

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:

I'm wearing a Burberry trench coat that I bought second-hand on eBay. It came at a really good price so I had to snatch it. The pants and the shirt are tailored from Oscar Hunt. I'm also wearing Happy Socks.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS:

I work in the Lego building (NAB head office at 800 Bourke St) as a business banker.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING:

I've got a Canada Goose puffer jacket. Its goose hair - basically, the "winter buster".

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE:

I used to be pretty indie, I was a "Brunswick Boy".

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

Not to complicate things. Colour-matching wise, always try to have opposite shades. Where there is pattern on the lower-body you should try to keep it plain on the upper-body and vice versa.

10 Years On

June 2008 Issue 32:

Search is on for Docklands Primary

The need for a primary school here in Docklands has been identified in study on the area's community infrastructure needs.

Other priorities revealed by the study include:

- Lifelong Learning Hub (e.g. containing facilities such as a library);
- Social and Recreation Hub (e.g. indoor courts);
- Community Boating Hub;
- Neighbourhood Hub (e.g. community classes/activities); and
- Functional outdoor community meeting spaces.

The study was conducted by Coomes Consulting on behalf of VicUrban and the City of Melbourne.

VicUrban and the council say they will now work together to identify possible locations and develop funding and delivery strategies for each of the identified priorities.

The consultants analysed demographics and projections and also sought stakeholder input. They spoke to a number of service providers to gauge their interest and commitment to providing community services in Docklands.

The final report has considered current Government policy directions and best practice case studies to inform its recommendations.

The report can be downloaded from the City of Melbourne's website www.melbourne.vic.gov.au.

Letters to the Editor

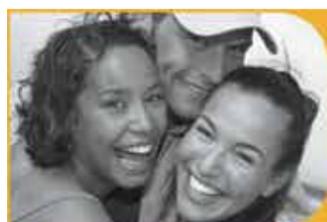
Here's an idea

An idea crossing the river, rather than using a tram bridge. Has any consideration been given to a simple ferry boat from one side to the other? You could charge \$2.50 each way, or if you use Myki, free? Could it run each 30 minutes? I think we should be making more use of the river, more smaller water taxis, more stop/pickup points.

Neil Hubbard



Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au



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We Live Here

Uniting against proxy farming and rorts

Corruption, secret deals, intimidation, blackmail – no, we are not talking about a new TV series – we are talking about owners' corporations across Melbourne.

Strata owners at a recent We Live Here seminar heard extraordinary tales of rorts and rip-offs. A number of high-profile owners corporations, from St Kilda Rd, South Melbourne, West Melbourne, Southbank and Docklands shared their incredibly agonising stories.

The May seminar was organised by We Live Here to allow owners' corporation committee members to share their knowledge and experience about proxy farming, price fixing and rorts.

The seminar was opened by one of the We Live Here directors, Barbara Francis, who was very pleased to announce that the attending committees came from a diverse group of apartments from all around Melbourne - the support base of We Live Here is growing!

The horror stories we heard included:

- Proxy farming on a grand scale;
- Proxies held by real estate company clerical staff to mask the true extent of the farming;
- Sacking committees who dare to question the incumbent contractor;
- Essential services and fire safety ignored;
- Developers spreading false stories about whistle-blowers;
- Building managers skimming millions of dollars in secret electricity commissions;
- Common property leased to developers' mates for no fee;
- High maintenance costs without proper maintenance being carried out; and
- Defects not addressed.

We Live Here is very grateful for the courageous speakers who stood up and told their stories for others to learn from their experience. We will not reveal any names or identify any properties because of the potential recriminations. Conscientious owners are fighting powerful, vested interests and there is a lot of money at stake.

Another director of We Live Here Helina Marshall, the moderator of the seminar, said the purpose of this type of seminar was to allow committee members to speak freely and exchange ideas about solutions to the problems facing strata communities.

"When there is a problem, we are not alone. Other committees often have the same or similar issues. Only by sharing and learning from each other we will improve our knowledge and skills in dealing with the day-to-day committee or building issues," she said.

Marshall Delves, another director of We Live Here, reminded the attendees that We Live Here needed the support of many committees to keep going and be stronger. Although We Live Here is only two and a half years old, we have achieved a lot during this period. We have good a relationship

with the City of Melbourne and have made contacts with a number of key politicians.

The We Live Here seminar was well received and successful. We Live Here will organise more of this type of forum in the future. Watch this space!

Congratulations Sally Capp

We Live Here was honoured to meet with mayoral candidate Sally Capp before the election and we had the opportunity to establish rapport. Now that Cr Capp is Lord Mayor we will be following up on the election commitments that she made.

Last month we noted that plans for the renovation of the Queen Victoria Market, heavily promoted by the previous Lord Mayor, may have to go back to the drawing board because of Heritage Victoria's refusal of a key element of the proposal. With the election of Cr Capp, we anticipate a radical rethink that will preserve the precinct as the premier tourist attraction in Melbourne. We will keep a close eye on this issue.

When we met, Cr Capp told We Live Here that short-stays must be regulated – the same message that We Live Here has been promoting. Cr Capp showed that she was very well informed about the short-stay issues and the problems that needed to be addressed.

At the meet-the-candidates forums in the run-up to the election, Cr Capp made it clear that, in her view, there was not a level playing field because hotels were complying with all the regulations, paying their staff properly and meeting workplace safety standards.

Cr Capp talked about there being a lot of security issues, damage and noise issues, general interruption and wear-and-tear on buildings, and a lot of uncertainty around safety.

We are pleased to have a mayor who has indicated she is willing to engage with We Live here on an ongoing basis. We look forward to the Lord Mayor following through on her commitments, taking action and escalating the short-stay issue to the state government.

Cr Capp has an open-door policy and has said she would organise community forums to gain first-hand knowledge. We Live Here will keep you informed so that all owners and residents can come along and be heard.

Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to make a donation please visit our website at welfare.net

We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests.

We welcome your comments and feedback, and invite suggestions for topics you would like us to address in this column.



www.welfare.net
emails to campaign@welfare.net

Chamber Update

Upcoming events in Docklands

Another Firelight Festival has come and gone but that's not the end of the winter events in Docklands. We have winter storytelling in Buluk Park, Cruises on the Harbour and a selection of luscious dinners. You can stay up to date here – www.docklandsc.com.au/blog

School holidays

There are a multitude of activations in Docklands over the July school holidays. The District Docklands are hosting their very own Ice Slide for the kids. 15m of freezing fun, whilst the Melbourne Star continue to offer Kids to Fly for Free over the school holidays. You'll also need to keep an eye out for their special "Eye in the Sky" binoculars for the kids as well.

Le Tour de France

Did you know Docklands has its very own specialty bike shop? Bike Force is perhaps the biggest and best in Victoria – stocking all the major brands you are going to see at this year's Tour de France, right down to your basic get to work variant. They sit right at the front entrance to The District Docklands. Pop in and say hello, even take a photo of your dream bike, they'll be only too happy to oblige.

Docklands Chamber continues to produce for its members

Stay informed and get involved – our Facebook profile has over 160 000 followers and always has the latest information regarding events and offers – www.fb.me/MelbDock.

It's also available to advertise on as is our website. Recent promotions have resulted in excess of 1000 click throughs to members such as The Lady Cutler Melbourne Showboat, Bike Force Docklands and The District Docklands.

Best of all it's free for our members to do so. Contact us at admin@docklandsc.com.au



Shane Wylie

Media Director

www.docklandsc.com.au



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Luv thy NABERS (for apartments)

Awareness of our vertical living lifestyle is slowly growing, but unfortunately, one key characteristic is that we are “energy guzzling”.

According to City of Melbourne, more than 83 per cent of its residents live in apartments and each year, vertical villagers account for 22 per cent of the city's water usage, 9 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions and more than 20,500 tonnes of waste. Perhaps more alarming is that compared with detached dwellings, we of the vertical villages consume 25 per cent more energy.

The question is: where does this usage occur?

Currently CSIRO is finalising its Apartment Energy Use Survey which will reveal apartment-based patterns of energy consumption.

But being strata, energy is also used to operate and maintain common property which, apparently, can account for up to 60 per cent of a building's total energy consumption and 25 per cent of administrative fund levies.

However, as our vertical villages differ in terms of size, number of lifts, external lighting fixtures and facilities such as gyms and pools, the percentage of energy usage for common areas varies across buildings. This means that we can't rely on the aforementioned averages when designing ways to improve (and save) through more efficient energy usage.

The starting point is to find out your

building's particular situation and use this information to craft building-specific ways of your improving energy efficiency. This is the rationale underpinning the introduction of NABERS (National Australian Built Environment Rating System) into the residential apartment sector.

NABERS has been operating in the commercial sector for over 10 years and is managed nationally by the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, on behalf of Commonwealth, state and territory governments. NABERS is being introduced into the residential apartment sector with the aim of realising similar order reductions in energy and water consumption as has been achieved in the commercial building sector.

In the City of Melbourne, Ausnviro has been selected to undertake Australia's first NABERS for Apartments energy and water ratings. And the managing director of Ausnviro, Jay Gualtieri, is impressed by the robustness of the new NABERS for Apartments tool.

“There is no doubt in my mind this new system will dramatically improve environmental efficiency in the residential apartment sector ... but first they need to know how their building is performing,” he said.

This involves supplying past utilities bills and a site visit by Ausnviro to confirm operations. This information is then analysed and comparisons run against similar buildings in order to calculate your building's rating (on a one to six scale).

However, while this is a significant step forward, in reality, it is only the beginning of an ongoing improvement cycle.

The next critical step is to interpret your rating and understand what it can (and cannot) tell you about your building's performance. This is important as it underpins all subsequent action. Indeed, there are some quiet conversations already occurring at owners' corporation level about what can actually be done with a rating (be it good or bad). This goes to the issue of design and the ability to craft appropriate technical responses, as well as deliver them in ways palatable to both residents and investors.

In fact, retrofitting for environmental sustainability within Victoria's owners' corporation environment is a complex undertaking and, currently, there is little guidance available to help.

This is the situation despite our universities having a growing array of technologies that could greatly assist our retrofitting our vertical villages. For instance, RMIT has developed a self-modifying

coating, 1000 times thinner than a human hair, that automatically lets in heat when it's cold and blocks heat when it's hot – self-regulating smart windows! But how can owners' corporation committees know about these types of innovations?

Added to this, navigating the range of relevant funding programs is not for the faint hearted – and many of these funds remain firmly focused upon “households” rather than apartment buildings.

To my thinking, NABERS presents an opportunity for owners' corporation committees to connect with each other and begin collaborating around practical innovations suited to our vertical village lifestyle.

If you are interested in starting this discussion, please contact me at skypadliving@gmail.com



Janette Corcoran
Apartment living expert
<https://www.facebook.com/SkyPadLiving/>



What Women Want

Another door will open

They say it's always darkest just before the dawn. I imagine it's always the coldest too.

And that time, the darkest coldest time, seems to have a disproportionately long hold before dawn does break - for her soft touch to reach through the barrier, for her warmth to reach cold spaces, for her light to reach dark places.

Sometimes, it seems that dawn is never coming to reassure us that daylight, will appear again after all.

But it does. Every time. Dawn appears again and the sun does rise and the day does take over. Often I find that things you are worried about in the lonely dark and cold times, lose their enormity in daylight – they become easier to put in place, hold at bay or problem solve.

Friends, family, community can appear more readily in the light, opportunity can

knock and the path can unfold in the warmth of the day. Suddenly, you're not alone, you are not lost and you know it's going to be ok. The key is remembering when you're in the darkest place, that dawn is coming.

I am feeling the touches of dawn, in fact I am actually feeling the sun come out. It's been quite a few months of incredible stress and this has been a dark, cold and isolating feeling. But I think it's starting to be over and, as they say, a new day is dawning.

I didn't realise how much of a bad place I was in, how the stress was eating away at me, how the burden of responsibility was risking the balance in my life and consuming my every moment with fear, worry and a feeling of everything being out of control.

I had lost perspective, I had let my health suffer, I had isolated myself from friends and family and then BANG – everything came to a head and exploded.

The path I was following simply ended and I was left fighting this mess, trying to

salvage what I could, trying to fight those whom I should never have bothered fighting ...

But I got to the end and it was finished. And as the battle receded, and as the adrenalin eased, and as I had time to reflect, a glorious thing happened – the sun came out.

There is now a sense of freedom and enormous happiness. The stress has stopped, and I am seeing everything with renewed energy. It seems the world is full of possibilities again. And the funny thing is, I can't imagine why I wanted to fight so hard to keep those stresses of the old path in my life before.

I'm just not really sure how I believed the old path would have taken me somewhere wonderful ...

What a woman wants is to remain undeterred on her path forward, but what a woman needs to realise is that sometimes when a path unexpectedly changes and a door slams shut – that another door will open onto a beautiful opportunity, the path



that she was always meant to be on.

Please trust that the universe will provide you with your dawn and know that sometimes a cold and dark night is simply a gateway to a magical new day.

With much love

Abby Crawford

PS you can reach me at life@docklandsnews.com.au. I love receiving your emails. x



Abby Crawford
life@docklandsnews.com.au

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Health and Wellbeing

Corporate health and wellbeing

It's no secret that great companies invest time, energy and resources into providing opportunities for their employees and teams to improve themselves.

Improvement is not just through learning, growth and development, but also through individual or team-based wellbeing programs.

Here are some reasons why your company should be driving improvements in your health and wellbeing:

- Build the company's reputation and improve culture in the workplace;
- Reduce direct and indirect health care costs that can be linked to sick, stressed or demotivated staff;
- Increase individual, team and company outputs and business performance by achieving higher levels of resilience, engagement and team work between employees; and
- Demonstrate an authentic "care" for employees that will help with staff retention.
- Maybe strike up some conversations in your work place and get something organised to kick off in spring 2018 - it's less than two months away now!

Make time for Pilates!

Whether you take Pilates for improvements in fitness, wellbeing or for rehabilitation purposes, Pilates works and, with consistency, you will be rewarded with the results you strive for. Here are some of the great benefits of the exercising using the Pilates method:

1. Improved posture and alignment
Pilates helps correct imbalances in posture and alignment by training muscle groups equally and evenly. When the body is out of alignment, excessive stress is placed on the joints, ligaments and spine. Once improvements are made, the body functions more efficiently and injuries are avoided.
2. Improved flexibility
Many workouts, especially those with heavy resistance and weights focus on muscular contractions and muscle shortening. Stretches performed (if

any) are typically static. With Pilates, movements and stretches are mostly dynamic and there is a focus on both shortening and lengthening the muscles.

3. Relaxation and stress relief
Pilates methods incorporate a strict focus on deep and regular breathing which brings on a sense of calm and wellbeing.
4. Muscle tone and strength
Pilates is not easy. Hard work and excellent execution of moves and sequences will bring with it improvements in strength without creating bulky muscles. Better muscle tone, especially around the thighs, hips and waist is readily achieved with time.
5. Improved physical and mental endurance.

Pilates is a true mind and body workout. Body weight exercises and sequences challenge the physical capacity and ability. Completion of repetitions, combinations and sets with targets for achievement will engage and will challenge the mind. Pilates is a wonderful way to exercise for men and women of all ages.

Bodyweight training – Try Metafit!

Have you taken a Metafit class before? Our members love Metafit and refer to it as the hardest class on our program. Metafit is a high intensity bodyweight training program and it is fantastic. It is known as the original 30-minute metabolic group fitness class that delivers results. A coach will lead you through a structured class that will definitely test your limits.

Like Metafit, bodyweight training can be described as exercising without equipment or machines, instead using the mass or weight of the body to provide resistance. Here are seven great things about bodyweight training that should encourage you to get off the machines and use your body to its full potential.

1. Bodyweight training is suitable for all



levels of fitness. It can be adapted to anyone's level of fitness or goals. If you are just starting out, the intensity and repetitions may be lower. As you increase your fitness levels, you might add speed, power, more repetitions or advanced movements to the activity. Take an exercise like the squat for example - a new exerciser might do 8-10 reps of a half squat and rest for 30 seconds, whereas a more advanced participant might squat deeper, do more squats, add a jump and have less rest, all resulting in higher intensity!

2. The variation is endless. There are a couple of foundation exercises like the squat, lunge, crunch and push up, but for each of those there might be 10-20 variations. These variations provide a range of challenges and benefits to the exerciser.
3. It's portable. You don't need any equipment for bodyweight training - all you need is your own body! Look for structures like benches, walls, trees, playgrounds etc. to help set up opportunities to train different muscle groups in different ways.
4. It's functional. Functional training is training for the purpose of living. We can link exercises like the squat and lunge in training to life because we repeatedly

perform these movements every day when we move lift and carry things. Training functionally with life in mind, daily tasks can become easier, we can perform them better and we will reduce the likelihood of injury.

5. Improvement in cardio fitness, strength and flexibility. Your bodyweight training will and can cover all three of these key exercise components. Make sure you take time at the end of each workout to stretch.
6. You will get results. Many of the bodyweight exercises use compound movements. Compound exercises like a lunge, squat or push up include movements of more than one joint and involve many muscles and large movements. If you go to a gym, a good trainer would have you completing compound exercise as a preference.
7. Its free! Once you know how to execute a few of the key exercises and movements, you are ready to go. You can work out anywhere at any time and there are no excuses not to train!



Andrew Ward

Andrew Ward from Push! Fitness.
www.push-fitness.com.au





FACES OF DOCKLANDS

Question: It's the most watched sporting event in the world, but have you been paying any attention to this year's World Cup?



EMMA CHU, 20S, COLLINGWOOD, ART DIRECTOR

No. I've seen it around and I saw yesterday that South Korea beat Germany, and that's about as far as I know.



TRACEY WANG, 50, DOCKLANDS, HOME DUTIES

Yes, a lot. I've been supporting Iceland - they don't have many people, but they play really good soccer.



JOHN ALATERAS, 42, CHELTENHAM, PROJECT MANAGER

Yes I have. I've had many late nights, let's say that. Especially watching the Australians play as well.



LUCIANO VITIELLO, 48, MCKINNON, PROJECT MANAGER

Yes I have. I've been a little bleary-eyed and tired, but it's been worth it.



JANE SOFRA, 29, MOONEE PONDS, MARKETING MANAGER

Yes I have, because of my husband. He's really into it. I might watch the Aussie games, and the Italian games if they were in it.



UNA O'BRIEN, 32, ELSTERNWICK, MARKETING MANAGER

Yes, I have been forced to watch all of England's matches because of my husband, and I watched Spain vs Portugal as well.

Pet's Corner



Wonder dachshund

By Stephanie Zhang

Wonder Woman was spotted in Docklands in disguise as a little dachshund named Lola on a walk with owner Nicholas.

Lola is a white piebald American import dachshund, and attracted many passers-by as *Docklands News* spoke to the pair.

Lola has many other costumes, like Batman, the Riddler, and a big woollen coat for cold days, but Nicholas says her favourite is still the Wonder Woman one.

"It grabs the most attention," Nicholas

said, "Because we live in a house full of males, she likes female attention."

Nicholas also said that the two sleep together, and Lola is very gentle and doesn't bark or stink. The two go on a couple of walks a day, as Lola doesn't like to be cooped up in their Docklands' apartment.

"We've walked all the way from the city today," Nicholas said, "For those little legs that's a long way." Usually, they like to walk around at Ron Barassi Park and get some food under the Melbourne Star.

Lola will be having her first birthday in August, and the two have been together for over half a year.

As passersby stopped to pet Lola, Nicholas watched happily.

"See? She makes everybody smile," he said.



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Docklander

A great place for a new-born

By Shreya Devaki

After spending a little over a year in a quiet suburb of Victoria, Docklands was a refreshing experience for Sanjana when she moved here five years ago.

She loves how the area is always buzzing with activity and swears by the multitude of cafes whose coffee makes every morning brighter!

As a mother to a week-old, beautiful baby girl, she was initially hesitant to bring her daughter up in Docklands, where office buildings are in abundance and looming skyscrapers are the first thing you see when you glance out of a window!

What convinced her to stay put however, was the community in Docklands and the various activities that it offers, for adults as well as toddlers. Most of us are well aware that having a baby when both the parents work is a Herculean task!

"Both of us work in Docklands and after doing some research into playschools in the area and stuff, it made perfect sense to continue living here. Did you know that the playschools here are few of the best in the city? Never thought I'd be researching playschools!" she laughed.

When questioned about how she felt about this new and exciting phase in her life, she said: "It's all very overwhelming, being a new mother."

"You think you're prepared before the baby arrives, but with each day, you need 100 new things to make the baby as comfortable as possible. Honestly, stores in and around Docklands are god's send! Whatever you need is like two minutes away!"

Almost every parent is nervous about bringing their kids up in an apartment. You fret about them not getting enough fresh air and them not being able to play in open spaces, not Sanjana though!

She prefers apartments: "Open spaces is definitely not a problem! Docklands has so many gardens and parks that are perfect for a child to play around in."

"And believe me, when you're a new parent, you'll be extremely grateful about living in an apartment! It just makes life easier!" she said.

As a "clean freak", Sanjana needs everything to be spick and span and, since apartments are smaller, they're easy to maintain.

"Also, since my baby girl is a winter-born, it's extremely important for me to keep her surroundings warm. That's easier to do in an apartment, when compared to an actual house."

"You would think parenting gets easy once you figure out the sleep and feed schedules of the baby. It didn't end there for us though! We're back to square one as the entire family seems unable to agree upon a name for her." Here's a tip for all the new parents out there: Don't give your relatives the chance to veto baby names. Sanjana sure has learnt her lesson!



Sanjana with her baby girl.

Owners' Corporation Law

Taking the plunge on defect claims

Victorian consumers of plumbing services might be surprised to learn that they are protected by the most comprehensive statutory protections in Australia.

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) requires that plumbers cannot be licensed to carry out any work unless they hold insurance coverage against defective plumbing work, trade practices liability, the non-completion of work as well as public liability insurance.

The General Insurance Order 2002 that applies to these matters (known as the "Ministerial Order") also provides full coverage for legal and expert costs incurred by a property owner in making a claim against a plumber.

Multiple occupancy dwellings such as apartment buildings can suffer from quite

serious plumbing defects, ranging from pan siphoning and water pressure issues, to crushed pipes and installation of faulty metering, through to roof guttering and defective designs and / or installations of downpipes.

There is a strict time limit of six years to bring a claim under these warranty insurance provisions, and consideration and advice should be taken from a lawyer to ascertain the exact date the policy coverage started.

One of the advantages of this warranty system over the other schemes in Australia is that the plumber does not have to be dead, disappeared, insolvent or not practicing anymore before any claim can be made against the insurance policy.

True enough, the insurer has rights to compel the plumber to rectify any defective plumbing work, but that doesn't limit or stop the claim from being accepted if the plumber refuses to do so.

The interesting part about all this is that many of the insurers that offer these policies seek to limit their exposure by setting an

upper limit of \$50,000 per apartment or up to \$5 million in total. However, the Ministerial Order makes it clear that any monetary limit on the indemnity is prohibited for loss or damage, error of design and the costs of inspecting and repairing the plumbing work.

The Building Act also confirms that the Ministerial Order trumps the terms of any insurance policy, to the extent of any inconsistency.

What this means is that consumers have access to an unlimited liability insurance policy for the rectification of defective plumbing work.

But does all this sound too good to be true? Well, yes. Yes it does. The insurers would certainly never have offered these insurance policies to plumbers in the first place if it thought they were exposed on an unlimited basis.

However, there may be a reason why the Ministerial Order has never been challenged in an open court or tribunal decision, despite the order being around for 20 years. Insurance claims in these matters are mostly settled well before the proceedings are

heard in court. So it seems that insurers are reluctant to seek guidance from the court about the application and interpretation of the ministerial guideline.

As always, committees should "plumb to new depths" by seeking advice from a lawyer on these matters and should consider whether they might have a claim against a plumber for either faulty workmanship or design issues.

I would also recommend "fauceting the issue" by engaging a properly qualified forensic plumbing consultant on these issues, as it tends to be a highly specialised field.



Tom Bacon

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

WHAT'S ON

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

SATURDAY JULY 28, 10:30AM – 11:30AM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

RED RIDING ROBYN HOOD

King George has lost the plot! As well as a performance that will have you laughing all the way through, the play challenges traditional gender roles, bravery and standing up for what's right. **FREE**

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH,
9.30AM – 12PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
CHINESE BOOK CLUB

Come along for morning tea and a look at the new Chinese books at the Library at The Dock. Meet other readers, have a chat and find some new Chinese books, magazines or DVDs to borrow. **FREE**

7 AND 7.30 AM ON FRIDAYS AT THE HUB BASKETBALL COURTS
EARLY MORNING FITNESS

\$10 per class after the first month.
30 minute high intensity classes designed to fire the metabolism and burn fat.
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11AM EVERY SUNDAY
SUNDAY WORSHIP

City Light Methodist Church at St Peter the Mariner's Chapel.
Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St.
English and Chinese service
中文

10AM-5PM
EVERY SUNDAY, NEWQUAY PROMENADE

DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

A variety market featuring arts and crafts, books and more. For more info, ring **0412 910 496**

4.30 – 5.30PM WEDNESDAYS UNTIL END OF 2018, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The club meets during school terms for painting, craft, STEM activities, games and fun! For ages 7+ years.

2– 4PM, EVERY TUESDAY, SASSONE, 70 LORIMER ST
YARRA'S EDGE SOCIAL CLUB

Come along to connect with your neighbours, and/or join one of our mini-clubs. Casual & friendly.
www.facebook/YarrasEdgeSocialClub

EVERY WEEKDAY
6.30AM, CORNER OF SOUTH WHARF DR AND POINT PARK CRES, YARRA'S EDGE

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EVERY SUNDAY, 1-2PM
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JULY 1 – JULY 22, 4PM – 7PM
SOLIDAIRES RESTAURANT
FACES OF ETHIOPIA

Discover the wealth of Ethiopian acts and culture that exist in Australia in a warm, family-friendly restaurant Docklands. Includes Ethio-Jazz, traditional music and dance, circus acts and poetry readings. **FREE**

EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 11AM-4PM
DOCKLANDS YACHT CLUB
COMMUNITY SAILING DAY

Come and try sailing with the community. No age limit and no fitness requirements. People with disabilities are welcome. \$20. **docklands.yachting.org.au**

EVERY 1ST & 3RD SATURDAY,
10.30-11AM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
CODE CLUB

A fortnightly workshop that teaches children to code and improve their problem solving skills and logical thinking. For 9-11 year olds. Book via Eventbrite. **9658 9379** or **makerspace@melbourne.vic.gov.au**

11AM- 2PM LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH UNTIL NOVEMBER 30
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
SOCIETY OF WOMEN WRITERS VICTORIA

Sharpen your writing skills, get feedback on your work and meet new people? **FREE**

1ST & 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 6.30 PM
700 BOURKE ST - ROOM 3.101
DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH,
4-5.15PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
JAZZ BREW CAFE

A monthly Docklands Jazz lounge at Library at The Dock's foyer. Sip some coffee while enjoying the diverse Jazz tunes. **FREE**

FRIDAY JUNE 8, 4PM – 5.15PM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
JAZZ BREW CAFE
RALEIGH WILLIAMS

One of Melbourne's best session singers, featuring in genres as diverse as world music, urban, country, jazz, pop and soul. **FREE**

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH,
2-4PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
ADHD SUPPORT GROUP

Peer-support meetings or Q&A sessions with expert about ADHD in adults. Adults affected by ADHD and their families and friends are encouraged to attend. \$2.
Facebook @AdultADHDMelbourne

WEDNESDAYS 5.45PM-7PM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
OPEN DOOR SINGERS
DOCKLANDS

Find your voice, experience the joy of singing in a choir and meet new friends.
www.opendoorsingers.org.au

THURSDAY JULY 19, 6PM – 7PM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
SCRAPBOOK MEMORIES

What was life like for pioneering designing of Australian couture? Join Tom McEvoy, for a passionate exploration of the stories behind pioneering Australian fashion families. **FREE, BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH,
10AM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities.
Contact **mshpc.docklands@gmail.com**

EVERY SATURDAY, 9.30AM,
COMMUNITY HUB AT THE DOCK
CYSM SEA DRAGONS

Three free dragon boating sessions.
Contact Vicky at **cysm.seadragons@gmail.com**.
www.cysm.org/dragonboat

WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM,
SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM
SHED 2, NORTH WHARF RD
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Contact Jeff Saunders on **0417 219 888** or **Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au**

LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS

EVENING TABLE TENNIS

Every Thursday 7-9pm
Challenge yourself with friends at this regular catch up of ping-pong enthusiasts.

TAI CHI AT THE DOCK

Every Thursday 7.30-8.30am
Come along to find your inner peace and power at this weekly community Tai Chi session that is open to people from all walks of life. The ancient Chinese martial art is a tranquil and graceful way to keep fit. Beginners welcome. **FREE**.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fridays at 10.30am
Come and share the wonder of books with us. Enjoy 40-50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities with your three to five year olds.

STOMPERS

Mondays at 10.30am
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.
Ever wanted to 3D print your own superhero figurine? At the Creative Kids After School Club you can. Come hang out and create in our maker's space. Projects will include jewellery making, game design, paper crafts, comics and more.

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE



DAM Busters on Victoria Harbour.

Preparing for big stage

By Niccola Anthony

Local dragon-boaters DAM (Dragons Abreast Melbourne) Busters are gearing up for an international event in Italy this month.

The team, made up of 24 breast cancer survivors and supporters, will travel to Florence for the International Breast Cancer Regatta held from July 4 to 6.

The DAM Busters have been training every Saturday and Sunday morning on Victoria Harbour near their base at Community Hub at The Dock.

“When we do an international regatta we

step it up a level. We’ve been doing Saturday and Sunday training now for four months,” DAM Busters president Caroline Mulcahy said.

Ms Mulcahy attributes the friendly community atmosphere of Victoria Harbour with the team’s competitive success.

“It’s the best place for us to be training down at The Hub,” she said.

“We always go to the cafes after training. The whole area is just perfect for us.”

“The community actually supports us. They come along to training and wave at us, they’re whistling and clapping sometimes.”

“They love it. They love to see us out there.”

Sign up for spring sports

By Stephanie Zhang

Docklands workers who are interested in playing sports or staying active can register for Active Melbourne City Sports’ (AMCS) spring season up until Monday, July 16.

AMCS is a program that aims to encourage physical activity for those who often cannot find time to do so.

It holds its games during lunchtimes and evenings, and encourages participation from

anyone regardless of previous experience. “It’s a great way for colleagues to get out of the office, have fun, be active, and play a sport they love,” AMCS co-ordinator Claire Picone said.

The spring season includes netball, held during Thursday lunchtimes, 3v3 basketball, held during Wednesday lunchtimes, and twilight soccer, held during Tuesday and Friday evenings. Games take place in Docklands Sports Courts.

Seasons are 14 weeks long and are followed by two weeks of finals. Round one for the upcoming spring season begins in the week of Monday, July 30.

Registrations are open for teams or participants at amcs.melbourne.vic.gov.au.



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