

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Yarra River 'saviour'



By Shane Scanlan

This is the vessel which could bring long-awaited "activation" to Docklands.

Not to be confused with Planning Minister Matthew Guy's idea for a Port Phillip Bay commuter vessel (see our story on page 3), this boat is the missing link between Docklands and Federation Square.

The state-of-the-art craft overcomes all the problems which have prevented a regular shuttle service being established.

The electric/diesel-powered craft:

- Naturally sits low enough in the water to clear with ease Melbourne's restrictive river bridges on even the highest tides;
- As a multi-hulled vessel, is remarkably stable;
- Allows passengers to stand, as they would in a commuter tram or bus;
- Allows passengers to embark and disembark at the same time;
- Throws almost no wash onto the river banks as it passes;
- Is environmentally sustainable and burns only modest amounts of fuel;
- Doesn't need to tie up at wharves to load

and unload passengers; and

- Can carry wheelchair-bound passengers and bicycles.

The design was commissioned by the City of Melbourne's waterways office, which is leading the charge towards a viable ferry service for the city.

The vision for the service is to form a natural river leg for passengers using the City Circle Tram and Tourist Shuttle Bus services.

Aimed primarily at visitors to Melbourne, the service would be incorporated into the Myki public transport ticketing system.

It is understood that three vessels would be required: One going in each direction and

one relief vessel to allow maintenance and servicing without disrupting the timetable.

Like other public transport services, the river shuttle would require a small government subsidy and it is hoped that these costs would be shared between the State Government and the City of Melbourne.

The vessel is likely to be applauded by the broader Docklands business community but may be opposed by charter boat operators who chose to see the shuttle as competition.

Docklander Bill Reid said the experience of a river shuttle for the opening weekend of the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival in March

Continued page 2



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Docklanders beat the cold around the fire at the new Docklands Community Garden on May 24.

Yarra River 'saviour'

Continued from page 1.

showed that the service was essential for Docklands.

"Everyone knows that water activation is the missing piece of the Docklands puzzle," Mr Reid said. "But the challenge has been to get the multi-layered tiers of decision making to all line up."

"The innovation presented in this new purpose-built vessel will hopefully build enough momentum to transform the idea into reality."

Mr Reid, who contracts to Destination Docklands as an account manager, organised the March river shuttle to showcase Docklands as a dining destination of choice.

Despite terrible weather, some 10,000 people used the service over the weekend of March 3 and 4.

"There's no doubt that Docklands will come into its own if the right people can get together make this ferry service happen," he said.

The craft was designed in Melbourne by Chamberlin Marine.

New garden fires up interest

Locals descended on the new Docklands Community Garden on May 24 for the first organised activity.

In the past month a community garden interest group has already met several times at The Hub. However, and somewhat fittingly since the Garden is seen by the community as a public meeting place, this was the first time a meeting had been held in the garden.

With the fire pit alight, cooking aromas wafting from the barbecue and community members enjoying neighbourly company, the garden lived up to its promise as a community meeting space.

Those present had the opportunity to view the new gardening equipment and they participated in discussions about the future agenda for the garden. In addition, they were given the opportunity to plant some seeds to nurture at home for future planting in the garden.

Equipment acquired by the garden includes several portable caddies, each containing a set of hand tools. Anyone who wishes to do a bit of local gardening can borrow these gardening kits from the Docklands Hub.

The Hub's opening hours are 8.30am - 5.00pm. The tool kits can be borrowed for the day or overnight upon production of ID. The phone number for The Hub is 8622 4822.

The next organised activity in the Docklands community garden will be a herb-planting day which will occur on June 3. Bring a

picnic lunch along to the garden between 11am and 2.30pm to join other Docklanders for some "hands on" gardening to plant out several of the garden beds as a local herb garden.

There will also be a further meeting of the Community Gardening Group on Wednesday, June 6 at 7pm at The Hub.

The garden will be officially launched in July with details to be announced soon. To register for more information email docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au

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Commuter ferry idea welcomed

Docklands has welcomed the announcement of a feasibility study into a commuter ferry linking Melbourne's seaside western suburbs with Harbour Esplanade.

If it proceeds, the ferry service could activate Docklands as a maritime transport hub – with comparisons already being made with Sydney's Circular Quay.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy told *Docklands News* that he proposed the idea to relieve commuter motor vehicle pressure on the West Gate Bridge.

He said consultants were being briefed on the scope of a study and that he had hoped to commission the study by the beginning of June.

The study would look at the viability of transporting passengers from Werribee South, Point Cook, Altona and Williamstown.

Mr Guy said he envisaged that the Harbour Esplanade area in front of Etihad Stadium would be the location of a ferry terminal.

He said he thought the current uses on Central Pier could co-exist with a commuter ferry service.

"It may only need one or two berths," he said.

As reported elsewhere in this edition, the commuter ferry idea coincides with renewed momentum for a Yarra River shuttle service between Federation Square and Docklands.

Asked about the need for extra tram services

to cope with extra demand, Mr Guy said he imagined a lot of people would use the stadium concourse and walk into the city.

"We're not talking about 50,000 people," he said. "We're talking about a couple of hundred people at a time. And Docklands is well built to cater for large crowds."

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Keith Rankin supported the idea.

Mr Rankin said: "It's a wonderful initiative that will not only bring thousands of people through our precinct, but will also have the benefit of relieving our local roads of congestion."

However, maritime sources predict that the service will not be found to be viable, primarily because of rough seas once vessels leave Hobsons Bay.

Mr Guy said the study would include consideration of the effects of climate change and how the service may impact on the management of the Port of Melbourne and commercial shipping movements.

"The key thing is to make use of the water," he said.

Mr Guy said the study would include a proposed ferry service to Portarlington.



Photography courtesy Meg Grant

Girls compete for Miss Universe entry

Three young hopefuls last month in Docklands won wildcard entries into this year's Miss Universe Australia pageant.

The three were chosen from 15 popularly-nominated girls and competed for the wildcard

entry at a lavish event held on May 25 at Suncorp on Central Pier.

The winner of the event also picked up an advertising contract and \$50,000 in cash and prizes from Miss Universe sponsor Dodo.



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World's tallest wooden apartments



We don't know what was said between this young fellow and the Premier, but we optimistically imagine it was words to the effect of: "Why can't Docklands' children have their own primary school Mr Baillieu?"

Lend Lease is building the world's tallest wooden residential building between Mosaic and Serrata in Bourke St, Victoria Harbour.

Known as Forte, construction has started on the 32.17 metre, 10-storey structure and is expected to be finished by October.

The developer is blazing new sustainability territory with its chosen cross-laminated timber (CLT) construction and is watching closely the market's reaction.

Should the 23 apartments and four townhouses be snapped up quickly, it is likely that Docklands will see more timber constructions - particularly on the Victoria Harbour peninsula, which is ear-marked for low-rise luxury dwellings.

Forte was launched by the Premier Ted Baillieu on May 25. Inclement weather prevented the first wooden panel being lifted into place.

In reference to the marquee sheltering guests from consistent rain, Mr Baillieu joked that Lend Lease should be congratulated for its innovative use of plastic and velvet.

On a serious note, he remarked that Victoria Harbour had become a "playground for innovation and a playground for sustainable design."

The Premier also gave a commitment to pursue cheaper constructions costs, warning that Australia risked pricing itself out of the world market.

He later posed for photos with children bussed in from Laurimar - a Lend Lease community of 4000 people 30 km north of Melbourne which has its own primary school.

The small gathering was later entertained and informed by a panel of experts. Among other features of the building, the group was told:



- The building material itself comprises 50 per cent carbon;
- The construction will result in a saving of the equivalent of 1400 tonnes of CO2 being released into the atmosphere;
- The building will be carbon-neutral for at least 10 years; and
- Lend Lease is aspiring for Australia's first 5-star as-built Green Star residential rating for Forte.

Cross-laminated timber is used commonly in Europe but it the first time is has been used in Australia.

Forte will comprise seven, one-bedroom apartments (59 sqm and priced from \$450,000); 14 two-bedroom apartments (80 sqm and priced from nearly \$700,000); and two, two-bedroom penthouses (102 sqm and priced from \$800,000). There are no car parking spaces.



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Thanassi (Arthur) Panagiotaras (left) and Mark Diaco in their New York-inspired location for a new Dock Theatre - under the Collins St, bridge between the two halves of the historic Goods Shed.

Dock Theatre concept revealed

By Daniel Kemp

An exciting proposal has been unveiled for a new multi-purpose theatre in Docklands, called The Dock Theatre.

The proposed site for The Dock Theatre is underneath the Collins St bridge, with the concept heavily influenced by the meatpacking district in New York.

The project's artistic director is Melbourne-based actor Mark Diaco, founder of Human Sacrifice Theatre. Mr Diaco trained as an actor at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in New York, and has tried to bridge the gap

between Manhattan and Melbourne with his designs.

"Docklands reminds me of the meatpacking area in Manhattan, which I learnt a lot about when I was studying there," Mr Diaco said.

"It was so run-down, but it has been slowly built up. Now it's home to the Tribeca Film Festival and numerous off-Broadway theatre productions. Docklands has the same kind of structure and has a similar background."

Theatregoers at the 300-capacity Dock Theatre will be able to relax in one of the venue's two dedicated bars.

The main auditorium can also convert to a full 3D digital cinema, facilitating another of

the venue's proposed purposes - to play host to a new Docklands film festival.

"It will be a purely Melbourne theatre, used to develop cultural stories about Melbourne," Mr Diaco said. "The film festival will form a big part of this."

Funding for the venue, as well as its eventual cost, is still to be finalised, as Thanassi (Arthur) Panagiotaras, one of the project's partners, explained.

"There is no figure at the moment, but we are through the concept stage and are now moving onto development," Mr Panagiotaras said.

"Once we've completed the costing we

will apply to both State and Federal Governments for grants, as well as drawing on private funding."

Mr Diaco is enthusiastic about the project, and thinks that it is exactly what Docklands needs as the suburb continues its redevelopment.

"Melbourne needs a theatre like this, especially in Docklands," Mr Diaco said.

"There isn't much art or culture down here at the moment. I firmly believe that art pushes culture forwards, and that art has the power to move our country forwards. The Dock Theatre can provide a place for this to happen."



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Council is playing games

Editorial
Comment

Shane Scanlan



A Docklands Public Realm Plan has got to be a good thing, but there is more to this recent City of Melbourne exercise that meets the eye

One would imagine that it should be straight forward enough ... council researches its subject, releases a plan and gets to work. But nothing in Docklands, it seems, is straight forward.

Unfortunately, the council's plan has a mostly-imagined significance.

It is a plan about things that the council has, generally, only marginal control or influence.

Of the 16 open space projects listed for action at the end of the report, the council admits it does not have sole responsibility for any of them and has shared responsibility in only five instances.

Furthermore, it's not THE plan that we have all been waiting two years to see - the "Second Decade" plan.

The Public Realm Plan demonstrates that the council is very good at producing impressively-designed documents. Unfortunately the report's style outweighs its substance.

And its unilateral release has again compromised its relationship with Places Victoria (PV), with whom it is supposed to be jointly-managing Docklands.

The release of the Public Realm Plan in isolation from Places Victoria was an act of political brinkmanship at the expense of the Docklands community.

The council and Places Victoria behave like estranged parents constantly bickering over the custody of a child (Docklands).



And rather than approaching things on the basis of what is best for the child, they indulge in petty point-scoring and refuse to spend money on the needy child unless the other one does first.

We saw this recently with the council making its funding of Destination Docklands conditional on matching funds from PV.

The council's Public Realm Plan also demonstrates its failure to grasp the essence of Docklands - the water.

It continues to promote its idea of choking Victoria Harbour and the river with bridges to connect pedestrian and cycling paths.

In all the pages in the report devoted to transport connectivity, it does not mention river transport at all. Nowhere in its vision are the commuter ferry terminals or water shuttle wharves which have the very real potential to sustainably activate our precinct.

It is fair to say that since taking on the municipal function from VicUrban five years ago, the City of Melbourne has done little in the "public realm" but talk about what it might do in Docklands.

Our dilapidated wayfinding signage is a potent symbol of the council's ACTUAL commitment to our local economy.

Docklands would be better off if the council actually DID more in return for the \$20 million it plans to reap from the suburb this year.

Redefining Docklands' neighbourhood

By Andrew Yeung

The City of Melbourne wants to create quality public space including multi-purpose parks and main streets extension, according to its recently-released Docklands Public Realm Plan (DPRP).

The plan will ensure much more space for recreational and sporting facilities and events in Docklands.

A new "Western Park" will contain a potential football oval that can accommodate major events for up to 15,000 people.

The park will have facilities for barbecues, picnics, rock-climbing, ball sports and play space for children over four years old.

The council plans to upgrade the Moonee Ponds Creek corridor with a new cycle path from Footscray Rd to Western Park on Docklands Drive.

Collins St will extend from Merchant St to an intersection with Bourke St then to the end of North Wharf, the plan says.

The Collins and Bourke streets junction will become a civic square providing access to library, boating hub and, potentially, a swimming pool.

Bourke St will extend to the river's edge and end as a transport hub with the Collins St tram terminus and access to water transport.

Dock Square will be one of the medium-sized event venues alongside Harbour Esplanade and NewQuay Central Park after the proposed upgrade.

The Collins St extension will lead to a new maritime park for visitors to learn about the former Australian Wharf. The park will be called Sir John Coode Park.

Yarra's Edge promenade will extend to the Bolte Bridge with a small new park opposite North Wharf.

The council says there is potential for a pedestrian footbridge across Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River via the three waterfront parks.

The council plans to upgrade the Dudley St railway underpass and further integrate Dudley St and Docklands Drive.

Other main street upgrades include building independent cycle lanes on LaTrobe St and achieving at least 40 per cent tree canopy cover in all new streets.

The council says there is chance to build a pedestrian connection between the stadium concourse and Lonsdale St over the rail infrastructure. The council is currently investigating the potential of this idea.

Harbour Esplanade will remain the main civic focus for events, water-based activity and outdoor dining with improved vehicle access.

Victoria Green will undergo a minor expansion to create play space for children under six and to accommodate small-scale events. Seafarers Rest and Point Park will be upgraded to provide room for play and small events.

The Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the release of the plan was an important next step in planning for Docklands in the second decade that will result in a more integrated public realm.

"Over the next 10 years we are determined to deliver community infrastructure of the highest quality, such as a new library and community hub," he said.

"The plan will ensure the public places in our newest precinct are cohesive, community-friendly and diverse."

Public consultation on the plan will be held at the Docklands Hub on Wednesday, June 13 between 5.30pm and 6.30pm and Saturday, June 16 between 11am and 12pm.

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Derelict Victoria Harbour wharves likely to go

Places Victoria (PV) wants to demolish Harbour Esplanade's derelict raised wharf areas.

The old wharves are not useful, as engineers have warned that they are safe only for pedestrians and can't be used for events.

But with no budget to repair them or any current plans to upgrade Docklands' premier boulevard, PV wants the wharves to go.

Places Victoria would prefer that gaps be left between the sound, lowered areas, such as the area around the *Cow up a Tree* sculpture.

It says the wharves are likely to go anyway in any final Harbour Esplanade redevelopment.

In any event, PV is going ahead with a program to activate the lower wharf areas, starting soon with a "glass house" installation which it is describing as an "indoor and outdoor backyard".

Places Victoria's Docklands manager Simon Wilson said: "Harbour Esplanade's first temporary activation project is planned to start soon and will see the creation of a

new indoor and outdoor backyard along Docklands' waterfront for visitors, workers and residents to enjoy - further details about this new addition to Harbour Esplanade will follow shortly."

"Places Victoria is currently working with the City of Melbourne and State Government agencies to develop a masterplan for further redevelopment of Harbour Esplanade."

Duplicate fibre optic network

By Daniel Kemp

Despite being the national home of NBN Co, Docklands looks like it will have to wait years to be connected to the National Broadband Network.

This is despite already having fibre optic infrastructure which most residents can't use. And, when the NBN is finally connected, it will most likely be in the form of a completely duplicated fibre network.

Docklands' existing fibre network, known as iPORT, was announced in 2004 amid fanfare about how it would deliver high-speed internet access and free phone calls between residents. But very few Docklands residents have access to it almost eight years on.

The remarkable duplication of the network appears to be approaching following the release of a policy paper by the Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy (DBCDE).

The paper outlines the DBCDE's "adequately served" policy - specifically the criteria and assessment process which a service provider must meet in order for its network to be considered as "adequately serving" a given area.

The sixth criterion on the list is most relevant to Docklands, stating that the service provider must provide a connection to all residences within its footprint. Crucially, all of these connections must be made using optical fibre as outlined in NBN Co's mission statement. iPORT does not meet this requirement, as currently the fibre only extends to the basements of most residential towers - and NextGen does not intend to undertake the costly internal connections.

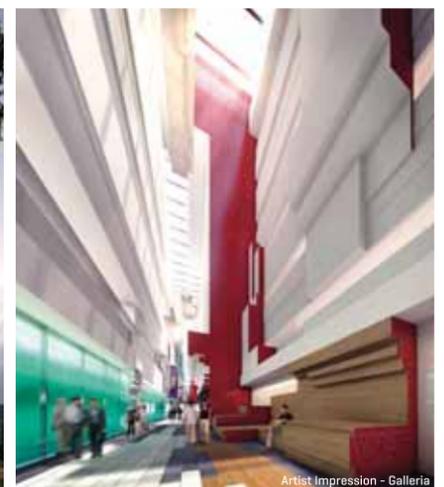
When asked about whether they would still apply to the DBCDE to have iPORT considered as "adequately serving" Docklands, NextGen Networks said it was still considering its options.

The positive outcome of all of this is that every apartment will definitely be connected to the network by fibre. But rather than NextGen plugging the gaps in the existing network it is likely to involve rolling out an entirely new network.

A spokesperson for NBN Co assured Docklands residents that they would not have to wait the full 10 years to see the rollout, but there is still no firm timetable despite the presence of the network's central operational hub right here in Docklands.

"Construction is starting at points where NBN Co has access to exchanges that will be the centre of the rollout for a given area," the spokesperson said.

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resentation perfect with unrivalled panoramic views to the Yarra and the city skyline, this impressive two bedroom apartment with two bathrooms on the 10th floor is the epitome of inner city living. Capturing glorious northern sun, this immaculate home enjoys open plan entertaining with balcony terrace, designer Smeg appliances kitchen/ meals, large size main bedroom (BIRs & ensuite) and a seperate dining area. The apartment also includes the following stone bench tops, zoned heating/cooling, video intercom & security.



Docklands 1016 / 60 Siddeley Street
DIRECTLY ON THE WATER
3 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale 780,000
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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
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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)



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Docklands 609 / 8 McCrae Street
HERE'S ONE TO VIEW
1 bed 1 bath
Private sale \$380,000
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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 1502 / 60 Siddeley St
WHAT VIEWS< WHAT AN APARTMENT
3 bed 3 bath 2 car
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This 15th Level, Sub Penthouse apartment is located in the stunning Flinders Wharf building. Consisting of 3 spacious bedrooms including master with WIR, ensuite and spa bath, 2 bathrooms, 3 toilets, large dining and lounge areas and a fully appointed kitchen including built in coffee machine, and wine fridge. Large wrap around terrace that gives you amazing views over The Yarra River, Crown Casino, Southbank and Docklands and views over the bay. Also having access to a large storage room.



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 across 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.
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Draft budget funding for Docklands

By Daniel Kemp

The City of Melbourne unveiled its draft annual plan and budget 2012-13 on May 11, featuring a significant amount of funding for Docklands.

The biggest project set to receive funding is the new Docklands library and community centre. The development will be located at the intersection where Collins St will soon meet Bourke St, and is set to cost \$12.95 million – \$4.75 million of which will come from the council.

One of the budget's key themes is "Finishing What We Started" – and the library and community centre form a major part of this aim. By June 30, 2013, the council aims to have completed construction of the base building and to have commenced fitting it out.

Another theme is "Connecting People and Places," with funding set aside to improve the city's transport connections. Of most relevance to Docklands is the \$5.6 million project to extend the city's bicycle network.

The Capital City Trail runs right through Docklands and is the second-most popular cycle commuter route into the central city. The route has a number of missing links and substandard crossings at present – but a proposed connection underneath the Charles Grimes Bridge would allow cyclists and pedestrians to bypass the interchange between the bridge, Lorimer St, Westgate Freeway and Montague St.

This intersection does not currently have any cycle paths and pedestrian wait times to cross are lengthy. The targeted completion date for the project is June 30, 2013. Councillor Cathy Oke stated that the proposed cycle lane upgrades would fill in the missing gaps in the network.

"This \$5.6 million will help us establish a

superior, connected cycling network for Melbourne that will enable cyclists to travel from one end of the city to the other and beyond on clear, delineated bike paths," Cr Oke said.

The budget also set aside funding for new Christmas decorations in Docklands, a taxi rank shelter at Central Pier, and additional wayfinding signage for pedestrians. Additionally, it was announced that commercial berthing rates for Victoria Harbour would decrease by \$35 per metre, per annum to \$630.

Cr Kevin Louey rejected suggestions that the \$100,000 taxi shelter would only benefit Central Pier businesses. He said he expected restaurant patrons from as far away as NewQuay and Waterfront City would use the shelter.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle emphasised that Melbourne had grown and changed during this council's term, and that completing already commenced works was a priority.

"This budget is about finishing the work that we have started while ensuring that we maintain the momentum to improve our expanding city," the Lord Mayor said.

The draft budget was open for public consultation from May 11 until June 8. A final version will be considered by council on June 28.

Cr Jackie Watts encouraged Docklanders to examine the budget and to give their feedback.

"The format is reasonably accessible and, given that I am a staunch advocate of transparency and disclosure, the budget document provides an enormous amount of information about council's operations and, most importantly, its policy directions," she said.



Thinking inside the square

Nick Moloney (above) spent hours last month thinking inside the square to help out his artist mate Emily Castle.

Emily was one of many young artists taking advantage of *Rising: The Victoria Harbour Young Artist Initiative* which returned to Docklands for the fifth year in a row in May.

And while Nick and others attempted to spend as much time as possible inside the marked-out-square on Victoria Harbour Promenade, it was left to Emily to explain the art-piece she called "to occupy".

She said she was interested in public space and believed that public space in Docklands was not occupied in the same way as some other spaces, such as the lawn outside the State Library in Swanston St where people typically behaved as if they had more licence.

"It seems too corporate and commercial in Docklands," she said. "There are only people around at lunchtimes and, even then, they seem to perch on the edge of the space rather than really occupy it."

She said she believed that in corporate Docklands, time equated with money.

"Spending time doing nothing is a potent gesture," she said.

Rising is a public exhibition of artworks by Victorian College of the Arts students studying sculpture and spatial practice.

While not claiming that her installation was necessarily a success, Ms Castle said the project had been "interesting" and "rewarding".

And while she may have saved on materials for the piece, she certainly owes a lot to friends a lot of favours.

Nick Maloney was in his second two-hour shift when *Docklands News* caught up with him.

He said most passers-by were mostly accepting of the concept, but some had expressed annoyance.

"When you see people doing something out of the ordinary, at least you have to consider it," he said.

Nick said he found his time within the square relaxing and meditative. Readers will notice from the photo that he was also fortunate enough to be rostered on during the best of Docklands' May weather.

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Docklanders to vote next month

Docklanders will vote for a new state local member of Parliament next month following the resignation of Bronwyn Pike in May.

Ms Pike had represented the Seat of Melbourne in the Legislative Assembly since 1999. At the last election she held the seat for Labor by a margin of 6.2 per cent from the Greens candidate Brian Walters.

The July 21 election is expected to again be closely fought with the Liberal Party tipped to not contest the seat.

Two City of Melbourne councillors Cathy Oke and Jennifer Kanis are lining up for the Greens and Labor.

Docklands News invited both candidates to submit 250 words on why Docklanders should vote for them.

Cathy Oke

Cr Oke, 37, is an environmental consultant and lives in North Melbourne. She has lived most of her life in the electorate.

She said: "I am very excited to be the Greens candidate for the July 21 Melbourne by-election. I have worked hard for the residents in this electorate while on council and I'm ready to represent their values in State Parliament."

"I will be working hard to get a school for Docklands, increased childcare, a real park and better open space."

"I will push to give planning authority back to the City of Melbourne - to give the community a voice rather than uncertainty."

"Docklands residents need better TV reception and new laws to properly regulate serviced apartments."

"There is already a buzz in the community



Cr Cathy Oke

about the by-election and feedback has been positive. People are disappointed in the old parties and are sick of Melbourne being taken for granted by Labor. They are ready for change."

"People in Melbourne want to see action on public transport, protecting our neighbourhoods from the big developers and more investment in services - schools, health and childcare."

"Together we can keep Melbourne liveable.:"

Cr Oke can be contacted at cathy.oke@greens.vic.org.au or www.facebook.com/cathyoke.greens



Cr Jennifer Kanis

Jennifer Kanis

Cr Kanis lives in Flemington with her husband Davydd and son Blake.

She said: "I'm Jennifer Kanis, the Labor candidate in the upcoming Melbourne by-election on July 21."

"Docklands is a beautiful place to live and work, but we also know that it faces some pressures."

"As a Melbourne City Councillor, a lawyer and a teacher I know how important the

issues of education and planning are."

"We should have a State Government working hard to give our kids proper schools and to make available dedicated community facilities and open space."

Whichever party you usually vote for, I know that you're probably disappointed with the Baillieu Liberal Government."

"The Victorian economy is going backwards, 49,000 jobs have been lost and there have been savage cuts to education since Ted Baillieu became Premier."

"Most recently Ted Baillieu ripped \$300 million out of the TAFE system. This could cost up to 2000 jobs, and will result in many courses being cancelled and some TAFE campuses facing the possibility of closure."

"Even those who have never used the TAFE system will understand the severe impact these cuts will have on our skilled workforce and the Victorian economy."

"So my message to you is simple. You may not be a traditional Labor voter but in this by-election you can send Ted Baillieu a clear message - because Victoria deserves a better government than this one."

"After all, we're all Victorians and we all want what's best for our state."

"That's why I'm asking for your support on July 21."

Cr Kanis can be contacted at jennifer.kanis@vic.alp.org.au or 9933 8572.



Networking spots available

Places are still available for the Docklands News Networking Lunch on Friday, June 22 in the Portside Bar and Lounge area of the Wharf Hotel at Northwharf.

Asset 1 strategic director Phil Hill is going to speak briefly about new developments at North Wharf, his company's role in assisting the Mission to Seafarers and his plans for a limited Yarra River shuttle.

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 cupcakes with white chocolate frosting.



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Community forum behind schedule

The City of Melbourne is yet to announce its revised proposal for a Docklands community forum.

At the Docklands Co-ordination Committee meeting on March 20, council CEO Kathy Alexander undertook to come back with a revised suggestion by the end of May.

The council and Places Victoria (PV) are keen to establish a community forum as part of a replacement model for the co-ordination committee, which everyone agrees delivers little value.

Docklanders told the council and PV they wanted a model (pictured right) which gave them real input into the decision-making processes which affect Docklands.

A model whereby a properly-resourced forum headed by a local Docklander chairperson and an as-of-right membership for peak bodies with input into the City of Melbourne's meeting cycle was popularly supported.

Failing that, the appointment of the heads of Docklands' stakeholder groups (Destination Docklands, Chamber of Commerce and Community Association) to the council/PV's steering group would also be a way of ensuring the voice of Docklands is not only heard, but is acted upon.

A council spokesperson said a revised suggestion was close to being presented to the Docklands community.

"A revised proposal has been established and is currently being finalised between Places Victoria and the City of Melbourne," the spokesperson said.

"We intend to make the details of the proposal available on the City of Melbourne's website around the end of May or early June, at which time the attendees of the Docklands Co-ordination Committee meeting 20 March will also be informed directly."



Platform 28 manager Gale Watchorne advises Lawrence Molloy how to spend \$500 on his band.

Night out for uke-band

'Docklands News' Facebook competition winner Lawrence Molloy is taking his ukulele band out at Platform 28.

But he says they will not be bringing their instruments because they are so bad.

"I wouldn't inflict us on the rest of the world," he said. "We're terrible."

Mr Molloy last month won a \$500 food and beverage voucher from Platform 28.

"Wow," he said. "That's a lot of steaks. How am I going to spend it?"

Platform 28 manager Gale Watchorne told

Lawrence it would be easy to spend \$500 on himself and his band.

"Get a couple of \$80 bottles of wine, some big steaks, desserts, some King Island cheeses ... we'll have it spent for you in no time," she said.

"I'll show up hungry then," Mr Molloy said. "I owe the boys in the band, so this will be a great way to buy them off."

Mr Molloy is a long-time fan of *Docklands News* on Facebook. While not a Docklands resident, he has taken an interest in it.

"I used to be Port Commissioner in Seattle, so I have a connection," he said.

Platform 28 is at 82 Village St, Docklands. For bookings, call **9670 9933**.

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Harbouring the artistic wave

By Andrew Yeung

Docklands put aside its waterfront precinct glamour and became a harbour for contemporary arts in late May during the Next Wave Festival.

The artistic exhibition lasted from May 19 to 27 at various Melbourne locations including the Mission to Seafarers and NewQuay Promenade in Docklands.

The nine-day festival provided a platform for 40 budding contemporary artists which included an opportunity for ritual, parties and food.

Next Wave's artistic director Emily Sexton said this year's festival attempted something new and embraced mobility, pleasure and challenges.

"Next Wave invites audiences to take part in whole-day journeys, guided through a curated collection of new art works and ideas," she said.

"We work so closely with our artists over an extended period to create truly ambitious, ground-breaking work."

"This is bleeding-edge contemporary art and bold attempts at searing, soaring exchange," she said.

The site-specific *Hull* at the Mission to Seafarers was an audio-visual installation by artists Laura Delaney and Danae Valenza.

Next Wave provided a lot of flexibility and excitement for budding artists like Danae and Laura.

"With Next Wave, you have a lot of room to develop which was really useful," Danae said.

She incorporated voices from the Chinese Methodist Church Choir and set up melting ice to trigger her audio installation. She said the best part during the Next Wave festival was the ups and downs in her production.

"When we were recording the voices, they were quite unsure," she said. "At the opening it was great to see them react to the work. They were really excited!"

Other Next Wave highlights were *Shelters* along NewQuay Promenade and the walking tour *Flyway* from Carlton to Docklands.

The scattered *Shelters* sculptures along the promenade were improvised dwellings, rafts and lookouts by Joseph L. Griffiths.

He built the sculptures on-site entirely from natural and recycled materials in under-utilised spaces.

Artists Elizabeth Dunn took her *Flyway* audience through a 90-minute walking tour to discover hidden video screens, inspirational creatures and natural cinema.

She collaborated with sound artist Lawrence English to reveal to the audience the challenges migratory birds face for survival.

Next Wave hosted a talk session *Breakfast Club* at the Wheeler Centre about artists working in the Docklands. The club presented the arts in context and showed how its projects relate to the broader society.

Short-stay operator joins building appeal

Another Docklands serviced apartment operator has appealed the City of Melbourne's attempt to use building regulation to stop the use of residential buildings for short-stay accommodation.

On May 4 a directions hearing for Yezz Pty Ltd's appeal against building orders relating to the use of residential apartments in the Watergate building was heard in the Building Appeals Board.

The Loh family operates Yezz as Grand Harbour Accommodation and has appealed council-issued notices on behalf of 22 apartment owners.

It is the second such appeal to come before the appeals board, with operators Paul Salter and Belinda Balcombe's case coming before the board on March 22.

Board chairman Leslie Schwarz issued almost identical orders in the Yezz case - determining that all matters would be heard concurrently later in the year.

Watergate Owners Corporation (OC) was legally represented at the hearing, foreshadowing that it will attempt to join the action on the side of the City of Melbourne.

Mr Schwarz extended the time set aside for the hearing in October from four half-days to six half-days in anticipation of the likelihood that the Watergate OC would be part of the case and would need time to present expert witnesses.

Tom Bacon, representing the OC, outlined the four reasons that Watergate owners wanted to be part of the proceedings.

He said the OC had concerns about:

- The potential for the use of short-stay accommodation to invalidate its liability insurance policies;
- The implications that the case may have on fire safety and monitoring and the potential need for a costly upgrade to the building;
- Legal implications if a serviced operator

employee was injured in one of the building's common areas; and

- Exposure to prosecution under noise and disturbance regulations resulting from the actions of transient visitors.

Mr Schwarz said that only the fire safety issues and matters relating to the actual use of the building would be relevant to the current proceedings.

"The owners corporation can take action in other places on the other matters," Mr Schwarz said.

As a test case, the City of Melbourne is using the Building Code of Australia (BCA) in an attempt to wipe out the practice of serviced apartments in residential buildings, which is widespread in Docklands and in the rest of Australia.

The council is using a building code definition to claim that such use is illegal. It is alleging that owners need to have "Class 3" permission (usually reserved for hotels and rooming houses) to operate serviced apartments - an issue which the apartment operators contest.

It is widely accepted that if owners were forced to comply with Class 3 requirements, the use of serviced apartments in residential buildings would become commercially unviable.

The appeals board heard that the council last year issued notices to 27 Watergate owners. Yezz lawyer Toby Cogley told Mr Schwarz that there were 340 apartments in the twin-towered Watergate complex.



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Bicycle repair ultra marathon

Docklands Bike Force mechanics Jeremy Stainforth and Michael Finlay undertook a “mechanical ultra-marathon” last month when they tackled 1000 bicycle renovations in 10 days.

The bicycles were donated from all over Victoria as part of a “Bikes for the Bush” project and were to be restored to safe working order by Jeremy and Michael before being sent to remote indigenous communities in the Northern Territory.

The mountain of dead and dying bicycles was assembled in a discreet development site within Harbour Town during the weeks leading up to May 7 when work began.

Jeremy and Michael started with the least challenging bikes – the ones that perhaps just needed new tyres or brakes.

“Obviously we can’t restore 1000 bikes to their original condition in 10 days, so we are just satisfied to ensure that the bikes can go and can stop,” Jeremy said.

A “reject pile” of the more difficult cases was steadily growing, but the dynamic duo planned to return to them when they had picked out and fixed all of the easier options.

“We’ll break down the more damaged bikes and start building up new ones from the parts we salvage,” Jeremy said.

Mr Stainforth estimated that between 700 and 800 sound bicycles would be packed into five shipping containers and sent to the Northern Territory.

He said the remaining bicycle carcasses would be stripped down to their bare components and the metal would be recycled.

“We have to remove all the rubber, aluminium and other contaminants before the metal can be recycled,” he said.

He said other second-hand parts would be given to the CERES environmental park in Brunswick where a bicycle exchange was conducted.

Mr Stainforth said the project was not just about donating bicycles to underprivileged indigenous communities. He said it also involved bicycle maintenance education to ensure that the bikes would have a long-term benefit for their new owners.

Bike Force staff (from left) Michael Finlay, Andrew Cowburn and Jeremy Stainforth hard at it last month.



GOWRIE VICTORIA The Harbour Family and Children’s Centre The Benefits of Blobs



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Playing with blobs builds strength and fine motor coordination in the hands and wrists. This is important for tasks such as drawing, writing, picking up tiny objects, and holding small animals without squashing them.

While play dough is great for all ages, when children reach preschool age some firmer and more challenging materials can be introduced, such as clay and plasticine.

There are many activities that can facilitate preschoolers’ hand strength and control. Here are just a few:

- Squeezing orange juice
- Grating vegetables or cheese
- Sifting flour (especially using the squeeze-action sifters)
- Picking up and sorting beads with tweezers
- Pegging things on a line

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Free lunchbox sessions at Hub

To celebrate turning five this year, The Hub will be running free lunchtime presentations on the second Thursday of the month from June through to December.

The City of Melbourne-run service has invited all Docklanders to join it for informative and entertaining sessions while enjoying lunch and a well-deserved break.

A spokesperson said: "We will have renowned chef and author Tony Chiodo sharing his winter-superfood recipes to keep you healthy and strong throughout winter, as well as an acclaimed cellist to lift your spirits with beautiful music in the middle of our coldest month."

At 12.30 on June 14 Tony Chiodo will teach participants some eating and cooking secrets in a fun and interactive session.

"Tony will share some time-saving, life-enhancing recipes and cooking skills to slot into your busy schedule. Discover some new foods and flavours that will add zest into your everyday cooking, leaving you feeling great," the spokesperson said.

"Towards the end of winter we will have an ex-ABC horticulturalist from Victoria University on hand to teach you her gardening secrets, as well as a style expert to help you look your very best."

"Later in the year we will have an eBay expert teach you all you need to know about the online marketplace, and a class on meditation to clear your head and keep you grounded in the lead up to summer."

"And just before Christmas we will have the charismatic nutritionist Lola Berry giving you the skills and motivation to eat well during the silly season."

When: The second Thursday of the month, from June through to December

Time: 12.30pm. Most sessions will run for 30 minutes. Some will run for 45 minutes.



The big morning tea

Docklanders came together to raise funds for cancer research at several "Big Morning Tea" events last month.

A large event was held in the NAB forecourt on Bourke St and another was held some days later on May 22 at the Harbour Town Tourism Lounge.

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea is held each year to fundraise for the Cancer Council of Australia.



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Melbourne Water is open

Melbourne Water is moving to Docklands following the opening of its state-of-the-art new headquarters at 990 LaTrobe St on May 29.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy did the honours in declaring the building open, assisted by Places Victoria chairman Peter Clarke.

Mr Guy spoke passionately about Docklands' role as the new centre of business in Melbourne and praised the vision of his predecessors in the late 1990s who set the process running.

Melbourne Water is moving 800 staff into its new headquarters and is consolidating most of its operation in the process.

The environmental credentials of the new, eight-storey building are first class and it has already been awarded a 6 Star Green Star accreditation for its design.

Digital Harbour developer David Napier said the building would also be seeking a 6 Star NABERS energy rating following an initial period of occupation and monitoring.

Mr Napier said the building's tri-generation plant, highly efficient e-glass, external sun shading, under-floor air distribution, vacuum toilets and water harvesting were just some of the building's credentials.



Digital Harbour developer David Napier (left), architect Hazel Porter and Planning Minister Matthew Guy at the Melbourne Water building opening.

He said Melbourne Water chose Digital Harbour for its easy road access and access to public transport.

"Melbourne Water chose this building primarily for its design excellence, sustainability and appropriate staff amenity," he said.

"Atrium voids and surrounding spaces adjacent to the centrally-located side core provide the tenant with convenient meeting areas and vertical connectivity via interconnecting stairs, encouraging efficient and effective inter-departmental communication and collaboration."

Intersection upgrade

Docklands' dangerous intersection of the corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade is to get an upgrade to protect pedestrians.

Places Victoria's Docklands manager Simon Wilson says a traffic island is to be installed to help define the actual roadway for motorists turning right out of Bourke St heading north along Harbour Esplanade.

Mr Wilson said: "Places Victoria has been working with VicRoads, the City of Melbourne, and Bicycle Victoria to improve safety for cyclists at the intersection of Harbour Esplanade and Bourke St."

"Subject to VicRoads' approval, works to create a traffic island and changes to signalisation will occur within the next few months. These works are designed to more clearly define the path of travel for motorists."

In February Docklands News highlighted the danger to pedestrians waiting to cross Harbour Esplanade - reporting that drivers often mistook the bicycle path for the road.



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Letters to the Editor

When empathy and fear collide

Love it or hate it - I call Docklands home.

I live, work and play here. In fact, the only reason I step out of my burb is to visit the cinemas or to attend Sunday mass. Docklands is beautiful! From afar, though it may seem all concrete and urban, it is ever welcoming and warm to those who look beyond the glass façade. The press might spin negative yarns about the wind and cold but Docklands is an opportunity waiting to be explored and discovered and if all you notice is a skyline dotted with suspended cranes what you will not feel is the pulsating vibe of a community. I think the fact that we survive despite the diatribe and still thrive in the midst of the struggle is commendable.

I think I can safely call myself a "local" after three years of living here. I have my favourite barista, hairdresser, pharmacist, florist, grocer, building manager - and when we "locals" meet, there is always something to talk about. You know - gossip, chatter about this and that. Over the last few weeks, a whisper about a "psycho in Docklands" (apologies for being politically incorrect), has grown into a loud conversation. I heard it first from the barista - who lived in the same building as this person. She sighed that the police were called in thrice in one week.

Another time, this person threw tennis balls from his balcony at the passing traffic including trams. Then there was intimidation and indecent exposure - stories came in thick and fast. I thought these incidents were exaggerated and felt it almost unreal that someone as aggressive as this person was staying amidst us, in what was otherwise a safe residential neighbourhood - that was until my recent encounter with him.

It was my birthday and celebrations with a few friends over dinner were in order. Calling it an early night on Thursday, I headed back home on tram 86 at 9.00pm. Comfortably seated, I noticed a person with headphones plugged in and a happy disposition get into the tram at Spencer St Station. He was dancing and seeing him move to the rhythm, I mused, "Now that is a happy spirit with no inhibitions."

As the tram entered LaTrobe St, the dancing got aggressive and the movements vigorous. Then suddenly, in a flash he was standing beside me asking me, "If I would like to come to his crib!" Gripped with fear, I looked for help and noticed that there were just three girls including myself on the tram. He

got angrier and shouted, "I am speaking to you, look at me."

With clenched teeth and frozen legs, I stared through the window seeking help, only to hear the tram driver announce, "Be careful, he is mental." Needless to say, one of the girls jumped out at the first stop the tram halted but I couldn't as he was blocking my way and I didn't want to do anything to agitate him. He then turned his attention to the driver, telling him how he was going away on a bike and that his friend was a millionaire and so forth.

As soon he moved away, the tram driver was kind enough to make an unscheduled stop asking us to get out and both of us frantically jumped out and ran as fast as we could before disappearing into the darkness of NewQuay. Those 20 seconds of insane fear - I have never experienced anything like that in my entire life!

Here is my dilemma - what does one do when empathy collides with fear? I agree completely and absolutely that people with mental illness should have the opportunity to assimilate and function in a society to reach their full potential as much as I do. They should have access to justice; participation in political and public life; education; employment; freedom from exploitation and violence, as well as freedom of movement. It is paramount that we practice the principle of "from exclusion to inclusion and equality".

But what about my right to safety? What am I supposed to do if I was assaulted or even raped? These were the thoughts that raced through my head in that brief encounter, but they are as real to me as this person's disability.

While Housing Choices Australia is to be lauded for its efforts to find people affordable housing in this new suburb, it cannot turn a blind eye towards the challenges such a situation would pose.

For example, there was no discussion amongst other residents as to how they were to handle or react when encountering a difficult situation with an agitated person. Most of us were not even made aware that people with disabilities were living among us and that we needed to be sympathetic and patient.

Name and address supplied

Still no news on NewQuay Central

Planning Minister Matthew Guy is yet to see his department's recommendations on MAB Corporation's proposals for NewQuay Central.

The Minister told *Docklands News* last month that the matter was still being worked on within his department and was yet to land on his desk.

He acknowledged that the proposal had raised community concern and he expressed his desire to preserve the amenity of the area.

MAB announced last August that it had bought the Waterfront City precinct of the southern side of Docklands Drive from ING Real Estate Development and was proposing five new buildings.

Residents have objected to aspects of the proposal and its planning merits are yet to be judged by the Minister.

Pedestrian changes

Pedestrians would have noticed changes to the bridge linking Etihad Stadium to Southern Cross Station.

The width of the original bridge has been halved, but a new bridge has been established on the railway side of the new NAB building.

This means pedestrians will be able to walk more directly to the northern end of Etihad stadium and LaTrobe St.

Places Victoria's Docklands general manager Simon Wilson said the new colonnade was currently open during Etihad events but would open permanently later this year.

"As part of the NAB development at 700 Bourke St, a temporary pedestrian gantry was constructed in mid-2011 linking Southern Cross Station to Etihad Stadium," Mr Wilson said.

"The temporary pedestrian gantry was constructed to ensure sufficient pedestrian access during events, prior to the opening of a permanent colonnade on the east side of the stadium."



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I am fascinated by the Mission to Seafarers building in Flinders St.

Have you ever been inside? It is an amazing place and is one of Docklands' historic buildings. Many of you will have driven past this magnificent building.

Not many people know this, but the mission is open to the public. The Mission to Seafarers offers visiting seafarers a place where they can come and feel a warm welcome in a strange land. Many are Filipinos, Ukranians and Indian sailors who live a life of poverty.

The mission building is heritage-listed and they have to fund themselves with little government assistance. If the mission cannot raise sufficient money to undertake much-needed renovations, it is in danger of being moved on and the building sold to parties who can guarantee its preservation. I am amazed the many shipping companies whose sailors use this facility do not pay anything for the service offered to their crews.

If you come down any Friday lunch you will enjoy the best curry in town. A local restaurant sets up in the kitchen and prepares an authentic variety of curries. A generous serve will cost less than \$15.

The mission has a well-stocked bar where you can purchase an accompanying beverage at a very reasonable price.

Whilst you are there, have a look around. Make sure you visit the chapel and the dome and find out what other attractions will be coming to the mission in the coming months. If you are feeling generous, leave a gold coin donation!

It is important that Melburnians support the mission. When you look at the numerous Docklands around the world, the success and charm of these locations come down to three things - the proximity to the water, the activity on the water and the historic charm of the buildings reflecting local history.

Docklands Melbourne has its harbour and proximity to water. But it is a work in progress and it is vitally important it does not lose all its character to modern development. There are a number of sheds that have been lovingly restored and which offer visitors a

The mission is amazing

taste of the past. Platform 28, Places Victoria and the Fox Classic Car Museum in Batman's Hill are all well-preserved examples of Docklands' past. Central Pier, the Woolshed Pub, Va Bene and Alumbra are all located in carefully-preserved historic sheds.

Shed 2 and Shed 4 down the end of Victoria Harbour are still standing, for the moment. These are currently home to Open Channel and a number of boat building operations. Open Channel is a facility to train budding film-makers and provides low-cost venues for film sets and local events. The boat builders are a community-based hub that currently has a restoration program for the Alma Doepel and the Wooden Boat Centre is home to a boat builder who painstakingly repairs boats for local mariners.

These historic places are soon to be redeveloped. They are shortly to be replaced with residential buildings and a community centre with a library, swimming pool, rock-climbing wall and other community facilities. Under the current plan, the boating hub will be relocated to a permanent home in the new modern facilities. Open Channel is still looking for a new home - hopefully somewhere in Docklands. Effective January

next year, these sheds will be gone forever.

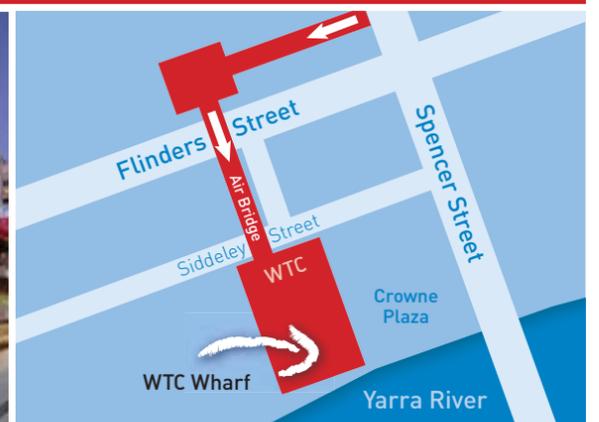
As far as water activation in Melbourne Docklands is concerned, I am excited to learn of momentum to deliver a state-of-the-art, purpose-built ferry that will offer Melburnians a regular ferry service from Federation Square to Docklands. How long before this is a reality? What hurdles have to be overcome to bring this vital service alive?

I have seen the prototype, and it ticks all the boxes. It has been designed to carry bicycles and has wheel-chair access. It can moor at existing pontoons without the need to tie up. It has sitting and standing room and fits easily under the low bridges that span the Yarra and which prevent access by larger vessels. Consideration has also been given to keeping the wash to a minimum to have a low impact on other river users. This vessel is a leading-edge design and can be built here in Victoria. Watch this space!

The "Docklands Public Realm Plan" was released at the end of May. If you are interested to see what is planned for Docklands, you must read this. You can download it from the City of Melbourne's website.

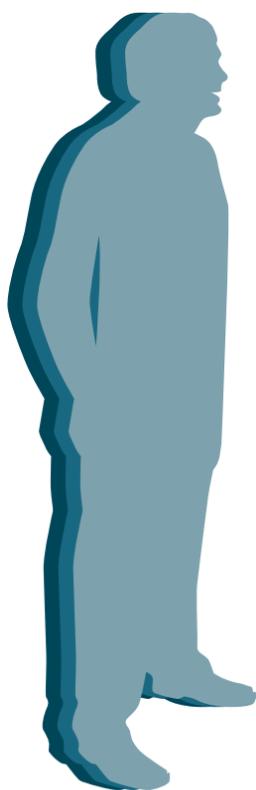
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DOCKLANDER

Come and see for yourself

Like many people, Michelle Kemp didn't know much about Docklands before she started working for Destination Docklands in July 2010.

But she has come to love the suburb and is keen to change people's unfounded negative perceptions of the area.

"We have so much to offer but some people like to believe the negative stories that abound and won't make the effort to visit," Ms Kemp said. "Ignore what other people say and come and see for yourself."

Her passion for the area shines through as she explains how she believes many "problems" are overstated. Take traffic, for example.

"People moan about traffic here, but I think it's more than reasonable," Ms Kemp said. "We're right on the city's doorstep, and in comparison to the roads in the CBD, the reality is much better than the perception. It's possible to get from here to the airport more quickly than from the centre of the city."

"Docklands has the City Circle Tram and Tourist Shuttle that can deliver you from around the city to Docklands for free and free parking at Harbour Town Shopping Centre so it's easier to get here than what people think."

After taking six years of maternity leave to look after her two daughters, aged seven and three, Ms Kemp took up her current part-time position with Destination Docklands.

"It's a challenging and exciting role and I'm really enthusiastic about the future of Docklands. It has great potential."

Ms Kemp is impressed at the sense of community in Docklands.

"There's a great community feel here, and we try to develop that at Destination Docklands," Ms Kemp said. "Everyone wants what's best for Docklands."



Destination Docklands started a reward program called Docklander Deals last year to encourage residents and workers to discover more of what Docklands has to offer and this program is available to anyone wishing to sign up for free.

"We have amazing deals every month including 50 per cent off food at some restaurants, half-price hairdressing and 40 per cent off dry cleaning, to name but a few."

Docklands is beautiful and to help people understand just how beautiful it is, Destination Docklands provides a link on its website to Flickr for a constant stream of amazing Docklands photos.

Ms Kemp said that the proximity to the water was also a big positive.

"I love Docklands on a mild, sunny day - it makes it so nice to look out over the water at the boats."

Profile by
Daniel Kemp

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Corporate Challenge

Well folks it's that time of year again, the time to decide if you want to participate in Melbourne's premier lunch-time sports competition, the Corporate Challenge.

The Corporate Challenge provides its participants a selection of fantastic sports in very convenient CBD locations.

Team-based activities are a great way for corporate workers to interact outside the normal office environment, and some examples of the benefits our participants experience include:

Incorporating fun and fitness into your week;

- Improved concentration and stress minimisation; and
- Building a more cohesive working environment

The current repertoire of sports includes netball, soccer, basketball and lawn bowls. With a strong culture of inclusivity and sportsmanship, the Corporate Challenge has something for everyone.

Registrations open the end of June. For more information on this event, please visit the AMCS website, www.melbournecitysports.ymca.org.au or call our office on 9604 8600.

with Peter O'Rourke

from Active Melbourne City Sports

Corporate curling

Are you on the lookout for something completely outside the box? Then this could be the answer you're looking for.

The sport of curling has existed for over 500 years, with the game gaining the attention of the wider world with its introduction as an Olympic sport in 1998.

What makes the story of curling so interesting is how unique the sport looks when played.

Often likened to lawn bowls on ice, curling involves the sliding of granite stones along the ice, with two people sweeping the ice in front of the stones to control the speed, with the aim to end up as close as possible to the target located 45 metres away.

Curling can be played and won by anyone, regardless of age or physical capabilities. The game requires a combination of team-work, chemistry and communication to succeed. Corporate Curling is played at the world-class Medibank Icehouse facility located in Harbour Town.

Packages are tailored to suit the needs of your company and can include a team-building session, curling coaching, games of curling and food and refreshments.

For more information on this event, please call our offices on 9604 8600.

Corporate Cup

With all the spectacular sights and sounds that Melbourne has to offer, there is no better method of appreciating these than the opportunity to get active and run.

Melbourne has a unique running culture, with many corporate workers using their lunch breaks as an opportunity for training.

By running at lunch-time, these workers capitalise on the benefits associated with exercising, without eating into their valuable time spent at home.

One such event which capitalises on the lunch-time running window is the Corporate Cup, a fortnightly, team-based running/walking program conducted at the Tan Track around the Royal Botanic Gardens.

The Corporate Cup provides its participants with individual and team statistical analysis of their times.

This highlights improvement not only for an individual, but also improvement as a team.

The Corporate Cup is has a great social aspect as participants familiarise themselves with their teammates and fellow competitors.

Registrations open at the end of June. For more information on this event, please visit the AMCS website, www.melbournecitysports.ymca.org.au or call our office on 9604 8600.

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Notice to Docklands residents and business owners

Saturday 9 – Sunday 10 June

Due to Regional Rail Link track work, buses will replace V/Line trains on the Ballarat and Bendigo lines on Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 June (part of the Queen's Birthday weekend).

Rail replacement buses will need to access Southern Cross Station during the weekend, resulting in buses parking at a holding yard in close proximity to the southern end of Docklands Drive.

Little disruption to traffic flow is anticipated as bus trips will be spread across the day and typically involve one bus leaving at a time.

Regional Rail Link and V/Line are working closely with the bus companies to minimise inconvenience to residents and business owners of Docklands during the weekend.

For more information call 1800 107 925 or go to regionallink.vic.gov.au



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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Greetings everybody

Whilst there is still no decision from Minister Guy regarding the MAB plan for the redevelopment of Waterfront City and the piazza, the DCA has received a response from Premier Baillieu to our representations saying that, whilst he couldn't make specific comment on the plan while it is still under review, he said: "I would like to commend the commitment of time and resources that the members of the Docklands Community Association have dedicated to raising their concerns about the proposal with the Minister for Planning."

"The Victorian Coalition Government is committed to improving community assets in the Docklands precinct ... As part of the 2011-12 State Budget, our Government provided \$9.7 million over four years to develop a new planning strategy for Melbourne, of which Docklands is a vital component."

I think we can take some heart from that and also from the protracted delay in a decision on the WFC plans, which may indicate some modifications are under consideration.

The City of Melbourne has released what it calls Public Realm Plans for Docklands. It can be commented on online or at public forums being held at the Hub on Wednesday, June 13, 5.30 - 6.30pm or Saturday, June 16, 11am to 12 noon.

The plan is a lengthy document covering roads, streets, buildings and open space on land. Interestingly, it does not address water-use development. The impression is that they want to broaden the focus away from parks open space, which of course is lacking.

Whilst streets can be used for walking and there are bike tracks, it acknowledges the need for land-based recreation and more parks and trees. Of course the "No man's land" Esplanade is open space and its redevelopment will add significantly to the Docklands' image and use. Interestingly, it says the Waterfront City Piazza is earmarked as a civic space providing a green space for locals as well as for events attracting up to 5000 people.

The development of the waterways usage is an integral part of the public realm development and perhaps is being made a separate study. Ferries are seen as crucial in bringing visitors to and from NewQuay. In relation to the recent airing of the idea of commuter ferries between the lower western suburbs and the city it raises the question of would they also service NewQuay.

Council is running a survey on what people think of the public events held in the city. The notice has been sent out to members. It can be accessed online. It has been pointed out to council that they have failed to include reference to events held in Docklands.

Lists of Docklands events and activities from the Hub, council and Etihad Stadium are being emailed to members as they come to hand.

Following the forum in March hosted by Places Victoria and council informing us of improved governance and consultation, we have heard nothing further or have not received any response to our suggestion that the DCA and the Chamber of Commerce should be represented on their strategic planning committee. We will follow up.

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.

Sincerely
Roger Gardner
President DCA

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

5. CONSPIRACY

by Rose Mercer and Susan Wells

"Before you so rudely bundled me out, Kate, you should know I came here purely at Tom's behest to give you an appraisal for selling your apartment." Simon raises his hands, palms facing the huffy woman before him, his expression conciliatory.

"Don't play games with me, Simon. Here's the thing: Tom can't know I was at the casino. I was supposed to be working overtime."

"Oooh ..."

Understanding dawns on Simon, but before he can say anything, Kate reaches into her loose top and pulls out a wad of money held together by a bank-type band. She fans it in Simon's face watching with satisfaction as he licks his lips and his eyes widen.

"This can be yours, Simon and more, much, much more. See, I promised Tom no more gambling, but you can help me." Kate has forgotten her unattractiveness. She's looking at Simon in a most promising way as the doors to the downward-bound lift shhnp closed.

"Help you how? What can I do?"

Kate grabs his arm urgently while breathing stale alcohol fumes on the fastidious man. He turns his head away, nose wrinkling.

"Listen to me, Simon King, and listen carefully. Tom was doing some renovations recently and ..."

"Ah, that explains that badly-patched wall I saw," Simon cuts her off, facing the doors but eyes peeking at the wad of money still close to his face.

"Shut up and listen." Kate's tone brooks no nonsense. "Yes, he was opening up the wall to expand our closet and found it stuffed chock-a-block full of bundles like these. The whole bloody wall is full of money. See? Like the bank hands out. I nicked this before he freaked out. I want to keep it and I can cut you in. Here, take this as your down-payment," Kate shoves the bundle into his hand. "But first, you have to do just what I tell you."

The atmosphere in the lift becomes palpably icy as Simon's well-tanned face blanches. This surprises Kate and she unexpectedly sees a dead man walking.

"What now?" she asks.

Simon's eyes are glued to the bundle of notes in his hand – horror obvious on his face as he stares fixedly at the Maltese Cross and Egyptian hieroglyph symbol on the band. A barely perceptible groan escapes his bloodless lips. "Oh no, no, no, not again."

Meanwhile, Tom, now alone with his thoughts, leans back on the sofa and closes his eyes, trying to make sense of the morning. Once Kate had left to guide Simon King downstairs, he had allowed himself to feel the confusion and anger lurking beneath his seemingly composed exterior. Kate had somehow managed to change the playing field and the closure he needed on the sale of the unit now seemed uncertain.

"Where the hell was she anyway?" He felt a sudden sense of panic.

Memories came flooding back: his father's grandparents who had emigrated from Malta and apparently been quite well-to-do in their home country; Tom's own family who seemed far better off than all of his school friends and their families; his father's mysterious occupation which had never been explained; that odd ring he always wore with the symbols matching those on the money in the wall; and finally the knowledge he was expected to follow in the family tradition to take his place in the secret cabal ...

Disconcerted, Tom opened his eyes in the empty apartment, gazing out the large lounge window with its breath-taking vista over Victoria Harbour. No, he shook his



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

I feel really happy! I feel as though a cloud has lifted, or I have woken from a deep sleep and can see clearly again. It's the most extraordinary feeling, and I have to be honest with you - I don't know why I'm so happy.

I haven't won lotto, I haven't met my (so far very lost) soul mate, nor have I joined a meditation yoga guru. I haven't paid off my credit card(s), I certainly haven't made a dent in my mortgage and I haven't walked the dog often enough. I haven't found the perfect pair of jeans, I haven't bought gorgeous new boots and I haven't bought a new car (in fact, haven't even cleaned the old car).

But I'm still happy. I tell you what I think I have done though. Let go. Not of everything, not of goals, not of working my hardest to give life the best crack I can. But I've let go of stressing about the things that go wrong. I've had a few massive stresses recently. I am, after all, restoring and renovating my burnt house as I write this column (who else can say they designed an ensuite where you nearly hit your head, huh??). And I am finally starting to learn that not only is there

nearly always a solution, but sometimes the solution is better than the original plan (ensuite where you *don't* hit your head).

Sometimes the problem is there to open another opportunity to you! I know that's starting to sound like something a self-help book would say, but I actually have it on very good authority (my beautician) that the universe is entering a phase of "shake things up", and we just have to trust that as things unexpectedly change direction, it's actually to allow for the new to enter.

Apparently we're heading into quite an auspicious time, what with the predicted end of the world on 21/12/12 and all that. Well as it turns out, the Mayans predicted the end of the world "cycle" to occur then, and some pretty savvy astrologers are pointing out that it actually means a rebirth or new start is coming our way.

The collective energy of the universe is pointing out to us the things we need to change no matter how much we may have tried to ignore the signs. It's helping (or forcing) us to get rid of the things we don't need anymore, to make room for the new.

And a big part of that is letting go of what is not in your heart anymore - or maybe not so much letting go of something, as simply no longer being able to hold onto the things that just truly aren't right for you anymore.

It's so easy to not want to let go of something that we have for so long either believed was right, or just out of habit wanted to continue. Many of my friends and family are currently having those things completely shaken up right now, and I think those that are dealing with it best are the ones who are simply saying "okay, it's time to reinvent this. What do I really want?" They stop fighting to stay in the same situation and just simply see where

the situation is now taking them.

And let me tell you something - when you stop trying to hang on so tight to something you thought you needed, and just allow a new way to emerge, it's liberating.

I am so happy because my amazing son and I have each other and our health. And everything else is just an adventure. I don't know where it's going to go next, but I'm going to just try to enjoy every turn this life takes, and trust that it's all happening the way it's meant to.

I hope you too, are finding some happiness in the interesting and unexpected path that life can take.

With love,

Abby x

Advertorial

Ted Baillieu needs a wake-up call.

With 49,000 jobs already lost, Victoria is going backwards.

The Melbourne by-election on July 21 is your chance to send Ted Baillieu a message.



JENNIFER KANIS
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MADE IN HEAVEN WITH ANGELINA MAY

How compatible are you and your partner?

What are the working dynamics of your relationship?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your partner's birth date and time to heaven@docklandsnews.com.au

What do you bring to the relationship and what gifts does your partner bring?



Jessica

October 28, 1994
Sun in Scorpio
North Node in Scorpio

Julian

January 3, 1993
Sun in Capricorn
North Node in Sagittarius

Jessica:

Jessica you are thorough and determined in all that you do but sometimes you feel like you are the ultimate authority on everything. You rely on yourself and your skills without considering others' viewpoints. Because you have had many lifetimes of doing things on your own and working towards your goals with little or no help from others you believe that having a partner now would hinder your progress. It is actually the opposite in this lifetime.

The more energy you give to your partner the more success you will experience and the easier your life will be. It is hard for you though to understand that others may have a different method from you and may actually be able to accomplish more than you in a more efficient manner. You have trouble seeing people for who they are and assume that everyone thinks like you and wants the same things as you. You have a habit of holding on to things, people and ideas way past their use-by date. The energy of letting go is liberating for you so when you feel stuck in a rut and unhappy, the best approach is to let go of something - clothing, an attitude, a grief, a grudge. Letting go is the motto you should adopt.

Julian:

Julian you have had many lifetimes of being logical and practical. And you have been able to get what you want by using the right words to impress others. You may have had to do this to sell yourself or your product, so after a while you lost sight of your conscience.

You became numb to the social graces and spiritual or emotional consequences of your actions in order to make money or be seen to be important. It worked for you in past lives but this lifetime you are here to learn morality and follow a more spiritual path.

In other words, you no longer need to tell people what they want to hear in order to make a sale.

You need to tell them the truth. "Yes that outfit does not suit you." "No, I don't enjoy this or that" ... being true to yourself is the first place to start and then speaking your truth to others will be very liberating for you and bring you much joy and success in this lifetime.

Outcome of relationship:

Jessica's north node connects with Julian's 10th house which is a brilliant placement for success. Just by being around Julian, Jessica is able to positively influence his reputation and status in the world.

She helps Julian to become the CEO of his own life and live his life according to his principles in order to achieve his success. By helping Julian on his life path, Jessica will also strengthen her belief in herself and her reputation.

Julian influences Jessica to increase her material possessions and self-esteem.

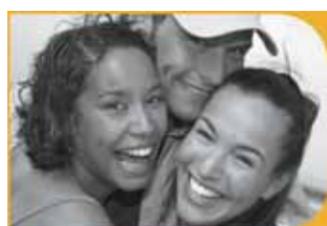
His North Node affects her second house and the second house is all about abundance and creature comfort. Buying a home, raising a family, building a business or just earning more money is the by-product of this relationship.

If it is purely a working relationship, Julian will help Jessica to strength and appreciate her skills and help her attract more of everything she desires. It is interesting to see that Jessica's biggest challenge is in letting go and supporting others in order to succeed. She has found that in Julian but it remains to be seen whether she will be able to let go and trust ...

Featured terminology

North Node - The hardest lesson we have to learn. In Scorpio, it is learning to let go

South Node - Where we are most complacent but get little reward or satisfaction.



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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Luke

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

Ben Sherman jacket and t-shirt and Witchery jeans.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Comfortable and relaxed.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

Shopping before going to the football.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Queensland.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

Shorts and t-shirt.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Simple, easy stuff you can chuck on in the morning and not think about too much.

Abbey

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

My clothes are all from Sportsgirl.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Warm because it's freezing!

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

Picking up my car and just shopping.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Shepparton.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

These boots from Tony and Bianco.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Something that looks good and you feel comfortable in.

Laura

LOCATION?

South Wharf

WEARS?

Black jacket, red underlay, boots and jeans.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT?

Fashionable and bright colours.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

Shopping before going to Sydney to visit my family.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Ballarat.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

My Sportsgirl bag.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Accessories and jewellery.



Hats off to milliner

Melbourne is a city of hat lovers, from the wintery berets and fedoras to the feathery creations for race season.

As a finishing touch to any outfit, adding colour and interest, hats surely add an air of sophistication to any outing.

However, more than just merely head-wear, designer hats can also be seen as sculptural items, none more artful than Melbourne's loved milliner Paris Kyne. In an exhibition showing off the city's love of hats, Paris is showcasing his handcrafted headpieces in the lobby of Crown Promenade Hotel in June.

The exhibition 'Warped, Twisted and then Wrapped' highlights the way in which the hats were made, sculpted from wire frames, twisted and then covered in braid.

"With this exhibition I wanted to use as few materials as possible. Any shape is possible by using your imagination and by simply changing the shape and colour of a work and using variations that are only vaguely related." Paris said.

The wire techniques create fantastic shapes – simple and structured to not appear overpowering, or too heavy for headpieces.

"Over the years I have done mountains of wirework, including the Moomba crowns for King Molly Meldrum and Queen Kate Ceberano in 2010. It had been ten years since we had a King and Queen of Moomba." Paris said.

The exhibition is free and open to the public from Tuesday 19 June – Thursday 5 July 2012 at Crown Promenade Hotel.



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Lucky receives a \$25 gift voucher from Pet Stock South Melbourne

Who's a lucky cat then?

You'd have to be "Lucky" to live 21 years as a cat wouldn't you?

Conder resident Elma Crosbie's cat Lucky turns 21 this month and shows no signs of slowing down.

"Slowing down" is a relative term and could explain Lucky's longevity. The pampered ginger moggie walks around Elma's apartment and sometimes into the hallway, but that's about as tough as it gets for Lucky.

The big boy spends the rest of his time resting and bossing Elma around, something which she doesn't mind at all.

After all, Elma has a lot of respect for her elders, for at 21-cat-years-old, Lucky is the human equivalent of a 101-year-old.

"He's never been a person-friendly cat," Elma said. "He will not be picked up and he'll bite and scratch you if he doesn't like you."

And he's a fussy eater too. Elma says Lucky won't eat meat and insists on having 10kg parcels of whiting fillets being flown in from NSW.

"It cost more to feed Lucky than to feed myself," Elma laughed. "He's very precious."

Lucky has spent most of his live living with

Elma and her family on the Gold Coast hinterland in the Tallebudgera Valley. Elma's son Wayne found three-year-old Lucky at the local pound 18 years ago.

Lucky loved his life on a 10-acre bush-block but has adjusted well to high-rise living since Elma moved to Docklands four years ago, following the death of her husband Jeff.

Elma was very worried when the vet arrived early in the morning to give Lucky a shot to calm him, but he made the flight without incident.

Other than being sedated for the trip to Melbourne, Lucky has only been to the vet once.

"She told me there was nothing wrong with him and to take him home," Elma said.

But while Lucky is well and truly "in the pink", he has a long way to go to take the world record as the oldest cat.

According to the Guinness Book of Records, the oldest living cat is a Burmese called Katalena Lady who also lives in Melbourne. Katalena Lady was born on March 11, 1977 making her 35 years old.

By Guy Mason
 City on a Hill Pastor

The Light

A new season has commenced in the life of City on a Hill.

On Sunday, May 20 we opened doors to a new service. Once a small group meeting in an apartment, the church has grown significantly and now offers three Sunday sessions that gather hundreds of people. The first two sessions are at Hoyts Melbourne Central (8.45am and 10.30am), which include a full children's program. The third service starts at 6pm and meets at Arrow, a conference centre situated on 488 Swanston St, Melbourne.

In addition to opening doors to a new service, we've recently opened a chapter on a new series.

It's a series for those who hunger for more. A series for those who want to go deeper. A series for those in freedom. A series for those held back. A series for those with questions. A series for those with answers. A series for those intrigued by darkness. A series for those drawn to life. A series for the weak. A series for the strong. A series for the religious. A series for the irreligious. A series for saints. A series for sinners.

This series will inspire, confront, and comfort us. Yet above all, it will cause us to see this world and our lives in a new and transformed way.

We've called this series, The Light.

"In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:5)

Light is what makes our world visible. It allows us to see the wonder of humanity, the beauty of nature and the strength of creation. Without light there is only darkness, with light there is colour and life. Light shows us the way, it uncovers evil and it guides our path. Light marks day and light marks night. It is central. It is supreme. It is of infinite value to every tribe, tongue and tradition.

The series is an opportunity for you to discover the light. And not just any light, the one true light. It's an opportunity to see, experience and encounter the light.

One man who did just that is John. John lived in the first century and was in many ways just like us - a normal guy, working a

normal job. Yet in his life he encountered The Light, he walked with The Light. In fact, history reveals that of all the people who knew The Light he was one of the closest to The Light.

This series explores his story. His biography. It's a vivid and rich eyewitness account.

In the coming months I'll be sharing in the column the many reasons why this Light is worth exploring and knowing. If you'd like to hear more you can come to any of our services, join our facebook page ([facebook.com/cityonahill.com.au](https://www.facebook.com/cityonahill.com.au)), or listen online via our podcast, which you can find at iTunes.



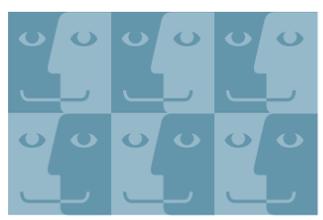
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FACES OF DOCKLANDS



NATASHA MOUSSI, 27
Hawthorn

Natasha has been working at her parents' restaurant, Medici, for the past 10 years. Although it was an awful day weather-wise when we spoke to her, Natasha was enthusiastic about Docklands. "It's really nice when the weather is good - unfortunately it's not today!" Natasha said. "There's a lot going on here now with heaps of restaurants and cafes. Medici is fun to work at too, especially when it's busy and there's a lot going on."



MIKE HAWKER, 47
Brunswick

Mike has travelled all over the world, working in restaurants in London, Edinburgh and California. He has now brought his expertise back to Oscars Table here in Docklands. "I've been here for six months, and the place really grows on you," Mike said. "There's a real family atmosphere here, and you feel like you never want to leave. The view is great, and the people here in Docklands are always nice and accommodating." Originally a percussionist by trade, Mike summed up his passion in three words: "I hit things."



SALVATORE NOLFO, 22
Reservoir

Salvatore came to Melbourne from Sicily two and a half years ago for a fresh start. After settling in, he has worked at Renzo's for almost the last year as a waiter and barman. "I like Docklands because it's a quiet area, but still very close to the city," Salvatore said. "It's nice to be close to the water and it's a new modern area with everything you expect to go with that. My job here is also fun, and I enjoy working with the customers and meeting new people all the time."



ALICE ROUX, 23
France

Alice was busy snapping photographs of the entertainers' statues in Waterfront City Piazza when Docklands News bumped into her. Visiting Australia from France on a working holiday visa, Alice is currently taking a break from work to travel around the country. She's been in Melbourne for three weeks so far, and likes what she has seen of Docklands. "This is the first day I have been to Docklands, and it's great for taking photographs," Alice said. "I've also been to the Royal Botanic Gardens, St Kilda and Fitzroy Gardens. Melbourne is a great city, it's really beautiful."



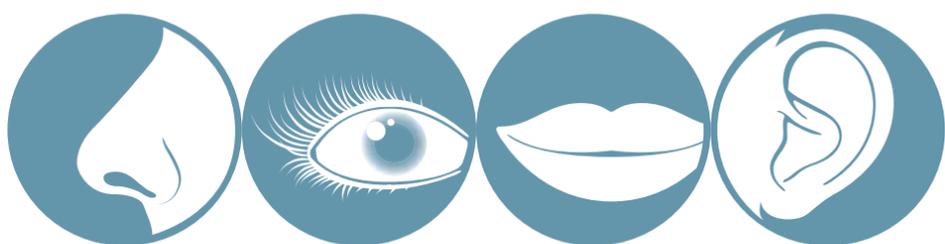
BILL PRICE, 41
Tarnet

Bill is the owner of Lats Bakery on Saint Mangos Lane, and he described how it was a true family business. "I'm the owner, my sons do the baking, my wife works behind the counter, and even my daughter comes in on the weekends," Bill said. "We make everything on site, including our own pies and cakes. We've just finished refurbishing the store, which makes it far friendlier for our customers. Docklands itself is great, as everyone knows everyone else here and you get a huge variety of different people coming in from all over the world."



NATALIE KENNEDY
Susan Rogan Family Day Care

Natalie commutes to Docklands from Geelong and appreciates the proximity of her office to Southern Cross Station. She has worked here now for more than two years and loves the way Docklands continues to grow and improve. She says the people are friendly here and the cafes and coffee is great in Docklands.



DOCKLANDS SECRETS

They're alive!

Some of them may look dead (like this one on the corner of Bourke St) but Places Victoria (PV) says all of Harbour Esplanade's Norfolk Island Pine trees are alive.

Unlike Monty Python's parrot, the pictured tree has not curled up its claws and gone to meet its maker. It's "distressed".

Places Victoria says that four of the trees are

distressed but claims that they can be saved.

Places Victoria's Docklands manager Simon Wilson said the organisation's arborist had examined the trees along Harbour Esplanade and identified four in need of help.

"Our arborist has identified four (two percent) that are distressed - two due to drainage issues and two due to vandalism or other damage," Mr Wilson said.

"Special maintenance of the trees including fertilisation, irrigation and weekly inspections are taking place to return them to full health."

"If the trees can't be returned to full health they will be replaced with the same size stock."



Businesses in Docklands

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

OODLES OF NOODLES AND DOZENS OF DUMPLINGS

If it looks like duck, smells like duck and tastes like duck, then it must be duck – right?

Wrong. It's textured soy protein that sure looks like the real thing.

Inside the freezer at NewQuay Asian Grocery store are sliced duck, fish steaks, meatballs, lamb shanks, prawns, chicken breasts ... all are meat-free soy protein made by Vegefarm.

"Vegefarm products are a healthy alternative to eating meat," said store manager Henry Liu.

"They are good for you, nutritious, and tasty," he said. "We are the only store where you can buy Vegefarm products in Docklands. We are expanding our selection, with more stock coming in."

NewQuay Asian Grocery opened in April in partnership with the neighbouring IGA X-press, in Rakaia Way. Together, they pretty much cover everything Docklanders and visitors seek in Asian and Australian groceries.

"Together, we want to be your 'one-stop

shop' for groceries," Mr Liu said.

The NewQuay Asian Grocery has a comprehensive frozen seafood section, and a selection of fresh vegetables needed for authentic Asian cuisine – large Chinese cabbages and smaller bak choy, daikon (Asian turnips), bamboo shoots, lotus roots, water chestnuts, and more.

The store has oodles of noodles and dozens of dumplings, plus a huge variety of Asian herbs, spices, sauces and soup ingredients.

A chef in Beijing once told me that no food source is wasted in China, saying: "If it has wings or four legs and isn't a table or chair, we'll eat it."

It's no surprise that NewQuay Asian Grocery stocks bags of hot chilli chicken toes and spicy pepper chicken necks.

"Our range of Japanese and Korean ice creams outsell the local variety," Mr Liu said. The Japanese green tea ice cream is especially refreshing."

Store owner Vivian Tang moved to Docklands from Shanghai a year ago.

"I like the area here – like Shanghai, Docklands is modern, is growing and you feel safe," Ms Tang said.



NewQuay Asian Grocery owner Vivian Tang is kept busy re-stocking the store's Vegefarm products.

"We are part of the local community. Our customers are residents, office workers and builders from the construction sites."

Mr Liu said the new store proudly supplied some of Docklands' restaurants.

"There was no Asian grocery store around here, and, with the IGA X-press, we wanted to give customers more choice," he said.

NewQuay Asian Grocery is at 15-17 Rakaia Way, Docklands. Call 9602 3073.

JOIE DE VIVRE BY THE BOWLFUL AT BERGERAC

In 1985, French chef Jean-Francois Enconniere chose the Salvation Army's People's Palace building in Kings St as the site for his Bergerac restaurant.

Today the Bergerac is still a "people's palace" – a warm and friendly place for people to gather, eat, drink and experience joie de vivre!

Mr Enconniere named the restaurant after his birthplace in France. A provincial town on the Dordogne River in the Perigord region not far from Bordeaux, Bergerac is associated with the literary character Cyrano de Bergerac and is famous for good wine.

So it is no surprise that Bergerac restaurant has an extensive selection of French wine, and most are sold by the glass.

As Docklands News is interviewing Mr Enconniere, wine supplier Nicolas Papaix arrives with a bottle of sauvignon blanc under his arm: "That you simply must try".

Crisp and light, it's a good accompaniment for a large bowl of Bergerac's bouillabaisse. Mr Papaix is the sales manager for his father's business, Bistrow importers of French wine, and is soon recounting the history of the sauvignon grape, how it was traditionally just a wild grape in France, and so on.

With Mr Papaix and Mr Enconniere at your

table, there is seemingly no question they cannot answer about French wine and cuisine.

Mr Enconniere started a pastry chef apprenticeship in Bergerac township when he was 14. He went on to work in Paris and Amsterdam, before arriving in Melbourne in 1971, when he joined the kitchen at La Chaumiere in West Melbourne.

In 1975, Mr Enconniere opened Café de Paris, on the corner of LaTrobe and Exhibition streets. When that made way for high-rise offices, he opened Bergerac in King St and hasn't looked back.

"Melbourne has grown so much," he said.

"The waterfront development is beautiful, with Southbank and Docklands – it all adds to the appeal of Melbourne as a destination."

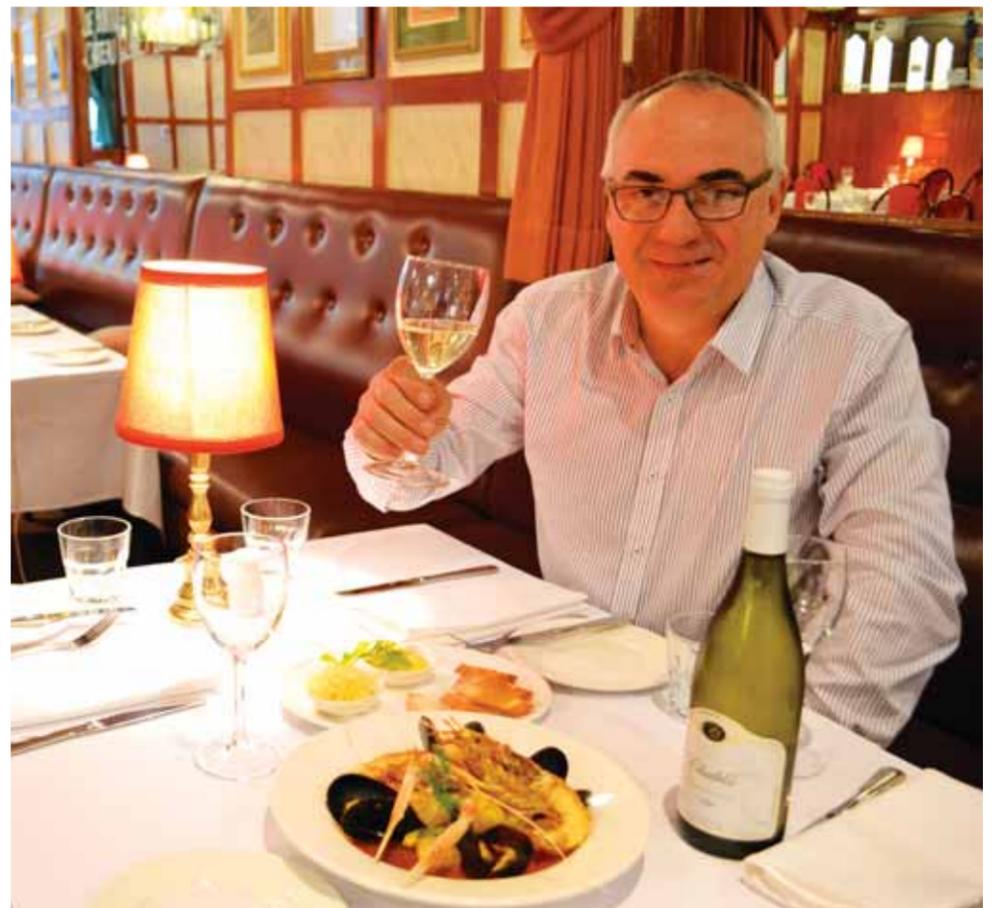
Mr Enconniere started the Melbourne chapter of the world-wide Academie Culinaire de France 15 years ago.

Bergerac serves dinner every night from 6pm until 10.30pm, and lunch Monday to Friday from noon to 3pm.

"The \$28.50 lunch special, with two courses and a glass of wine, is very popular," he said. "About 50 of the 80 people we get for lunch each day will choose the deal."

"Our fresh seafood and vegetables are delivered from the market every morning."

And still on the theme of People's



Bergerac French Cuisine restaurant chef-owner Jean-Francois Enconniere with a bowl of bouillabaisse, perfect on a cold winter night.

Palaces, Mr Enconniere invites you to join him in celebrating the July 14 anniversary of the liberation of the Bastille, with can-can dancers and a party atmosphere on the Friday and

Saturday nights. Book early.

Bergerac French Cuisine is at 131 King St, call 9629 2868 or visit www.bergeracrestaurant.com.au

Businesses in Docklands

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

LIFE IN THE FUN LANE AT KINGPIN BOWLING

Question: What is a fun, healthy, safe sport that you can enjoy all year round, from the depths of winter to the heat of summer? Answer: Indoor bowling.

The music's hot, the cocktails are chilled and the lanes are full of laughter every day of the year at Kingpin Bowling, in Southbank.

Finding the correct bowling shoe-size is a simple step ... onto a mat of foot-sizes at the foot of the serving counter.

"We have every shoe-size from toddler to size 15," says venue manager Ed Mountford.

"We cater for everyone. Parents can relax at the bar with a drink while the kids are playing bowls or the latest arcade and video games.

"Families, school groups, office parties - we will look after everyone."

Ed has a library of more than 1000 music videos that play on 20 huge screens, as bowlers swing into party mode. Imagine bowling a strike as Survivor belts out Eye of the Tiger.

A recently-installed photo system offers snapshots of you and your mates as you hurl that bowl with deadly accuracy at the 10 pins (or side gutter!).

The M9 Bar, which looks down over the complex, is available for exclusive functions.

"It's popular with teams and clubs, birthdays, end-of-financial year functions, hens and bucks nights, and so on," says Ed.

Kingpin offers school holiday packages and regular discounts, such as \$10 bowling from 9pm to 2am every Tuesday.

"We also have combination packages, for bowls, the 40-person indoor laser skirmish and the Galactic Circus games arcade," Ed said. "We have the largest indoor interactive



games centre in Australia."

Overseeing the games section is Dennie Renessis, who admits he has one of the most enviable jobs going.

"When I was a little kid I dreamt of working at Timezone," he says.

"I started here when I was 19, and now I'm 30 - and I've no intention of leaving!"

Dennie says the games are continually being updated and cost from 20 cents to \$5 to play.

One of the favourites is the first-person shooter Mega Buck Hunter, but the most impressive is the FS 2000 "Cybercoaster", where two people are strapped into an enclosed pod that lifts up and twists, spins and somersaults.

"They cost about \$250,000 each and the first one was so popular, we had to get a second one," Dennie says.

Most in demand are the games with prizes such as electric scooters and home theatre packages. Others offer tickets which are

redeemed for prizes ranging from a bouncy ball to the latest Xbox unit and microwave ovens.

"And yes, you CAN win on those claw skill games - I have to refill the toys twice every week," Dennie said with a smile.

Kingpin Bowling is open from 10am until late, every day of the year, on the ground floor of the Crown Entertainment Complex, 8 Whiteman St, Southbank. Call 13 2695 or visit www.kingpinbowling.com.au

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Tuesdays fortnightly 5.30-7.30pm
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 "Writerly" issues, workshoping, author talks and fun.
 Enquiries to: rose@grahammercer.com.au or at The Hub.

LUNCHTIME TABLE TENNIS

Wednesday and Fridays
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 Table tennis continues to grow in popularity. BYO lunch.
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ANCIENT ROME EXHIBITION: THE EMPIRE THAT SHAPED THE WORLD

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

MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

First Thursday of the month, 10:00am
Wharf Hotel, Siddeley Street
 Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Come along, keep your mind active, meet new friends while enjoying activities and shared interests. Contact Carol on **9600 1628** or carolbergcb@gmail.com

FREE LUNCHBOX SESSIONS

14 June, 12.30pm - 1.15pm
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DOCKLANDS WALKING TOUR

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YOGA IN THE DOCKLANDS

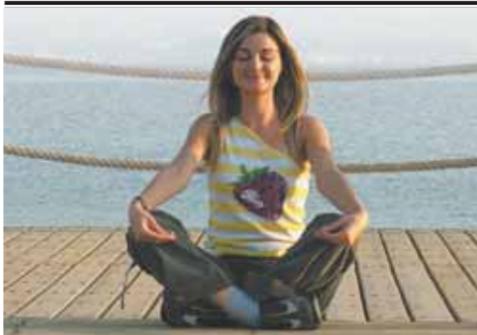
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ALMA DOEPEL SUPPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

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.

MINI MAESTROS

Tuesdays
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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Seal joins sailing program

Altona Meadows Primary School students were joined by an inquisitive seal during their sailing session in Victoria Harbour on May 18.

The grade 6 students were attending a program run by the Docklands Yacht Club – funded by the Youth Foundation of Victoria.

Altona Meadows teacher Greg Hall said: “The students were very keen to tell the other students what they had been doing and how good sailing was.”

“They were still keen to share their experiences on the Monday which made for some lively discussion.”

According to Docklands Yacht Club spokesperson Coral Allen, Mr Hall has even suggested that the school’s teachers come

back as a group without the kids.

Ms Allen said the club had also recently hosted a group of refugees from the Western English Language School (WELS).

“These students are refugees and the school felt it would be a good way to help them integrate into the community,” she said.

“The City of Maribyrong is funding these sail experience programs with WELS and also two groups associated with the Western Bulldogs and their community engagement program on Sunday, June 17 and July 22.

Ms Allen can be contacted on **0429 868 304**.



A playful seal joins Altona Meadows Primary School sailors on Victoria Harbour.

Toastmasters is a word for social

If the Docklands Toastmasters Club had to be described in one word, that word would be social.

It has a wide demographic of members, with a wide range of life experience, careers, interests and cultures.

It is a dynamic group, and club member David Clarke says meetings follow the usual structure of a Toastmasters meeting.

“We also have social nights like our induction night and some evenings with different themes,” Mr Clarke said. “Our major attraction is our informal, friendly nature.”

“We are the only club in the southern

division to have achieved Distinguished Club status thanks to awesome contributions from our club officers!”

“We are open to guests and new faces and look forward to meeting anyone interested in improving their communication and leadership skills”

Docklands Toastmasters meets in The Hub community facility at 80 Harbour Esplanade every second and fourth Monday at 6.20pm (with the meeting transferred to Tuesday if the Monday was a public holiday).

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