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The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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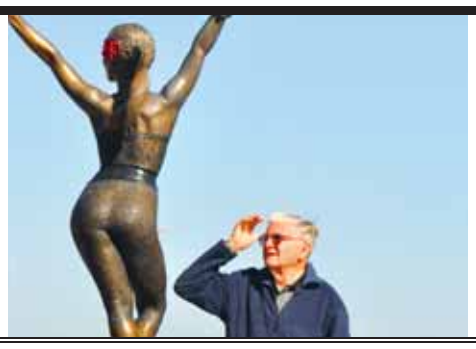

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Docklands dreaming

Eight-year-old Billy Diplaros from Bentleigh West Primary School thought Docklands was very cool when he visited with his classmates last month. ***(continued page 2)***

Docklands' boom supports Victoria

By Daniel Kemp

Where would Victoria be without the $2.2 billion that Docklands is currently injecting into the state economy?

The property industry claims to be the largest contributor to the Victorian economy and nowhere is it more active than here in Docklands.

The Property Council of Australia says property contributed $36.9 billion to total Victorian Gross State Product (GSP) in 2009-10. This is more than manufacturing and more than financial and insurance services.

And while the financial brakes have been applied in other parts of the state, Docklands is booming.

Some 16 Docklands-scale projects are currently underway – representing more than 360,000 sqm of gross floor area and including more than 1500 new homes.

Places Victoria's Docklands manager Simon Wilson said: "Development in Docklands continues to soar with more than $2.2 billion worth of commercial and residential development currently under construction."

Mr Wilson said Docklands would welcome more than 4500 employees before Christmas.

"In the coming months, Docklands will welcome more than 4500 new employees to the area, taking Docklands' working population to an estimated 27,000 employees by December 2012," Mr Wilson said.

This month and June will see an influx of more than 3000 new workers with both the Australian Tax Office (ATO) and Melbourne Water set to open new offices here.

ATO assistant commissioner of property operations Stewart Smillie said that more than 2400 workers would be moving into its new building at 735 Collins St from May 26.

"We will be consolidating five existing office sites from across Melbourne into one location at Docklands. We're keen to have the right infrastructure in place for the coming 25 years, and Docklands was the best place for this," Mr Smillie said.

"The planned retail development at Collins Square is very impressive and will be great for our staff, and we feel confident that they will have everything they need here going forwards. The public transport links here, with two tram stops on our doorstep, also contributed towards making Docklands an attractive proposition for us," Mr Smillie added.

Melbourne Water's new premises are at 990 LaTrobe St, in the south-east corner of Digital Harbour. General manager of business services Malcolm Haynes was enthusiastic about the move, stating the building was almost ready for 770 employees to be relocated in June.

"After many years of spreading our city-based offices across four locations, we're pleased to be able to bring everyone under one roof in Docklands," Mr Haynes said. "We work across greater Melbourne and beyond and the Docklands offers a central location with a good range of amenities and access to public transport," he said.

Both corporations were also keen to emphasise the green credentials offered by Docklands locations.

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Who are we?

By Shane Scanlan

Are we Docklands or Melbourne's waterfront? Or can we be both?

These are not questions of national significance, but they are the source of some tension at the local level.

The City of Melbourne funds three separate organisations which each harbour noble ambitions to put Docklands on the map.

But without a shared agenda, it appears the council is (at best) encouraging a fragmented approach and (at worst) supporting conflicting views.

The players are the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, Destination Docklands and the Yarra River Business Association (YRBA).

Strictly speaking, the chamber does not have a marketing role. That role belongs to Destination Docklands – a co-operative marketing organisation comprising local stakeholders but (significantly) not the Chamber of Commerce.

The YRBA could be viewed as the chamber's equivalent in neighbouring Southbank. It too is funded by the City of Melbourne via its Melbourne Business Precincts program.

But, unlike the Docklands chamber, the YRBA is unashamedly a marketing organisation and, also unlike the Docklands chamber, it is not constrained to a neat, post-code-wide geographic area.

Rather, as the name suggests, the YRBA sees its territory as both sides of the river from the MCG in the east to Waterfront City in Docklands in the west.

The YRBA markets itself as "Melbourne's Waterfront" and sees Docklands as part of that. And last month the YRBA published an "issues and opportunities" paper in which it clarified its position in relation to Docklands.

"It is the aim of YRBA to eventually see the attributes of the two precincts marketed under a joint banner and administration, to maximise potential and to avoid fragmentation of Melbourne's marketing agencies," it said.

"YRBA instigated the Melbourne Waterfront theme and will continue to support the concept. However, as an interim process, it will primarily engage with Docklands organisations through a higher auspicing body, such as City of Melbourne Marketing or Melbourne Business Precincts Inc."

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce has responded to the YRBA's document by congratulating the organisation on the quality of its document and supporting the notion of jointly marketing "Melbourne's Waterfront".

In fact, the chamber went further by claiming the concept was born as a result of one of its own initiatives.

Chamber president Keith Rankin said: "The chamber supports the concept of integrating 'Melbourne's Waterfront' for marketing purposes."

Destination Docklands chairman Kyle Johnston sees merit in joint marketing initiatives but says the "Melbourne's Waterfront" concept is an old idea which had not been adequately supported in the past.

"Melbourne Waterfront has been a theme in Melbourne dating back to 2005 when Tourism Victoria convened a Melbourne waterfront working group involving river operators from Crown, Southgate, YRBA through to Docklands," he said.

"It is not a new idea and nothing eventuated from this and it eventually closed in 2007 as there was no commitment or structure around the idea."

Interestingly, the City of Melbourne says its research reveals 75 per cent of Melburnians associate the term "Melbourne's Waterfront" with Docklands.

A spokesperson said: "The City of Melbourne has embraced the term 'Melbourne's Waterfront' in marketing campaigns and other communication channels, when describing the area from the Yarra River to Docklands."

Mr Johnston suggested Destination Melbourne would be a more appropriate authority to jointly market the river.

"There may be benefit in marketing the river under a joint approach," he said.

"However (joint) administration doesn't make a lot of sense. I am not sure what we are administering. I see this as more of a marketing partnership program."

However, he said, Destination Docklands would work with the YRBA if invited to do so.

Docklands dreaming

(Continued from page 1)

The students participated in an education session about the history of Melbourne and then it was out to sea for an hour with the captain and crew of Docklands' replica schooner Enterprize.

With HMB Endeavour berthed across the other side of Victoria Harbour, the students could be forgiven for imagining they had been transported back in time.

Billy said later: "It was just like being on a ship from Pirates of the Caribbean."

Had he been on board a few days earlier when Enterprize met the Endeavour as she came up Port Phillip Bay, he would have experienced the two ships firing canon at each other.

The Enterprize schooner is a full-scale replica, built in Melbourne, of the Enterprize coastal trader sailing ship, which brought the first permanent settlers to Melbourne from Tasmania in August 1835.

The not-for-profit Enterprize Trust operates the Enterprize, with its home base at Shed 2 on North Wharf Rd.

Docklands has become a major focus for Melbourne Day celebrations which will be conducted this year at NewQuay on August 30.

Curtain call for Kylie and friends

Kylie, Edna and friends might have to find another place to live if MAB's NewQuay Central development proceeds.

The Minister for Planning Matthew Guy has still not made a decision on whether to allow MAB to build a 15-storey hotel in the Waterfront City Piazza.

The piazza is currently home to a number of art installations celebrating Australian entertainers – including an 11-metre mosaic wall mural celebrating the nation's greatest entertainers and statues of Dame Nellie Melba, Graham Kennedy, John Farnham, Dame Edna Everage and Kylie Minogue.

Known collectively as Variety Entertainers of the Century, there are also 100 bronze plaques in the pavement dedicated to the 100 hottest Aussie stars of last century.

However, Variety's general manager Rod Dalglish was unaware of MAB's plans for a hotel at the site.

Mr Dalglish said it would be a "tragedy" if any of the artwork was destroyed or lost.

A MAB spokesperson said: "MAB is formulating an art strategy for NewQuay Central, however we have not made any decisions regarding the existing artwork."

"It is possible that if the development proceeds, the existing artwork may need to be relocated," the spokesperson said.

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City basks in Docklands' reflected glory

The City of Melbourne has become a world environmental leader, largely thanks to the sustainability of Docklands.

In March Docklands hosted 17 "C40" cities for an international workshop on "Sustainable Communities: Collaborating, Planning, Delivering".

Victoria Harbour's sustainability qualities were show-cased to the group of cities, including Beijing, Copenhagen and London.

By the time the event had finished, Melbourne had emerged as the chair of a new global Network on Sustainable Urban Development.

To be chaired by Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, the network will engage other global cities with an interest in sustainable communities.

Lend Lease's Victoria Harbour project manager Claire Johnson said her organisation learned a lot by being involved in the two-day C40 workshop.

"Having the world's cutting-edge thinkers from a wide spectrum of industries in the one room to debate, argue and challenge the status quo has been invaluable to us and the Victoria Harbour project," Ms Johnston said.

"As well as providing a great discussion forum it gave Lend Lease, the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria the opportunity to showcase Victoria Harbour as a landmark sustainable precinct."

The workshop, she said, has resulted in a range of tangible "next steps".

"We've made the commitment, along with our partners, to explore precinct-wide sustainability initiatives, including co-generation and blackwater treatment technologies."

Photography courtesy of David Simmonds

Thumbs up from Endeavour

By Daniel Kemp

The HMB Endeavour was moored in Docklands for 12 days during April, providing a direct link to one of the major events in Australian history.

The floating museum is almost at the end of a year-long circumnavigation of Australia, with Docklands being almost the last destination on a 15-stop tour.

Endeavour's engineer Andrew Laurie said: "The ship is the closest replica ever built of Captain Cook's original vessel. It was commissioned in 1995 and is still going as strong as ever."

The engineer also praised Docklands and the location of its berth at Waterfront City, citing its location close to the centre of Melbourne as a major positive: "The location is perfect – there's so much going on around here, and there's always somewhere to relax for some food and a beer after work!"

"Docklands is synonymous with shipping and has played a large role in Melbourne's maritime history, so it's a perfect fit with what we're trying to achieve here in educating people about Captain Cook's voyage," Mr Laurie said.

Anne Gibson, a long-time volunteer with the Endeavour, was in high spirits as she introduced guests to the ship's history. "I was here the first time the Endeavour arrived in Melbourne, and I love being here," she said.

Car parking pressure mounts

By Daniel Kemp

Competition for parking spaces in Docklands is set to increase with the closure of the car park at the end of North Wharf Rd from May 4.

The car park will be closed due to issues of vehicle safety and accessibility relating to construction in Victoria Harbour.

Lend Lease has advised drivers to use alternative public parking at NAB (800 Bourke St) and Etihad Stadium.

A spokesperson for Lend Lease said: "Etihad Stadium, together with other car parking stations that service the immediate area, can accommodate an additional 1000 vehicles."

"We are in the process of determining whether a section of the North Wharf car park can remain open during construction. Vehicle safety and accessibility will determine whether this is possible given the level of construction underway including the commencement of works on Collins St," the spokesperson said.

Docklands News understands that Etihad Stadium has between 300 and 400 parking spaces available each day on a casual basis, but that 800 Bourke St has only 64 spaces. Other car parks nearby also have spaces for casual parking, with availability varying on a daily basis.

Further complicating matters is the possibility that Etihad Stadium will soon have no spaces left at all for casual parking during the day.

An Etihad Stadium spokesperson reassured drivers that there were still currently spaces for either casual or permanent parkers, but this may change in the future.

Boaties plan to rally support

Docklands' charter boat operators plan to stage a "regatta" in an attempt to improve their standing with decision makers.

The boaties say they don't have an image problem with Melbourne's public, which loves the opportunity for a river cruise. But they say they are unappreciated and misunderstood by local and state government officials and elected representatives.

Charter boat operator Jeff Gordon says unless something is done to change the perception of the industry within government, the industry could find itself excluded from Victoria Harbour.

Mr Gordon says river traffic is the heart and soul of Docklands but the industry which carries 100,000 passengers a year continues to be marginalised.

In an attempt to redress this imbalance, about 15 charter boat operators plan to muster about 20 vessels possibly on Sunday, September 2 and throw open their gang planks for a free afternoon on the water.

Mr Gordon said passengers would be asked to make a gold-coin donation to charity in return for hours of fun cruising Victoria Harbour and the river.

"We want to be recognised as a respected and viable industry," Mr Gordon said.

He said the industry in Docklands had been treated with contempt and it appeared that government officials had a very poor view of its contribution to the city.

Mr Gordon said the industry envisaged itself in a central location where passengers and tourists knew they could come for an experience on the water.

He said it was hoped that finger piers could be established along Harbour Esplanade to accommodate a substantial fleet of charter boats.

Mr Gordon cited a recent example when he met an international cruise ship at Station Pier, brought passengers up the river with an interpretative commentary and dropped them at Central Pier where they were able to explore Melbourne via the City Circle Tram.

"What a great way to arrive in Melbourne," he said. "This type of experience is priceless for Melbourne as a tourism destination, but it is simply unappreciated."

"Our issue is that decision makers in this city don't see it as a priority to have an industry like this."

"We seem to be in their blind spot and there is every chance that we will be pushed out of Victoria Harbour."

Interested in Kiwanis?

The Kiwanis service club wants to establish a club in Docklands and has invited interested people to a meeting on May 7.

Kiwanis member Peter Cameron said the meeting would be held at the RACV Club in Bourke St, Melbourne, at 6pm.

Mr Cameron said Kiwanis was primarily focussed on helping children.

"The Kiwanis Club of Melbourne is looking at the needs of the Docklands community with the intent of establishing a new club there," Mr Cameron said.

"We are holding our regular meeting on May 7 and are inviting people living and working in the Docklands area to come along to our meeting to discover more about Kiwanis."

Mr Cameron can be contacted on **9596 4501** or **pic@ipi.com.au**

Ahoy Fr Bob and friends

Father Bob Maguire (right) got into the Docklands' spirit last month when he brought a couple of his mates to check out community sailing.

Hosted by the Docklands Yacht Club and supported by the Rotary Club of Docklands, community sailing days are held regularly as a way of building community spirit and, at the same time, introduce Docklanders to sailing.

Father Bob was accompanied by Justin Dickinson (left) from the Big Umbrella and Freeman Trebilcock from InterAction.

The trio are based at the Hub in Docklands and collaborate on projects which benefit disadvantaged people.

The community sailing day on April 15 attracted 22 people.

Dr Napthine (centre) talks docks to Port of Melbourne CEO Stephen Bradford and Premier Ted Baillieu.

Docklands dodges a bullet

Docklands shook a monkey off its back last month when the spectre of a choking bridge across the entrance to Victoria Harbour was finally ruled out by the State Government.

For the past decade, the Port of Melbourne Corporation has been threatening to build a low rail bridge just downstream of the Bolte Bridge with neither Labor nor Coalition state governments ruling it out.

The bridge was designed to be only eight metres above the water and Docklanders were united in opposing the plan because of its potential disruption to marine traffic.

A year ago, the Coalition Government's announcement that Hastings would become Victoria's second container port relieved tensions in Docklands about the bridge.

But the plan was never officially shelved until April 24 when the Ports Minister Denis Napthine announced a major redevelopment of Webb Dock in Port Melbourne.

The Government announced a $1.2 billion expansion of Webb Dock and the creation of 2600 jobs.

The announcement created renewed fears that the rail bridge would be commissioned to move freight across the river to the port's major freight handling facilities at its Dynon operation.

Questioned by *Docklands News* at a press conference, Dr Napthine said none of the extra one million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) of containers expected at Webb Dock would be moved by rail.

He said all the freight would be loaded onto trucks, which would access the Westgate Freeway via specially-built port access roads.

The Premier Ted Baillieu explained that the expansion at Webb Dock was an interim measure while the Port of Hastings was brought on stream.

Port officials said the rail bridge option was considered but, ultimately, the decision was influenced by the state's major importers who generally had freight terminals only a short distance away and preferred road delivery.

Expect action, says Lord Mayor

In putting himself forward for a second term as Lord Mayor, Cr Robert Doyle says Docklanders could expect action under his stewardship.

"We can all agree on a plan, but someone's got to deliver it," he said when asked how Docklands would fare if someone else was Lord Mayor after this October's municipal elections.

"Some of the things that I have done are to bring Docklands into a wider conversation, being very aware of the problems of Docklands and offering rate relief for the Harbour Town people to try to help them while the wheel is being rebuilt and making it the heart of the world community around sustainable urban development by bringing the C40 cities here," he said.

"These are the things that I have done – not talked about – done," he said.

Cr Doyle said implementing the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria's Docklands Community Plan (known as D2 – second decade of Docklands) was only part of what he planned to do for Docklands if elected for a second term.

"It's partly D2. It's partly about continuing with Docklands' sustainable urban development and it's partly making the infrastructure decisions now to ensure that Docklands is well linked into the city," he said.

Cr Doyle said Melburnians of the future would consider Docklands as part of the central city area.

But he said it was possible for Docklands to maintain its own culture and character while being part of a larger CBD.

Cr Doyle said Docklands' architecture, its focus on the water and its sustainability defined the suburb.

"But an area is given its culture, its feel and its character by people. And the Docklands community is developing its own culture," he said.

"There are more vertical communities in Docklands than anywhere else, which is a very modern way of living – where residential and commercial and retail sit very comfortably side-by-side or often on top of each other in the same building."

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle.

"You don't want it to be a replica of anything else. You want it to develop in its own way."

Cr Doyle said he could envision Docklands as Melbourne's equivalent of Circular Quay in Sydney with Victoria Harbour becoming the focus of commercial and recreational boating activity.

He said he supported the search for commercially-viable water transport solutions to connect Docklands with Federation Square.

"Docklands' striking architecture defines it and I think the water is a key thing. For 150 years, Melbourne turns its back on the water," he said.

"But the most important thing to me is its sustainability. That is something that is the envy of the world. We have shown in Docklands that sustainability and prosperity can go hand in hand."

Above: Team members of Peter Bristow hung a team banner where condolences were written.

Above: Docklands came alive during the championships.

Docklands turns it on

Docklands was at its sparkling best in early April for the Australian Dragon Boat Championships.

Having experienced what has been claimed to be our best weather in 50 years, the 2600 athletes left Docklands with an overly-exaggerated favourable impression of life on Melbourne's waterfront.

A carnival atmosphere permeated the suburb for the six days of competition from Saturday, March 31 until Thursday, April 5. Competitors were easy to spot, with most carrying their trusty paddles on their backs as they disembarked from trams or emerged from locally rented accommodation.

Organiser David Nairn attributed the fine weather to the extra effort that Buddhist monks put into the opening ceremony.

"They went over and above what was expected from them during their blessing ceremony," he joked.

Mr Nairn said it would not be Victoria's turn to again host the championships for another six years so it was impossible to say if they would return to Docklands.

"If it was an annual event, no doubt there would be a lot of support for returning to Docklands," he said.

Sadly, the event was marred by tragedy on the first day with the death of South Australian competitor Peter Bristow. As a mark of respect, interstate racing was cancelled and it is understood that in future championships the "state day' trophy will be named in his honour.

There was also drama with a capsized boat on day three of the competition and at least one team lost its drummer overboard.

One negative aspect of the carnival was the deliberate damage to six Norfolk Island Pines during the erection of marquees.

Mr Nairn said he was disappointed with Harts Party Hire, the events company responsible for the damage, as it had performed very well in every other aspect.

Places Victoria said there was no suggestion that anyone would be prosecuted over the damage to the Norfolk Island Pines.

Mr Nairn said the derelict state of the raised wharves on Harbour Esplanade needed to be addressed if Docklands was to seriously compete for similar events.

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New Docklands bridge

Planning Minister Matthew Guy has announced a new bridge to connect Northwharf and Docklands.

Mr Guy called the bridge "the final piece of the jigsaw" after he acted to amend the Melbourne Planning Scheme, making sure the bridge could be delivered by the predicted 2013 date of completion.

The bridge links bicycle and pedestrian access under the Charles Grimes Bridge near the ANZ Centre.

The Minister is calling for the public to come forward with ideas for a name, saying: "I am delighted to announce the final stage of the Northbank project can now commence and invite Victorians to submit ideas to name the distinctive bridge that builds on Melbourne's revitalised waterfront precinct."

As you can see from the picture the bridge is a uniquely designed, in a way that is supposed to appear as though it is hovering above the water. Either way it will look great when crossing by foot or bike.

"Once completed, this addition to Melbourne's Yarra will provide a continuous open space along the riverfront for recreational purposes, encourage walking and cycling and contribute to the quality of the public space," Mr Guy said.

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Here is a spectacular two Bedroom apartment complete with two bathrooms and a car park. The apartment is in spendid condition and has astonishing views towards the Yarra River and Port Philip Bay as well as the CBD situated to the left. There are two sizeable bedrooms and the apartment is fitted with good quality window furnishings, stylish contemporary bathroom, stainless steel appliances, European laundry facilities, heating/cooling unit and a drawer dishwasher.

Docklands 1016 / 60 Siddeley Street
DIRECTLY ON THE WATER
3 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale 760,000
Inspect By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra River is this impressive 10th floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 3 bedrooms (the master with walk through robe and private ensuite), a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The lounge opens onto a large balcony overlooking the Yarra River and the bay and is perfect for entertaining family and friends .

Docklands 801 / 50 Lorimer Street
CONSIDERED THE BEST 3 BEDROOM
3 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car + Storage
Private Sale 1,230,000 m
Inspect By appointment

Presentation perfect with unrivalled 300 degree panoramic views of the Docklands precinct and across the bridges to the city skyline, this impressive three bedroom apartment with two bathrooms on the 8th floor is the epitome of inner city living. Capturing glorious sun, this immaculate home enjoys open plan entertaining with full wrap around balcony terrace, designer Miele kitchen/meals and main bedroom with (BIRs & ensuite)

Docklands 404 / 60 Siddeley Street
MASSIVE ENTERTAINERS TERRACE
2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale $660,000
Inspect By appointment

This Rivers edge apartment with huge garden terrace boasting sensational views will position all other apartments in second place! Spoil yourself in the middle of the city with a 'suburb size' back yard! Relax in the spacious living/dining area. Modern and functional kitchen with s/s app, glass splash backs and granite bench tops. Two good size bedrooms, both with BIR separated by a large and stylish bathroom, additional toilet and separate laundry facilities.

Docklands 609 / 8 McCrae Street
HERE'S ONE TO VIEW
1 bed 1 bath
Private sale $380,000
Inspect By appointment

Here is an impressive one bedroom, one bathroom with fantastic views overlooking the city. You will certainly enjoy these astonishing views while you dine and enjoy this in your living area that spills out to a large balcony. You also have a sizeable main bedroom with large built in robes with large windows to capture the northern light. The apartment is fitted with high quality window furnishings and also comes with a storage cage.

Docklands 1108 / 15 Caravell Lane
WATER VIEWS, HARBOR LIFESTYLE
2 bed 1 bath 1 car
Private sale $499,000
Inspect By appointment

Situated in New Quay's prized and much sought after "Palladio" residential complex is this 11th floor versatile designed apartment which is perfect for either the owner occupier to reside or lease out. The "Palladio" offers the residents an incredible life-style where you have a waterfront location, surrounded by superb restaurants, specialty shopping and 15 minutes from the city centre. The apartment itself consists of 2 spacious bedrooms with BIR's, contemporary styled bathroom with European type laundry.

Docklands 1604 / 60 Siddeley Street
3 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale $800,000
Inspect By appointment

This apartment is located in the stunning Flinders Wharf building is a must see. Consisting of 3 spacious bedrooms including master with WIR and ensuite .The large dining and lounge opens to a balcony that has views a plenty.You can see the entire docklands precinct with views also accross to the bay. You have full access to all building facilities which consists of large lap pool, spa, steam room, sauna and fully equipt gymnasium.

Docklands 111/ 30 New Quay Prom.
MAJESTIC VIEWS WITH HUGE TERRACE
2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale $900,000 plus
Inspect By appointment

Located in the highly sought after Sant' Elia. This stylish boutique building consisting of only 44 apartments is prime real estate. With uninterrupted views across Victoria Harbour, inclusive of an unusually large 63m2 terrace, this is truly the ideal space for entertaining.

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The Fairmilers and friends (front from left) George Raphael, John Whelan, Dick Thompson, Bruce Casey, Peter Lipscombe, Tom Hogg, Marj Kean, Hub Davis, Yvonne from the Challenger (back) Mark ,Keith and Lyla from the Challenger.

A trip down memory lane for sailors

A group of World War II veterans enjoyed a day out on the water in Docklands on April 7 aboard one of the world's last surviving Fairmile patrol boats.

Currently in service as a pleasure craft, Keith Rankin's boat Challenger was originally built for the Australian army in 1946.

For 85-year-old Hub Davis's mates and their families, the tour to Williamstown and back on Easter Saturday was a dream come true.

"It was truly marvellous," Mr Davis said. "We couldn't have asked for a better day. It was a great success and everyone on board, from six-year-olds to 90-year-olds, had a great time."

The veterans are members of the Fairmile Association of Australia, having served on the wooden vessels, as well as their close relatives Harbour Defence Motor Launches and Air Sea Rescue boats

Mr Davis said a member of the group came across the existence of Challenger while researching Fairmile vessels.

A Fairmile in action on D-Day during the invasion of France in 1944.

"The trip came about entirely due to the Keith's generosity, which I suspect is considerable," Mr Davis said.

He said the tourists passed around the hat and collected a "miserable" amount which they attempted to give Keith to at least cover the afternoon tea on board.

"I'm 85 and I'm the youngest so it was great that Keith was able to treat us all this way before we 'cross the bar' into the next world," Mr Davis said.

He said the invitation for the trip went Australia-wide, but only veterans from Victoria and NSW managed to attend.

"As you could imagine, it's not easy for us to get to events like this," Mr Davis said.

The group was delighted to be taken to Williamstown for an up-close, waterside look at the restored mine sweeper HMAS Castlemaine as well as a corvette.

Mr Davis explained that only six or seven members now attend the group's quarterly meeting in Williamstown these days.

"We're getting old. A lot of us can no longer drive and the train is unmanageable too," he said.

He said, while the Challenger no longer resembled a Fairmile above the deck, the trip was nostalgic for the group.

He said the British-designed Fairmiles were built all around the world during the war.

"Out of 35 built here, the army only had two, with most of them being built for the navy for anti-submarine duties," he said.

"They were a heavily-armed vessel with cannon, machine guns and depth charges," he said.

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Mission reveals its secrets

By Callie Morgan

Docklands' historic Mission to Seafarers has received museum accreditation after 150 years of service.

The museum accreditation will mean dozens of boxes of ancient items found at the Mission to Seafarers in Flinders St will now be stored with maximum conservation techniques and appropriate research.

The Mission to Seafarers' heritage collection manager, Monica Cronin, said she was relieved "all the dusty old boxes of stuff weren't just thrown out".

"I came in after I was contacted by the Mission's CEO Andrea Fleming and was amazed that there were stories here from around Melbourne's first settlement through until today," Ms Cronin said. "Now we're in the process of cataloguing everything and identifying what we've got."

Six interns from Deakin University and Melbourne University are currently helping Ms Cronin read every letter and study hundreds of photographs in order to understand their significance.

Ms Cronin said the interns had to study the mission's collection of letters, some of them dating back to 1865, pinpoint important dates and research them more thoroughly.

"When you look through these things you get a who's who of Melbourne and it's really quite impressive to see some pretty big names," Ms Cronin said. "We're building this gorgeous timeframe of what was happening and who was involved."

Ms Cronin said one of the mission's most impressive displays was its collection of letters sent from a 16-year-old sailor to his mother at the end of World War II.

The letters, written by Alan Quin, reveal amazing stories of his adventures at sea.

"It's fantastic because we get this very personal understanding of seafaring life," Ms Cronin said. "Embedded in amongst all the adventure are things like 'Mum, can you please wax my surf ski'?"

Hundreds of photographs taken around the world have also been discovered at the mission.

Ms Cronin said the amazing pictures were "a snapshot of time".

"There are hundreds of photographs of America in the early 1900s and it is a completely different place today."

Ms Cronin said she was hoping the museum accreditation would create an awareness of the importance of the Mission to Seafarers' building.

"People may know what the building is but they don't know what happens behind the facade," Ms Cronin said. "Seafarers are crucial to economic stimulation but they have a pretty lonely and isolated situation to be in and that is why we are here."

Ms Cronin said the volunteers at the Mission to Seafarers were extremely proud of the museum accreditation.

"We think it's all pretty special because it's not just the mission's story, it's Melbourne's story," Ms Cronin said.

Councillor is shown the issues

A group of Docklanders took Melbourne City councillor Cathy Oke on a walking-tour last month to show her first-hand their issues with open space.

Docklander Dawn Linnett said Cr Oke offered to come to Docklands to see residents' issues during a recent consultation at the town hall to discuss open space.

"Cathy seemed really on-the-ball," Ms Linnett reported. "She was very agreeable to our suggestions and hopefully she will be able to doing something about them."

On April 13, the residents took Cr Oke to Northbank, South Wharf, Yarra's Edge and Victoria Harbour. Ms Linnett said the group pointed out opportunities for greening, lighting, additional public facilities, wind mitigation and suggestions of where dogs could be walked off their leashes.

"We had lots of suggestions about how Docklands could become more people-friendly," Ms Linnett said.

Cr Oke said the personal tour came about during a discussion at the town hall about specific issues in Docklands.

"Docklands residents present on the night had specific ideas for improving open space in the area near their apartments, as well as questions regarding timelines for improvements in recently-constructed areas," Cr Oke said.

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'Let's Go Together' iPhone app

By Callie Morgan

Access Melbourne has launched an iPhone application which will allow Docklanders to meet and share car trips with friends and co-workers.

The *Let's Go Together* app enables users to post their travel plans and mode of transport online in order to share transport with people going in the same direction.

Urban Transport's David Meiklejohn said the app was a perfectly safe way to share transport as its users could restrict who they wanted to share their journey.

"It's based on an idea of trust so you can look at who you know and which of your friends are making particular trips at certain times," Mr Meiklejohn said.

Mr Meiklejohn said the app was an important part of the solution for freeing up Docklands' congested tram stops and Southern Cross Station.

"Docklanders face a particular set of transport problems that aren't faced by CBD workers," Mr Meiklejohn said.

"If I'm standing on a corner in the city there are three train stations nearby that I can easily access whereas in Docklands there is just the one station."

Mr Meiklejohn said the app had the potential to save Docklanders a lot of money on transport fees.

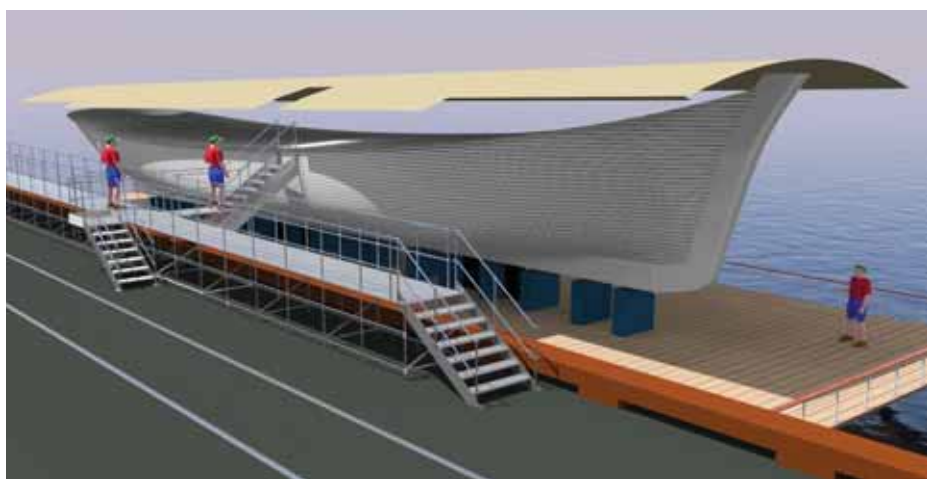
"ANZ, Myer, Ericsson and NAB are close to one another in Docklands and if they've got people going out to the same area, whether it's to the airport or somewhere else, then there is an opportunity to be able to co-ordinate trips," Mr Meiklejohn said.

"It's $50 for a taxi to the airport and if there are 10 or 20 people doing that a day, with no co-ordination, then it becomes pretty expensive for businesses and individuals."

Mr Meiklejohn said the app did not just have to be used to share taxi rides but could also be used by friends who wanted to meet for lunch or drinks.

"At the moment we don't have any hard goals about how many customers we want signed up because it's free," Mr Meiklejohn said. "We really just want to see how people in Melbourne, and Docklands in particular, use it."

Right: Ronald Soh, Catherine Bykovec and David Meiklejohn



Alma soon to be high and dry

This artist's impression shows the view that Docklanders will soon see of the historic three-masted, sailing-ship Alma Doepel.

The 108-year-old vessel is soon to be raised via this submersible barge which is being constructed nearby. The barge will be assembled downstream and floated into position under the ship before being raised by pumping air into twin submersible pontoons.

Networking? Lunch? Sign up today

Sign up for the next Docklands News Networking Lunch on Friday, June 22 in the Portside Bar and Lounge area of the Wharf Hotel at Northwharf.

DOCKLANDS NEWS NETWORKING LUNCH

The lunch is held quarterly and aims to bring Docklands businesses together to make and renew relationships.

The cost will be $60 – payable in advance by emailing **lunch@docklandsnews.com.au** or by ringing us on **8689 7979**. The lunch starts at 12 noon (for a 12.30 start).

The three-course menu is:

Entrée: Selection of shared entree platters: Salt & pepper squid with harissa aioli; Heirloom tomato, feta and balsamic bruschetta; and Char-grilled chicken tenderloin, avocado and tomato salad.

Main: Wild mushroom & chicken linguini, parmesan; OR Potato, leek, pumpkin and spinach quiche, roasted tomatoes, parmesan and rocket.

Dessert: Platters of lemon meringue; gooey chocolate brownie; and mini-raspberry cup-cakes with white chocolate frosting.

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Meet the new Hub bubs

Pictured here is the latest crop of local babies with their mums at their first playgroup session at the Docklands Hub last month.

About half of the children are from Docklands and the other half are from Southbank.

Some 14 playgroups meet at the Hub and this is the latest gathering of mums to form a group.

It is possible for a group to stay together until their children start school.

But it is likely that this newest group will be split once the new Boyd Community Centre comes on stream in Southbank.

Currently Docklands caters for Docklands, Southbank and CBD families. There are up to 12 families in each group.

Winners, winners, winners

The winners of the Docklands Rotary Experience Raffle are 1st prize: Joanne Wandel, 2nd prize: Joann Pyne.

Docklands Rotary has thanked the donars: Docklands Private Collection of Apartments, Grand Mercure, Harbour Town Shopping Centre, Watermark, Oscars Table, VaBene, Tours on Trike, Boat4Hire and Medibank Icehouse.

The raffle raised funds for Rotary's local and international project.

Lawrence Molloy won the Docklands News Facebook competition – a $500 food and beverage voucher from Platform 28.

Garden group sprouts

A dozen enthusiastic Docklanders attended a meeting at the Hub on April 18 to discuss the activation of our suburb's new community garden.

The garden, adjacent to Village Green in Victoria Harbour, has only just been completed thanks to a partnership between Lend Lease, the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria.

The garden has made great use of timbers and materials that have been salvaged from other areas during Docklands' development.

Those attending the meeting expressed great enthusiasm for the opportunities the garden would provide and, most of all, for the opportunity for Docklanders to be able to undertake activities together.

The garden is open to everyone and all are welcome to get involved through activities to be conducted in the coming weeks and beyond. An official opening will occur in the near future.

A second meeting will be held at the Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, at 7.30pm on May 2, and further meetings will follow.

These meetings and other garden activities will be publicised on the community notice boards throughout Docklands, within this paper and via the council's email newsletter *Hub Happenings*.

If you are interested in joining in, please come along to one of these sessions. You can express your interest to garden co-ordinator Peter Crowley by contacting the Hub on **8622 4822** or via email to **greendocklands@gmail.com**.

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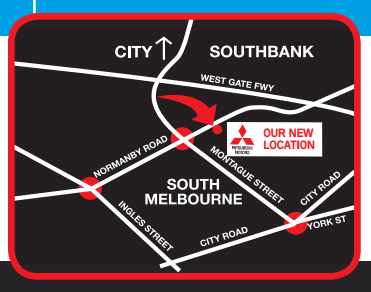

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FACES OF DOCKLANDS

LLOYD SULLIVAN, 22
United Kingdom

Lloyd spent his childhood in Melbourne, and decided to come back after graduating from university to see what it was like to live here as an adult. He lives with his father in Docklands and works at Outback Jack's steakhouse. "I love working next to the water, and the view is always nice on the way to work," Lloyd said. "My job is fun, and the other staff here are great fun to be with."

JACEY ASHTON, 19
Brunswick

Originally from Queensland, Jacey was drawn to Melbourne by the vibrant music scene. A drummer herself, she currently works as a supervisor at Mecca Bah. "I've been here for six months, and I love the location on the water," Jacey said. "Docklands is an area with huge potential. Every night is different and I always get to meet new people."

PAUL WILSON, 21
Hawthorn

Paul has been working as a waiter at Berth for five years, and really enjoys interacting with people as part of his job. "I love both the customers and the staff, and we get lots of interesting people down here," Paul said. "The views across the water are great, and it's really nice to be able to work next to the water."

MARGARET OLSEN, 22
Trondheim, Norway

Margaret has come to the city to complete an exchange program in Geomatics Engineering at the University of Melbourne. Along with her studies, she works part-time at James Squire Brewhouse here in Docklands. "I really like the atmosphere, and it's great serving locals," Margaret said. "We serve my favourite Aussie beer, and there are always lots of great places to go in Docklands for drinks or food."

STEPH MASON, 28
Footscray

Steph was out promoting the Ancient Rome exhibition, currently being held beneath the big tent in Waterfront City Piazza. Although currently living in Footscray, Steph's job as manager means that she regularly travels around with the exhibition – and Docklands received a positive review. "It's a fantastic place here, especially if you love the water like I do," Steph said. "You have beautiful skies here, and it's always great to see lots of people who are out to have fun."

DAVID TOMEK
Melbourne

David Tomek has been working at the National Australia Bank in Docklands for two years. His role is responsible for business development. What he likes the most about Docklands is the water view. "Docklands is not as busy or hectic as the CBD. It's nice to see water view when you work here," he said. David appreciates the numerous options of cuisines in Docklands. "There is a lot of nice choice of restaurants and venues here," he said.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

with Peter O'Rourke

from Active Melbourne City Sports

'Ditch the Desk'

It has long been established that people living an active and healthy lifestyle enjoy increased energy, concentration and motivation in the workplace.

Ditch the Desk is a fitness program developed to encourage workplaces to get out of the office and get active.

Guided by professional fitness experts, participants work at their own pace, are provided with helpful tips on how to improve their health and wellness and are shown that being active can be very simple.

Ditch the Desk offers a range of different exercises which can be tailored to suit different levels of fitness.

Ditch the Desk participants are not only directed but are also educated in the concept of health and wellness and are provided with ownership and knowledge to take forward in their life.

Visit **www.melbournecitysports.ymca.org.au** or contact **mcs@ymca.org.au** for more information.

Health and wellness

The issue of corporate health and wellness continues to increase on the list of many business's priorities.

Currently, there are numerous companies in Melbourne that offer corporate health assessments with a variety of different tests.

This information is extremely useful as the corporate worker category is at high risk of becoming sedentary, over-worked and ultimately becoming unhealthy.

The workers are subsequently presented with their health assessment results and left to their own devices.

Active Melbourne City Sports (AMCS) believes in bridging the gap between the realisation of the need to become active and providing an avenue to BE active.

Therefore, by providing numerous corporate health and wellness programs, it strives to increase the overall participation across Docklands and Melbourne CBD.

Currently the Federal Government provides grants for companies which wish to promote physical activity and exercise to their employees.

For more information visit Vic Health at **www.vichealth.vic.gov.au.**

Motivation 101

I have only recently migrated to Melbourne, having previously inhabited the land of endless sunshine, Western Australia. Up until now, I have to admit that I love Melbourne weather.

When I express this sentiment, I am stuck with these words ringing in my ears: "Just wait till winter".

Apparently temperatures can drop quite dramatically in Melbourne.

Winter is also the time of year that we lose any remaining will-power to exercise.

This is a basic human instinct as our bodies naturally adapt and try to put on weight as insulation.

I will therefore discuss three tips aimed to increase your activity over the long, cold winter months.

Firstly, get involved in any form of group fitness. It's much easier to exercise and stay motivated with the support of a group.

Secondly, set yourself some goals. Goals are a fantastic way to stay on track to a healthy body and mind.

Thirdly, find yourself a heated pool. Swimming is an awesome way to exercise and the fact that it's indoors and in a heated pool means you stay warm and out of the elements. I hope these tips help your quest for a happier you.

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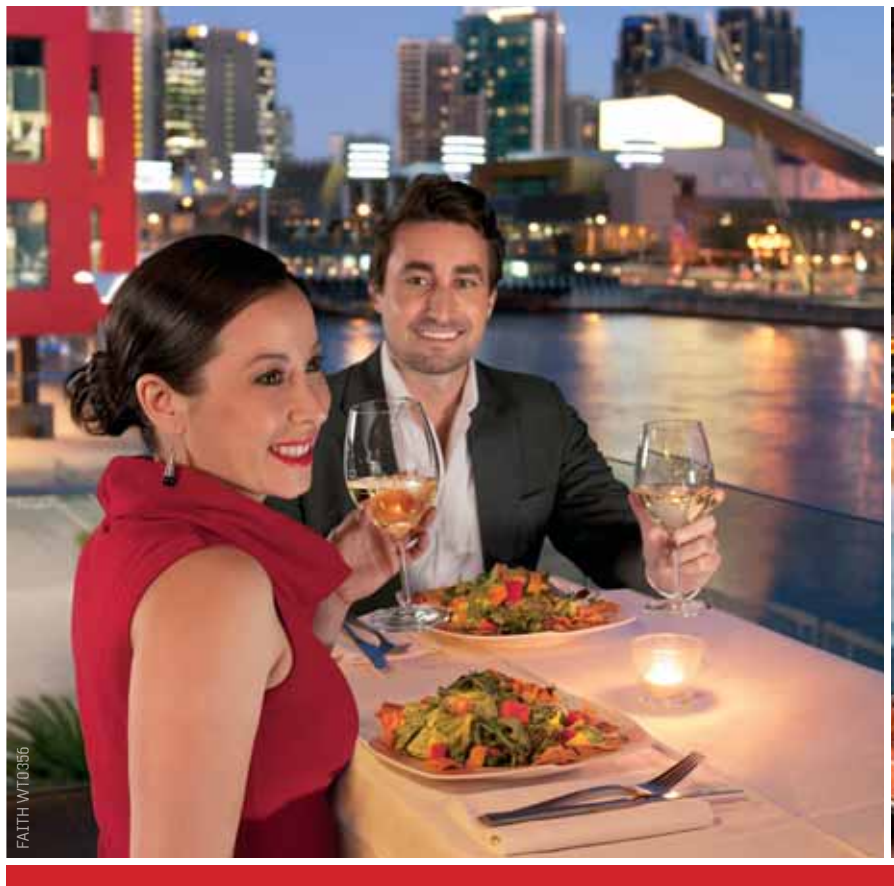

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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Greetings everybody

Firstly it was great to hear Lord Mayor Robert Doyle state that a priority of his for Docklands is the greening of our area, meaning more attention to the provision of trees and parkland. I don't think he meant Greening politically!

Regarding the proposed new community centre and library, a council manager gave a presentation to the DCA showing the design and layout of the stand-alone building, construction of which is due to commence in coming months. It is to be located at the junction of Bourke and Collins streets in Victoria Harbour. It will contain separate areas for rest and recreation.

In response to our request, council is including space for community meetings for up to 100 people. Of course the space will not sit idle and will be used for other activities and we hope it will be available for meetings as required. Currently we usually have nowhere to go for meetings of say 50 or more as the existing small Hub building is normally booked out. The new facility will be very welcome.

To our knowledge there is still no decision by Minister Guy in relation to the MAB development plans for NewQuay Central / Waterfront City, to which council and ourselves lodged objections.

The Victorian Electoral Commission has decided against a return to a ward system for the City of Melbourne citing, in particular, concern to ensure that the central business and commercial district [CBD] continues to be not hindered by or given inadequate consideration due to individual ward issues. Community groups strongly objected on the other hand on the grounds that ward councillors were needed because they have an interest in and look after local issues. Unfortunately that is not going to happen.

I convened and chaired an inaugural meeting in April of nearly 20 chairs of owners' corporations of major residential buildings in the CBD, Southbank, South Melbourne and Docklands, the purpose of which is to pool information and exchange views on various aspects of operations and issues affecting residents and to make submissions to governments as appropriate.

A major issue discussed was the State Planning Minister Matthew Guy's promotion of more extensive hi-rise development. Southbank and Docklands are already being crowded with high-rise – Southbank in particular, which will have the addition of the recently-approved, 71-storey tower on the Queensbridge Hotel site. This is being strongly objected to by residents in the area, but the Government has stipulated that no objections will be allowed or considered for any development over 25,000 sqm.

Problems inherent in excessive concentration of high-rise include lack of sunlight, privacy and open space, plus the addition of wind tunnels and traffic congestion. Matthew Guy stated his vision is a Manhattan-style skyline. However Manhattan / New York is ranked about 50th in the most liveable cities of the world.

Also discussed were OC legislation, strata management, and VCAT applications. Consolidated submissions by the chairs' group are to be formulated. The group has decided to meet quarterly with the next meeting in July.

Liaison with community groups will be a subject for consideration. There is already some liaison by reason of chairs or other OC committee members being represented on community association committees but this representation could be increased.

We continue to keep members informed of upcoming activities, with updated listings of Etihad events, Hub Happenings and separate council-approved events. Notice the replica of Captain Cook's Endeavour is visiting Docklands.

DCA representatives attended a briefing by the Port of Melbourne Authority on its expansion plans. Importantly, the authority has advised me that the feared rail bridge is not going to happen and is not in their future plans.

If any reader would like to become a member of the DCA or has any suggestions they wish to put forward regarding activities or issues, they are welcome to contact us on **docklandscommunityassociation@gmail.com** If you would like to talk to me about any aspect you are welcome to call me on **0412 097 706**. You can also keep up with things on our website **www.docklandscommunityassociation.com**

Great to be in touch again.

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Roger Gardner
President DCA

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What Women Want *With Abby Crawford*

Trust is something that we should cherish.

It should be important to us that it is earned – both in its receiving and in its giving. It should be a value that we hold dear. If you say: "I trust them", those words should speak volumes.

Trust is both a reassuring and admirable quality for individuals, groups or businesses to hold – one that is not won easily, but once awarded is then not questioned. We should strive to hold people's trust, to act with integrity and to live by honourable intentions, for our word to be worth something.

Well, apparently that's in an ideal world. It seems that in the real world, you "walk a gauntlet" to trust many things outside your immediate family – and even they can rip your heart out from time to time.

It seems trust is not a moral code that many people or businesses even try to offer as an integral value of their culture. This is particularly true, it would seem, in those who perceive themselves to be in a position of power. Words are spoken in order to get what they need. And then those words are forgotten, as though they have served their purpose to secure what they determined was of more value for them to hold, than you. And without the slightest hint of remorse, they take what they came for. Ruthless business? Perhaps. Manipulation? More likely. Exploitation? Without a doubt.

The most sinister part of this situation, is that it can lead to your own self-doubt – your own remorse, rather than outrage. Too often, we start to blame ourselves for the lack of moral fibre of others. It becomes easy to say: "I should have known". You think that somehow, in the frantic pace of life, whilst bearing the weight of responsibility for so many different facets of your existence, you should have seen the wolf in grandma's clothes.

Sure, you've spotted the individual a mile away who's just in it for themselves. And you've known to hire a solicitor to double-check the fine print of every clause of a contract. I'm not talking about the obvious wordsmiths in life. I'm talking about the ones that very cleverly, and very manipulatively, see people's vulnerabilities and hopes and use it to their advantage. Those that you just didn't see coming.

I'm currently kicking myself for trusting something. I believed it would be a certain way, because that's what I was told. I questioned it, but I was reassured by words. I outlined my concerns and was told they were unnecessary. And because I wanted the situation to be true, I wanted to trust their word – I made a leap of faith.

I put myself boldly into a situation that, as it turned out, wasn't quite as it "promised" to be. Ah, what to do?

And I think that the only thing to do, is to continue to live by your own code of conduct. In the face of being let down by others, don't question yourself for trusting them. Let them hold their own failings and instead trust that karma will make a small note against their name.

Hold your own head high, and remember your own values. And slowly, sort things out for yourself. Sometimes people in a position of power throw their weight around with little regard for others. They give little thought to the words they use, they believe they are too important to be concerned.

Remember, it may be nice to be important, but it is more important to be nice.

Have a great month.

Abby x

Email: **life@docklandsnews.com.au**

I LOVE THE NIGHT LIFE

The sailor's pub: Mission to Seafarers

Docklands' historic Mission to Seafarers in Flinders St now welcomes more than tourists seeking salves for their curiosity and spirituality.

The mission is a cosy, small hangout featuring live gigs and cheap meals. Beers, wines and spirits are still $5. Pool and ping-pong are free to play. And this month Stephen Cummings and SAS are playing every Thursday night.

Sausages and Sailors (SAS) are: funk-pop singer-songwriter Robert Goodge (I'm Talking), bass guru Bill McDonald (Max Q and Frente) and writer-rocker Stephen Cummings.

Stephen says he lives mostly in his own mind. He has 20 albums, two novels and a memoir all published and available for sale. The SAS are brilliant! Be sure not to miss out this time.

Two sets will be performed between 7.30pm and 9.30pm on Thursday nights. Entry at the door costs $15.

The heritage-listed Mission to Seafarers is at 717 Flinders St, Docklands. It's a 10-minute walk from Southern Cross Station.

Stephen's CDs can also be purchased at the bar for $15 each.

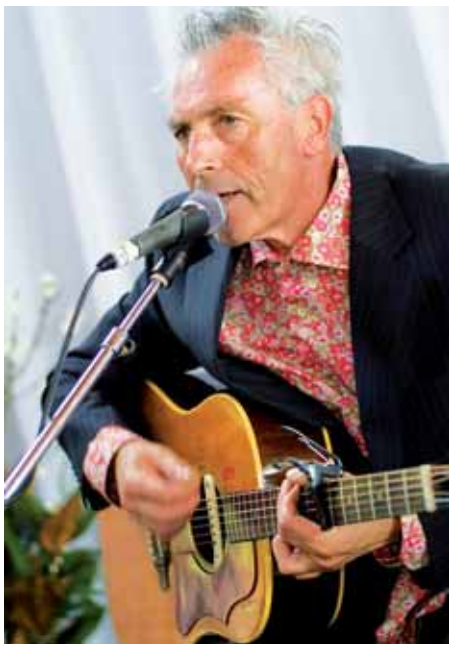
The Mission of Seafarers used to be a meeting place for Melbourne's sailors. Sailors would work out there in the gym and rest up there before they went out to sea.

International sailors still use the centre and today the mission is a non-profit organisation that cares for the welfare of seafarers.

The mission welcomes all to learn about its place in Melbourne's history.

Enjoy the delightful meals, plus amazing live gigs at the mission this May!

Comment on this story online: www.docklandsnews.com.au



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DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

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WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

My friends and I are on school holidays so we went ice-skating and now we're doing some shopping.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

South Gippsland

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT WINTER?

I just love winter clothes more. I'd rather wear something warm than a little summer dress.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?

I love a great jacket.

Jess Chen, 22

LOCATION?

Harbour Town

WEARS?

My outfit is just bits and pieces I've purchased around Melbourne.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Dressy but casual. My boyfriend hates how I dress!

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

It's my boyfriend and my anniversary so we're just shopping and spending the day together.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Clayton South

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT WINTER?

Scarves.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?

A bronze origami crane necklace. I know it's not technically clothing but I love it.

Nicole Teh, 25

LOCATION?

Harbour Town

WEARS?

My outfit was purchased at chain stores and little boutiques around the city.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Smart elegance.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I was showing my friend from Malaysia around the city.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Melbourne

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT WINTER?

I like that you can wear fur. It looks great, is in fashion at the moment and it's so warm.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?

I love my blazer.

Forget the forecast

By Nicola St John

Believe it or not, you'll be willing the rain on this winter.

Why, you ask? Because with rain comes raincoats, gumboots and umbrellas – making a debut this season in a new range of colours and designs.

Guaranteed to excite despite the downpours, the classic raincoat has had a modern twist with more interesting colours and patterns. Think sexy goddess in red polka-dots, fine tailoring and a burst of orange and rust.

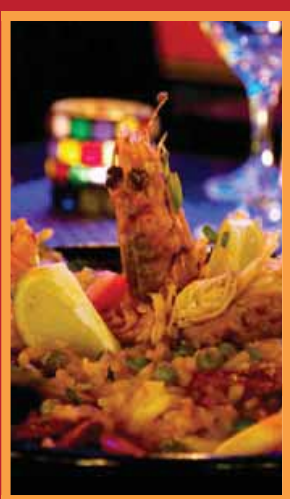
Designers such as Philip Lim, Burberry and Jason Wu have transformed the traditional trench, into something contemporary with transparent chic raincoats and jackets. Lim's cropped rain-jacket is a smoky translucent tailored piece, as far removed from a plastic poncho as possible.

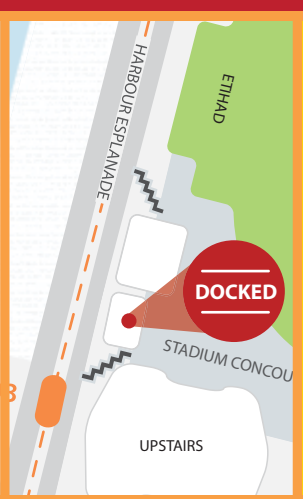
Wu has featured semi-sheer pastel raincoats, teaming them with florals underneath – allowing what you're wearing underneath to show through.

Rag and Bone showed bright blues and oranges in a sporting take on the anorak – guaranteed to keep you dry. Also leading the way in bright hues is Donna Karan, whose magenta jacket and matching hat will be sure to have you noticed among black umbrellas.

These runway looks are sure to make their way to chain stores this season.

DOCKLANDS NEWEST spanish tapas and cocktail bar - STADIUM PRECINCT





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Shane has appeared on **Masterchef, Ready Steady Cook** and is the owner of **Maha** restaurant and most recently opened **St Katherine's** along with good friend **George Calombaris.**

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The weather in Docklands is pretty good considering ...

When people talk about the weather, it is usually because there is not much else to talk about! I can't help notice that when people talk about Docklands they always want to talk about the weather. That and parking of course!

So it is then, that with the onset of winter, I thought I might talk a little bit about the weather! In particular the April weather conditions in Docklands.

Good News Bill's assessment of April weather conditions in Docklands: "*Mostly sunny days with generally windy conditions causing no more than a few twigs to fall off trees. There was only four days of any significant rain. So weather-wise, GNB reckons that April was not a bad month to be in Docklands.*"

Now to turn my attention to what did happened in Docklands during April ...

The National Dragon Boat Championships came to Docklands and just about took over Harbour Esplanade and Victoria Harbour. To me, Harbour Esplanade is the logical focal point of Docklands. So it may have seemed to a curious onlooker that for one crazy week in April the dragon boat folk brought Docklands to life – and guess what? During the week they were here, there was 0.4mm of rain, 46 hours of sunshine and wind speeds ran between 24-29kph (moderate). There were two days when speeds of 61 and 63 kmh (near gale) were recorded. The dragon boaters chose a great time to visit Docklands and they had a fantastic week! This is the very essence of what Docklands has to offer as part of the most liveable city!

April also saw the arrival of James Cook's HMB Endeavour to Docklands. She stayed in Docklands from 18-29 April and set up as a maritime museum at Waterfront City Marina, where she was open for school groups and the general public.

The Endeavour is currently nearing the end of her 2011-2012 circumnavigation of Australia. When she leaves Melbourne she will spend five days in Eden before finishing her year-long circumnavigation and returns to Darling Harbour where she normally resides.

It is worth subscribing to the Endeavour newsletter if you are interested in future planned voyages. Her next voyage, for which bookings have closed, is a 13-day trip to Lord Howe to observe the Transit of Venus – an event when the planet Venus moves across the sun on June 6, 2012. This is the same day as the D-Day Normandy landings of 1944 – coincidentally! The next time this celestial event will take place is December 2117 – so not long!

Other events that have been quietly bringing in the crowds to Docklands can be found in and around Harbour Town. The Flea Market operates every Saturday down near the film studios in Docklands Drive. There is a Sunday Market operating along NewQuay Promenade and the Piazza.

The Wonderland Fun Park has been running a number of highly successful events at its new Spiegeltent. This is a great corporate venue available for hire. If you are interested contact the Wonderland Fun Park. Also down at the Waterfront City Piazza in the great white tent you will find the Ancient Roman Exhibition full of fascinating Roman replicas of war machines and other fantastic devices the Romans used to stamp their early civilization on the world. You will all remember what the Romans did for us – roads, aqueducts, irrigation – that sort of thing.

For those who missed April; never mind. There is always May. And there is plenty to see and do. With winter approaching look out for the Melbourne winter campaign coming to Docklands. Look out too for the many great deals that can be had.

James Squire Brewhouse runs a trivia night every Wednesday and on Thursday nights they have their Locals Night with special deals on their celebrated beers. Look out too for Super Tuesday dining specials in NewQuay. Participating restaurants offer you a second meal free. Bob's Steak and Chop House's Unlimited Business Breakfast is not to be missed. These are only the tip of the Docklanders Deals iceberg!

Talking of deals, if you are not already a member, get yourself a Docklander Deals reward card! It is free and opens you up to many great deals available at participating Docklands retailers. Check the website and sign up online. Make it your mission in May to challenge Docklands retailers to tell you what their Docklander Deals are for May. You will be surprised what you can get when you ask.

Ever fancied yourself as a bit of a handy person? They are looking for volunteers down at Shed 2 where they are restoring the Alma Doepel. The Alma Doepel is a three-masted topsail schooner, Australian-built and operated, with more than 100 years of history behind her and with more history yet to be written. They are open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10am to 5pm and they have a fantastic set-up down there. If you go down and introduce yourself, you will be given something interesting to do and you too can become involved in the Alma Doepel history.

I can't believe how much there is to do in Docklands! Who has time to talk about the weather!

Yarra's Edge - a Mirvac masterpiece

This is waterfront living, with the local community-neighbourhood feel of a village combined with all the advantages of a modern metropolis offered by Melbourne.

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Developed by Mirvac, Yarra's Edge is growing, and will grow on you.

Hire a bike and take a leisurely ride alongside the marina, or duck over to the nearby DFO retail mecca.

The precinct has convenient access to Etihad Stadium, and the West Gate Freeway.

Discover Yarra's Edge

Yarra's Edge is located just across the Yarra from the ANZ building. Take a walk across award winning Webb Bridge to this truly undiscovered gem. This pristine neighbourhood, developed by Mirvac, boasts stunning apartments as well as luxury homes.

Take advantage of the sunny north facing bank of the Yarra – it is there for you.

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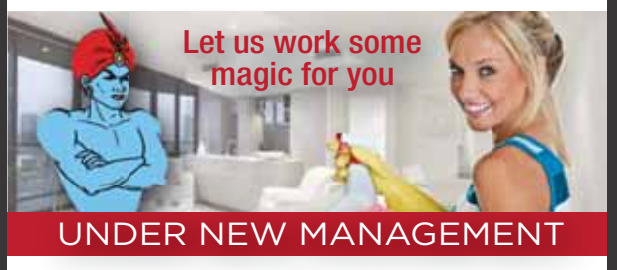

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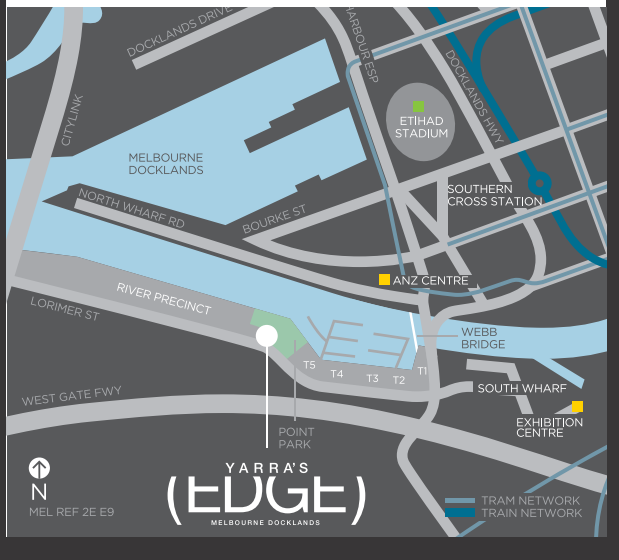
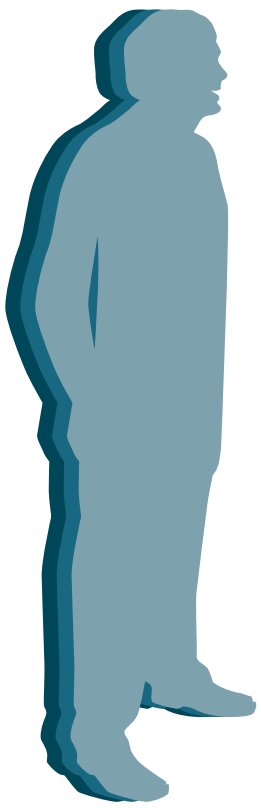


Life at sea is not all glamour



DOCKLANDER

Profile by
By Callie Morgan

Living on a boat and sharing a front row view of Victoria Harbour with her husband and poodle isn't as glamorous as it sounds, according to Docklander Sally Hewitt.

Living on a boat and sharing a front row view of Victoria Harbour with her husband and poodle isn't as glamorous as it sounds, according to Docklander Sally Hewitt.

"There's a lot of hard work associated with it and keeping everything going," Ms Hewitt said. "It's an outdoor life and people are always saying how tanned I look but it isn't all glamour."

Ms Hewitt said the tiny living space was also an enormous change to her previous home.

"I had an acre property out in Donvale," Ms Hewitt said. "I lived in a 35 square metre house with a botanical garden, so I couldn't have asked for a bigger change."

When Ms Hewitt isn't meeting with the Docklands' Chamber of Commerce or the Condor Tower committee, she and her husband Bill spend hours at Central Pier working on their boat, Quest III.

"Bill started building the vessel from the ground up in the early 90s," Ms Hewitt said. "Now I'm devoting myself full-time to completing Quest III and together we are bringing it to completion."

Ms Hewitt said that while building an entire boat was a lot of work, she loved her Docklands' workplace.

"I like the fact I can do most things by just getting out on my two feet," Ms Hewitt said. "Everything is very accessible."

"People talk about Docklands as having no sense of community but I disagree."

"There aren't many suburbs where you would find that you could go down to the local shopping centre and see anyone you know, whereas in Docklands if I want to get somewhere fast I practically have to put on a disguise," Ms Hewitt said.

Ms Hewitt said moving to a new suburb and leaving her corporate operations job at Black and Decker behind hadn't been as difficult as she expected because of all the new people she'd met whilst out walking her dog, Coco.

"I know everybody who owns a dog and everybody who owns a dog knows me," Ms Hewitt said. "It's a wonderful way to meet and get to know people and keep in touch with friends."

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David Wills and Kingsley

By Callie Morgan

Don't be fooled by Kingsley's well-rounded figure, he loves nothing more than getting out of his apartment, exploring Docklands and making friends.

Kingsley's owner David said they left their home in Bourke St's Mosaic building at least four times a day to explore the park and meet new friends.

David said Kingsley's dopey and friendly personality meant he was always a very placid and loveable companion. David works from home as a photographer and said Kingsley was an expert at having his photo taken.

"He knows every pose and thinks he is more human than dog," David laughed. While he has been settled in at his Docklands' apartment for more than a year, Kingsley had to travel to the other side of the world to be with David and his partner.

"He is originally from Hurstville in New South Wales but he has been all about the world," David said. "He went to Canada with me for seven years and then he came back to Melbourne."

David said one of Kingsley's greatest achievements was surviving eight weeks in quarantine on his return to Australia.

"To take him over to Canada he literally left here on Air Canada and we picked him up from the airport in Toronto but coming back to Melbourne he had to spend so long in quarantine," David said.

Despite having to travel further than any little dog should, David said Kingsley had always been "a good little guy".

"He just loves people and attention because he thinks he doesn't get enough at home," David said. Like most Docklands dogs, Kingsley lives a long way from acres of open spaces to keep him active however, David said he still led a happy life.

"He's been an apartment dog all his life, in Canada and Australia, but it's not a tough lifestyle because he still always goes for walks and has my company all day and, at his age, that's definitely all he needs."

Kingsley receives a $25 gift voucher from Pet Stock South Melbourne

Before

After

DOCKLANDS SECRETS

Incorrect 'pinal' posture

This recalcitrant tree was "adjusted" by arborical chiropractors last October in an attempt to get it back on the straight and narrow.

It was poked, prodded and ultimately winched back into adopting the correct posture expected of Docklands' 200 Norfolk Island Pines.

It was also fitted with a brace to help it withstand the howling winds common between NewQuay's Conder tower and LifeLab in Digital Harbour.

Alas, despite going straight for many months, the brave young pine has wilted in the face of adversity and has adopted a distinctly southerly orientation.

Docklands News suggests that its days may be numbered and it could find itself being replaced by one of the reserves being held in storage.

There is another tree on the corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade which appears to have given up the fight altogether. No explanation is apparent for its demise.

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Letters to the Editor

No exit for pedestrians

It is an absolute disgrace that the Icehouse public car park has no exit facility for pedestrians going to the Icehouse and in that general direction (Pearl River Rd).

As a figure skater I carry at least one large heavy bag and, when competing, several bags.

The hockey players carry extra large bags.

Not only do we have large and heavy bags on our shoulders but we have to risk our lives dodging entering and exiting cars and ducking and weaving boom gates.

Whilst there is disabled parking, I have a personal friend who is wheel-chair bound and she had to duck her head under the boom whilst in her chair (she says because she is short this is just barely achievable) hoping no cars come in as she has nowhere to go to avoid them.

Many families with young children are unfamiliar with the car park cannot find a safe way out.

As this facility is named the Icehouse car park, it is absurd that it doesn't cater in a safe manner for rink patrons.

Clearly, health and safety has been totally ignored in this car park.

Do we need a fatality for something to be done?

The solution is relatively simple. If two car spaces were given up on the Pearl River Rd side and a doorway made we could all safely get to and from the rink and shops in that area.

Yvonne Shubart
Olympic Figure Skating Club Inc.

Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au

Harbour Esplanade, Docklands Night Road Closures

Harbour Esplanade will be closed to vehicle traffic between Bourke Street and LaTrobe Street to install curb-side drains between the following times:

Southbound lane (stadium-side) between 9:30pm and 5am: Monday 30 April to Thursday 3 May and Monday 7 May to Thursday 10 May.

Signed detour routes will be in place and traffic management staff will be on site to assist pedestrians and motorists as required.

These works are subject to weather conditions.

All works will be completed under permit and in accordance with City of Melbourne requirements, including permission to restrict road access in order to conduct night works.

For more information visit **www.docklands.com.au**

State Government Victoria Places Victoria

MELBOURNE DOCKLANDS

WORDPLAY FROM DOCKLANDS WRITERS

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF THE DOCKLANDS' WRITERS GROUP

Docklands Writers brings you a serial story – each month's instalment written by a different writer from the group. You can read the whole ongoing story at http://www.docklandsnews.com.au/columns/list/category/word-play/

We trust you enjoy it. Feedback is always welcome as are membership enquiries to rose@grahammercer.com.au

4. DEALS by Jane M Hutchinson

Kate was puzzled as to where she knew Simon – Simon King – from.

She was all too tired from the past few days to enter into the emotional game which Tom was baiting her to play so she slowly wandered back and flopped down where she would often sit and reflect. As she nestled into her favourite armchair, the big beige cushions wrapped around her, while out the window, she could see the morning yachts floating effortlessly on Victoria Harbour. All she needed now was a warm, rich coffee to coax her into the day and kick off her weekend.

Kate half-listened to Simon's slippery sales-pitch, noting also that Tom was pacing and running his hands through his thick, wavy hair. She thought there was something a bit sexy about Tom when he was stressed.

"Kate, what do you think? Kate?" While Tom's voice was tender, the look in his eyes said otherwise and Kate knew he wasn't impressed with her. After 15 years of being together, they didn't need words and she understood Tom's sharp gaze all too well.

This snapped her out of her daze. "Arh ... umm what was that? The money ... Oh, arh... uh... the apartment, yes ..." Kate felt the air thicken the moment she mentioned the money and stopped herself from saying any more.

"We were just talking about selling our apartment Kate, and Simon said he has overseas investors wanting to get into the market at Docklands. Are you listening?" This time Tom had a real edge of desperation in his voice, as if to say, come on Kate, help me out here.

Simon's facial expression instantly went from eager-to-please to a smug little smirk, which he wore when he knew he had sealed the deal. Unable to contain the rush of an imminent sale, he took a deep breath of arrogance. Simon made a mental note-to-self to remember how swiftly he had won this deal.

Dragging herself out of her groggy daze and smoothing back her bed hair, Kate remembered that she needed to book a hair appointment for next week, but now, right now, she needed to focus on the apartment and more importantly, the money. Now was the time to show some support to Tom. Briefly, she reflected that they were a good team and this was merely a hitch in the week.

In an effort to resume her Saturday morning ritual, Kate jumped up and confidently approached Simon. "Simon, was it? Simon King? Thank you for your time this morning. We will consider the deal and get back to you on Monday with our decision." As the words come out, a cold shiver ran over her as she realised who this Simon King was and her instinct was to get him out. Fast. Grabbing his arm, Kate said: "Here, Simon, I'll walk you out."

Simon's bravado was now fuelled by his anxiety and desperation. What just happened? He needed to win this deal to remind the other agents at Docklands this was his patch. It still grated on him that he lost his last deal to the new sales girl, and he really needed this one to get him over the line. He could feel his heart starting to race again and the heat rise through his body. Simon smiled through his teeth. Rolling in his mind was the fourth step to *Successfully Selling – 10 Step Guide*: "keep smiling and keep calm" and he took some deep breaths to keep calm. "That's very kind of you, Kate."

As they walked towards the lift, the red carpet felt rough and dirty under her bare feet. She stepped closer to Simon so Tom wouldn't overhear what she was about to say. She flinched as she smelt the musky mixture of Armani aftershave and stale cigarettes on Simon. The flashbacks were running in her mind to that moment ... I remember you now. You're that guy I was playing blackjack with at Crown and – and ...

MADE IN HEAVEN

WITH ANGELINA MAY

What are the working dynamics of your relationship?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your colleagues' birth dates and time to discover how to best maximise these relationships in your life.
heaven@docklandsnews.com.au

Andrea	*Heather*
December 27	November 23
MC – Scorpio	Sun in Sagittarius
Pluto in Virgo	North Node in Scorpio
	Ascendant in Virgo

Andrea

Heather's North Node connects to your 10th house. This means that Heather will assist you in becoming the CEO of your life. Taking charge and manifesting your business goals is her primary objective. She does not like it when you use emotions to escape troublesome situations, nor does she like it when you make excuses for not completing tasks. When a north node enters your life and connects to any planet in the 10th house or in your MC it means they are here to inspire you to make your goals tangible.

Unconsciously and without trying, they naturally bring you the right words, or the right assistance to help take charge of your life and fulfill your purpose in life.

To get the best from this relationship Andrea needs to come from a position of authority. The words we use to propose things to others are so important. A person who supports your 10th house does not want to hear about your emotions but if you come to them with a clear plan and state your goals and expectations from a position of power they will automatically assist and support you in any way they can. That is the special gift.

Heather

Andrea's North Node connects to your 1st house and therefore she naturally enhances your sense of self and your identity in the world. Just by her presence in your life she will strengthen your awareness of your own identity and have your sense of "I" validated. She sees who you are and admires your specialness.

You do not need to do anything. Andrea will sing your praises and promote you wherever and whenever she can. A person who comes along and connects to your 1st house is bringing you the gift of establishing a base of healthy self-sufficiency in your life. They help you to become more independent with your other relationships as well.

The words we use to propose things to others are important and to get the best from this relationship it is best to come from a position of "I" rather than "we". If you say we should do this or we should do that, Andrea will not hear you. If you say "I need you to do this" or "I need that" Andrea will jump straight in and support and assist you in achieving your goals. Your sense of self is strengthened and Andrea also feels good. Courage and leadership are the gifts you receive.

Outcome of relationship:

Both of you have a very helpful strong connection that will assist each of you to achieve your own individual goals in a non-competitive and supportive environment. You will both grow stronger through your working together. Heather will help Andrea strengthen her courage in taking control of her life (in particular her work) and Andrea will ensure that Heather will come to know her own uniqueness like never before.

Featured terminology:

MC for Andrea is in Scorpio in 10th house = Life purpose at work or career.

North Node for Heather is in Scorpio = Supporting others for greater success.

Businesses in Docklands

DOCKLANDS-BASED BUSINESSES WISHING TO BE PROFILED IN THIS SECTION SHOULD EMAIL: ADVERTISING@DOCKLANDSNEWS.COM.AU

BENTLEY PARTNERS – A GREAT FIT WITH DOCKLANDS

Bentley Partners has only been in Docklands for six months but its tax manager, Craig Ball, says it is already a successful business.

"In the current economic environment it is becoming increasingly important to have a reliable accountant," Mr Ball says.

"Bentley Partners are accountants and business advisors who assist small to medium businesses and individuals with all facets of the business life cycle."

"We provide bold and pro-active advice and team with our clients to maximise the value they get from their business."

"In addition to our team of accountants we also have a network, which includes a financial planner, loan broker and lawyer."

Mr Ball has been working at Bentley Partners since October last year and says its position is the company's greatest asset.

"When I first started here I hadn't really been down to Docklands, other than to go to the football, but I have already noticed that the number of people coming down here is increasing every day."

"We also have a fantastic client base that are a joy to work for and we can see their businesses growing on a yearly basis."

Mr Ball says Docklands' easy accessibility is also a huge bonus for clients.

"I love our proximity to Etihad Stadium when the cricket and footy are on," Mr Ball says. "I can just stroll up the stairs and watch a game after work."

"The restaurants and pubs are great down here too and you can see businesses are really starting to pick up."

Bentley Partners is located at 744 Bourke St, Docklands. Call **96 001 100**

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Businesses in Docklands

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BIGGER, BRIGHTER, BETTER FOR CITY RESIDENTIAL

After five successful years in business, local real estate agent City Residential has moved to larger and very prominent premises in Lorimer St, Docklands.

Directors Glenn Donnelly and Richard Mindraoui, who have 40 years of real estate experience between them, say the move to the former prestige car showroom at 50 Lorimer St is already paying off.

"It's amazing how many people have dropped in to congratulate us on the move," Mr Donnelly said.

"Being next to Lorimer St and the freeway, it's just amazing how many people pass by and notice us every day."

"In the six weeks that we have been here we have experienced enormous growth."

"New and existing customers have dropped in and said that the place looks fantastic and how good it is that we are here."

Glenn Donnelly and Richard Mindraoui started their business a little upstream at Flinders Wharf but say they had outgrown their previous office.

"We've got nine staff now and the new office is so much bigger, with plenty of room to grow too," Mr Donnelly said.

"I've always felt that the new premises would be ideal for our business. So when it became available, we snapped it up."

"I'd say we would have secured the new place within 48 hours of it becoming available."

"We are truly now positioned at the gateway to Docklands, Southbank and the city, which is great as we pride ourselves on being the inner-city apartment specialists."

Mr Donnelly said City Residential prided itself in looking after vendors and landlords better than any other local agency.

FORGET DON'S PARTY, THIS IS DOM'S PARTY ...

Two floors above Victoria Harbour, in the lap of Etihad Stadium, a birthday party is about to rock Docklands.

Docked Wine Bar & Tapas turns one year old on Saturday, May 19, so join the indomitable Dom as he celebrates with a night of '70s glam, live music, a DJ, cocktails, Spanish cerveza (beer), enough sangria to float an Armada and enough tapas and paella to feed Barcelona

Fawlty Towers has Manuel, but Docklands has Dom and he is falling over himself to give you a good time.

"We will have prizes, singing, dancing and fabulous food," Dom said.

"Join us for a cocktail in Docklands' only two-storey-high bar. The view from up here is stunning."

Oven-baked Turkish bread rolls, shared-platters, garlic prawns, stuffed mushrooms, fried eggplant, bravas, paella and, of course, muchos nachos.

"I chose a Saturday night when the footy is not on, so there won't be a huge crowd," Dom said.

Opposite the NAB building, Docked is conveniently nestled between the Bendigo Bank building and the YMCA, in front of Etihad Stadium's Gate 9. Take the stairs on either side, or call Dom on **9642 1882** for lift access.

The free City Circle and No.70 trams stop out the front. Car parking is plentiful at Etihad Stadium and Southern Cross Station is a five-minute walk.

Dom said he was working at the YMCA gym "when I stumbled on this location".

"This place has been Docklands' best kept secret," he said.

"What a great view!

"I thought, what is Docklands missing? What does it need?"

"The answer: music, dancing and great Spanish food - with a view."

Dom is constantly trying new dishes and flavours with his menu, and live Latin sounds.

"I have a lunch special offer – order three tapas and get a small paella free, Wednesday to Friday," he said.

"Footy fans, come in and try our game day specials."

"Every Thursday is Ladies Night, with $12 cocktails and $5 bubbles."

Docked offers discounts on corporate functions and Dom is always keen to cut a deal for birthday parties and group bookings.

Docked Wine Bar & Tapas is at 2/106 Harbour Esplanade. Call **9642 1882** or visit **www.docked.com.au**

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WHET YOUR APPETITE AT MELBOURNE AQUARIUM

Imagine sipping a peach Bellini cocktail in Antarctica, followed by canapés on a river and finishing with desserts next to a coral atoll.

You might achieve it on a billionaire's yacht ... or simply join Friday night drinks at the Melbourne Aquarium.

Held on the last Friday of the month, the evening is a roaming affair, taking in the underwater "worlds" of the aquarium.

"The evening starts with the penguins in our Antarctica world, and finishes at the Fish Bowl," said the aquarium's food and beverage manager Jo Beshara.

"It's an amazing, two-and-a-half-hour underwater journey through the entire aquarium, accompanied by a live band," she said.

"You enjoy the spectacular night views of the Yarra River from the upper deck and watch the graceful rays and marine life in the 2.2 million litre Oceanarium."

Ms Beshara said the evening was one of many packages offered by the aquarium's Five Star Functions.

"We host weddings, birthdays, hens and bucks nights and corporate get-togethers," she said.

"School formals, bar mitzvahs, gala dinners, charity fund-raisers, the list goes on."

"It can be a traditional three-course dinner, or a less-formal stand up cocktail reception.

"There are heaps of marriage proposals on our Valentines Day event!

"Two couples held their wedding ceremony underwater in the Oceanarium fish tank, while guests watched from outside.

"For a corporate function, you can have the company CEO underwater with a two-way, greeting his staff through the tank as they arrive."

Aquarium communications manager Gabriella Iacuone said company family-days were popular, with face painting, balloons, tours, fish feeding and lunch.

"Our Mother's Day brunch and lunch will include all-day entry and is attractive to all age groups," Ms Iacuone said.

"Access is easy – there are no stairs."

Ms Beshara said executive chef Michael Craig was preparing a new winter menu. British-born Craig recently joined the aquarium following five years at the Melbourne Sofitel, and before that at Harrod's and the Mandarin Hotel in London, and the Caledonian Hotel in Edinburgh.

"We serve sustainable seafood and source our produce locally when we can," Ms Beshara said.

"And yes, we do serve fish – but they are not from our fish tank!"

The Melbourne Aquarium is on the corner of King and Flinders streets, Melbourne. Call **9923 5952**, email **functions@melbourneaquarium.com.au** or visit **www.fivestarfunctions.com.au**

WE'RE JUST WILDE ABOUT OSCARS TABLE

"Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative."

1870s Irish writer Oscar Wilde's wise words, in "Aristotle at Afternoon Tea", ring true today at Oscars Table, in NewQuay.

With a new winter menu and wine list being unveiled on Mother's Day, Oscars Table is driven by imagination and is not afraid to try new things.

Manager George Petinakis – a huge fan of Oscar Wilde – has worked in hospitality since high school, so he has plenty of experience to draw on.

"Spoil your mum on May 13," Mr Petinakis said.

"We will have a special Mother's Day menu, and a free glass of sparkling wine for every mum."

Oscars Table's wines are sourced both locally and overseas.

"We are introducing our own label, from the Hunter Valley," Mr Petinakis said.

"We will have our own shiraz, a pinot grigio and a sparkling white."

The cuisine emphasis is on shared plates, tapas and desserts.

"Our shared plates are influenced by the flavours of the Mediterranean," Mr Petinakis said.

"We cater for everyone."

"Our rustic breakfast is popular on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays," he said.

Mr Petinakis wants all Docklanders to put Oscars Table's barista to the test.

"We use Signature Coffee, which is roasted here in Melbourne," he said.

"Also, our Sunday Sessions are a big hit, with Tommy singing and playing guitar."

Mr Petinakis sees a positive future for Docklands.

"Docklands has become a teenager," he said. "With every precinct, popularity ebbs and flows.

"When Docklands started 10 years ago, many people came here. Then they went to other new precincts, and now they are coming back here again."

Graeme Armstrong, of Viva Tags in the Lifelab building, catches up with former Docklander and now London resident Ferne Langford, over a shared plate and bottle of wine at Oscars Table.

"At Oscars Table, we want to be different to everyone else."

Not unlike Oscar Wilde himself ...

Oscars Table is open seven days, at 50 NewQuay Promenade, Docklands. Call **9642 4242** or visit **www.oscarstable.com.au**

DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS

Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

Contact: email **docklandstoastmasters@yahoo.com.au** or visit **www.docklands.freetoasthost.org**

DOCKLANDS WRITERS

Tuesdays fortnightly 5.30-7.30pm

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

"Writerly" issues, workshopping, author talks and fun.

Enquiries to: **rose@grahammercer.com.au** or at The Hub.

LUNCHTIME TABLE TENNIS

Wednesday and Fridays

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Cost: No charge.

Table tennis continues to grow in popularity. BYO lunch.
For details **8622 4822** or **docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au**

DAY KAYAK TOURS

10 January- 16 June 2012

Waterfront City Marina (New Quay)

Kayaking is a unique way of exploring the city of Melbourne.

Please call **0410 329 090** or email **info@seakayakaustralia.com**

THE PEOPLE'S MARKET AND MELBOURNE FLEA MARKET

Every Saturday from March - October

453-507 Docklands Drive

Melbourne Flea, brought to you by The People's Market is the newest experience to hit Docklands. It is held every Saturday on Docklands Drive.
www.peoplesmarket.com.au

ANCIENT ROME EXHIBITION: THE EMPIRE THAT SHAPED THE WORLD

March 31 - July 15

Waterfront City Pavilion

From the artisans of Florence comes the world premiere of 'The Ancient Rome Exhibition: The Empire that Shaped the World'.
www.romanexhibition.com.au

MOTHER'S DAY HIGH TEA CRUISE

May 13, 2.30pm - 4.30pm

MV Mandalay, Berth 14 Central Pier

Treat your mum to the traditional flavour and fun of a high tea with the added style of a cruise on board the elegant MV Mandalay. Please call **9620 5620** or visit **www.boatcruises.com.au**

KARATE CLASS

Monday and Thursday

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Run by 'Docklands Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu' Phone **9016 8471**, email **info@docklandsbjj.com.au** or visit **www.docklandsbjj.com.au**

DOCKLANDS BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU

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BJJ is a style popularised by media such as the UFC and is proven as an extremely effective form of martial arts. Phone **9016 8471**, email **info@docklandsbjj.com.au** or visit **www.docklandsbjj.com.au**

FINE LINE DRAWING AND BOTANICAL ART CLASSES

Monday and Thursday

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

The University of the 3rd Age offers two classes on Mondays and Thursdays. To make an enquiry regarding the classes, please ring U3A on **9639 5209**

DRAGON MASTERS DRAGONBOATING

Wednesdays at 5.30pm and Saturdays at 8.30am

Shed 2 North Wharf Road
Victoria Harbour (Melways map 2E B6)

Dragon Masters has something for anyone. Please contact Jeff Saunders **0417 219 888** email **Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au** or visit **www.dragonmasters.com.au**

DOCKLANDS WALKING TOUR

Every day at 10.30am, bookings essential

Etihad Stadium 130 Harbour Esplanade

Explore Docklands on a walking tour. Be mesmerised by the artwork, history and architecture of the Docklands area. Contact **0448 270 023** or email **amwt@live.com.au**

LEARN TO SAIL

Every Sunday, by appointment

Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2 North Wharf Rd

Docklands Yacht Club is an accredited Yachting Australia Training Centre and offers Get Into Small Boat Sailing courses. Contact Ray Allen **0429 868 304** **dyctraining.yatc@gmail.com**

SHELTERS

May 19 - 27

Conder Plaza, 50 New Quay Promenade

Joseph L. Griffiths' unexpected installations Shelters bind creativity and survival, against the backdrop of a failed metropolis in Docklands.

www.nextwave.org.au

YOGA IN THE DOCKLANDS

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Cost: $20 per class or
$165 for a ten-class pass.

Hatha Yoga suitable for all ages and levels of experience. Ph Brooke McGlinchey on **0403 668 705 or muditayogamelb@gmail.com**

MY GYM KIDS

Every Tuesday, 8.45am & 9.30am

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Cost: $126 for a seven-class pass

Learn, Jump & Tumble with award-winning exercise classes for babies and tots. Visit **www.mygym.com/mobileaus** Ph **0434 020 310.**

PILATES FOR MUMS

Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

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Specially designed Pilates classes for all ages and stages. Call **0432 252 278** or email **jane@pilatesformums.com.au**

CITY ON A HILL

Church Services

Sunday 10am

Hoyts, Melbourne Central

Sunday evening 6pm

Arrow on Swanston (488 SwanstonSt)

Contact **cityonahill.com.au**

JEWISH MYSTICISM… A WEEKLY INSIGHT

Every Thursday, 7.30pm

Chabad Jewish Community Centre, 198 Clark St, Port Melbourne

The path of life is full of hidden treasure ... do you know how to find it?

Please contact Rabbi Shlomo Nathanson **0433 810 313** or **rabbi@cjcc.com.au**

ALMA DOEPEL SUPPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Third Saturday of every month
5pm - 7pm

Alma Doepel Restoration Site Shed 2, North Wharf Road, Victoria Harbour, Docklands.

Learn about our restoration project and see if you would like to get involved.

DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

Every Sunday, 10am to 4pm

Waterfront City Docklands Drive

Discover treasures from the hoards of some of Melbourne's finest antique and pre-loved specialists, including art, jewellery, retro-clothing, vintage books and car-boot sales.

MELBOURNE FLAMES DRAGON BOAT CLUB

Every Sunday 8.30am for 9.00am start

Shed 2, North Wharf Rd, Victoria Harbour

We paddle and train hard and have a lot of fun doing it. Come and see what all the fuss is about for three free paddling sessions - no commitment, no questions asked. **www.melbourneflames.com.au**

THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

One Sunday per month
11am-12pm

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands

Meet for worship and enjoy a tea or coffee afterwards. Ph: **9827 3595** or visit **www.victoria.quakers.org.au**

DOCKLANDS ROTARY

Every Tuesday, 6.00pm

Watermark

First Tuesday of the month is fellowship hour.

Regular meetings on other Tuesdays. All welcome.

MELBOURNE LIBRARY SERVICE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Mondays at 11am

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Pre-school Storytime has returned to the Hub. Come along to meet other local parents and kids. Enjoy some books, songs, and a craft activity.

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Flames burn brightly at home

Local dragon boaters the Melbourne Flames took full effect of their home ground advantage at last month's national championships, returning its best result ever.

The Flames won seven trophies over the six day tournament – a significant improvement on 2011 when it came away with a single victory.

Team captain Karen Morris said: "As I reflect now I could only have imagined what was possible for us on our home ground. I have to say that seven trophies, two of those gold were beyond that imagination ..."

"The results by our club at the 2012 nationals will go down as our best-ever performance," she said.

Flames President Rene Gielen said: "The seven trophies we won as a club are the magnificent icing on a big cake we've been working so hard on all season! Again, we win them as a club, so everyone should be very proud of these great results!"

On day two the club won silver over 500 metres in the Masters Mixed 10s and bronze in the Premier Mixed 10s. On day three the Masters Women 10s won silver over 500 metres and the club came in third in the Premier Mixed 20s two km race.

Day four was golden for the Flames with victories over 200 metres for both the Masters Mixed 10s and Premier Mixed 10s. And on day five, the Masters Women 10s won silver over 200 metres.

Apart from the wins, the club also achieved other noteworthy results . The grand masters made the grand final, as did the premier 20 women, who missed out on a 2km medal by a mere 0.8 of a second!

Club coach Serghei Cucsa said the results were well deserved but believes there is plenty of improvement in the paddlers yet.

"We can do better and I'm looking forward to the year ahead as we continue to build our team's success and our club following this performance," he said.

Twelve club members are also heading to Busan, South Korea in September this year to compete for Australia in the national "Auroras" squad. Ten will go as paddlers, one as an official and the club's coach is going as the head coach of the squad. One of the paddlers, Georgina Wakim, has also been chosen as vice-captain of the national squad.

Right: Flames paddlers cross the line and win gold in the Masters Mixed event over 200 metres.

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*As published in the Herald Sun sales results 13th March 2012. Not including off-the-plan or commercial sales.

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