

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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New era for stadium

Docklander and part-time superhero Andrew Lutomski can't wait for the local stadium to change its name to Marvel Stadium. See our story on page 8.

Council betrays Docklands for \$50 million

By Shane Scanlan

The City of Melbourne has accepted \$50 million from the state government to protect West and North Melbourne and divert even more West Gate Tunnel project traffic into Docklands.

The betrayal of Docklands to the benefit of more politically-vocal residential areas to our north-east was announced by the Treasurer Tim Pallas and the Lord Mayor Sally Capp on August 24.

In a press release, Mr Pallas said: "This partnership with Melbourne City Council will revitalise public space and improve traffic flow in West Melbourne while we get on with the West Gate Tunnel."

The city has agreed to match the state funding but, critically, the proposal has not come before the council. Nor has there been any studies, traffic modelling or specific proposals about how the \$100 million will be spent.

From a Docklands perspective, it's easy to characterise the deal as a betrayal. At its most benign, the \$50 million state funding is "hush money" to buy the council's silence in the lead up to the November state election.

In the press release, the government said: "The package will improve traffic flow and public space in West Melbourne and (will) be rolled out alongside new parklands in Moonee Ponds Creek as part of an expanded master plan, while the Labor Government delivers the West Gate Tunnel and other



major transport projects."

"The West Gate Tunnel will extend Wurundjeri Way, creating a new city bypass and taking thousands of cars off CBD streets."

"To make the most of these changes, a joint City of Melbourne and Transport for Victoria study will identify a package of amenity improvements."

"The study will look at improvements to areas including Spencer, King and William streets and the Arden St precinct, traffic in North and West Melbourne, and better access from North Melbourne to the Docklands."

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Council betrays Docklands for \$50 million

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The City of Melbourne was a vocal critic of the West Gate Tunnel project, protesting early about a predicted 16,000 extra vehicles per day expected to be diverted into Wurundjeri Way.

But, at a panel hearing into the environmental effects of the project on August 28 last year, the council's expert traffic consultant supported the Wurundjeri Way proposal.

Mr Stephen Hunt from Ratio Consultants said: "In my opinion, the extension of Wurundjeri Way to connect with Dynon Rd west of CityLink would provide an overall positive benefit to traffic movement within the North and West Melbourne areas."

And, with \$100 million to be further spent encouraging traffic to stay out of West and North Melbourne and divert via Docklands, Wurundjeri Way and Harbour Esplanade will bear the burden.

The Lord Mayor said: "Through this partnership we will see enhanced streetscapes rolled out across important roads in West Melbourne while also creating an improved Moonee Ponds Creek for residents and visitors to enjoy."

The last public glimpse of the council's agenda for traffic calming in West and North

Melbourne was on February 6 this year when councillors instructed staff to pursue the state to "obtain formal commitment, funding and delivery" of 10 legacy projects.

Among them was an ambition to convert Spencer and Clarendon streets from arterial to local roads between Dryburgh St and Normanby Rd "to facilitate improvements to pedestrian safety and urban amenity especially near Southern Cross Station and in West Melbourne".

Another was: "Improving traffic and access including funding streetscape upgrades on Spencer and Franklin streets, funding other traffic mitigation works in North Melbourne, West Melbourne, Docklands and the CBD."

A third was: "No further expansion of road capacity or change to the status of local roads in North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Docklands to accommodate extra traffic from the project."

And: "Commitment to work with the City of Melbourne to ensure that the operation of the new intersection between the Wurundjeri Way extension and the Dynon Rd connection does not have unintended negative consequences, such as increased traffic on the Dynon Rd Bridge Link and in local streets."



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Hate stickers cause a stir

By Niccola Anthony

A number of stickers from radical feminist group Untameable Shrews have popped up around Docklands over past weeks.

The stickers include slogans that are hateful to Melbourne's trans population, such as "real women have vaginas" and "trans rights are men's rights".

The Untameable Shrews' Twitter account has documented the presence of the stickers around the Melbourne Star precinct, on public transport shelters and on other unidentified surfaces and walls in the local area.

The Untameable Shrews is a self-described "international radical feminist street art movement taking over the world one act of civil disobedience at a time".

The group is based in Australia and was formed in 2016 from a number of smaller independent groups engaging in radical feminist activism around Melbourne and Brisbane.

Untameable Shrews has been condemned by other feminist groups for having a Sex-Worker Exclusionary Radical Feminist (SWERF) and Trans-Exclusionary Radical Feminist (TERF) agenda – two branches of radical feminism that often appear hand-in-hand.

While the SWERF agenda focuses on the abolition of the sex trade and often incites hate towards women who choose to participate in the sex industry, TERFs deny the right of transgender women to identify as female.

Karima Baadilla, director of The Artists Guild in The District Docklands has described the stickers as an affront to the values that The Artists Guild works to promote in the local community.

The Artists Guild is a social enterprise that provides peer support for female artists to network and aims to close the gender divide in the arts industry.



One of the offending stickers in Docklands.

"It's definitely not what we stand for, because our biggest mission is inclusion. If your feminism is not inclusive and it's not intersectional, then it's not feminism. It's something else," Ms Baadilla said.

"When we say 'we are women' we are definitely using an inclusive definition of women and female and that includes gender queer, non-binary people."

Ms Baadilla was particularly concerned with the impact that the stickers may have on the safety and wellbeing of artists at the The Artists Guild who identify as trans.

"It's really distressing that some of these things are around Docklands because we really want to create a safe space for all women," Ms Baadilla said.

"This includes women in all stages of wherever their genders are, whether in

the process of becoming women or identifying as non-binary."

On the same day that the Untameable Shrews published Tweets promoting the stickers around Docklands, *The Guardian UK* reported on a similar incident in Liverpool involving the women's rights group Liverpool ReSisters.

Phallus-shaped stickers saying "women don't have penises" were found plastered over statues on a local beach, part of a public art installation by the artist Antony Gormley.

It is unclear whether the Liverpool incident is linked to the posting of the stickers around Docklands, however, the Untameable Shrews has re-tweeted a link to *The Guardian UK* article on its Twitter page.

Ferry service given three-year trial

By Meg Hill

The state government has forked out \$6 million for a three-year ferry trial between Docklands and Geelong.

The money will go to Port Phillip Ferries, which is operating a service between Portarlington and Docklands – transporting over 6000 people a month.

That figure doubled during the peak summer season. For the Geelong service, to start early next year, Port Phillip Ferries will order a new high-speed ferry.

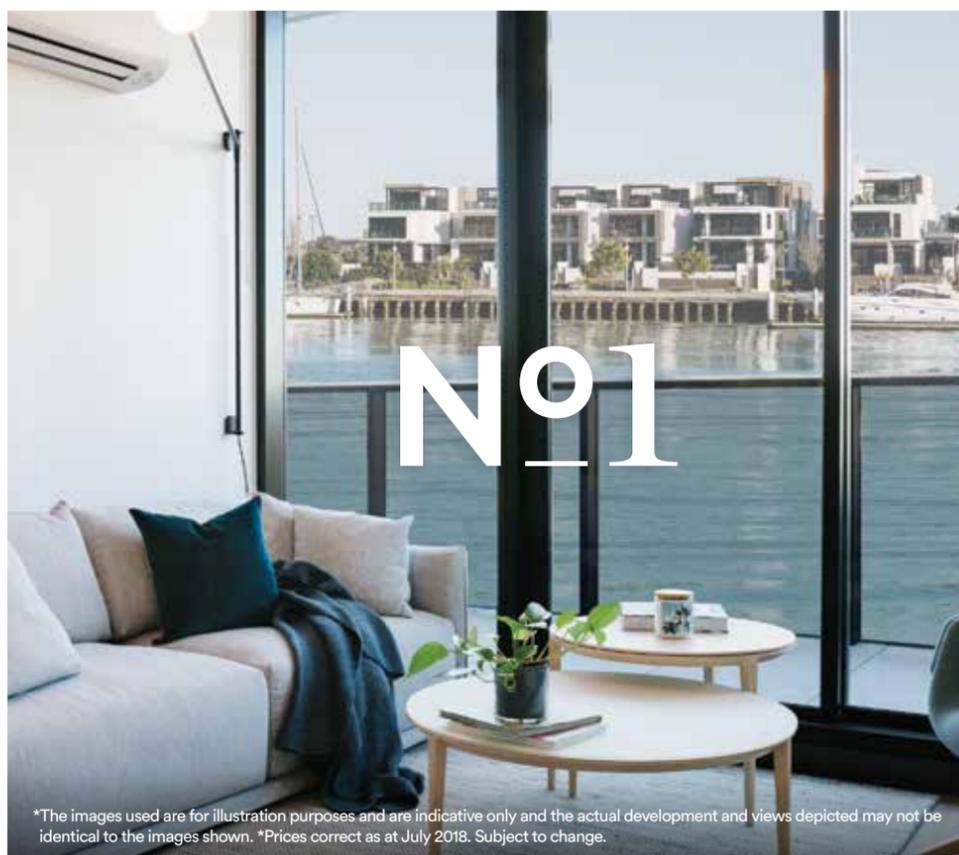
"A ferry service between Geelong and Melbourne doesn't just benefit commuters, it's a major boost for tourism to our second biggest city," said Premier Daniel Andrews.

"This is great news for Geelong and continues our work to give locals and tourists the transport services they need. This is about jobs and ensuring Geelong remains a great place to live and work," said the Member for Geelong Chris Couzens.

A free trial of a ferry service between Docklands and Geelong in late July was reported as a success, which spurred the three-year commitment.

Businessman and Port Phillip Ferries boss Paul Little said the company was "thrilled" with the deal.

"My vision for Port Phillip Ferries has always been about making ferry travel accessible to as many Victorians as possible. This takes us a step closer to that vision," he said.



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Residents let down on short-stay Bill

By Shane Scanlan

Residents hoping for a legislative solution to short-stay rentals in apartments will have to wait until at least 2021 for their next opportunity following the passing of the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 on August 8.



The new law won't come into play until February and the government has said it won't again revisit the issue until at least two years after that.

The state opposition is promising "serious change to these laws" if it wins the next election but, if actions speak louder than words, it has given little hope to residents, having failed to oppose the government's new legislation in Parliament.

High-rise residents are appalled that, after four years of inquiry and legislative review, the best protection owners' corporations have is an ability to take unruly visitors to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to face a possible \$1100 fine.

Lobby group We Live Here spokesperson Barbara Francis accused the government of being in the pocket of Airbnb and said Victoria now had "the weakest regulatory restrictions for short-term letting ever seen in Australia".

But the state opposition is also in the sights of the lobby group - having spoken vehemently against the Bill, but failing to oppose it in the Parliament.

"Yesterday's outcome must rank as one of the worst cases of politicking and back-room deals seen in Parliament," Ms Francis said.

"How can we think otherwise when every speaker on the opposition side condemned the Bill for all the reasons we have articulated over the past two and half years, then walked out of the House before the vote was taken."

The Greens also did not vote against the legislation. Melbourne MLA Ellen Sandell told *Docklands News* there was no point forcing a division where votes are counted and recorded because the Liberals had already determined not to oppose the Bill.

Opposition planning spokesperson David Davis told *Docklands News*: "In the circumstance of being unable to rewrite the entire Bill from opposition, the Opposition chose to not oppose the Bill, neither supporting, nor opposing."

Earlier in the Parliament, he said of the government: "They have squibbed it here. We are going to look at expanding the powers after the legislation has passed. That is too late. This pathetic piece of legislation will be passed into law, and they are then going to review it after missing the whole opportunity to actually improve it."

"Today they come to the chamber wanting the bill passed—a squib of a bill, a weak, pathetic, paltry bill—and yet they have had these recommendations in front of them since June 2017."

In a press release, Consumer Affairs Minister Marlene Kairouz said of the new legislation: "These tough new laws will deliver essential

protections that apartment residents deserve."

"We're regulating the short-stay sector to better protect Victorians and crack down on unruly behaviour in short-stay accommodation."

Tom Bacon, CEO of Strata Title Lawyers said: "The legislation is not worth the paper it is written on. These regulations are the lightest feather of a touch, and do not provide owners' corporations with any meaningful way of regulating the issues associated with short-term stays. I would not advise owners corporations to use these regulations. It would be a costly exercise and a waste of time."

Mr Davis said in the Parliament: "It may not make it any worse. It may just leave it pretty much the way it is now. It will do no harm, but it will do no good. I think that is a summary of this bill."

"I can put on record now that if we are elected, we will take action in this area. I know my shadow ministers are all aware of the feedback from the community and we understand that in fact people have a right to be safe and people have a right to lay out the living conditions of their area in a reasonable way."

"I accept that there is a balance to be struck, but truthfully this is not it and more will need to be done. We are very aware of that and we think that this is just a very, very weak step."

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Reflections on “full pelt” for 100 days

By Shane Scanlan

Some 100 days into the lord mayoralty, Sally Capp's energy is undiminished and her learning along the way has sharpened her capacity to effect change.

It's a very different council with Cr Capp in the chair. The council has become open and available. Collaboration and co-operation are present where, not so long ago, it was Robert Doyle's way or the highway.

“I've been working so hard. And part of that is learning and part of that is doing. So it's been full on. I've absolutely loved it,” she told *Docklands News*.

And with the opportunity to help appoint a new CEO to match her style, it's very easy to be upbeat about better connections between the council and the citizens.

“I've never done this before and, apart from the fact that I love going full pelt, we need to manage what ‘full pelt’ looks like to make sure it's constructive for everybody and that we're putting energies in the right places,” she said.

So what has she learned so far and what would she do differently if she had her time again?

“I genuinely didn't realise the length and breadth of the services that they city gets involved in. It's enormous,” Cr Capp said. “And the number of really dedicated people in this place is seriously fantastic.”

Cr Capp said long-time staff had told her the demand for lord mayoral attention had tripled since she assumed the role.

“I think that's because there's a new lord mayor, I think being a woman as well, and then just my own contacts and history in the city together with what I see as a renewed interest in the lord mayoralty – reinvigorated,” she said.

“I could fill the diary 10 times over. The amount of demand for the lord mayor's time really surprises me. And all of that compounds into incredible demands on time. But it's been great.”

Not such a nice surprise has been the layers



Lord Mayor Sally Capp in a reflective mood.

of restraint imposed by the government system itself.

“I probably didn't realise the amount of legal constraint. I find that overwhelming as well,” she said. “There's a huge amount of control that's put in place through the Local Government Act. The amount of time we spend on compliance is heartbreaking to me.”

“Over the decades we've built up these processes to protect the public's interests. But boy, it takes up a huge amount of time and cost – making sure things are compliant with forms and double-checking. It's quite mind-boggling.”

Her local government inexperience has also made her vulnerable because she accepted so many donations during her campaign.

Cr Capp said she and her husband thought they were doing the right thing by accepting smaller donations from more people. Some 100 people contributed \$332,000 in the lead-up to the May election. But this means she has to be extra vigilant to avoid conflicts of interest under local government law.

“Well, I think it set me up for very, very challenging processes. So far, it's been okay but the processes I have to go through – my Sunday afternoons are now spent checking and double-checking lists,” she said.

“I think it stems from my own naivety. I had not done this before. Our thinking on this, was if we took a little bit from a lot of people, then it would be difficult for anyone to say ‘oh you're influenced by one person.’”

“So, we purposefully went about it that way

and, as we went along, some people did say ‘oh, that's going to be interesting.’ I was so focussed on the influence bit so I didn't really take the time to stop and listen about the challenges that was going to set up.”

“Would we do it differently? The fact is that we really did everything we could to win. That was the first priority. And that's what we achieved, so we've got to be happy with that. But would I do that again? No. I would definitely not do that again,” she said.

Cr Capp also said she had some more learning to do around speaking on live radio – in particular recognising when questions require a broader, and less literal, answer.

“I'm a lawyer by training so I'm very literal,” she said. “This is one of the surprises and maybe one the things I can do better – that is to be conscious when entering broad conversations, I'm tending to be literal.”

“I think I'm missing the point a bit with where people are trying to go. I'm focussed on one little bit. The question seems to be focussed on that, but is actually a broader issue,” she said.

Cr Capp has wasted no time getting out and about in the community. She has established “community conversations”, is talking about a formal “residents' panel” and has driven the establishment of a “people's panel” to guide the renewal of the Queen Victoria Market (QVM).

It is on this issue that differences have emerged for the first time within the councillor group and her approach has also attracted outside criticism.

So has she over-reached on her desire to consult on the market? And does she accept that the QVM could make or break any attempt to seek re-election in 2020?

“I could only have over-reached if I'd already decided what I wanted the outcome to be,” she explained. “I do know that we want to redevelop and I also know that we've reached an impasse. I genuinely believe that if we can't get the broad support of the people, and particularly the stakeholders involved, so that the voices in support of this are louder and more predominant and positive.”

“Some of the feedback I had from those generally in support of the redevelopment is that they have been giving feedback over the last four or five years but it sort of goes into a black hole and, when it's presented back in terms of this is what we are going to do, they can't see where their ideas were considered.”

“Of course everything's going to be a compromise and, if you can say to people ‘we considered that idea but couldn't make it work because we had to do this’, then people have an idea of why it's happened and, even if they don't agree with it, they can come along with it because they can see the logic of it and the rationality to it.”

“I think all of us agree that we lost the narrative and trust of the broader community who became concerned with things like heritage – even though we've always had heritage at the core. So how do we win the confidence back?”

“I think how it gets handled will be make or break. Because, from my campaign's point of view, I've always said I'm a big supporter of the development but my main piece has been engagement. And that's basically what I'm delivering.”

“It's the opportunity for those key stakeholders to engage in a way where they feel that they are deliberating in the future of the market – not just on the sidelines throwing ideas into a bucket.”

In the meantime, she's getting on the job – at “full pelt”.

“I have very high expectations. As I said through the campaign, this is a very serious role. It has a major impact on our city and beyond. And I just want to make the most of every single moment to make sure it is having that impact,” she said.



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Critics lash Melbourne Day

By Shane Scanlan

The “invasion day” label, which has controversially dogged Australia Day in recent years, has caught up with the CBD-based Melbourne Day, with immediate consequences.

After decades of support, Melbourne Day is this year proceeding on August 30 without any funding from the City of Melbourne.

Melbourne Day chairman Campbell Walker told *Docklands News* the council this year offered only half as much as in previous years. And, he said, new conditions attached to the grant obliged him to not accept it.

Mr Walker said the diminished grant was conditional on a 50 per cent refund back to the council should bad weather keep the crowds away from the 10.30am flag raising ceremony at Enterprize Park.

“It would have been fiscally irresponsible to accept the grant,” Mr Walker said.

Support for Melbourne Day is waning within the councillor group, with at least two publicly declaring they won’t be taking part in the celebration.

Aboriginal portfolio chairperson Nic Frances Gilley and Cr Rohan Leppert say they won’t be recognising the day that the destruction of local indigenous culture started.

Cr Frances Gilley said he didn’t participate in Australia Day and he similarly thought it inappropriate to celebrate the founding of Melbourne on the anniversary of the day white settlers first arrived.

“I think we should stop it. I think we should change it. I think we can do better than that,” he said.

Cr Frances Gilley said Canada and New Zealand had managed to be proud of their European heritage without necessarily offending their indigenous residents.

“I don’t think anyone is trying to give offence. They’re just trying to celebrate their European culture and everybody means well. But there is a cost and that cost is to the 60,000 or 70,000 years of continuance culture on this land.”



Melbourne Day flag-raising last year.

“If we are going to celebrate, then we need to be inclusive. The current model does not promote reconciliation,” he said.

Cr Frances Gilley said white Australians celebrating “invasion days” was akin to someone walking into your house and, after five minutes, starting to rearrange the furniture without your permission.

“And then they would tell you how lucky you are that they invited themselves to dinner,” he said.

“I want to be a proud Australian, not a proud white Australian, and I feel compelled not to support the current arrangement,” he said.

He suggested that a day like Moomba, when there were lots of people around, might be a better day to commemorate and celebrate Melbourne’s origins. Or, alternatively, he suggested the birthday or anniversary of the death of William Barak as a date.

Cr Frances Gilley said he was not willing to “fight a fight that could not be won” in the current political climate, but he was not willing to participate and would continue to speak his mind when the issue next came up at the City of Melbourne.

Cr Rohan Leppert concurred, saying: “I love this city and there is so much to celebrate

about Melburnians and our achievements, but I’ve never felt that Melbourne Day was critical to these celebrations.”

“The occupation of the north bank of the Yarra in 1835 by European settlers is a historical fact. Choosing whether or not to celebrate Melbourne Day doesn’t change the historical fact, but it does say a lot about how government views indigenous Victorians.”

“The committee’s mission is to make Melbourne Day prominent. I admire the tireless volunteer efforts of the committee but, to be frank, I’m relieved that Melbourne Day isn’t all that prominent. If it was, it would generate just as much controversy and division that Australia Day does.”

“But I’m a white bloke, questions about Melbourne Day’s future should be put to traditional owners ahead of me. Until we have a mature understanding of the cultural significance of Melbourne Day and its future, I’m reluctant to sink ratepayer’s funds into the romanticisation of white settlement,” Cr Leppert said.

But Mr Walker says the local indigenous community supports Melbourne Day.

“They say they’d rather talk about the present and the future rather than the past,” he said.

He said he was disappointed that Crs Frances Gilley and Leppert had chosen not to consult directly with him on their views.

Mr Walker pointed out that he and his committee were volunteers and said, if Melbourne Day was not appreciated, there were plenty of other ways he could give back to the community.

The August 30 flag-raising event will be preceded by an indigenous “welcome to country” and a “junior lord mayor” will be presented in the presence of Lord Mayor Sally Capp and other councillors.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said the committee was offered cash sponsorship.

“However the Melbourne Day Committee had concerns about its ability to meet the requirements to increase free public programming and attendance numbers, and declined the sponsorship.”

“Attendance at the Melbourne Day Flag Raising Ceremony is typically under 200 people. Sponsorship under the Event Partnership Program is usually restricted to events which attract more than 1000 people.”



Karen Cohen and Alan Tsen.

Blockchain moves to Innovation Hub

This month, Blockchain Centre Melbourne will be moving into the Victorian Innovation Hub at the Goods Shed in Docklands.

Formerly located in Southbank, the Blockchain Centre does a wide range of work with blockchain technology – used primarily in cryptocurrency.

The move is in partnership with fintech start up Stone and Chalk, which opened a space in the Goods Shed in July. Together, they will use the space to deliver co-working options, run events, incubation and education for its community.

Other specialists in the Innovation Hub include agtech accelerator SproutX, medtech accelerator The Actuator, technology accelerator Startmate and CSIRO’s data analytics experts Data61.

Stone and Chalk managing director Alan Tsen said having the Blockchain Centre in the hub would bolster their community.

“We’re looking forward to further building Australian blockchain ecosystems in collaboration with the team from the Blockchain Centre,” he said.

Blockchain Centre general manager Karen Cohen said: “We are proud of the blockchain community that we’ve built over the past four years – we’ve helped beginners understand blockchain, supported many start-ups in their business journey and launched our own incubator program.”

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Latest views on immersed tube

The battle to convince the authorities of the benefit of an immersed tube rather than three harbour-choking bridges goes on.

At the Metropolitan Transport Forum on August 13 at the Melbourne Town Hall, Yarra's Edge tram bridge opponent Keith Sutherland asked spokespeople from all major state political parties their thoughts on the immersed tube tunnel idea.

Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said: "As I indicated in one of my earlier answers, I am not going to tell you anything you haven't already heard this evening."

"I have met with you and you've met with my officers and transport officials a number of times. We put a million dollars in the budget this year for planning for that connection between Fishermans Bend and the CBD."

"We know we have to get the planning around this right. This is a really important precinct right on the doorstep of the CBD and we have to get the planning for this right and that includes transport connections that have been overlooked previously."

"In terms of the right outcome, on what that connection will look like, we want to get the advice of our experts - the transport planners, the engineers - on how to best deliver the right outcome."

Opposition transport spokesperson David Davis said: "I am aware of your model, and I am aware of the different ways of doing that connection."



Keith Sutherland speaks privately with Transport Minister Jacinta Allan before the forum.

"We are receptive to different approaches."

"We're obviously going to announce where we're going with this at the appropriate time, but we're very aware of the issue that you have raised and we think that, at the end, there's going to have to be a proper rail

connection."

Greens transport spokesperson Sam Hibbins said: "In terms of the tram alignment, I know that you've met with Ellen Sandell, the Member for Melbourne, and you've had discussions with her about it."

"You've met to talk about the different options and there's also an option to run along the Charles Grimes Bridge and around the back. So, certainly, all options need to be on the table."

Additionally, *Docklands News* asked Lord Mayor Sally Capp on August 21 for her views. She said: "Speaking personally in this regard, in terms of the time you refer to during the campaign, I was certainly against the original location of the tram bridge and also then very keen to make sure that other options had been fully considered."

"I have seen the proposal for the tube from one of the interested groups during the campaign along with a number of the other options that had been put to the panel and the state government and indeed the taskforce by lots of different interest groups in terms of other types of tram routes as well as the importance of heavy rail into that area in the longer term."

"What I can say, from my knowledge, is that, as we move forward through this governance structure considering future options for Fishermans Bend, is that we're going to have an opportunity to look at options but we do know that the state government's preferred option is the tram bridge in the current position, which is a bit further back along the Yarra."

DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY FORUM

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New kid on the Dock

By David Schout

In a nod to its new owners, local resident and Thor impersonator Andrew Lutomski ushered in a new era for the Docklands Stadium.

If earlier statements prove to be true, from September 1, Etihad Stadium will be known as Marvel Stadium after the Disney-owned studio - which has produced movie franchises such as X-Men, Spider-Man and the hammer-wielding Thor - signed an eight-year naming rights deal in May.

Mr Lutomski even made an early pitch for his services as the superhero: "Marvel; hello, you've got my number," he said, grinning.

Since 2009, the sports and entertainment stadium has been named after UAE-based airline Etihad, after the naming rights changed from Telstra Dome and before that, Colonial Stadium.

The new deal includes a complete rebranding and renaming of the stadium, as well as a Marvel retail store.

Match days and events at the stadium are also likely to include activities with the studio's many superheroes.

Melbourne Stadiums Limited CEO Michael Green said at the time of the announcement that the match day experience, something the AFL is looking to improve in coming seasons, will change.

"This partnership will allow us to take the stadium atmosphere to the next level and create memorable experiences for a vast array of audiences and we look forward to delivering a truly game-changing experience," he said.

The name shift from Etihad to Marvel is also a considerable signage exercise, with several thousand in-stadium, public transport and Melbourne City Council signs due to switch to the new branding.



Andrew Lutomski struts his stuff.

Mr Lutomski, who is regularly employed as a Thor and (actor) Chris Hemsworth lookalike, said his first-hand experience of Marvel's popularity meant he thought the change was exciting.

"I think the name change is nothing but a good thing," he said.

"It's going to potentially bring a lot of tourism to Docklands and impact positively on the economy. So that can only be great for the local community."

"I'm excited because I hope to get a few jobs at Marvel Stadium as Thor. So fingers crossed."

Low voter turnout leads to concerns

Political engagement in the City of Melbourne remains significantly behind the state average.

The Victorian Electoral Commission's (VEC) latest figures reveal that just 56.61 per cent of registered voters took part in May's lord mayoral by-election, compared with a Victorian average of 73.75 per cent recorded in 2016. While the turnout figure for the council represents a slight increase on 2016's figure of 55.15 per cent from the general election, the number remains one of the state's worst.

After accepting the report at a recent meeting, several councillors said the figure needed to rise.

"In two years' time we have a general election (and) I really hope that the voter turnout will be higher," Cr Philip Le Liu said. "The more we engage with voters and the more they can vote on this, it just means we have a better representative council and a better representation of the people within the city."

Woolshed ales for bales

The Woolshed contributed to Rural Aid's Buy a Bale campaign by donating 60 cents from every pint of selected beers sold in August.

The campaign provided essentials, such as hay, to farmers affected by drought.

The Woolshed team thought the great cause was a no-brainer considering the nature of its name. The team also shared that it was passionate about supporting charities in Australia and was keen to help out farmers in need.

The multi-faceted facility was originally built and used in 1916 as a wool storage facility and was redeveloped in 2010 into a part of Dockland's thriving Central Pier entertainment precinct.

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Uplifting stories to restore Alma

Another \$50,000 was raised towards the restoration of tall ship Alma Doepel at a gala lunch the Hotel Windsor on August 24.

Some 120 guests heard a number of inspiring stories about why Alma needs to be completed so she can resume her role as a youth sail training ship.

Nearly three decades after experiencing a life-changing voyage thanks to her social workers in 1991, Joanne Liddell (pictured right) explained the benefits.

“I was born to two alcoholic parents and removed by the Department of Human Services at age three from a violent and neglectful environment,” she began.

“I was then shuffled around a series of foster homes, which left me feeling emotionally unbalanced, not trusting myself or others.”

About her time on Alma Doepel, she said: “It was during the voyage that, for the first time



as a young adult, I was treated as an equal and encouraged to feel good about being myself.”

“A magical bond occurs between you, the ship and all on board. You need each other to survive, everyone is valued.”

“Until this day I have drawn on the encouraging and uplifting experience onboard. I remember one piece of advice in particular given to me from an experienced crew member: ‘You are good enough just the way you are and you can make your life a great one.’”

“It should not be underestimated how powerful one unique, positive experience of sailing on the Alma can be in the life of a young person.”

“I can testify to the fact that, an inspired youth with new found confidence and self-belief is one that is far less likely to go down the path of drug/alcohol addiction, self-harm, or worst case, suicide.”

“This is why we need Alma back in the water now. Alma brings the best out of people,” Ms Liddell said.



First planks for Alma Doepel

The restoration of Dockland's Alma Doepel is moving forward, with the team now working on the “below the water” sections.

The garboard plank, that sits next to the keel and runs the length of the tall ship, has been fitted.

The plank was steamed and bent into shape, then attached to the hull. Planking will now proceed on the front half of the ship.

Spotted gum planks have been sourced from sustainable forests in New South Wales.

The bow section of decking has been raised and is being covered with plywood until repairs commence. The king plank (primary structural plank) and Samson post (a post



well attached to the vessel's structure to take heavy loads) remain in place.

The raising of the decking enables the shipwrights to examine the top of the deck beams, where it is most likely to have soft timber from leaking water.

Take a stroll up the North Wharf and check out the project yourself!

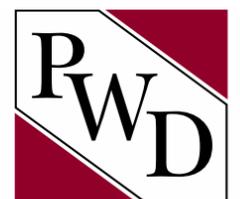
Drisha Natarajan answers your legal questions

Q. I am looking to buy an apartment in a high-rise complex. What should I do before I buy?

A. We strongly advise that all contracts are subject to a building inspection report, to check that the building is structurally sound. Recently, some apartment buildings in Melbourne have had serious leakage issues. Potentially, these are the responsibility of the owner to fix - at their own cost. Purchasers of high-rise apartments should get their lawyer to check the owners' corporations documentation and the minutes of any recent meetings. This will ensure that you are fully appraised of any recent decisions or circumstances, which may result in additional charges being levied, or may affect the future use of the apartment or common property.

Call for advice on wills, probate, estates & trusts; property law & conveyancing; family law; commercial & business law; litigation – commercial, civil & general and mediation & alternative dispute resolution.

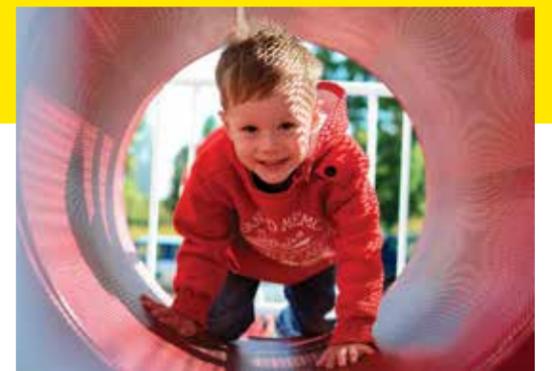
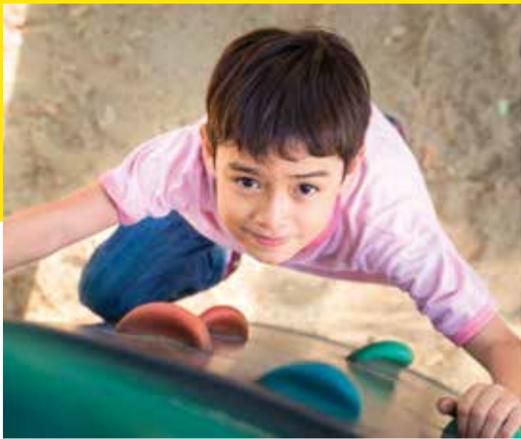
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Springfree Trampoline Jump Hub
Saturday 22 September to Tuesday 25 September
Open 10am to 6pm daily

Obstacle Course Challenge
Wednesday 26 September to Sunday 7 October
Open 11am to 5pm daily

Footy Colours Game Day
Friday 28 September
Open 11am to 5pm



Organic fertiliser program

An innovative program diverting food waste from landfill and turning it into organic fertiliser is underway in Docklands.

Environmental company Eco Guardians is partnering with Citywide waste management services to initially audit a range of businesses across Docklands to assess their food waste statistics.

The aim is to encourage businesses to sign up for a new program whereby they will be provided with a machine from Eco Guardians where food waste can be deposited and rapidly turned into what it calls "Soilfood" – a nutrient-rich organic fertiliser created by Eco Guardians. Citywide Waste Management will then collect the fertiliser and use it across its open spaces (parks and gardens) within Docklands and potentially beyond.

The units reduce food waste volumes by around 85 per cent, sterilise the remainder and turn it into the SoilFood fertiliser

The program has been made possible by a grant from Development Victoria, as well as the support of Citywide Waste Management Services and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce.

Paul Moynes from Eco Guardians said it was calling on business in Docklands to sign up for the initial audit which would identify how much food waste they generate and give them an idea of what commitment



Paul Moynes from Eco Guardians is calling on local businesses to sign up for an initial audit.

they could make to the environment by separating food waste as part of the program.

Mr Moynes said the end game was to educate the business community that it could make a real difference to the environment by diverting food waste from land-fill and turning it into organic fertiliser to use within the community.

Signing up could also potentially reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by between 80-90 per cent, Mr Moynes said.

He also said if the program took off, there was a chance for Docklands to become a leading environmental precinct.

"Think of precincts around the world – New York, Barcelona and Canary Wharf in London," he said. "Docklands could be one of the greenest precincts around the globe but to do that we need to learn to commit to recycling our food waste."

For an audit, email info@ecoguardians.com.au or phone **1300 556 628**.

At last, a night out

Singer and entertainer Alfredo Malabello is putting on a classy show at Waterfront Venues in NewQuay on Saturday, September 1.

Billed as "A Harbour Serenade", locals are invited to frock up and step out for the variety show and cocktail party.

According to Alfredo, the event will be a very special party, in a very special location, on a very special night.

"It will be the first day of spring, so for all of you hopeless romantics out there, be ready to make sweet music with your partner, or partner-to-be, at this cocktail party to welcome spring and all the hope and beauty it brings," he said.

As well as Alfredo, the event will also feature mezzo soprano Amelia Jones.

Aldredo said guests would also enjoy a complimentary glass of champagne and canapés from 8.30pm to 11.30pm.

Dress code: strictly smart and elegant.

Venue: Black Sails Room, Waterfront Venues, Level 1 / 86 NewQuay Prom.

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Approval for Shed 5 development

Riverlee has received development approval for its \$450 million redevelopment of the Northbank Goods Shed and surrounding land.

Set to be called Seafarers Place, Riverlee's vision includes an extensive revitalisation of the public realm.

The development plans the renewal of Seafarers Rest park and significant work on the historic wharf and heritage-listed crane. These pivotal works include integral structural reinforcement and cosmetic renovations, restoring these iconic heritage elements to their former glory.

Remaining sympathetic to the Shed 5's industrial past, Seafarers Place comprises 150 luxurious residences, a 5-star hotel with 280 rooms and a 1000-seat function centre, along with a host of retail amenity.

Designed by an award-winning team, with architecture by Fender Katsalidis and landscape design by OCULUS, the Northbank shed transformation delivers the "missing link" between the CBD and Docklands.

Riverlee's development director David Lee said Riverlee was committed to unlocking the potential of what was a currently under-utilised precinct to contribute significantly to Melbourne's expanding urban composition.

"At Riverlee, we pride ourselves on urban renewal. We are committed to rebuilding connections between people and places by delivering a master-planned precinct that



is rich in history, adding to Melbourne's vibrant culture," Mr Lee said.

"This regeneration project is significant in many ways and has been collaboratively designed with all of our partners and important government stakeholders, including the City of Melbourne, Department of Planning, Department of Treasury and Finance, Heritage Victoria, and many others."

character and history of the site."

"The overall design is bold and striking – the result of what has been a truly collaborative process. This project will be a new iconic waterfront destination for Melburnians and visitors to enjoy."

Shed 5 will be restored and repurposed into a premium waterfront event space, designed to celebrate and highlight its grand original roof trusses.

Riverlee will also retain and restore the site's iconic, heritage-listed crane.

Wharf restoration works began in February and are expected to be completed in the coming months. Crane restoration works have started with construction slated for mid-2019.



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Collins Square

More information via collinssquare.com.au/whats-on





Urban Flâneur: Fashion Reimagines the City at the Knowledge Market, Victoria Harbour. Photos courtesy Tobias Titz.

Docklands Fashion Week

Melbourne Fashion Week has two Docklands events on this month! Check out the details below.



Fashion Capsule at Collins Square

AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 7

A giant balloon sculpture by MOONSHOT BALLOONS will complement precious works by jewellers and accessory makers.

A mass of modern gargoyles looks down upon a cabinet of curiosities displaying works and the stories behind the display.

Melbourne Fashion Week's Fashion Capsules allow you to discover a series of six exhibition capsules scattered across the city.

Each capsule houses innovative creations by Victorian-based fashion installation, digital and video artists, designers, jewellers, artisans and filmmakers.

The Exchange at Knowledge Market

SEPTEMBER 4 - 17

OPENING NIGHT TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 5PM - 8PM

As part of Melbourne Fashion Week, The Exchange at Knowledge Market is proud to present Urban Flâneur: Fashion Reimagines the City.

The live fashion event and exhibition - curated by Dr Tarryn Handcock and Dr Tassia Joannides - features work by a selection of RMIT University Bachelor of Fashion third year students.



Urban Flâneur is an exhibition of site-responsive fashion design that highlights relationships between fashion and flâneurie in urban memory and imagination. By walking the city and studying its inhabitants, the designers celebrate the vibrancy and flux of this area and its community.

"The curatorial vision is based on the idea of the designer as flâneur, which is someone who wanders and observes the city and its participants, but we are also interested in how fashion can create immersive site-specific experiences for the audience," Dr Handcock said.

The exhibition documents a live fashion event that responds to the culture and environment of Victoria Harbour. Runway footage is accompanied by fashion photography, a selection of innovative garments, unique soundscapes, and images of the places that inspired the work.

"Dr Tassia Joannides and I are interested in how fashion is a social phenomenon that's

on bodies, on the streets and out in public," Dr Handcock said.

"For us, Victoria Harbour is a fascinating starting point for fashion. It's not yet a place that's known for having a strong sense of identity, and it's not a place that many people would expect to encounter innovative fashion design."

"Yet the emerging designers who we have included in this exhibition for Melbourne Fashion Week have all been inspired by the community and environment in this particular area of Docklands."

Exhibition attendees are encouraged to follow in these designers' footsteps using a map of key sites around Victoria Harbour and instructions. By becoming flâneurs, we can all experience and appreciate the city in a different way.

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*Terms and Conditions: \$10 tickets are available for purchase online from 20 August 2018-19 September 2018. All discounted tickets must be redeemed on the dates selected during operating hours from 10-19 September 2018. Children 4 and under do not require a ticket to fly.



Questions over Fishermans Bend governance arrangements

By Sean Car

Some local councillors from the City of Port Phillip (CoPP) and the City of Melbourne (CoM) have expressed concerns with the state government's new governance arrangements for Fishermans Bend.

The government announced last month that a new six-member development board would be charged with guiding the transformation of Australia's largest ever urban renewal project.

The new independent board, to be chaired by the head of the former Fishermans Bend Ministerial Advisory Committee (MAC) Meredith Sussex, has no formal representation from either council.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp and CoPP Mayor Bernadene Voss will instead represent their municipalities through a mayors' forum, which the state government said would "keep the councils up to date and engaged". Both councils will also be given formal roles in the government's inter-departmental committees.

While the appointment of former CoPP mayor Janet Bolitho to the board, who also sat on the MAC, was welcomed by Mayor Voss, she said the community, which had three representatives on the MAC, would now have one "voice" on the new board.

"It is crucial that our community continues to have the best possible opportunity to provide ideas and feedback through avenues including a formal mechanism. To do this, continuing community engagement and representation is required," Cr Voss said.

"We are keen to understand exactly how this interim arrangement will work, including how our community will continue to be heard and informed as Fishermans Bend's new suburbs in our city take shape."

"While council didn't advocate for this type of governance arrangement, we are confident the Fishermans Bend Development Board and mayors' panel has the potential to serve development well."

Fellow experts in planning, industry, finance and transport Martyn Myer, Susan Oliver, Cheryl Batago and Gary Liddle, join Ms



The five development precincts of Fishermans Bend. Lorimer and much of the Employment Precinct fall within the City of Melbourne. Wirraway, Sandridge and Montague fall within the City of Port Phillip.

Sussex and Ms Bolitho on the development board.

A state government press release said the board would lead engagement with the community and advise precinct plans and major decisions to ensure the interests of the community continued to be at the forefront of development.

At a CoPP council meeting on August 15, Greens councillor Ogy Simic moved an urgent response to the new governance arrangements, which was passed by fellow Greens councillors Katherine Copsey and Tim Baxter, as well as acting Mayor Dick Gross.

Councillors Marcus Pearl, Andrew Bond and Louise Crawford opposed the motion, with Cr Pearl stating that the position held on the former MAC by Mayor Voss, who was absent from the meeting, should be considered as part of council's formal response.

The motion noted that the new arrangement would only work if the mayors' panel was a "genuinely representative mechanism" that imparted the full expertise and opinion of council.

"I moved the motion because I'm quite unimpressed with the way the state government has been operating the Fishermans Bend project," Cr Simic told *Docklands News*.

"More specifically, I'm frustrated that councillors are constantly being locked out of the decisions made by the state government. For example, *The Age* received a copy of the draft framework before it was sent to councillors."

"We also weren't consulted on the governance model before it was announced. Ultimately this means that our community is missing out."

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said having had the opportunity to participate in the formation of the new governance arrangements the City of Melbourne was satisfied that the structure would provide community with adequate representation.

"After some discussions about the way in which we would be able to operate, as well as understanding how influential our input was going to be, which is very similar to that of other government agencies, we were

satisfied in ultimately signing off on that governance structure," she said.

CoM Cr Rohan Leppert said there was a lot of capacity for good outcomes to be achieved under the governance structure, but said it was important to get it right.

"How we feed the community's views to the board is going to make or break this new structure," he said. "The biggest risk is that councils won't have full participation or its voice heard in decision making."

Cr Leppert said he was optimistic about the new arrangements and noted that Ms Sussex was an "outstanding" choice to lead the board. However, he said that co-operation wasn't without its challenges and that such arrangements "had a tendency to be secretive".

Member for Albert Park and state government minister Martin Foley moved to quash such fears, stressing that independence was a key component of the new structure.

"The new governance structures for Fishermans Bend - worked out in consultation with the mayors of both Melbourne and Port Phillip - locks in a leadership role for local government for the first time," he said.

"The days of the Liberals rewarding rich donor mates from massive windfall gains with not one brick being laid are gone."

"An independent expert based governance structure takes the politicians out of the process - be they want to be MPs, councillors or anyone else," Mr Foley said.

"The next step will be delivering a planning scheme that delivers the framework for a liveable, public transport based new Fishermans Bend that replaces the black hole Matthew Guy left behind. The new governance structures will make that work."

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Free Tram Zone is here to stay

Melbourne's Free Tram Zone is here to stay, with tripartisan supported offered by Labor, Liberals and The Greens at a Metropolitan Transport Forum at Melbourne Town Hall on August 13.

Representatives of all parties pledged support for the free tram service in response to a public questioner who suggested it primarily benefited tourists and motorists.

The question was: "How does the Free Tram Zone provide value to the city outside of incentivising drivers to park in town and take advantage of (free) public transport at the expense of paying customers?"

Greens spokesperson Sam Hibbins said: "We don't have a plan to either extend or remove the Free Tram Zone. The Free Tram Zone is contributing to overcrowding and probably put the Bike Share out of business, when they were already struggling a bit. So, yeah, I take your point."



Greens spokesperson Sam Hibbins, Liberal spokesperson David Davis and Transport Minister Jacinta Allan.

Liberal shadow transport minister David Davis his party had no plans to amend the scheme, should it win the November state election.

Mr Davis said: "The Free Tram Zone was our creation, prior to the 2014 election and implemented by the current government in January 2015."

"It is wildly popular. People actually like and people do move around the city with it. There's no question about that."

"In terms of the range of people who use it? I think it's wider than you have actually allowed for. It's not just tourists and a few people who have driven into the city. It's people who are moving inside the city during the day. It's people who live on the edge of the city - down in Docklands and other areas."

"We have to plans to diminish the Free Tram Zone. I understand the crowding that it has brought forward in the sense that it is

actually popular. It is actually used. In one sense, that is a recognition of its success and, long term, there will have to be thoughts about how we manage that," Mr Davis concluded.

Transport Minister Jacinta Allan said: "The Free Tram Zone has been a good addition to the city."

"It certainly has caused some challenges to our overall tram network which we are managing very carefully with Yarra Trams and it's also why we need to order more tram rolling stock."

"I must say that tourists are an enormously valuable part of how the City of Melbourne operates. The contribution they make to our economy, the way they support our hospitality and retail, you look at the convention centre, you look at the big conventions they bring in."

"The 24/7 economy we have here in the City of Melbourne is a really important part of how our city operates. We widely back it in through our Visit Victoria program and our Free Tram Zone is, at its heart, a way for tourists to get around the city."



A fishing extravaganza

A fish-feeding frenzy involving a pair of dolphins and a seal at Marina YE on August 13 proved a popular social media hit.

With nearly 10,000 views on the City of Melbourne's Twitter feed alone, the marine performers charmed and surprised their audience.

But the human fishermen still outnumbered the estuarine marine mammals at the free-for-all.

Out of shot were a wall of two-legged hopefuls dangling a line from Australia Wharf intent on taking home their own bag of mackerel.

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Slip 'n' sliding for a great cause

Some school holiday fun at The District Docklands has surpassed expectations and raised over \$13,000 for Melbourne charity Kids Under Cover.

In the July holidays, a 15m-long ice slide was constructed at the shopping centre for kids and parents to slide down on inflatable tubes.

To slide down the slippery slope, all that was asked was a gold coin donation to the not-for-profit group.

Kids Under Cover aims to prevent youth homelessness by providing studio or bungalow accommodation for at-risk young

people to live at the back of existing family homes. This allows them space to live and study in a semi-independent environment.

The charity had hoped to raise \$10,000 during the two-week holiday period, so were delighted when the final figure arrived at \$13,127.70.

Kids Under Cover CEO Jo Swift said the charity was hugely encouraged by the generosity of Docklands shoppers and underlined the importance of community partnerships to enable them to continue their studio and scholarship programs.

"We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from 'The District Docklands,'" she said.

"The Ice Slide was a really fun and interactive way to not only raise funds but more importantly raise much needed awareness of the issue of youth homelessness."



(From left) The District Docklands marketing manager Jade Minahan and Kids Under Cover community partnerships manager Amy-Lou Cowdroy-Ling.

Heritage is digitised for the future

By Geraldine Brault

In late 2017, the Mission to Seafarers Victoria sought and received a funding grant from the Helen MacPherson Smith Trust.

The goal was to carry out an intensive digital photography project documenting images, selected key documents and collection items awaiting cataloguing and produce a guide and manual for volunteers; and to provide paid work experience for a new graduate returning to the workforce.

In early 2018, I commenced part-time in the position of project officer managing a primarily digital photography project to produce a minimum of 500 items to improve the quality of the visual database of this rich maritime heritage collection.

I am a recent graduate with a diploma in library and information studies with Victoria University and also have volunteer experience in digitisation at the VCA's School of Film and Television.

And my former experience with studio photography meant I could offer a good match of old and new skills.



Local resident Geraldine Brault.

Now halfway through 2018, this fulfilling project meets my interests in cultural heritage and history very well.

At this stage we have produced over 700 digital images of the collection. This includes some multi-page key documents so

they can be more easily preserve the fragile originals.

The next part of the project is to focus more on producing a manual for other volunteers to expand this work.

I am improving my workplace English and learning more about Melbourne and Australia (I'm originally from France) and, with my family as Docklanders for nearly seven years, I am discovering more about this suburb and understanding more fully its maritime past.

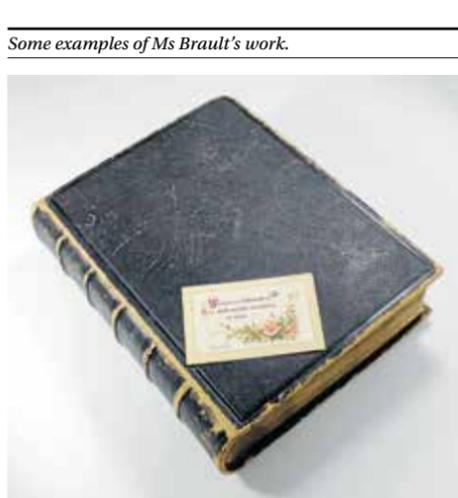
Working with the MTSV curator and heritage officer Jay Miller, is a fantastic opportunity as she has great knowledge and experience in her field.

I'm learning a lot about historical collections, their care, handling, storage, preservation and conservation.

The mission's complex of buildings is a beautiful place and I love meeting the passionate volunteers who often share their knowledge and stories that have a link with the mission itself or the maritime world in general.



Some examples of Ms Brault's work.



Ice hockey glory beckons in Docklands

The biggest weekend on the Australian ice hockey calendar returns to Docklands this month in what's set to be two huge days of action.

For a sixth straight year, the Australian Ice Hockey League (AIHL) finals will be hosted at the O'Brien Group Arena as the nation's top four teams from the home-and-away season battle it out for the Goodall Cup.

On September 1, "Super Saturday" sees the first and second semi-finals at 3pm and 6pm - the winners of which progress to the following afternoon's grand final. Sunday's final (with puck drop set for 3pm) is set to be a sell-out.

AIHL commissioner Robert Bannerman said the decision to host the finals at the 6500-seat arena was a no-brainer.

"The O'Brien Group Arena provides the biggest ice rink in Australia at present," he said.

"With facilities for AIHL teams, fans and VIP experiences around the rink, it's the perfect stage for the league's premier event."

The 2017 finals series - eventually won by Melbourne Ice - was a standing-room only affair, and O'Brien Group Arena general manager Paul Keisler said his colleagues loved hosting what has become a big event



The Melbourne Ice (white) and Melbourne Mustangs (orange) line up before a clash earlier this season at the O'Brien Group Arena (Phil Taylor, Mustangs Ice Hockey).

on the sporting calendar.

"As a team we pride ourselves in delivering world-class events and see this as another opportunity to do exactly that on Australian hockey's biggest weekend," he said.

"It has been a huge year for ice sports so far. The Winter Olympics helped pique the public interest across all winter sport - especially ice sports. OBG Arena has seen many first-time visitors through the doors,

watching Melbourne Ice and Mustangs AIHL games, as well as giving skating a go."

Formed in 2000, the AIHL continues to develop as the sport's premier competition in the country.

Ice hockey has a rich history in Australia, and the Goodall Cup is in fact the world's third-oldest ice hockey trophy, and the oldest outside of North America.

The city's two clubs - Melbourne Ice and

Melbourne Mustangs - are co-tenants at the Docklands arena, formerly known as the Medibank Icehouse and, before that, the National Ice Sports Centre.

The Ice (formed in 2002) have won the Goodall Cup five times, while the Mustangs' (formed in 2010) sole championship win came in 2014.

For tickets and further information, visit obriengrouparena.com.au

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If you live in a high rise apartment building, talk to your building manager to organise a collection.

City of Melbourne residents can also book free green waste collections.
Don't bin your garden prunings, branches, lawn clippings and leaves. Bundle them up and we'll collect them for free. This is a regular service available to residents every month, all year round.

Check your collection schedule and make a booking online.
Visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/springclean

E-waste recycling:
Don't know what to do with old or unwanted computers, printers, mobile phones, cords, TVs, DVD players or household appliances, such as heaters and toasters? Check out our website for options.

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Your new life starts now

Although a recent arrival, Lisa Oatham has loved Docklands from a distance for a long time now.

The District Docklands tourism manager moved here in January after her marriage broke down.

"I've always wanted to live in Docklands," she said. "The plan for the past four years had been to develop our Abbotsford property and buy here in Docklands."

That didn't work out as planned, but Lisa and her teenage daughter are loving their rental in NewQuay – high above the harbour with water views and extensive views beyond to the city and suburbs.

And, now, she not only lives here, she works here too. At the time, she worked with Skybus but reassessing a lot of things in her life at the time, she determined to throw her fate to the universe – resigning at the end of May.

The universe, indeed, provided and the following week she met an AsheMorgan recruiter, proceeded through three interviews and started her new dream job in July.

Very much a "people-person", Lisa doesn't mind the transience of residential living in NewQuay.

"I'm sitting on the fence when it comes to short-term rentals," she explained. "It does need some regulating, but the visitation is good as the area needs a little bit of help."

"I feel like I'm living in an Airbnb living in my own home," she said – concluding that life in Docklands is a bit like being on holidays.

"I come home and sit on my balcony and feel like I'm living the experience of a tourist," she said.

Ms Oatham said she hadn't lived in an apartment before and "loves everything about it".

She loves the security, the views, the gym and the pool, the free tram, proximity to just about everything and the absence of creepy-crawling insects.

If there is anything she misses, it's having



Lisa Oatham at home in Docklands.

a veggie garden – but that's expected from a daughter of Italian migrants.

And being a resident in love with Docklands makes her job engaging with the

tourism industry to promote The District Docklands as a destination very easy indeed.

With the nightlife, supermarket, Asian market, cinemas, etc on their way for the

precinct, Lisa says local residents are the biggest winners from the huge investment revitalising the area.

"It's becoming an urban village in its own right and has attractive elements which are unique in Melbourne – and unique in Australia for that matter," she said. "It's a destination in its own right."

Her own first-hand research tells her that Docklands is beginning to be perceived with fondness by the outside world – a radical turnaround from some of the negativity of the past decade.

"It's shifting fast," she said. "Particularly over the past six months. People are starting to talk about the fun things that are happening."

"They really want Docklands to succeed. We are being brought back into the fold because there is something here for everyone."

Always a contributor, Lisa joined the Docklands Chamber of Commerce executive late last year, with the point of view of a local employee and resident.

She speaks about her life in tourism and hospitality almost as a vocation of servitude.

"It's like a family with everyone focussed on partnerships and collaboration. You need to like people and love the area you are working in," she said.

"It takes a positive and humble attitude to make it work – focussing on how you can make the customer have the very best experience. And it brings joy because it's like giving a gift."

"If done correctly, working in a role like this actually makes you a better person."

And now at home in Docklands, she is single and independent for the first time in 22 years. With seeming inexhaustible passion and energy to share, it seems that Docklands is the biggest winner. Welcome Lisa, your new life starts now.

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September activities at Docklands Art Collective

The Docklands Art Collective is running a range of weekly events throughout August at The District Docklands.

AT CURRENT GALLERY

MALINI MAUNSELL
 SEPTEMBER 7 - OCTOBER 2
 OPENING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM - 9PM

BOOKBINDING WORKSHOP
 SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16
 Register: atcurrentart@gmail.com



MAGNET GALLERY

PEOPLE WITH CAMERAS - CREATIVE SPACE BY FUJI
 SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1, 11AM - 6PM

A day of photography, events and equipment - bring a camera and join in the fun! So much to see, do and take part in!



DODGY PAPER

STAFF SHOW by CHEHEHE and NATHAN CCP
 OPENING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM - 9PM

WOLFGANG SIEVERS 50 YEARS (1930s-1980s) FUNDRAISING EXHIBITION

SEPTEMBER 12 - 30
 OPENING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 12,
 6.30PM - 8.30PM

A very rare chance to see and purchase SIGNED PRINTS by one of Australia's pre-eminent architectural and industrial photographers of the 20th century. Includes rare silver gelatin prints from his early career in 1930s Germany and Portugal. Julian Burnside QC is making these prints available from his own collection to raise funds for THE HUMAN RIGHTS LAW CENTRE and will open the exhibition.



Rachel Morley, Rachel Suarez, Ema Shin, Amelia Dowling.

THE ARTISTS GUILD

INTERIORITIES
 AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 20
 OPENING SEPTEMBER 7, 6PM - 9PM

Interiorities asks women and non-binary artists to explore the rich symbolism of the domestic realm and/or evoke a connection through craft-based techniques that were once confined to the home. Exhibiting artists: Amelia Dowling, Frances Cannon, Ema Shin, Karima Baadilla, Kym Bellamy, Lizzi Morris, Rachel Morley, Rachel Suarez, Zara Sullivan. Curated by Brooke Van Der Linden.



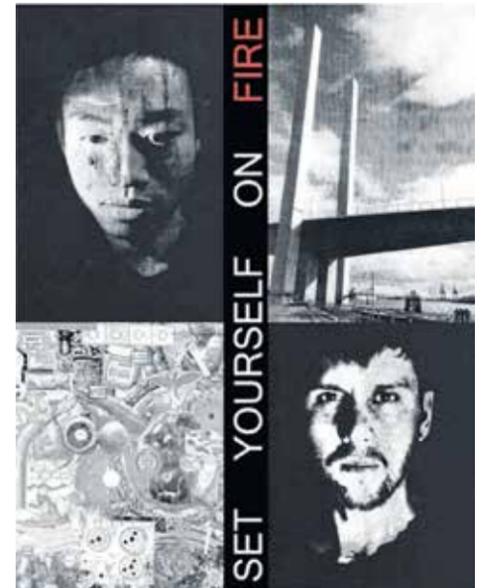
TIGER IN THE JUNGLE HELENA BLACK

OPENING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM - 9PM.

THE BAND PRESENTS

LANE CORMICK // NEW ASLA THERAPY
 OPENING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM TO 9 PM

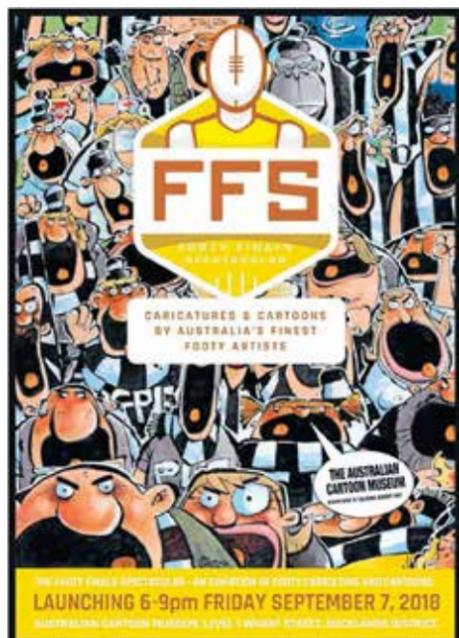
Solo show by local legend Lane Cormick, entitled: New ASLA Therapy.



GROUP SHOW featuring Lazy Willy and Samuel Emery Friday Sept 7th, Tree Paper Comics: Wharf St, Docklands

TREEPAPER COMICS

SET YOURSELF ON FIRE - GROUP SHOW
 SEPTEMBER 7, 6PM - 9PM



AUSTRALIAN COMICS MUSEUM

FOOTY FINALS SPECTACULAR
 OPENING FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM - 9PM



LOOSE PRINT

An exhibition by Ella Heckendorf
 OPENING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7



CROWTHER CONTEMPORARY

MADELINE BISHOP
 OPENING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7,
 6PM TO 9 PM

MADELINE BISHOP is a photographic and video artist whose work has explored socially-constructed norms in relation to gender and sexuality. Her new body of work continues this research into interpersonal relationships, tensions and boundaries and the dynamics that exist and are tested by them.

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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Francesco Storer, 25, Southbank

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE

WEARING: I'm wearing Converse All Stars; a pair of jeans I bought from a store in Treviso, Italy; an Arvus jacket I bought at Melbourne Central; a Marcelo Burlon jumper; and my backpack is from Mr Simple.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE

OF CLOTHING: My Gucci sneakers - I bought them from the Gucci store on Collins St. I really love the quality of the shoe and the way they're made.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE

DOCKLANDS: My girlfriend lives here. We are both Italian.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: Very simple items and basic colours. Nothing too out there!

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES

A GOOD OUTFIT: A nice balance between colours and the way the clothes fit. I think tailored, clean-cut styles work best on most people.

Sonal Vydhyam, 33, Craigieburn

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE

WEARING: I bought this dress from Design Space, a fashion collective on Chapel St showcasing up-and-coming designers. The jacket is from Istanbul. The bag is Oroton and the shoes are Nine West. Also, my lipstick is "All Fired Up" by MAC.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE

OF CLOTHING: Right now it's my fur jacket from Stella in Myer. It keeps me really warm and I love the emerald green colour.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE

DOCKLANDS: I work with LUCRF Super as a risk and governance officer.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: It really depends on the occasion. I like to dress casually, but if I'm going out to a bar I'll dress-up in a dress or jeans with stilettos.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A

GOOD OUTFIT: Any outfit you feel comfortable in. That's what makes you confident really. For me, whenever I wear heels I tend to feel most confident.

Marta Maria Primikyrlidis, 19

LOCATION: Bourke St

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE

WEARING: My jacket is Guess. My pants are from Pretty Little Thing. My top and scarf were both gifted to me by my mum. I just had all these different pieces and I put them together.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE

PIECE OF CLOTHING: I really like jumpsuits, I think they look really nice in nude colours.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE

DOCKLANDS: I work at NAB in business servicing as a business service advisor.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: I'd say I'm current but, at the same time, vintage. Old fashioned, but I also like to keep with the latest trends. It's a bit of a mix!

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A

GOOD OUTFIT: Something that's stylish, a good mix of colours and dressed for the occasion.

10 Years On

September 2008 Issue 35

World change starts at Docklands

Docklands is playing its part in making the world a better place.

Waterfront City is home-base for a new block-buster TV show "Change the World".

It started as an idea of Docklands TV producer Anne Tindall and really started gathering momentum when she enlisted the support of former Young Australian of the Year Hugh Evans.

Now it seems everyone from former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd to showbiz celebrity Hugh Jackman is on board.

Mr Rudd is endorsing it publicly and Mr Jackman has agreed to front the program.

So expect to bump into either of the famous Hughs when things really start to happen at Waterfront City later in the year.

Writer/director Wayne Tindall explained the concept as providing a platform for people committed to making a positive change.

"It's about ordinary people doing extraordinary things," he said.

Six teams of two people will be chosen.

Each team will be given \$50,000 and matched up with high profile mentors who will assist and inspire them.

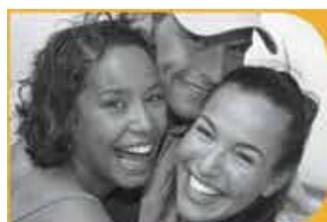
Two teams will be chosen to undertake projects in Australia and the other four will have an international focus. Already 1000 requests to be involved have come through Hugh Evans' Facebook page and recruiting hasn't even started yet.

A special facility is to be built in the Waterfront City Piazza to host the recruiting process and subsequent filming. Anne and Wayne Tindall's company NBS Global Productions is being sponsored by ING Real Estate and Harbour Town.

Mr Tindall expects the concept to be picked up internationally - which makes a nice change to Australia's usual habit of making local versions of foreign shows.

Eight episodes of the show will be made with a two-hour celebratory finale being hosted at Waterfront City probably next June.

For more information, see www.changetheworld.com.au



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Street Art

Docklands is becoming cool

So last week I met with an old real estate friend to look at how to rejuvenate empty space, specifically strengths and weakness in both corporate and cultural settings.

He took me around the city to look at all the spaces that were available and we mainly looked around the Collins St end of Docklands. I was struck by how much space there was empty, that is just sitting there.

It frustrates me to think of all this wasted space that brings no value to the community and its culture. The people who own these properties paid a lot of money for them once. I suspect the value of these spaces has dropped vastly because they have remained empty since being built more than 15 years ago.

As most of you probably know, Blender Studios recently relocated from its gritty urban origins in the laneways of Melbourne's CBD into The District Docklands shopping centre This development had been plagued by similar issues of empty spaces and lack of culture.

Surrounded by once-empty shops and construction, Blender has been co-opted for its potential to rejuvenate the space and contribute to gentrification. Blender has become an oasis – a shining beacon for independent and experimental art endeavours.

About a year after we moved in, Renew Australia filled much of the remaining empty spaces around us, which has helped make the area rich in artists.

The walk around the city with my real estate friend made me realise what is going on at The District Docklands in regard to the artists, art and galleries. The corporate collaboration is unique and it's working.

The planners at the shopping centre have created an interesting mixture of corporates, workers, shoppers and artists sharing the public space. The needs of centre management are carefully choreographed within this unlikely combination, with the retail businesses and shoppers at the centre of their focus.

The artists, curators and galleries have been placed in one full wing of the shopping centre, set up as an arts precinct.

This situation has created a delicate balance for Blender – between supporting the vision of the studios, their philosophies and needs of the artists – while meeting the needs of the corporate bureaucracy.

This is not the first time that urban planners have utilised art spaces to assist in the rejuvenation of Docklands.

In 2010 the Creative City initiative and MAB came together to create a number of art galleries and a few studios known as the Docklands Spaces Program.

Corporate design and large-scale



development for profits meant that the urban design of Docklands was not at the forefront of consideration and the precinct suffered as a result. So, they created the first Docklands art precinct.

The main problem with the project was that it was over-managed, with conflicting interests and numerous corporate demands which made it hard to maintain direction. Kate Shaw, a curator and researcher in the first Docklands art precinct, concluded that the “temporary spaces movements do not have the capacity to solve the problems at places like Docklands”.

According to her, there is no way that history will not repeat itself.

Well, after walking around with my real estate friend, I then took him back to Blender to show him what we have been up to and the unusual collaboration that we have managed to achieve with AsheMorgan.

I think what has transpired at The District has become really important and a fantastic case study of the currency of culture.

I just worry that everything in life is based on relationships and it could take only one rogue worker or one crazy artist to rupture the relationships that are required in order for projects like this to exist.

This has become one of the most successful corporate and artistic collaborations in Melbourne and, possibly, Australia. And it has taken so much commitment and sacrifice on both sides.

I do worry that people who are unaware of its importance could be flippant with its

implications of this corporate collaboration will be understood – its importance to the artistic world and its ability to work in space and community rejuvenation.

But as Blender sits in its beautiful space, I must compliment AsheMorgan for having the insight and brains to understand the importance of what is happening down at The District. Without its vision, so much important and amazing work would never have happened.

It really is spectacular and one of the best examples of its kind.

I hope that The District values the collaboration as much as the artists do to ensure that the relationships that hold this whole project together are protected.

Cheers to The District and its understanding of culture as real currency.

Doyle



Adrian Doyle

Street Artist
Blender Studios founder and director

value and that it could be on the edge of a cliff.

It will only be in retrospect that the full



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We Live Here

Government ignores Airbnb stabbing death

In stunning scenes in Parliament this month, the Victorian Government passed the weakest legislation for short-term letting ever seen in Australia, to the delight of Airbnb.

In answering questions from The Greens in Parliament, the Trade and Innovation Minister, Philip Dalidakis admitted to Parliament that he visited Airbnb's office in San Francisco. (Hansard, 7 August 2018, page 46).

It has also been reported by *The Age* that Premier Daniel Andrews had visited Airbnb in San Francisco in 2015.

Quizzed on the Airbnb stabbing death in the CBD in July, Mr Andrews told ABC Radio: "We certainly would be open to having a look at whether there's anything we can do from a regulatory point of view."

Mr Andrews also said that Consumer Affairs Minister Marlene Kairouz was "already doing some work on this".

However, in Parliament this month, the government passed the same legislation word-for-word that had been rejected by the Upper House as inadequate more than 12 months earlier.

Since the widely-released photograph of the then Minister for Consumer Affairs, Jane Garrett, shaking hands with Airbnb head honcho Brett Thomas on the steps of Parliament, it has been clear that Airbnb has been behind every move the government makes.

And now Airbnb is celebrating the passing of the weakest short-stay legislation in Australia.

One of the recommendations made over 12 months ago was for the government to investigate giving greater powers and resources to Victoria Police to be able to deal with criminal activity in short-stay apartments. However, that recommendation was never acted upon, despite Minister

Dalidakis telling Parliament that he considered the issue "core police business".

The government stated in its policy response that it would conduct a review in 2021 to see whether the new regulations were working and would seek feedback from stakeholders and resident groups at that time. However, this review was not inserted into the Bill and the Labor government could not commit to a review because it might not be in power in 2021.

The Liberal's Shadow Minister for Planning, David Davis, addressed Parliament to slam the government for reintroducing the same legislation which he labelled "weak, pathetic and a damp squib".

The Liberal Party told Parliament that it would seek to have this legislation amended if it were to form government at the next election.

Ultimately however, the Liberal Party did not block the passing of the Bill when it came time to vote on the legislation and was absent from the chamber when it was put to the vote.

Tom Bacon, CEO of Strata Title Lawyers said: "The legislation is not worth the paper it is written on. These regulations are the lightest feather of a touch, and do not provide owners' corporations with any meaningful way of regulating the issues associated with short-term stays. I would not advise owners' corporations to use these regulations; it would be a costly exercise and a waste of time."

This parliamentary outcome must rank as one of the worst cases of politicking and back-room deals seen in Parliament.

How can we think otherwise when every

speaker on the opposition side condemned the Bill for all the reasons we have articulated over the past three years, then walked out of the House before the vote was taken?

The statements made by Minister Dalidakis and his advisors were feeble and showed how little the government understood the issues that it became an embarrassing spectacle.

Airbnb-taxing Vienna teaches Melbourne a lesson

Vienna, which has a policy of levying a tourism tax on Airbnb, has overtaken Melbourne as the most liveable city in the world. Vienna is also now in a battle with Airbnb, demanding the multinational hand over its Vienna registration data so that the tourism tax can be collected fairly from all operators.

Why doesn't our state government look to see what is happening overseas? Vienna, New York, London, Tokyo are all taking action - we are not the only city wrestling with this issue.

So again, we invite Daniel Andrews to come and talk to us at We Live Here (now more than 300 buildings are signed up as supporters). We are an organised and passionate group of residents wanting to have our voice heard and includes a large disenfranchised section of the electorate - those who purchased apartments in residential buildings not designed for short-stay quasi hotel-type accommodation.

Time is also running out with the state election looming in a few months. Most of the inner-city seats are held by candidates

who support our stance.

We have given the government statistical data, analysis and concrete solutions - all ignored, at its peril. Mr Andrews, please wake up and commit to the following solutions now:

- Prescribe a maximum number of days per year for a property to be used for short-stays (such as NSW - 180 days per year, or San Francisco - 90 days per year or New York - minimum stay 30 days); and
- Mandate a requirement for a 75 per cent ballot of the owners in owners' corporations to pass a special resolution in favour of short-stays for the practice to be allowed.

We hope it won't take another death in an Airbnb apartment before politics is taken out of the debate and the real issues discussed, which the passing of the Bill does nothing to address.

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 welfarehere.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 include in this column.



www.welfarehere.net
emails to campaign@welfarehere.net

What Women Want

Some things just sure are meant to be

Like a river flows ... surely to the sea ... well, you know how it goes! Some things are sure just meant to be.

There is a really beautiful outcome when you start to develop acceptance of these things that you just know are meant to be. With both negative and positive circumstances in life, sometimes you just KNOW what's coming and whether you say it out loud or not, there is an inner voice that quietly echoes in your mind "I know what's going to happen".

This is incredibly powerful, because it gives you increased reassurance that what is meant to be, is happening. It's like a little boost of confidence that puts you in a better position of control. Not control of the situation or other people's actions, but control of your own response. Take for example my month this month. There's been

both a negative and a positive "I know what's going to happen" moment and sure enough, it has happened.

With the negative, it relates to something that just needs to be finalised. It's taken way too long and is so incredibly stressful. I can see what life looks like on the other side, I can FEEL the rays of sunshine once this cloud of stress finally moves on completely.

But at our third attempt at finalising for good, I just KNEW there would be a delay. So while family members text asking if the champagne was chilled, and if I was ready to be "free" - I knew.

Instead, I poured a piping hot bubble bath, poured a glass of wine and waited for the deadline to be reached. Sure enough, five minutes to deadline - PING: incoming mail with yet another obstacle to finalisation.

But because I knew it would happen, I could FEEL it would happen, I finished my bath at leisure, drafted my letter to my solicitor and got a good night's sleep. Had I not listened to my inner voice, then the email could have really thrown an

expectation of celebration into a miserable and stressful night.

So, I guess I was already mentally prepped for this outcome.

But does it work as well with the positive, more exciting things in life? I truly believe that we know when something is right, as much as we know when something is wrong. This feeling, however quietly kept, gives us much hope and increases our positive belief in the waiting time!

This month I met with a business start-up for a new contract and just felt from the moment I heard about the opportunity that it was meant to be ...

After meeting with several people involved, and waiting through due process, the good news was delivered.

Having the feeling it would be positive did not take away from the good news at all, it just meant that I was so confident this was the right thing for me that being awarded the contract made me all the more appreciative.

Now there's one more thing I have a feeling about. But I'm keeping that one

secret for a little bit longer!

What a woman wants is to be able to trust her inner voice to prep her for life's events, and what a woman needs to realise is that this powerful intuition is so beneficial for both the good and bad in life.

Take care this month, listen to your inner voice and trust that some things are just meant to be.

With love
Abby

PS don't forget you can reach me at life@docklandsnews.com.au I love receiving your emails x



Abby Crawford
life@docklandsnews.com.au

Health and Wellbeing

Lifestyle focus – Importance of sleep

Recent statistics show that more than 35 per cent of adults are sleep deprived.

Achieving your health and fitness goals will be near impossible unless you address your sleep deficit – if indeed you have one. Unfortunately, the more active you are the more important and critical sleep becomes for both weight loss and muscle gain.

A trainer can help coach you with your exercise routines, a nutritionist or dietician can help you with meal plans and nutritional advice. Sleep, however, is really up to you.

A lack of quality sleep will slow down your metabolism which is a key factor in weight loss. Additionally, sleep deprivation impacts hormone levels and balance and regulation of blood glucose levels, all which can all lead to unwanted energy conservation.

For those trying to build and retain muscle mass, it's important to know that muscles are not built in the gym. Muscle fibres are torn in the gym then repair, recover and grow while you rest and sleep.

Here are some tips to improve your sleep quality and help you achieve your health and fitness goals:

- No caffeine or stimulants after 5pm;
 - Have smaller evening meals and try not to eat two hours before you sleep;
 - Place electronic devices in another room overnight – buy an old-school alarm clock;
 - Black out your sleeping area; and
 - Consider using “sleeping” music and meditation practices to help calm your mind leading up to bed time.
- Good luck!

Keeping young Docklanders active

Spiralling levels in obesity and inactivity in young people are cause for alarm.

The life expectancy of Australians has been increasing consistently over the past decades thanks to increases in affluence, health care and improved lifestyles and living conditions and we should all be grateful for that.

Unfortunately, for the coming generations this indicator of life expectancy has now shockingly begun to slip backwards into decline. In plain terms, our children and their children will (if nothing changes) live shorter lives and suffer a greater prevalence of diseases like diabetes, heart disease and obesity.

As parents, or just through general observation, we have seen a fast and dramatic turn away from traditional play and outdoor activities to an obsession with technologies that paralyse the movement of kids. I think we have all seen the hypnotic effect gaming and devices have on kids (and some adults).

My point here is that technology and devices are not bad, they are part of the future so let's not fight that. Instead, it's time to bring back some active fun alternatives for this and future generations.

Whenever I get my kids outdoors and active, I ask them “Is this better than playing on the iPad?” and the answer every time is absolutely! So for my advice for other parents, guardians and influencers of children is to provide more options and opportunities to be active, and to be more innovative.

If you are lazy and not motivated to be active, your kids will in most cases follow and replicate your behaviour. Saying “go outside and play” won't solve the problems – it will require your energy, leadership and effort to develop new active interests and a new love of outdoor activities for your children.

Here are some ideas to get your kids active in Docklands:

- Take a walk to the outdoor training / exercise areas spaces and teach them some basic moves – locations are on Collins St near the library, and adjacent to the sports courts;
- Grab a ball and shoot some hoops or play some soccer at the Docklands sports courts;
- Ride your bikes along the extensive bike paths along the river;
- Visit the Dockland Hub and check out the kids activities they run – like Kids Bollywood dancing; and
- Have fun!

Exercise breakdown – The push-up

What is so great about the push-up? The push-up has long been a staple of most exercise programs. It is predominantly a chest, shoulder and triceps exercise, performed in a prone (face down) position. Secondary muscle groups involved are the core, the legs and the greater shoulder girdle.

Used in military training, physical education classes, fitness testing or for punishment (drop and give me 20!), the push-up has now become a common feature

in most group fitness and training classes in the gym, a boot camp session or with a trainer.

Here are some great reasons why you should make the push-up a part of your weekly routine:

- Variation – Did you know there are more than 20 variations on the push-up you can do for different outcomes?
- There is no equipment required – it's a completely portable activity;
- Different levels – there are push-ups for beginners through to the elite athlete;
- They are very complimentary to other activities like walking, running and bike riding;
- Measuring progress – you can see yourself improve over time; and
- They are fun!

Quick tip – balance out your push ups with a pulling exercise, like a chin up or rowing type movement.

Push-up facts:

- World record in one minute: 123 push-ups;
- Non-stop push-ups: 10,507; and
- Most in 24 hours: 46,001.



Andrew Ward

Andrew Ward from Push! Fitness.

www.push-fitness.com.au

Owners' Corporation Law

OCs will be forced to fix the dodgy cladding

The Minister for Planning Richard Wynne, announced late last month new reforms to reduce the cost of removing dangerous combustible cladding from buildings, noted as “the first of their kind anywhere in the world”.

The reforms include amendments to the Local Government Act that will create what is called cladding rectification agreements (CRAs).

The CRAs will be between owners' corporations (OCs) and local councils – providing long-term, low-interest loans to pay for building work to rectify cladding.

Effectively, owners would be charged via their rates over a minimum period of 10 years, with costs transferred with the

property if owners sell.

This arrangement was a key recommendation of the Victorian Cladding Taskforce (VCT) established last year and chaired by former premier Ted Baillieu.

What stinks to high heaven about all this? Well, for starters, it's because the VCT was made up of stakeholders comprising architects, building material suppliers, real estate agents, builders, developers, engineers and building surveyors.

Absent from the taskforce stakeholders' table was the one group that perhaps needed to be represented the strongest – the poor old owners of the affected buildings themselves, Mr and Mrs Joe Public.

The closed recommendations of the VCT were always going to be skewed towards an outcome that recommended no fault to the actual wrongdoers who were responsible for installing the combustible cladding in the first place.

Because the VCT and the government have not put in place any stronger consumer law protection reforms to widen the ability

of owners to sue wrongdoers, the OCs themselves are now left to pay to fix the problems with their buildings.

Over 100 building orders have been sent by the Victorian Building Authority to date, while it finalises its audit of all buildings in Melbourne.

A number of other significant recommendations came out of the interim report, including a proposed statutory duty of care on building practitioners, including architects and designers, in the residential strata sector. However, to date, none of this has been implemented.

The Victorian Cladding Taskforce (VCT) released its interim report into highly-combustible aluminum composite panels (ACP) and expanded polystyrene (EPS) on December 1, 2017. The products, which have been widely used since the 1990s, have been implicated in a number of blazes including the fires at Docklands' Lacrosse building, and London's Grenfell tower that claimed the lives of 71 people.

The interim report made a number of

key findings and recommendations to government, chief among them being the ban of ACP and EPS cladding on buildings of two or more storeys that are residential, health-care, assembly or aged care buildings, and buildings of three or more storeys that are office, shop or storage buildings.

A number of other significant recommendations came out of the interim report, including a proposed statutory duty of care on building practitioners, including architects and designers in the residential strata sector.



Tom Bacon

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.

Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au



FACES OF DOCKLANDS

Question: What do you think about Melbourne losing its “most-liveable city” crown?



ELAINE, 30, GLEN IRIS, BANKER

I think there’s not much impact on Melbourne to be honest, tourists are still visiting Melbourne despite that.



KELSEY MUIR, 20, KENSINGTON, CONCEPT ARTIST

Honestly, it’s the first time I’m hearing this and I don’t know much about that.



TONY WENDEL, 26, MT WAVERLY, COURIER

If Melbourne is going to lose to any city, at least it’s to Vienna and I’m okay with it.



AGNIESKA NIEMCZYK, 29, PARKVILLE, MARKETING ASSISTANT

Melbourne held the title for seven years and I think that we still deserve first place. I do believe there are places as liveable as Melbourne, but I don’t think that anything has changed in Melbourne in the meantime.



FIONA CANTARELLA, 47, TAYLORS LAKES, PRACTICE MANAGER

I’m not surprised. Getting around Melbourne is becoming harder, it’s getting expensive to travel around Melbourne and it’s just becoming disjointed as a city. It’s too hard to travel into the city from the suburbs to enjoy what Melbourne has to offer, which is a real shame.



TRACEY TUNG, 26, PASCOE VALE, FARMER

We’ll get back to number one pretty soon I reckon. But I think to do so, we should boost tourism by offering more events that lots of different cultures can enjoy.

Chamber Update

Visit Docklands – our brand-new website

We’ve launched our brand-new website – www.visitdocklands.com.au aligning our social media assets with our main page.

It is a visually-driven website that will allow users to find what they are seeking within two clicks. The front page will feature the latest news, events and offers from our members and we have an online calendar that updates with the latest activations in our precinct. All of this is available for our members to advertise on.

Summer activations and promotions

Late winter is always a slow season for Docklands and the recent cold and rain hasn’t helped. But now is the time to be thinking about summer promotions and events. By the time this article appears we will have posted the City of Melbourne’s summer marketing campaign on our website and the first of the spring events for the chamber.

Expression of interest – activate the harbour

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce has released an expression of interest to construct a professionally-written business case for activation of Victoria Harbour. The full document is available on www.visitdocklands.com.au/tender

As an organisation we are adamant that the future of Docklands is bound to the water and that is why we will be tireless in the pursuit of permanent activation of the harbour.

Docklands Chamber continues to produce for its members

Stay informed and get involved – our Facebook profile has over 169,000 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. In the past month we have had over 150,000 engagements and 10,000 click throughs to members’chamb websites. Contact us at admin@docklandsc.com.au



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Vertical Living

Sky gardens

Melbourne may have lost its liveability crown this year but might better green infrastructure help win this back?

“Liveability” has many factors, such as residents feeling safe and socially connected, having affordable housing with linked-up public transport, being able to access health, education and shopping services and, increasingly, being surrounded by robust green infrastructure.

According to the University of Melbourne, green infrastructure is a city’s network of natural and designed vegetation elements (both public and private). It includes traditional green elements such as urban parks, gardens and trees, as well as newer items such as green roofs, green walls and rain garden technologies.

And the benefits of green infrastructure are believed to be manifold, including returns that are economic (e.g. improved amenities), environmental (e.g. reduced heat island effect) and social (e.g. strengthened community resilience).

However, we of the Vertical Villages know well the challenges of green spaces in high density precincts – and, usually, if dedicated areas were not incorporated into the original design, options to redress this are very limited.

This said, perhaps inspiration can be taken from our counterparts in other high-density cities who face similar challenges arising from their “density”.

Consider Singapore

These vertical dwellers, with the aid of their government, have leveraged the closeness of their buildings to improve their residents’ sense of connectedness. One popular element used to achieve this is “sky gardens” – green spaces created at height which help residents manage their stresses.

These sky gardens can be open or enclosed and may be spread over several levels of a building (i.e. not only the roof). They are purposefully designed to incorporate the aesthetic qualities of a garden setting, so as to evoke responses of wellbeing.

These areas can also be used as social spaces to support the formation of communal groups which can meet, occasionally or regularly and at various times (morning tai chi, coffee breaks, afternoon gardening, etc).

Interestingly, sky gardens are not a new phenomenon and can be traced back to quite ancient times when civilisations similarly sought to integrate greenery into cities at height (though the heights these days are more lofty!). For instance, the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, built by Nebuchadnezzar II for his wife Amyitis, comprised a series of planted terraces, supported on stone arches 23 metres above ground. Trees were embedded into tiered stone terraces, with permanently green foliage irrigated by a mechanical system from the Euphrates River.

Returning to current times, Australian academic, Dr Philip Oldfield (UNSW), believes there are two lessons we can learn from our Singaporean counterparts. The first is that we need to increase the number and size of sky gardens in Australian buildings and intentionally design them to support social interaction.

The second lesson concerns the way these spaces are managed as recent experience has revealed a tendency to be overly restrictive in how and when these spaces can be used.

“It’s not just what you design – it’s how you manage it,” he said.

Dr Oldfield emphasised that residents must be consulted in order that they can stamp their own identity on these areas, as so doing fundamentally affects the success of the development.

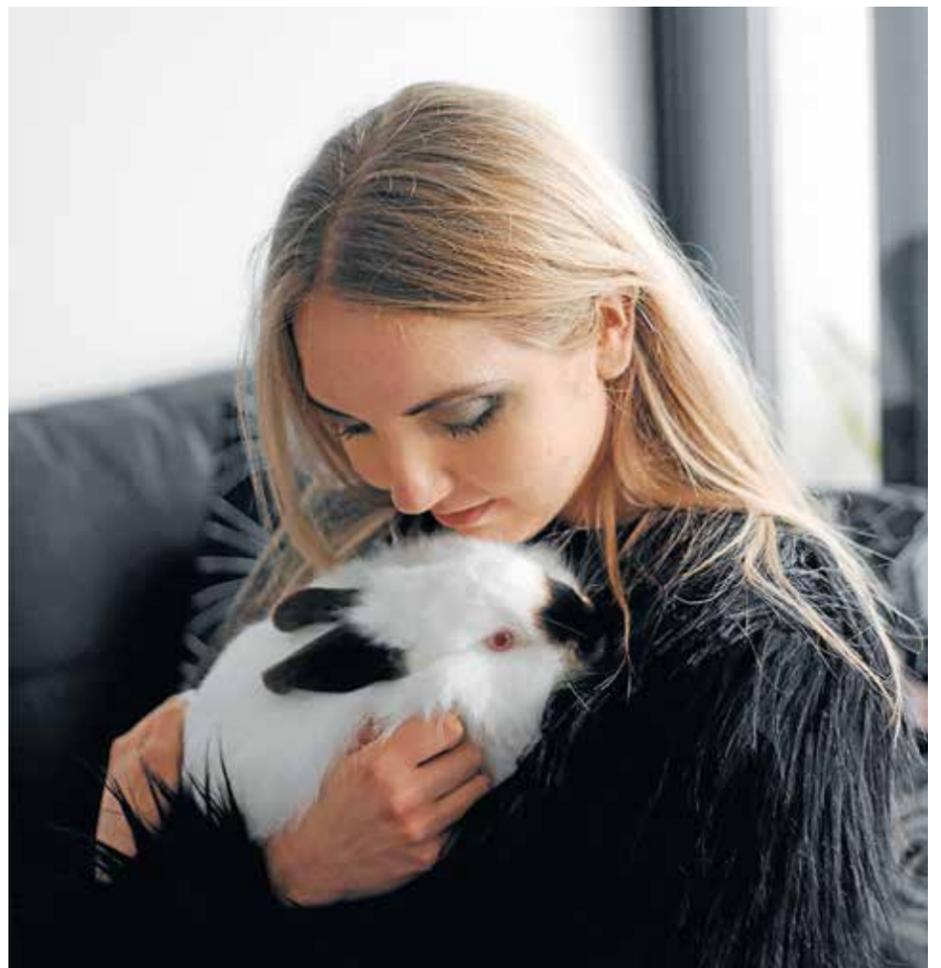
And to accelerate greening across our high-density precincts, the City of Melbourne is launching its 2018 Urban Forest Fund. This round opens on August 27 and it offers matched funding (up to \$500,000) for new greening projects such as green spaces, tree planting, vertical greening or green roofs.

The eligibility and assessment criteria are now available on the City of Melbourne’s web site www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/urbanforestfund



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

Pet’s Corner



Cyberbuns in Docklands

Atom and Ada, also known as Cyberbuns, are enjoying their new home in Docklands.

They were adopted from the Rabbit Runaway Orphanage in May this year, which is a shelter for bunnies located in the Dandenong Ranges.

Their new owner Georgina saw them on the website and was drawn to their exotic appearances and computer-science-themed names.

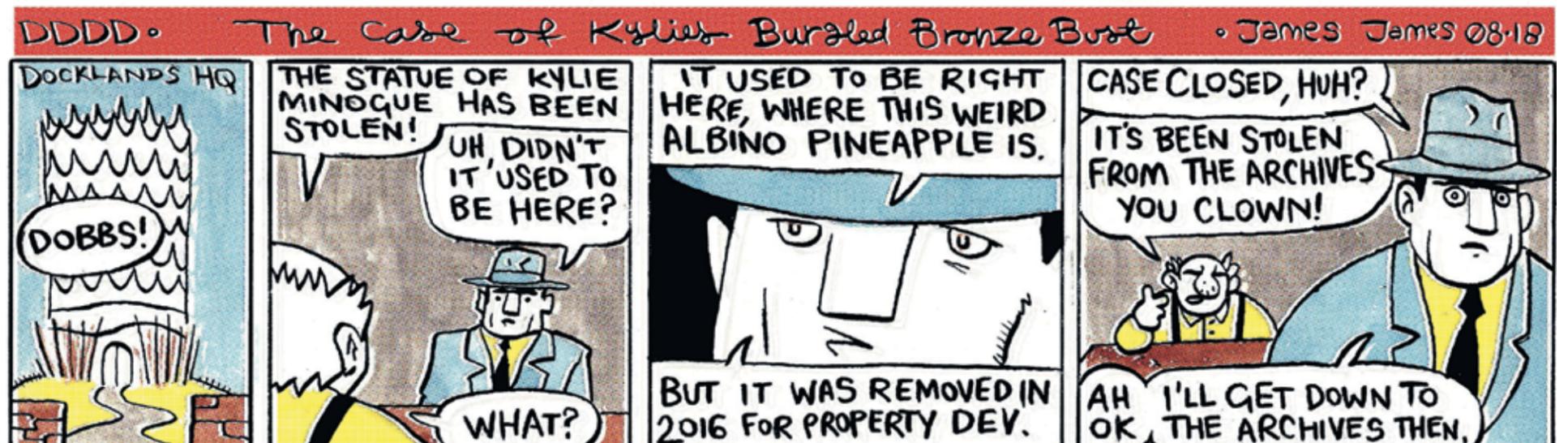
Ada Lovelace was the name of a 19th century mathematician who is also considered to be the first female computer programmer. Atom is the name of a popular text editor, which is a program used to write code.

Georgina is an intern software developer

who has been living in Docklands for several years. She believes that bunnies are the ideal pets for people living in Docklands as they are low maintenance and like being indoors. Bunnies have so much personality and are very loving, sweet and playful pets.

Bunnies like Atom and Ada can be adopted from the orphanage. Charitable donations can also be made via their website: www.rabbitrunaway.org.au

Atom and Ada also have their own Instagram and Facebook pages: @cyberbuns



WHAT'S ON

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

TUESDAYS-WEDN-THURSDAYS AT THE HUB - 12-2PM (1H CLASS) COME AND LEARN FRENCH

Share your lunchtime with colleagues and friends and learn something new. It's a lot of fun!

Contact Amanda on 0405 086 480 or at frenchlyspeaking@gmail.com

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.

Call Bill on 0438 628 301

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

WEDNESDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 12:30 – 2PM THE VILLAGE AT NAB, 700 BOURKE ST MELBOURNE, SPACE 5 SLEEP-SMART SECRETS-

How to wake up refreshed, recharged and raring to go! \$24.19 www.eventbrite.com.au/e/sleep-smart-secrets-how-to-wake-up-refreshed-recharged-and-raring-to-go-tickets-48578779437

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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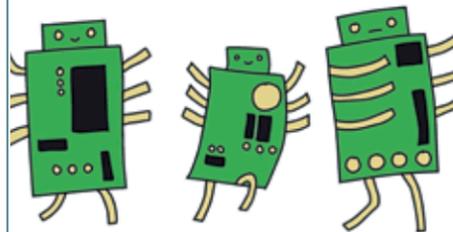
EVERY SUNDAY, 1-2PM RON BARASSI SNR PARK ULTIMATE FRISBEE

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AT LIBRARY AT THE DOCK, 10.30AM – 11.15AM FRIDAY AUGUST 31 CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY

Celebrate the wonderful men in your life at these special Father's Day storytimes. There'll be stories about dads and you can make a craft to give as a gift. For three to five year olds. **FREE**



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.

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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

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 5.45-7PM 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

MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS 9AM TO 12PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK WESTJUSTICE

(TAAP) provides specialist advice, casework and representation to vulnerable and disadvantaged people who are having residential tenancy issues and is funded by Consumer Affairs Victoria. 9749 7720.

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 mssp.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 DRAGON MASTERS DRAGON BOATING

Contact Jeff Saunders on 0417 219 888 or Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au

LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS

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 5.30PM. 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.

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.

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Warren Joyce leads training session

Melbourne City Football Club and Active Melbourne City Sports (AMCS) collaborated to host a complimentary training session on August 15 for 30 Docklands' workers who play soccer weekly during their lunch time.

The 75-minute training session, led by head coach Warren Joyce and assistant coach Patrick Kisorbo, took place at the Docklands Sports Courts. The weekly games hosted were part of AMCS's activity program to get inner-city workers active during their lunch breaks.

Mr Joyce said it was great to help develop and improve Docklands-based football players with AMCS.

"These players love the game so much as to play during their lunch breaks, so to be able to partner with AMCS and impart some of the knowledge we have at City was a no-brainer," Mr Joyce said. "Hopefully we see a few of the players throughout the season at AAMI Park."

AMCS trainees were given the opportunity to meet and take photographs with both Mr Joyce and Mr Kisorbo after their session as well as a chance to win a season membership. Additionally, all 1500 AMCS participants were given a 20 per cent off for Melbourne City FC memberships.

Program manager at Active Melbourne City Sports, Sarah McGrath, said AMCS was grateful for the opportunity to work with Melbourne City FC.

"They are a wonderful organisation for many reasons, but notably how they seek to get involved with local football enthusiasts," she said. "We are so grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with them."



Above: The group which took part in the special training session with Melbourne City key personnel in Docklands.



Left: The professional versus the lunchtime enthusiast. Plenty was learned on the night!



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