

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Utopian Folk's Melissa Loughnan, Christie Petsinis and Tim Wilson.

Hortus is here

The Harbour Esplanade glasshouse finally opened its doors late last month.

Onlookers have been watching the construction of Hortus, as the glasshouse is known, since August last year and last month their patience was rewarded.

Already, locals and visitors have been visiting the site and gathering on the communal tables and landscape installations that surround the structure.

Conceived as a temporary activation project, Hortus is the brainchild of Utopian Folk, a collaboration between Folk Architects' Christie Petsinis and Tim Wilson and Utopian Slumps' Melissa Loughnan.

The group has been working on the project more than two years, having been awarded a Place Victoria contract to activate the site in January 2012.

Continued on page 2.

Harbour Town sale not yet complete

Sydney-based real-estate investment group Ashe Morgan plans to acquire Harbour Town and the Icehouse in Docklands, but the deal is not done yet.

Docklands News understands conditional contracts to purchase the site have been signed and the acquisition process has begun, but is not currently completed.

On March 18, The Australian reported Ashe Morgan had purchased Harbour Town shopping centre and the Icehouse from ING for \$150 million.

Land title documents reveal that on March 13, lawyers acting for Ashe Morgan lodged

a caveat on the land titles for Harbour Town and the Icehouse, forbidding the registration of any person as proprietor of the sites.

The caveat points to a contract of sale between Waterfront City 1B Retail Pty Ltd (ING) and Ashe Morgan Pty Ltd, dated March 4.

It is believed the March 4 contract referenced in the caveat is a conditional contract to purchase the site.

According to Albert Morcos, Harbour Town traders were yet to be informed of the centre's intended sale.

Mr Morcos owns and operates Le Cirque Fine Foods at Harbour Town and said after reading a news report on the sale, he approached centre management asking if it was true.

"I received two different responses," Mr

Morcos said.

"The first said don't believe everything you read but the second said an agreement was in place but was still conditional."

Mr Morcos said he had known about ING's intention to sell its Australian real estate ventures for a long time.

Continued on page 4.



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Artist Dion Horstmans, Planning Minister Matthew Guy and acting Places Victoria CEO Peter Armstrong examine a model of Mr Horstmans' sculpture *Supersonic* in Docklands last month.

Super-sized local artwork

Installation of Dion Horstman's large-scale sculpture began at Collins Square last month.

The bright yellow, geometric-shaped artwork, titled *Supersonic* is worth \$2.5 million and will stretch from Collins Square across to the Lantern building.

When complete, it will be Melbourne's largest integrated sculptural artwork.

Planning Minister Matthew Guy was in Docklands on March 18 to mark the beginning of the artwork's installation.

"This is a unique piece of art that will be embedded in the Collins Square development and cast beams of light across the paths of visitors," Mr Guy said.

"Docklands has become an urban art destination and with developers required to contribute one per cent of development costs towards urban art, Docklands'

reputation as a place for great art will continue to grow."

Artist Dion Horstmans said he was grateful for the opportunity to be able to create the artwork, which is based on a F-18 fighter jet.

"This piece responds to the site and the buildings during the construction phase," Mr Horstmans said.

"I have carefully considered the relationship of my piece to its environment, emphasising the relationship between art and architecture."

The 80-metre-long sculpture is the size of an Olympic pool. It weighs 56 tonnes and is made up of 100 separate pieces that will take around six weeks to put together.

Hortus is here

Continued from page 1.

"We wanted to make something that was able to be activated in different ways and used by a wider range of people," Ms Petsinis said.

Hortus features a café, operated by Seven Seeds (to the delight of local coffee fiends) a horticultural art installation by artist Lauren Berkowitz and a communal outdoor space.

According to Ms Loughnan, the plant installation was a way of bringing both art and greenery to the space.

"It's our way of bringing art and culture into the site. Rather than just plonking down a sculpture or something that's static, it's something that evolves and is alive," she said.

Ms Loughnan said there would be more planting on-site and the group also hoped to work with the installation artist Lauren Berkowitz to run children's planting workshops or similar, highlighting the intended community use of the space.

"We'd really like it to be activated by events and different cultural groups and community groups to be able to use the space," she said.

According to Mr Wilson, the space is very flexible, lending it to a range of different purposes from events, to a day-to-day gathering site and café.

Originally Hortus was intended to open in September 2012 but a series of delays hampered efforts to get the project off the ground.

Delays were put down to difficulty obtaining a permit to operate on Crown land, the original café operator backing out, and a reliance on in-kind assistance for the design and construction.

"When you're relying on in-kind support, typically you can't expect people to do things for you instantly," Mr Wilson said.

The estimated cost of the project was \$540,000, with \$310,000 of that estimate provided through in-kind services.

Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson said: "Hortus was intended to be a temporary activation project that would bring people to Docklands' waterfront, but we hope to see it become more than that.

"Places Victoria believed Hortus has the potential to become a Docklands destination, both for Docklands workers and residents, and for visitors, especially cyclists using the bike path along Harbour Esplanade."



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Library to open in May

Docklands will soon have a new community facility, with the Library at the Dock nearing completion and expected to open next month.

According to a City of Melbourne spokesperson, construction of the building has now reached practical completion and the next step is the internal fit-out of the facility.

This stage will include the installation of shelving, books, furniture, signage and connection of the IT systems.

Delivered through a partnership between the City of Melbourne, Lend Lease and Places Victoria, the library will provide a range of services and facilities for the local community.

"Once completed, Library at the Dock will be the civil and cultural centrepiece of Victoria Harbour and is currently on track to be opened in May, along with the adjacent urban park," a council spokesperson said.

"An opening day event is being planned to showcase the Library's state-of-the-art digital collection, performance spaces and interactive learning facilities."

According to the spokesperson, the highlight of the opening event would be the inaugural City of Melbourne literature oration, which would be presented by a special guest author.

"Docklands residents will be invited to listen and ask questions at an engaging presentation, exploring the topic of what makes Melbourne one of the great literary cities of the world – a UNESCO City of Literature," the spokesperson said.

The Library at the Dock and the adjoining Dock Square are expected to open in May.

Places Victoria, the City of Melbourne and Lend Lease will also deliver the nearby family services and boating hub.



Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell gives the free tram proposal a big thumbs up.

Free trams for Docklands

Tram commuters will travel free of charge throughout Docklands and to and from the CBD, starting next year.

Premier Denis Naphine announced the free tram plan as part of a series of public transport reform promises made in a pre-election bid.

"Tram travel within the CBD will be free, in a move that will enhance Melbourne's reputation as an international city," Dr Naphine said.

Regardless of which party wins the upcoming state election, the free trams plan will be carried out.

Opposition leader Daniel Andrews said Labor supported the plan and that no matter who voters elected in November, Melburnians would get cheaper public transport.

"We support this idea and it will be delivered under a Labor Government. That's what Victorians want – the world's most liveable city with a world-class public transport system," Mr Andrews said.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president

Joh Maxwell said the free Docklands trams would have multiple benefits locally.

"What a great initiative," Mrs Maxwell said.

Combined with the recent increase in tram services to Docklands, Mrs Maxwell said the free trams were a very positive move and would entice visitors to the area.

"Providing more options and making it easier for people to come into Docklands is just sensational," Mrs Maxwell said.

The benefits will also extend to local workers, small business owners and residents, according to Mrs Maxwell.

"I hate to think how many times I've had to top up my Myki just from ducking around here and there so it will definitely help out those who move around the area regularly."

Minister for Roads and Public Transport Terry Mulder said the free trams would build on the success of the City Circle Tram.

"Today's announcement means all

commuters, including tourists, will be able to travel anywhere within the CBD free of charge," Mr Mulder said.

Minister for Tourism Louise Asher agreed, saying the move would make travel around Melbourne easier for domestic and international visitors.

"This is an exciting and positive initiative that builds on Melbourne's credentials as an international tourist city and the world's most liveable city," Ms Asher said.

Alongside the free tram plan, the public transport reform will also see changes to the public transport zones across the metropolitan network, with the removal of Zone 2 fares.

The changes will come into effect from January 1, 2015 and will cost around \$100 million per year.

The initiative will be accounted for in the upcoming State Budget.

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Happy 10th birthday Docklands Studios

When the Docklands Studios opened 10 years ago, Docklands was a very different place.

“The studio was one of the first things built down this end (of NewQuay),” studio CEO Rod Allan said.

“There were no buildings directly opposite and Harbour Town hadn’t been built yet,” Mr Allan said.

This month, the studio celebrates 10 years of operation in Docklands, after opening under the name Melbourne Central City Studios in April of 2004.

Mr Allan said the studio was originally a public-private partnership between the State Government and Central City Studios Holdings before being acquired by the Government at the end of 2008 and becoming a government business enterprise.

Mr Allan himself worked as a contractor at the studio in its early days, when its first feature film, *Ghost Rider*, was being shot. He then returned five years ago as CEO.

When asked why the studio was opened in Docklands originally, Mr Allan said he couldn’t say where the idea came from.

“What I can tell you is that the studio being here is a fabulous asset for the film industry because of its proximity to the city.”

“There’s a widespread belief that a complex like this doesn’t need to be close to the city centre when, in fact, for us that’s one of the big advantages in marketing the studio,” he said.

Throughout its 10 year history the studio has seen major international productions including *The Pacific*, *Where the Wild Things Are* and *Knowing*.

Local feature films shot have included *Patrick*, *Hating Alison Ashley* and *Kath and Kimderella* along with domestic television productions *Winners and Losers*, *Satisfaction* and *The Footy Show*, among others.

According to Mr Allan, the highlight of the past 10 years has been occasions when the studio has been at a diverse capacity.

“I think the highlights are really when we are at a diverse capacity, when we have all of our sound stages occupied by different projects,” he said.



Docklands Studio CEO Rod Allan says 2014 is shaping up to be a good year.

“It’s not one particular event, so much as seeing the place fully occupied and humming,” Mr Allan said.

But, of course, the past 10 years haven’t been all rosy, with various challenges along the way.

“I suppose the biggest challenge really has been getting people who would otherwise not think about coming here to actually think about it,” he said.

Nonetheless, Mr Allan maintains the studio has made a valuable contribution to the state’s economy over the past decade.

“If you look at the studio as an economic asset, the direct investment by production companies into the economy is well over half a billion dollars,” he said.

Mr Allan said less than 5 per cent of that was spent at the studio itself, with the rest going towards employment and ancillary services.

Next up for the studio is more facilities, with plans to build another large sound stage and a building to house industry-

related businesses such as casting agents, equipment rental houses and post-production companies.

“We need a bigger soundstage because we want to be able to continue to attract international productions without interfering with our ability to service domestic productions,” Mr Allan said.

Mr Allan said further State Government funding would be required to make this a reality.

So far, 2014 is shaping up to be a good year for the studio, with international feature film *The Moon and the Sun* at the studio until June and an undisclosed Australian feature film to commence shooting in the same month.

Local television shows *Winners and Losers*, *The Footy Show* and *Millionaire Hot Seat* will continue filming at the studios, while other productions have been secured for the second half of the year.

“It’s shaping up to be a good year,” Mr Allan said.

Harbour Town sale not yet complete

Continued from page 1.

He said he had been aware of plans to sell Harbour Town for at least a year, even before ING sold the observation wheel in October last year.

ING has been off-loading its Docklands assets since 2011, when it sold the Victoria Harbour section of Waterfront City site to MAB Corporation.

Last year, ING sold the Melbourne Star Observation Wheel to Sanyoyas Rides Corporation, the Japanese-owned company, which designed and manufactured the attraction.

ING’s Docklands office has also reduced in size markedly. It is believed just four ING staff continue to work at the Docklands Drive office.

ING declined to comment on the sale of Harbour Town and the Icehouse, while Ashe Morgan did not respond to a request for comment.

“Docklands” site to be developed

Little Projects will develop an 8000 sqm industrial site just outside of Docklands.

Located at 85 Lorimer St, the site was purchased from Marina Darlings Capo Nero group for \$18.5 million last month.

Interestingly, Little Projects’ media release on the acquisition states the site is located in Docklands.

However, 85 Lorimer St actually falls within postcode 3006, which is South Wharf.

Managing director of Little Projects Michael Fox said the site had the potential to accommodate up to 1500 apartments.



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Backstage at the VAMFF National Graduate Showcase on March 22.

Photo by Lucas Dawson

Coppers looking for stolen copper

One tonne of copper was stolen from the Medibank building construction site at 720 Bourke St last month.

It's believed the copper was stolen between Saturday, March 1 and Monday, March 3, while the site was closed for the weekend.

The unknown offender (or offenders) is believed to have entered via the NAB driveway or Etihad Stadium carpark and cut a chain and padlock to gain entry to the site.

It's believed the copper was removed from the site using a yellow trolley, as this was also noticed missing.

Melbourne West Police Station Commander, Sen-Sgt Mick Wilmott, urged anyone who may have information about the theft to contact Crime Stoppers or the Melbourne West Police Station.

"If anyone sees suspicious behaviour around building sites in Docklands please ensure you contact the police," Sen-Sgt Wilmott said.

"We would prefer to attend and find there is a legitimate reason for the activity than not to be called and a thief gets away," he said.

Sen-Sgt Wilmott also urged Docklanders to keep their wits about them, with the looming footy season, as crowds offer the perfect setting for opportunistic crime.

On March 16, a man had his wallet stolen as he enjoyed a drink prior to a football game at Etihad Stadium.

"Opportunistic crime is prevalent where there are large crowds, so make sure you are aware of your surroundings and possessions," Sen-Sgt Wilmott said.

March also saw number plates stolen from vehicles parked in Aurora Lane in NewQuay.

The thefts occurred on March 9 and March 10, with no suspects currently.

Sen-Sgt Wilmott again urged locals who may have seen someone acting suspiciously in the area to contact Crime Stoppers or Melbourne West Police Station.

To keep up-to-date with the work of the Melbourne West Police Station visit <https://www.facebook.com/eyewatchmelbournepsa>

Fashion frenzy

Models, designers, photographers and fashion bloggers flooded Docklands last month when the Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival (VAMFF) hit Central Pier.

Held in Docklands each March, the fashion festival showcases the work of Australian designers.

The festival saw a range of events, from runways to business events, held in Docklands between March 17 and March 23.

Stynes Bridge is on track

Construction of the Jim Stynes Bridge at North Wharf is nearing completion.

A spokesperson from the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure said construction of the bridge was on track to finish in April.

According to the spokesperson, the bridge will then undergo comprehensive testing before it is opened to the public.

The spokesperson declined to comment on the kind of testing that would be carried out and how long the testing would take.

The spokesperson also declined to comment on an expected opening for the bridge.



Construction continues at the bridge site.



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Time to preserve history

A piece of history will return to Docklands next month, with the iconic Water Tower Clock to be installed at Southern Cross Station.

Built in 1882, the clock is the last relic of the original Flinders St Station.

According to Museum Victoria's senior curator Matthew Churchward, the Water Tower Clock was significant to early Melbourne.

"It was Melbourne's first landmark clock and stood over 18m high, towering over surrounding buildings and providing the reference time piece for thousands of people in what was then a rapidly-expanding city centre," he said.

The clock has been moved around quite a bit, starting off at Flinders St, before being moved to the eastern side of Princes Bridge (the current Federation Square site) in 1902 in order to make way for the new Flinders St Station building.

The clock was then sent off to Spencer St Station (now known at Southern Cross Station) in 1910, where it stood for 57 years, before being decommissioned in 1967.

The clock's mechanism was given to Museum Victoria, but the iconic turret that sat on top of the tower was literally sent to the scrap heap, having been sold to a scrap metal merchant.

Luckily, it was later rescued by private collectors and for the past 14 years has sat at Scienceworks, in Spotswood.

"It has been a pleasure to serve as custodians for this great piece of Melbourne history for the past 14 years and it's great to see heritage objects reincorporated into contemporary buildings," Mr Churchward said.

The clock is undergoing extensive refurbishment before its expected restoration to Southern Cross Station next month.



The view of the Water Tower Clock on the eastern side of Princess Bridge in 1907. Photo courtesy of the Australian Railway Historical Society Victorian Division Inc, Archives/PROV collection.

Holiday fun

The school holidays are here and the Hub at Docklands has plenty of activities planned to keep local kids entertained.

On Monday, April 7, between 9.30am and 11am, the Hub will be creating a community patchwork wall hanging based around the theme of movement.

Suitable for kids aged between three and seven-years-old, each child will be given a fabric square to decorate and contribute to the project.

The Hub will also be running mini sports sessions throughout the holidays, introducing children to a range of ball sports.

There will be two mini sports sessions on both Tuesday, April 8 and Tuesday, April 16.

The first session between 9.30am - 10.15 am is suitable for two and three-year-olds, while the 10.30am - 11.15 am session is suitable for four and five-year-olds.

And for the fairy folk in Docklands an "Autumn Fairy Dancing Workshop" is the perfect holiday activity.

Come along in your finest fairy outfit and enjoy activities including: fairy disco dancing, ribbon twirling, rainbow walking, games, storytelling and making an autumn fairy wishing tree.

Two workshops will be held on both Wednesday, April 9 and Wednesday, April 16.

The 9.30 - 10.15 am session is suitable for two and three-year-olds while the 10.30 - 11.15am session is suited to four and five-year-olds.

Bookings are required for all of the Hub's school holiday activities.

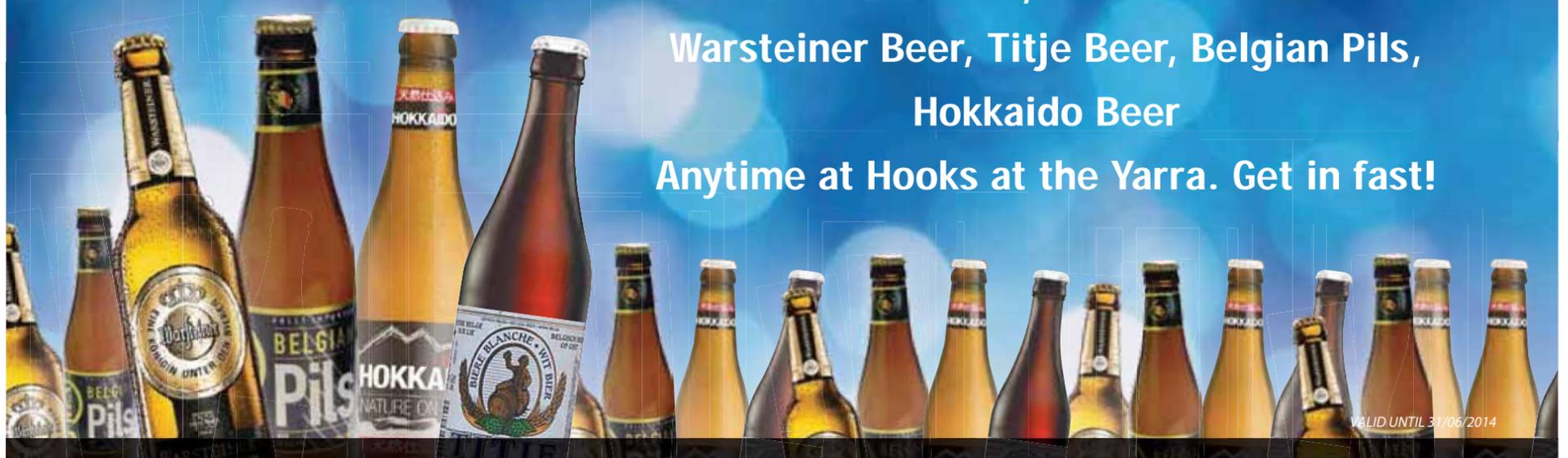
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Movie-goers relax at the Movies under the Stars at Point Park.

Photo supplied by Destination Docklands

Disco divas at the Hub

Docklanders shimmied and swayed at last month's lunchbox session at the Hub.

The dance workshop, led by Jo Young, saw locals learn a disco routine to the *Saturday Night Fever* soundtrack.

Next month's lunchbox session is set to be an operatic occasion, with award-winning soprano Alexandra Oke visiting for a solo performance.

When: April 10 from 12.30 pm - 1.15 pm

Where: 80 Harbour Esplanade

Lunchbox sessions are free of charge. Contact the Hub on **8622 4822** for more information.



Jo Young leads a disco dance workshop at the Hub last month.

Point park movie review

Destination Docklands' Movies under the Stars at Point Park attracted just under a thousand people to Docklands in February and March.

Held over four Thursday evenings, the cinema series' total estimated attendance was 950 people.

Around 150 people attended on the first night, before growing to more than 300 people at the final movie night, according to Destination Docklands CEO Anita Donnelly.

A free ferry also operated throughout each night of the cinema series, carrying passengers to and from Federation Square. Ms Donnelly said the ferry carried up to 120 people back to Federation Square each night

after the movie.

Nonetheless, those who did attend enjoyed the festivities, relaxing into supplied beanbags for the weekly films.

"Visitors and Yarra's Edge residents embraced the events, many coming down from their apartments and out from their river homes to enjoy the flicks," Ms Donnelly.

"One couple even carried their couch down into the park to enjoy the movie in absolute comfort on more than one occasion."

Ms Donnelly said of 164 attendee surveys collected, 61 per cent of the audience came from outside of the CBD and Docklands area.

City of Melbourne and Mirvac funded the event but Ms Donnelly declined to provide details of the budget and funding agreements.

Destination Docklands' next event is the Water Rartrace, a corporate "Amazing Race" style event, which sees teams of four race around Docklands completing a range of challenges.

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The show rolls on...

Docklands has a new centre of comedy, burlesque and acrobatics, with a new spiegeltent now open to the public at Wonderland Fun Park.

Wonderland Fun Park owners Colin Davis and Melissa Head imported the *Salon Elegance* spiegeltent from Belgium, after Circus Oz reclaimed its Melba Spiegelent.

The tent was shipped from Antwerp in a 44-foot high shipping container, arriving in Docklands last month.

Ms Head and Mr Davis also brought out some help from Belgium to assist with the construction of the spiegeltent on-site.

Gerry Klessen and Jonas De Beuckelaer were on-hand to ensure the spiegeltent was put up correctly.

Mr Klessen is a fifth-generation member of the Klessen family, who built the *Salon Elegance* and have been building and restoring spiegel tents for more than a century.

It was a race against the clock to ensure

the spiegeltent was ready in time, with the Wonderland Carnivale kicking off just a week after it arrived.

Luckily, the physical construction of the spiegeltent took just two days, with the fit-out complete before the opening night of the Wonderland Carnivale on March 27.

“Our spiegeltent is one of the only ones in Australia with a home base,” Mr Davis said. “Most of the others come in from overseas for the festival season,” he said.

Ms Head said she was excited about the potential opportunities the new spiegeltent presented for the park and for Docklands.

She said the large foyer provided an undercover area for the fun park during the day, a bar area while shows were running and could potentially become an exhibition space.



New Rotary Club of Docklands President Richard Clark.

Rotary revival

The Rotary Club of Docklands is undergoing a revitalisation, with a new president taking control of the once-waning organisation.

The club was down to just three members and was about to hand in its charter when Rotarian of 30 years (and former president of two other clubs) Richard Clark was asked to step into the presidential role.

Mr Clark has experience in building up Rotary clubs, having been recruited to the Southbank club when it was starting up 10 years ago.

“This isn’t a new Rotary club, but for all intents and purposes, because the membership got so low, we are almost starting again,” Mr Clark said.

“We’ve got a couple of really good foundation members who have stuck by the club so we feel really confident that we can put a really interesting, multicultural group together,” Mr Clark said.

The Docklands membership has already grown from three to seven people in the past month.

Mr Clark said he hoped to continue to grow the membership level of the club over the next few months.

Mr Clark said Rotary was ageing quite seriously and that the organisation hoped to recruit more young members.

He said Rotary worked on local, national and international levels.

“We like to do around the corner and we like to do around the world,” Mr Clark said.

The Rotary Club of Docklands meets for lunch at Harbour Kitchen each Tuesday at 12.30pm for a 12.45pm start. Meetings finish at 1.45 pm.

For people who feel they can’t commit to becoming a club member, Rotary also offers volunteer opportunities.

To find out more about becoming a member of the Rotary Club of Docklands or a Rotary volunteer contact Mr Clark on **0418 855 112**.



Wonderland Fun Park’s Colin Davis and Melissa Head show off the interior of their new Spiegelent during construction.

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Support needed for art initiative

Local artist Joe Blanck wants to activate Docklands with large-scale collaborative art project and is looking for support from the local community.

Mr Blanck is the co-founder of Ampersand Studio, a local art space and gallery, which is part of Renew Australa's Docklands Spaces project.

He's envisioned an arts event that will showcase Docklands as the "new arts hub of Melbourne".

The concept revolves around a group of artists working with a group of young people to transform an empty wall in Docklands into a vibrant mural.

The aim of the project is not only to activate an unused space, but also to mentor young people about the importance of creative expression and equip them with teamwork skills.

Already in discussion with artists and youth groups about taking part in the project, Mr Blanck is also looking to the local community to support the project.

"Getting local businesses involved is exactly what we need to get this project happening and to get the most out of it," Mr Blanck said.

"I have had such a huge response from local artists and supporters that this could be a great way to give Docklands the credibility that it deserves - with an iconic piece of art that would be admired and visited for many years to come."

The project mirrors many of the goals of the Docklands Spaces project which Mr Blanck's studio is part of.

Docklands Spaces offers creative initiatives rent-free spaces on short-term leases in hope of activating the area.

Similarly, Mr Blanck's proposal aims to

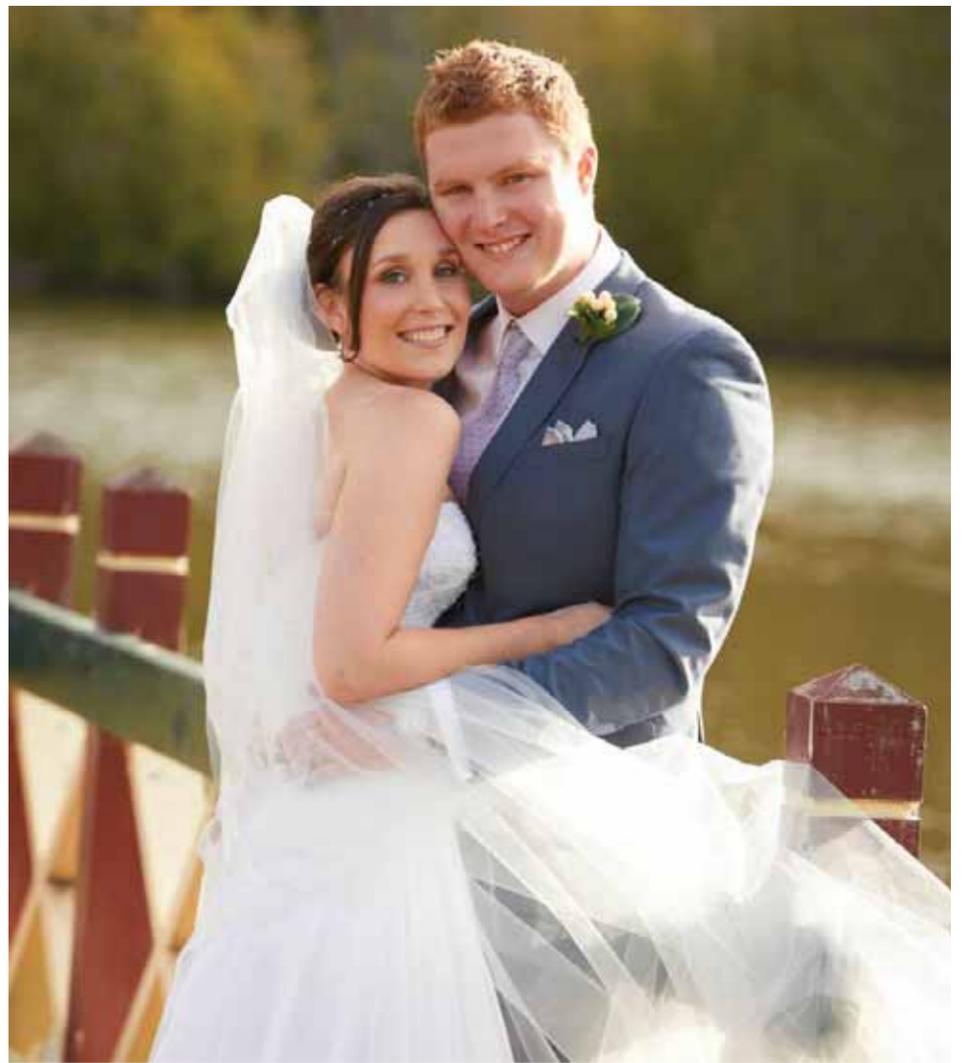


Local artist Joe Blanck is looking for support for a Docklands art project.

activate an empty wall, while at the same time providing an opportunity for creativity.

Mr Blanck hopes to gain the support of the City of Melbourne and is looking to secure a potential site for the project.

For more information and to express your support visit Ampersand Studio at 6 Doepel Way, Docklands or contact Mr Blanck via Joe@ablanckcanvas.com



Blake and Amy on their wedding day last month.

Photo by Mackenzie Charlton.

A Docklands love story

A romance, which began in Docklands more than a decade ago, was sealed with a kiss (and a marriage certificate) last month.

Blake Anderson and Amy Reddoch met as teenagers in 2003 when they were working for Docklands Serviced Apartments, which, at the time, was owned by Lyn and Peter Kelly.

Lyn is Amy's Aunt, while Blake is the son of local resident Michelle Anderson.

According to Peter, Blake and Amy hit it off at a bobsled experience.

Lyn and Peter had won the experience at a charity auction and when their kids couldn't use it they offered it to their staff.

"Blake and Amy were two of the group who went along and love blossomed," Peter said.

The pair became engaged two years ago and tied the knot in front of 80 friends and family in Daylesford on March 22.

John Henry answers your legal questions.

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New potential for empty site

Local fitness fanatics will be pleased to learn an empty future development site has been transformed into an outdoor exercise space.

Opening to the public in May, the park will include a basketball ring, running circuit, gym equipment and an outdoor seating area.

The site has been created by Victoria Harbour developer Lend Lease and is located opposite Dock Square.

According to Lend Lease's Victoria Harbour project director Claire Johnston, the temporary activation made the land available for community use and complemented the surrounding \$63 million community precinct.

"The site was going to be vacant for a couple of years so we decided to turn it into a usable space for the community," Ms Johnston said.

"It fits perfectly with the library and Dock Square and Lend Lease is happy that the community will get good use out of the space."

According to a Lend Lease spokesperson, many of the features of the temporary park, including the shelter, are made from recycled building material from the surrounding sites.



Seydou Sow from African Party teaches children from Gowrie Docklands about traditional African drumming.

Celebrating diversity

The children from Gowrie Victoria Docklands celebrated "Cultural Diversity Week" last month with a multicultural music day.

Musicians Lamine Sonko and Seydou Sow from African Party and Seini Taumoepeam from Sista Native entertained the crowd of children with music, dance and stories.

According to Gowrie educator Cerri May, the children had been learning and sharing cultural knowledge with each other throughout "Cultural Diversity Week" through songs, music and food.

"At the centre, the educators and children have a strong sense of identity, building on the children's knowledge of their own culture and learning about other cultures," Ms May said.

"These types of experiences support children's knowledge and understanding of the world and encourages them to be part of their local community."

Free green breakfast

Docklands residents are invited to a free "Brekky Block Party" on April 5.

The breakfast is being held by the City of Melbourne and Green Money in order to provide information to local residents about the Green Money trial.

The Green Money recycling program was introduced to Docklands and Southbank in November last year and is the first of its kind in Victoria.

According to a City of Melbourne spokesperson, so far more than 1400 residents across Southbank and Docklands have signed up, which is 10 per cent of all households.

Participating households receive reward points each fortnight, based on how much recycling is collected from the two suburbs, the spokesperson said.

The reward points can then be exchanged for discounts and offers.

The Docklands "Brekky Block Party" will feature children's entertainment and the chance to win prizes.

The free brekky will be held on April 5 from 8am until 10am along NewQuay Promenade.

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Acting-Sgt Rachel Dunkinson and Houdini with Sen-Constable Samantha Hemingway and Unity in Docklands last month.

Clippity clop, here come the cops

A stronger police presence could soon be felt in Docklands, with Victoria Police's mounted branch considering the area as a potential site for a staging post.

Last month Acting-Sgt Rachel Dunkinson and Leading Sen-Constable Samantha Hemingway visited Docklands to perform a routine patrol and to scout locations for potential staging posts.

According to Acting-Sgt Dunkinson, the Victoria Police mounted branch (which is currently based at Victoria Barracks in Southbank) is moving its operations to a farm in Attwood, near Tullamarine.

"Once this transition takes place the mounted branch will require suitable small parcels of land to utilise when we are deployed to the city for any number of jobs we undertake," Acting-Sgt Dunkinson said.

"This may include attending soccer matches, protests and rallies, training patrols or patrols of licensed venues in the CBD."

The branch is looking for small areas of land within the CBD, or within a 2km radius,

where horses can be transported to for set-up for work in the city. The site wouldn't be used for overnight stays or horse agistment.

According to Acting-Sgt Dunkinson, the site would need to be a flat, open space, the size of a basketball court or larger, with a surface of grass, gravel or concrete.

The branch is also on the lookout for potential new police horses for purchase or for donation.

"We do not look for one particular colour or breed, but have a standard requirement that the horse is at least 16 hands high, between the ages of five and 12 years and generally placid and inquisitive in it's demeanour," Acting-Sgt Dunkinson said.

The mounted branch is keen to hear from anyone who might have a suitable site for a staging post or potential police horses. You can reach Acting-Sgt Dunkinson on **9682 2366**.

Car maintenance is an ACE skill

If you don't know how to change a tyre and wouldn't know an alternator from a radiator then a free car maintenance workshop in Docklands this month is sure to come in handy.

The Automotive Centre of Excellence (ACE) is running the session, which aims to equip attendees with some of the basic skills that all car owners need.

The two-hour session will start with tea and coffee and a presentation about ACE, before attendees will be invited into the workshop to get an up-close, hands-on lesson.

According to ACE business development manager Paul Beutel, the free session is a great opportunity for the organisation to give something back to the community.

The session is open to anyone but Mr Beutel said it might be particularly helpful for people who don't usually feel comfortable asking questions about car maintenance.

"The information session will provide a relaxed environment where attendees can ask any questions they like," Mr Beutel said.

ACE marketing portfolio consultant Rachel Corby agreed, inviting local residents and workers to register for the session.

"Come along, check out our facilities and learn some of the basics of car maintenance," Ms Corby said.

The free session will be held at ACE (located at 1 Batman's Hill Drive) on Tuesday, April 15 from 6pm to 8pm.

Attendees are asked to register for the session at www.kangan.edu.au/free-ace-event



ACE business development manager Paul Beutel shares some car maintenance tips with Violet Trikilis.



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Peter Brundell extinguishes the bin fire on NewQuay Promenade.

Hope for Digital Harbour tower

Digital Harbour is awaiting planning approval for a residential tower to be built on the corner of Dudley St and Wurundjeri Way.

The building will be located behind hotel and apartment complex The Altus, which is currently being marketed.

The City of Melbourne confirmed its "in-principle" support for the planning application at a Future Melbourne meeting in February, subject to a seven page list of conditions, it believes should be included with any permit issued.

The building will comprise two towers of different heights (81.9 metres and 48.9 metres) above a shared eight-level podium.

It will comprise 261 apartments, four retail tenancies and 406 car parks, 300 of which will be used for a private car park.



An artist's impression of the proposed building.

All in a day's work for Pete

A fire on NewQuay Promenade was quickly extinguished last month when a local worker jumped into action.

Peter Brundell was working on the Harbour Esplanade wharf rectification site on March 26 when he noticed a bin on fire on the NewQuay Promenade.

Dragging a hose from the work site, Mr Brundell promptly put out the blaze just as the Fire Brigade arrived.

According to senior station officer Tony McCoy, bin fires are prevalent across the city and result in multiple call-outs each day.

He said they were generally caused by people disposing of cigarette butts without ensuring they were butted out.

He advised people to be more vigilant about ensuring cigarette butts were extinguished before being discarded.

Pictured right: The bin blaze before Mr Brundell extinguished it.





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Networking lunch success

Around 90 people enjoyed lunch onboard the Lady Cutler at the Docklands Networking Lunch last month.

Guests were treated to views of the harbour and port as they enjoyed a three-course meal, along with plenty of networking.

The next Docklands Networking Lunch is on Friday, June 13 at Rise.

As always the lunch is \$60 per person. To book your seat, send an email to lunch@docklandsnews.com.au or contact the office on **8689 7979**.

The menu for the June lunch is:

First entrée: Cheese baked lobster.

Second entrée: Cannelloni di Ricotta with spinach and napoli sauce or lasagna.

Main: Pollo fiorentino or sirloin steak. Both mains served with roast potatoes and seasonal vegetables.

Dessert: Panna Cotta or tiramisu.

Beverages: House red and white wines, champagne, beer, soft drinks, coffee.



Nirosha Dissanayake, Kay Setches and Michelle Cummins.



Kate Fooke and Derek Begg.



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Docklands is a laugh

According to comedian Joel Creasey, Docklands is full of material.

Joel has lived in Docklands for the past five years and says the observation wheel is the number one source of comedy in the area.

"I haven't been on it yet, but I do plan to," Joel said.

According to Joel, the best part of the wheel's re-launch last year was his subsequent discovery of a frozen yoghurt store at its base.

Joel moved into his NewQuay apartment at the age of 19, after leaving his hometown of Perth, where he started his comedy career.

He said he had always wanted to be a performer, starting in theatre and imagining a career as a serious actor.

"I'd always watch the Melbourne International Comedy Festival Gala with my parents every year and remember thinking, how do these people do it? What a terrifying job, why would you ever put yourself through that?" he said.

"When I was 17, one night I literally just thought, I need to do that and now I'm doing it, and next week I'm doing the gala. So it's all come full circle."

The same year he started doing stand-up spots in pubs, with his parents in tow.



Comedian Joel Creasey calls Docklands home.

"For the next six months, up until I turned 18, my parents had to come with me every time I did stand-up in a pub," Joel said.

"Very rock and roll," he laughed.

For Joel, the best part about living in Docklands is the convenience.

"I fly interstate around three times a week so it's easy to jump in a cab and be at the airport in 20 minutes," he said.

"I can't imagine living in Prahran or Malvern and having to travel to and from the airport all the time."

And when he is in town, Joel says he enjoys Docklands' relaxed nature.

"I kind of like how Docklands is still a little quiet," he said. "Who would have thought

so close to the city you could walk along the boardwalk here and not be bothered?" Joel said.

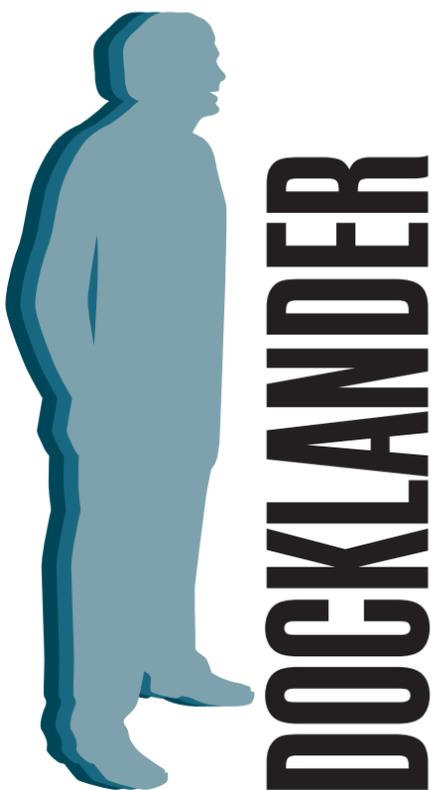
"Well, that's as long as they're not filming *Winners and Losers*," he joked.

And he says the area is changing, with the restaurants getting busier, new restaurants opening and more people around.

"My friends came to a party here the other night and that kind of shocked me. It was a warehouse party in Docklands."

Joel said people often asked him why he chose to live in Docklands. "It happens all the time, but I just say 'it works for me.'"

You can catch Joel in Stand Up @ Bella Union on SBS 2 on April 6 at 9pm and at his Melbourne International Comedy Festival Show "Rock God" until April 20.



Profile by
Bethany Williams

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DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY FORUM

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ON WEDNESDAY 30 APRIL

MEETING INFORMATION

DATE: Wednesday 30 April
TIME: 6pm-7.30pm
VENUE: Places Victoria
710 Collins Street, Docklands 3008

The Docklands Community Forum supports ongoing and diverse community input into the future of Docklands.

For more information about the Docklands Community Forum including agendas and future meeting dates, please visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/docklands or www.docklands.com.au

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LORD MAYOR PUSHES FOR LOCAL PORT

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle wants Docklands and the lower Yarra River to be declared a local port.

Speaking at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on March 11, Cr Doyle said a local port would remove the “plethora of state bodies, ministers, pieces of legislation and statutory authorities that currently govern the lower Yarra and even Docklands.”

“I believe personally it would be a better outcome if we were the manager and particularly since the burden of cleaning up Docklands and the lower Yarra after very heavy rainfall following a dry spell falls to us anyway,” Cr Doyle said.

Cr Doyle said he would continue to press for the area to be declared a local port on behalf of the city.

The public declaration of support for a local port was made in response to a question posed by Yarra River Business Association executive office Tim Bracher.

Mr Bracher asked if council had given serious consideration to assuming governance for the lower Yarra, between the Bolte and Swan St bridges.

Mr Bracher said the business community had experienced nearly 10 years of frustration dealing with an on-water governance organisation that was “inflexible, doesn’t communicate, has no understanding of the private sector, and especially how to engage with it, and has no real desire to see the river activated.”



Lord Mayor Robert Doyle has expressed his support for a Docklands and the lower Yarra river to be declared a local port.

According to Mr Bracher, the city had proven its capability as a waterways manager in Docklands, and the YRBA believed council had the staff and expertise to take over the Yarra River.

“This would not only result in a uniform treatment of our waterways and its operators but would also help to boost the Melbourne waterfront marketing message, better unite the Docklands and Yarra River precincts and unlock the considerable private sector investment in the river’s activation,” Mr Bracher said.

Cr Aaron Wood, also expressed his support for the proposal at the Future Melbourne meeting, highlighting the fact that many of the impacts on the river are occurring on land also.

“If you look at storm water management, management of water as it runs off our roadways and the like, I think there’s something like nine different land managers just along the section of the Yarra that’s in our municipality,” he said.

“So seeing the City of Melbourne become a local port manager for that section of the Yarra, I think that would be hugely exciting.”

The concept of a local port has been gaining momentum for the past few years and was highlighted at the Melbourne Waterfront Forum in October 2012.



COMMUTER FERRY ON THE HORIZON

Planning Minister Matthew Guy told *Docklands News* his department was in discussion with the port, with a report currently being prepared.

Mr Guy said the department was in negotiation with the port about the operation and interaction between commuter boats and bigger ships.

“We have to make sure the commuter ferries are properly time-tabled, like you do with a passenger train and a freight train on the same line, so they are time-tabled to get in and out without interfering,” Mr Guy said.

He said the department was also in negotiations about increasing the speed limit in the port to more than the current

limit of 8 knots but that the ferry service could begin even with the 8-knot speed limit in place.

The department is also studying the wash that would be caused by the ferry service.

According to Mr Guy, once up-and-running, the ferry service would dock at Collins Landing, near the ANZ building.

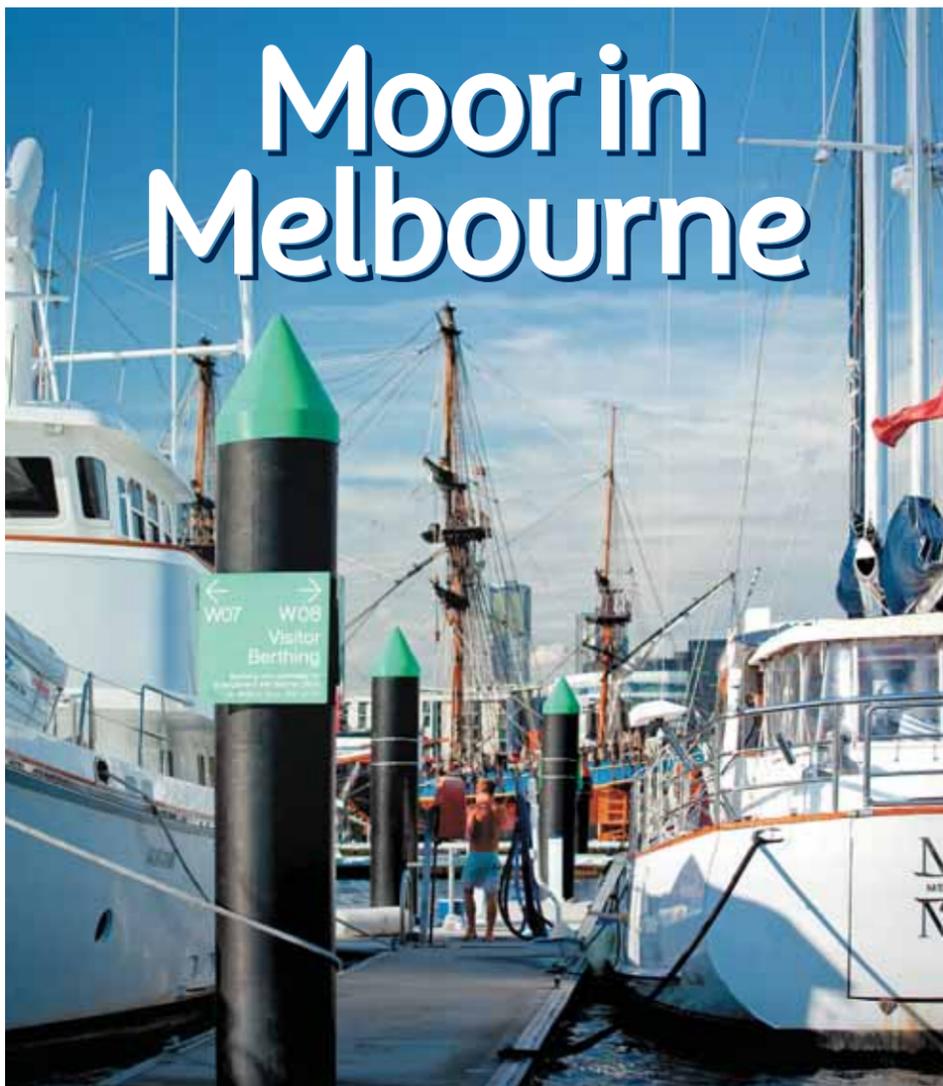
He said the silting in the area wouldn't be a problem because the ferries would be light models.

Mr Guy said an announcement about the commuter ferry was likely before Easter and that the ferry operator was keen to begin operating the service.

The wait for a bay commuter ferry might soon be over, with the State Government working to resolve final issues with the Port of Melbourne.



The commuter ferry is expected to dock at Collins Landing.



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MY BOAT WITH

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Combine good food, good company and a good boat and you have David Fincham's idea of a good time.

According to Mr Fincham, some of his best memories have been sharing a meal with good friends onboard his Nordhavn 58 boat.

Mr Fincham said he'd been sailing since he was 13-years-old, starting at Royal Melbourne Yacht Squadron, competing in "around the buoys" racing and ocean racing.

While he's owned other boats, he says his current boat, *Speedbird*, was the best boat he's owned.

The name *Speedbird* has stuck with the 10-year-old boat since its original owner.

According to, Mr Fincham, the boat's first owner was an American man who did a lot of business in London.

"He used to fly from New York to London on the Concorde and the radio call sign for the Concorde was Speed Bird. That's where he got the name from," Mr Fincham said.

"I liked the name so I decided to keep it."

The 57-foot, 54-tonne boat has a total fuel capacity of 7500 litres, divided into four tanks.

"You get a bit of a shock when you take it down to the servo and say 'fill it up,'" Mr Fincham said.

Mr Fincham said he usually filled the boat once a year. The boat normally cruises at about 9 knots, which uses around 28 litres of fuel per hour.

"The boat is capable of going from Sydney to Auckland and back and then do it again on its total fuel capacity," Mr Fincham said.

Mr Fincham said he had done about 2500 miles in the boat in the past two and a half years.

He travelled from Sydney to Melbourne in the vessel when he first purchased it, has cruised Bass Straight, journeying to Flinders Island, Kind Island and Wilson's Promontory

and last year travelled to Tasmania.

He also enjoys spending time on the boat when it's docked at Marina YE at Yarra's Edge.

"My wife and I often come down here and we're more than comfortable," Mr Fincham said.

"We might go out for dinner or a show on a Friday night and then come down here and stay until Monday morning and just take it easy."

Mr Fincham said *Speedbird* would probably be his last boat, but it's also his best.

"It's the best boat I've had for what I want to use a boat for."

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NEW BIAV BOSS

The Boating Industry Association of Victoria (BIAV) last month appointed Steven Potts as its new general manager.

When announcing the appointment on March 25, BIAV president Paul Benjamin said more than 70 people had applied for the role, with Mr Potts, being the stand-out candidate.

“We are very excited to have appointed Steve to the role and look forward to working with him as we grow the BIAV and recreational use of our waterways, Mr Benjamin said.

Mr Potts has experience with a range of

industry organisations including the Nursery and Garden Industry Victoria, Australian Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Ski and Snowboard Australia Association.

An avid boat owner from a young age, Mr Potts said he was excited to start the new role.

“Having grown up on the Mornington Peninsula, and being a boat owner myself, I

am passionate about all aspects of life on the water,” Mr Potts said.

“I look forward to meeting with all our members and learning from their personal experience of the industry.”

Mr Potts will take the reigns from outgoing general manager Steven Gill, who has moved back to Western Australia.

Mr Potts starts his new role in mid-April.



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Breed

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Age

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Owner

Drew Murray

Boat name

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Model

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Sailing

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Businesses in Docklands

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ENJOY A MEAL AT LA TADKA

According to Daya Sunkari, an authentic Indian curry and a cold beer make a great match.

Mr Sunkari is co-owner of La Tadka, Docklands' newest Indian restaurant, which offers not only delicious meals but also a fully stocked bar, with beer on tap.

Mr Sunkari owns the restaurant alongside Gulshan Malhotra, Anil Devedi and Navadeep Singh.

La Tadka is their first business venture together. According to Mr Sunkari, the business partners chose to open the restaurant in Docklands because of its location and the strong market for Indian cuisine in the area.

La Tadka is conveniently located on Batman's Hill Drive, just a short walk from Etihad Stadium and Southern Cross Station.

During the week La Tadka is popular with the business crowd, many of whom enjoy the \$10 lunch special.

According to Mr Sunkari, from Monday to Friday La Tadka offers a great value lunch

deal. For \$10 customers receive two curries, rice, naan and roti bread and salad.

The special is available from 10am until 3pm on weekdays and can be enjoyed dine-in or takeaway.

"It's a cheap and delicious meal delivered with great customer service," Mr Sunkari said.

"It's great for people who want a quick and easy meal."

Apart from the lunch special, the restaurant also has a large menu with a range of meal options, which are also available dine-in or takeaway.

Mr Sunkari said La Tadka's chef had extensive experience in preparing delicious meals, having worked in the industry for 10 years.

On the weekend, La Tadka looks to the footy crowd which floods Etihad Stadium.

Mr Sunkari said the restaurant was a great place to enjoy a meal and a beer before or after a game.

"We think it's a great pairing, mixing spicy Indian food with a cold beer," Mr Sunkari said.



La Tadka manager Sartag Singh with two of the restaurant's co-owners Gulshan Malhotra and Daya Sunkari.

From next month, La Tadka will also begin offering breakfast and will introduce an outdoor seating area.

La Tadka is located at 757 Bourke St (enter via Batman's Hill Drive).

The restaurant is open from 11am - 10pm Monday to Thursday, 11am - 11pm Friday and Saturday and 5pm - 11pm on Sunday.

For more information contact La Tadka on **9078 9286**.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT PILATES IS?

For many people, the term conjures images of a meditative, yoga-like activity, full of gentle stretching and deep-breathing.



Pilates on Bourke co-owner Sarah Tarnawsky gives business partner Brett Webster and regular client Simon Cozens some Pilates training.

But according to Brett Webster and Sarah Tarnawsky, they couldn't be more wrong.

The Pilates instructors, co-own Pilates on Bourke, and say the practise is, in fact, quite

a work-out.

"You will sweat and you will become stronger," Brett said.

According to Brett, Pilates involves the use

of a range of equipment to strengthen and condition muscles. It focuses on alignment, posture, form, activating muscles and movement.

"It puts muscles back in balance and it gets muscles working," Sarah said.

And its benefits are broad, according to both Brett and Sarah.

Clients of the studio vary and include people requiring rehabilitation following injury, office-workers dealing with the effects of sitting all day, sport players who want to add something different to their fitness routine and elite athletes who use Pilates for conditioning and injury-prevention.

Sarah works with the Richmond Football Club, which uses Pilates as a strengthening and conditioning tool to complement what it does in weight training and on the field.

"It helps them get their bodies in the right condition and we can push them really hard. It helps with their performance, their endurance and to keep their muscles flexible," Sarah said.

For individuals, Pilates on Bourke offers the options of one-on-one classes or small classes of four.

"The thing about Pilates is that it can cater

for all types of people, all in one class," Brett said.

According to Sarah, the small class sizes mean they are personalised with tailored programs for each individual.

Apart from Pilates, the studio also offers yoga, massage and osteopathy.

Sarah said this integrated approach led to better individual results for clients, with the different specialists able to collaborate on Pilates programs for individuals.

For example, Brett said, a massage therapist might identify a certain muscle that is tight or weak, which can then be addressed in a Pilates setting.

For local workers and residents who want to learn more about Pilates, Pilates on Bourke is offering a Pilates starter pack for \$140.

The pack includes a Pilates personal training session, two semi-private Pilates classes and two bonus yoga classes for *Docklands News* readers.

The studio is also offering readers four weeks of unlimited yoga classes for \$99.

Pilates on Bourke is located at the base of the Channel 9 building at Shop 4, 717 Bourke St.

For more information see www.PilatesonBourke.com.au

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Dr. Anne Dynon



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TALK TO THE ANIMALS

Veterinarian Anne Dynon says she has always loved animals.

Growing up on a farm, Dr Dynon spent her days riding her pony and “best friend” Thistle, checking on sheep and cattle, and, occasionally, looking after orphaned lambs.

A vet for 40 years, Dr Dynon has owned and operated Flemington Veterinary Hospital since 1989, with the aim of providing high-quality pet care.

Dr Dynon said the three vets who worked at the clinic each had areas of special interest.

Dr Dynon has a particular interest in animal dentistry, Jeff Brady focuses on animal surgery and Peter Cameron has an interest in “pocket pets” like lizards, rabbits and guinea pigs.

According to Dr Dynon, the clinic has quite a few patients from Docklands.

It’s just a 10-minute drive away via CityLink, making it one of the closest vet clinics for Docklands residents.

For cat owners, apartment living can present some unique challenges, Dr Dynon said.

She suggests Docklands cat owners ensure they do a bit of “environmental enrichment”.

“Cats can usually go outside and play with bugs and things like that,” Dr Dynon said.

“So living in apartments they need to have plenty of toys, scratch poles, boxes, paper bags, cats love playing with them.”

According to Dr Dynon when cats get bored they can become stressed, which can lead to behavioural issues and urinary tract problems.

On the other hand, apartment living doesn’t seem to affect dogs too much, according to Dr Dynon.

“Dogs I see from Docklands seem to cope pretty well.”

“The owners are pretty diligent about taking them downstairs a few times per day.”

According to Dr Dynon, Flemington Veterinary Clinic offers a range of services from consultations to surgery.

The hospital provides pet grooming, X-rays and scanning procedures and a cattery, while visiting specialists carry out ultrasounds, endoscopies, skin examinations and some surgeries

A new technology offered by the hospital is DNA testing, which can identify the exact mix of breeds in an animal, informing owners of issues they should look out for as their pets age.



Veterinarian Anne Dynon with her own pet, seven-year-old Bichon-Frise Sparkles.

Currently Flemington Veterinary Clinic is offering Docklands News readers 20 per cent off consultations and vaccinations during April, May and June. Simply mention this article to claim the discount.

Flemington Veterinary Hospital is located at 187 Mt Alexander Road, Ascot Vale.

Contact the hospital on **9376 5299** or via care@flemingtonvet.com.au



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AWAY FROM THE DESK



Gymward bound

I went to the gym the other day – during my lunch break. That's right. I went to the gym. It was quite a moment as it's something I've ummed and ahed about for over a year now. I have many, many reasons for not going to the gym. Very convincing ones. I don't have the right shoes. I don't have the right gym gear. I have nothing to tie around my waist to hide the wobbly bits. I don't have deodorant. The weather is too nice. The weather is too bad. I didn't get a seat on the tram. I washed my hair last night. I didn't wash my hair last night.

I know.

Pathetic. Weaselly. Unconvincing.

Funnily enough the reasons for going are much clearer, more focussed, far more powerful. I know going to the gym will make me feel calmer, happier, and ultimately more at peace with myself. I know that if I do it over time I will get stronger, lose weight, feel better and more in control. The reasons for going are clearer because they are aligned with my core values. The reasons for not going are weaker because they are really just a set of silly little excuses (read lies) I tell myself to avoid any unpleasantness, feeling of unease, sense of struggle. What does Buddhism say about human nature and the drive to avoid suffering? Yep. Guilty as charged.

If suffering is part of life, goddamnit, I have resolved to embrace it. Embracing it got me off my butt, putting on my runners, taking

my backpack and walking to the gym. It got me over the hurdle of not having my gym card with me and wearing a t-shirt that was both unflattering and see-through at the same time. It got me working out on the cross trainer doing INTERVAL training – that's High-intensity Internal Training don't you know - for 15 minutes. I've got to say, for those 15 minutes of 20 seconds slow, 10 seconds really, really fast, I was more fully present than I had been all day. Funny how putting your body into a state of near exhaustion, where your heart is racing, sweat is dripping down your face and back and your leg muscles are aching really puts you in the now.

I got back to the office feeling relaxed, cleansed, calmer, happier and, ultimately, more at peace with myself. Just as I had suspected.

Still, when my friend Mikey put out an email last week asking for expressions of interest in a lunchtime boxing class at Docklands Park, I must admit I didn't raise my hand. I did however take part in the general guffawing and putting down of the idea (in a nice way of course) and had a good laugh at his expense. Corporate life can be cruel.

I have however published a series of Mikey's ideas for lunchtime experiences in Docklands. Primarily, because I think they are quite good and in keeping with the idea behind this column, and to make amends:

Lunchtime ideas for Docklands, by Mike:

- Donate blood at a mobile blood bank
- Shop at pop-up stores at many of the vacant tenancies
- Serve lunch to the homeless at a food truck
- Meditation and yoga by the water
- Adult study information sessions, eg. CAE presentations
- Free art shows
- Cooking classes or 'pot luck', where you take it in turn making lunch for others
- Book/reading clubs
- Speed dating with like-minded Docklanders
- Language exchange get-togethers
- Clothing swap meets
- Quick cardio sessions on canoe/kayak
- Fishing demos, eg. best spots to fish in Docklands
- Walking groups

These are all great ideas and I think I would be up for most. Combining them could be a laugh also. Anyone for speed dating and clothing swaps? How about language exchange and meditation? Quick cardio and speed dating? Cooking and cardio?

Anything that gets us out of the office.....



With
Maria Doogan



Letters to the Editor

There are serious impediments to the development of Docklands as a tourist and leisure centre.

These are the tin sheds 9 and 14 and the Central Pier.

Without these sheds and pier the whole harbour would be opened up to reveal a magnificent expansive water vista.

As it is, the harbour is divided in two and much of the view obscured by the tin sheds. The current view along Harbour Esplanade is most uninviting and poor quality.

These sheds have no architectural merit and do not deserve heritage listing. I would

welcome the view of other Dockland residents on that matter.

Without the sheds the whole area along Harbour Esplanade between Victoria Harbour Promenade and NewQuay Promenade would be opened up for redevelopment.

A redesigned boat harbour with designated boat-free zones could be part of the design.

Landscaping with trees, child-safe picnic areas and playgrounds, a luxury, over-the-water wedding reception venue, restaurants, cafeterias and small event venues could be considered for incorporation into the design.

These buildings could be designed to minimise obstruction of the view. Use of glass would be a high priority.

The Docklands would become the cynosure of Melbourne.

Without these changes Docklands will continue to languish.

An open architectural design competition for the area is needed. The development should be under firm government control without the open slather approach of the Kennett era and certainly without any high rise developments.

Brett Osborn

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March has marched on and I could not help notice how many birthdays there were! Among those were the esteemed owner of this newspaper and the editor of the sister paper Southbank Local News! If you had a birthday in March – Happy Birthday to you! Whilst on that topic, one of the executive officers of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, Matt McInnes and his partner Arlee welcomed yet another “Marchie” – Mae Catherine McInnes born 18th March. Congratulations all!

March saw a successful Docklands Chamber of Commerce Networking lunch aboard the Lady Cutler. It was fully booked and plenty of networking was done amongst the 90 attendees. If you missed out, be sure to book for the next one, which is scheduled for June 13.

April is upon us, and your Chamber is presenting a very special Wonderland Carnivale at the newest Spiegelent in town! There will be no formal networking but plenty of fun to be had and loads of entertainment! Wonderland Fun Park has just acquired a fantastic new Spiegelent, which is hosting Melbourne International Comedy Festival shows in Docklands. This is a great opportunity for our members to help launch Docklands' very own boutique performing arts venue. The evening will include a pre-show drink, a performance

and comedy with Miss Behave (UK), Ian Bagg (CAN/USA) and Circus Superstars! To be part of this special event put the time and date 7.30pm, Thursday 10 April in your diaries today! Chamber members will be admitted FREE* of charge and their guests at \$25 pp. Look out for your invitation and you can also check out the DCC or Wonderland Spiegelent websites for details. (*conditions apply)

YOUR Chamber Executive has been very busy investigating a number of great opportunities for engagement in Docklands. This year Melbourne is hosting some major conferences and exhibitions and we will be putting Docklands on the map for visitors with the City of Melbourne and Destination Docklands. We look forward to working with all of you as these activations are finalised.

Looking slightly further ahead, May will see us co-hosting another networking evening with Destination Docklands, so book the date in your diary – 5.30pm, Monday 19 May. This will be another “Docklands Discovery” opportunity to meet and mingle with stakeholders – not to be missed. Enquiries may be directed to Nandini via admin@docklandsc.com.au

Also in May, Wesley College is holding its 7th Annual Business Breakfast 2014

REPORTING FROM THE DOCKLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

– “Real Competition in the Australian Airline Industry”. The speaker this year will be John Borghetti, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Virgin Australia Group of Airlines. Event details: 7 am, Tuesday 6 May, Savoy Ballroom, Grand Hyatt, 123 Collins Street, Melbourne. Tickets - \$100 pp or \$900 per table of 10. For more information, please visit www.wesleycollege.net/Our-Community/Upcoming-Events

Planning is underway for the Melbourne Regatta – Blessing of the Fleet Ceremony. It will be held on Saturday 30th August, which celebrates Melbourne's birthday. The Regatta is designed to raise public awareness through a spectacular activation of Melbourne's waterfront to draw local businesses, residents and visitors to the water to gain an appreciation of this great asset here in Melbourne. This year the event will deliver a flotilla of vessels including Melbourne's passenger boats for the purpose of enabling corporate guests, staff, residents and visitors, along with their families, to enjoy a few hours on the water. Vessels will be able to participate as private operations or be available to the public free of charge. If you would like to know more, or have a desire to book a vessel for your company then contact Jeff Gordon of the Lady Cutler

and also of the Melbourne Passenger Boating Association on **0439317449**. The Regatta will be a fundraiser to support the great work the Mission to Seafarers undertakes in caring for the welfare of seafarers. The Blessing of the Fleet is an appropriate occasion on Melbourne Day for us to reflect on the significance of the maritime industry, its people and its history in the development of Melbourne and Docklands.

Finally I'd like to highlight a great initiative happening over near Docklands Drive, Harbour Town and NewQuay. Joe Blanc has opened Ampersand Studios in Doepel Way and is working on a proposal to create a large street art project in Docklands. Joe explains that he has been in contact with various youth organisations, who he hopes to work with to create a huge street art mural, with a mentorship element to it. The ultimate objective is to create an iconic piece of art to be admired and visited for many years to come. If you have any interest in learning more about Joe's work call him on **0410 654 601**.

April is sure to be an interesting time in Docklands – school holidays, Easter and Anzac Day will, I hope, bring many new and repeat visitors to our precinct.

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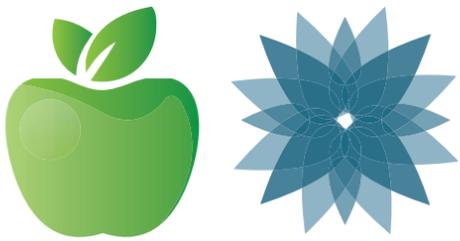
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HEALTH & WELLBEING



By Andrew Ward,
YMCA Docklands manager

Blood Pressure Screening

When was the last time you had your blood pressure taken? Do you know what blood pressure measures and what is a healthy range?

Blood pressure screening is a simple and fast way to measure the health and effective condition and operation of your circulatory system (heart and blood vessels). A healthy target for blood pressure is 120/80. Blood pressure can be tested by health professionals of all types, including your personal trainer or staff at your local fitness centre. Many pharmacists across the country also offer free blood pressure checks (visit www.strokefoundation.com.au for locations).

While exercise is well-known as an activity that helps reduce blood pressure and improves circulatory system health, a reading outside of a normal range normally results in a recommendation to visit your GP for further investigation as to cause and solution. Other solutions often involve modifications to eating patterns and nutritional intake.

The Stroke Foundation of Australia has a number of public events to increase awareness of Stroke and the associated risk factors. April 2 is the Nation's Biggest Blood Pressure Check. Later in the year, Know Your Numbers is another campaign driven by the Stroke Foundation. Last year more than 400 Docklanders were tested at the YMCA Docklands Health Clubs.

Outdoor Exercise is Great!

At a recent Docklands Community Forum, the issue of increasing outdoor exercise and sporting activities within Docklands was raised, and a brief debate followed about whether it was a good thing or not. Being a health and wellness person, of course I think this is a wonderful part about living in Docklands. Unlike most of the CBD, we have front door access to great and well-connected bike paths for cycle commuting, walking and jogging, with a safe division from cars and traffic. We also have attractive, clean and well-managed open spaces for all types of activities, whether it be sitting quietly by yourself, working out vigorously with your colleagues or playing a competitive sports game on the courts.

So what could be wrong with this scenario, when you consider that there is a drastic increase in lifestyle diseases like diabetes, stroke and obesity? It's all about the consideration of all users. If you are a park or bike path user, consider how your activities might impact the safety and enjoyment of the space for others. If you do engage a trainer to exercise in public space, make sure the company or individual has professional insurance, and if the group is larger than six, they must have a permit to conduct the activities.

Health Benefits of Running

Running is one of the most portable and least expensive forms of exercise for participants. You can run by yourself if you prefer solitary types of exercise, or you can run with friends or a group if you prefer. Aside from investing in a good pair of runners and some comfortable running clothes (loose fitting, breathable material), the cost of participation is low.

If running is one of best forms of exercise, then why don't more people get out and run? The reason is because it is hard work. But like most kinds of hard work, it pays off. Let me clarify. When I say that it is hard, I mean to it's hard to get started. Once you find your rhythm and develop a routine, running becomes enjoyable.

So if you are just starting out, first get clearance from your doctor to run. Then follow these tips to make sure your there is longevity in your career as a runner!

1. Build it up - distance, time and intensity.
2. Warm up and cool down/stretch with every session
3. Drink plenty of fluids - before, during and after
4. Vary the workouts - don't run every day
5. Plan your course - think about the environment, surface, safety, pollution.
6. Track your progress - you will improve, so your progress will motivate you to continue

Why run anyway?

1. Build stronger bones
2. Strengthen muscles
3. Improve fitness
4. Maintain a healthy weight

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

Hippity Hoppity here he comes!

The big bunny is on his way, and it's nearly time for the Easter Hat Parade! Children everywhere are looking hopefully at parents as they try to steer them toward the large precarious displays of jewel coloured chocolate eggs at the super market, whilst parents are trying to find polite ways of saying "it's too bloody early, it's nowhere NEAR Easter yet!" to avoid the bottom lip quiver and wail escaping from their little ones in tow. Silently, we curse the merchandisers of large supermarkets who make avoiding these eggs of hyperactivity a near impossibility.

Hot cross buns have been packed into garish plastic bags, all screaming out how much 'healthier' they are this year - Preservative free! Real fruit! High Fibre! - but largely still a big stodge of carbs and sugar with a marzipan cross that's meant to make us feel we are participating in a valid celebration. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for

the celebration of the rising of Christ and I don't mind slathering a freshly baked hot cross bun with real butter in a self indulgent, yet strangely justified act of participation in this festive holiday. It's just that it all seems to require so much energy (perhaps, in fact, I need a little chocolate egg just to help me along).

I love a celebration, so any excuse to get in there and play stylist to my home and have reason to feast with intention is great by me. I even have grand plans for a home-made Easter hat for my son this year (please ignore the loud groan that just escaped a 10-year-old, rolling his eyes and clasping small fat hands to the top of his head in horror). I've seen a few great images of mini carrots taped to a cardboard band that would be perfect for him. Or the one that has a complete menagerie of fluffy fluoro chicks and bunnies with eggs and straw and ... well he'll just have to go to the gym to quickly work up

his neck muscles to be able to support the thing.

And this year I really want to make sure we do the whole "dye your own eggs" in food dye for that rustic charming Easter decoration look. I want to do it because I still have the different colour food dyes in the pantry from last year. Unopened. I had big plans last year, and that's good because I hope that by this year I'll actually be ready to execute them. An amazing seafood extravaganza for Good Friday, Passover Lamb on whatever day that's meant to happen (better review last year's plan) and artisan quality Belgian chocolate hand painted eggs, well hidden for an Easter Egg Hunt that will be so brilliant it becomes legendary.

My son has slightly different views on Easter. He is still precariously balanced on the edge of belief in Santa and the Easter Bunny

(clearly, the tooth fairy is a ridiculous story created by parents for their own amusement in absurdity), and has decided to actually seek proof of the Easter Bunny. In years gone by, he's been satisfied by the (fingerprint) paw prints in the flour we scattered by the door. This year, he has a master plan. It involves several traps, carrots as bait and well, he's hunting the bunny. Right, this should be interesting. Would it be in terribly bad taste to serve rabbit stew???

Whatever your religious beliefs, I hope that this Easter does bring you peace and joy, and that you have a wonderful holiday - I hope that mine has home dyed eggs, and the Easter Bunny is not trapped at our house, and makes it to yours.

With love,
Abby

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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Welcome to Docklands, tiny Titch

Titch the Jack Russell is one of Dockland's newest, and certainly smallest, residents.

The tiny four-month-old pup had been living in Docklands for just a week when *Docklands News* met him last month.

According to his owner, Jane Duyker, Titch was still getting used to the hustle and bustle of apartment living but already loved visiting Docklands Park.

However, she said he was still getting used to socialising with other dogs and had a habit of barking at dogs much bigger than he.

On the other hand, Jane said Titch loved people and attracted plenty of attention from passersby when he was out and about.

According to Jane, when at home Titch can't stop following her around and always wants to know what she is up to.



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Ashleigh Wagner, 24

LOCATION: Harbour Town

WEARS: Black ripped skinny jeans, grey singlet, pink and grey knitted beanie, New Balance trainers. A lot of it is from Cotton On.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT: Comfortable, but still fun. The uniform at my work is "Geek Chic".

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? Northcote

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS? I work in Docklands.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? My New Balance trainers. I just bought them.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Wearing something you feel comfortable in. You can wear anything as long it makes you feel comfortable.

Natasha Adams, 21

LOCATION: Harbour Town

WEARS: My mum's old checked flannel shirt, suspenders and bow tie from Typo, black shorts and shoes from London Rebel.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT: A bit scholarly with my suspenders.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? I'm from Brisbane originally but I've moved to Melbourne and I'm living in Docklands.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS? I live and work in Docklands.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

A pair of very high-waisted, moss green, shimmery pants.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Something that suits you. Knowing what suits you and what you feel comfortable in will make you confident.

Kristian Rothwell, 28

LOCATION: Corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade.

WEARS: A checked flannelette shirt from Savers, a T-shirt from Off Ya Tree, black platform shoes from Windsor Smith and Ray-Bans.

DESCRIBE YOUR OUTFIT: Relaxed, comfortable, slightly alternative and mostly darker colours.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? Reservoir

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS? I work in Docklands.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING? My flannelette shirts and my platform creepers.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Individuality. It's important to be on trend but make sure you add your own twist. I also think putting thought into an outfit is important. You can tell when an outfit has been chosen carefully and when it hasn't.

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DIGITAL HARBOUR



GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Greetings Everybody

I thought I'd start off with excerpts of a report presented by police representatives at the Docklands Security Group meeting held on March 19. It contains some interesting statistics, which the police are happy to be quoted in my column as follows:

1. Crime Summary

- Thefts from cars have reduced by 15 per cent in the Melbourne West Response Zone. There have only been a few reported in Docklands in recent months.
- Assaults and robberies are down, however there was a spike in January when six assaults were reported on the night of the Eminem concert at Etihad Stadium.
- There have been a small number of burglaries conducted at construction sites. No residential burglaries.
- There have been a small number of thefts of bicycles from cages in car parks.
- Crime overall in Docklands is still much lower than the Central Business District.

2. Road Policing

- There was a road fatality involving two vehicles on 1 February, 2014 on Footscray Road, outside Costco. The offending driver was under the influence of ice. He has been charged with culpable driving.
- The numbers of staff working at the Melbourne Bicycle Patrol had increased from four to seven. This is currently the only full time bicycle patrol unit in the state.
- There has only been two serious injury collisions in Docklands since the last meeting.
- The City of Melbourne and Bicycle Australia have been testing speeding bicycles on New Quay Promenade and had a tent to try and educate cyclists.

I gave a summary of our DCA activities at the Docklands Community Forum on February 26. Council officers gave an update on provision of community facilities. We need more accessible playgrounds for children in the northern and central areas of Docklands.

Time for the relocation of steel rail freight and redevelopment of E- gate is approaching. We are waiting on concept

plans and hoping for adequate provision of green and open space which could help Docklands.

It is interesting that the Docklands area, originally having been a wharves area with separated waterways, as a result has separate precincts of New Quay, Victoria Harbour and Yarra's Edge, as well as east of the esplanade to Southern Cross Station. This has its charm as well as the practical aspects such as the separate development areas and separate boating harbours. Each sub-area has its own local issues but in addition there are overlapping and general issues such as traffic management, schooling, events and provision of general use facilities.

The DCA tries to assist in all areas, both local and general, ranging from assisting in opposing the proposed tram bridge at Yarra's Edge to pushing the development of Western Park at the end of New Quay, as well as general issues such as the redevelopment of the esplanade.

Regarding serviced apartments, we are still waiting on presentation of draft legislation and I believe referral of the Watergate issue back to the Building Appeals Board. We understand the referral will be heard in April

with a decision expected around June.

It's refreshing to see a new building going up with an attractive exterior, namely, the Medibank building. It's the luck of the draw because there is no control over exterior design by Council or other Authorities.

Our committee will be looking at ideas for social activities for younger residents as mentioned last month. We'll canvass for ideas.

We continue to be active with other groups including Inner Melbourne Planning Alliance and Corba.

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

Regards to All
Roger Gardner
President DCA



OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

Inspect and don't delay

Two recent decisions in the Supreme Courts of Victoria and NSW should be mandatory reading for all executive committee members of owners corporations in exercising decisions relating to repair and maintenance of common property.

In the decision of *Brown v OC201532U*, the Victorian Supreme Court awarded damages of over \$600,000 plus legal costs to Mr Brown, who suffered an injury while attempting to scale a common property fence and gate that was in disrepair.

The owners corporation knew the rear fence and gate was not functioning, however delayed carrying out repairs while it attended to other matters, although intended to repair the common property in the future and as funds became available.

The court found the injury sustained by Mr Brown was reasonably foreseeable, and that the owners corporation owed Mr Brown a duty of care not to allow that injury to occur.

In the decision of *Taylor v The Owners - Strata Plan 11564*, Mr Taylor was tragically killed when an awning on a shop-front failed and fell on top of him as he was walking underneath.

Similarly, the owners corporation knew of the potential danger but did not take active steps to repair the awnings.

In the Supreme Court of Appeal in NSW, the estate of Mr Taylor continues to litigate regarding the exact quantum of damage which the owners corporation must pay.

This is because, prior to his death, Mr Taylor ran his own business and was also engaged in property development. He had three children by a previous marriage, and three stepchildren via his second marriage. Several of the children are claiming compensation for injury, loss, harm and damages arising from recognised psychiatric and psychological injuries.

It should be noted that most insurance policies will provide indemnity for acts carried out by executive committee members. However, almost all of the insurance policies will contain a clause that indemnity will not be extended to those committees that make negligent or bad-faith decisions.

The simple lesson to be heeded for owners corporations - take proactive steps to regularly inspect common property, and when it is discovered that an item of common property is in a state of disrepair, don't delay carrying out the repairs.

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



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DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CALENDAR



THE FOOD COURT

Thursday till Sunday, 12pm - 6pm
Waterfront City Piazza

A group of artists have transformed the longtime unleased Food Court, into an exhibition and arts events space. Check out our latest exhibitions and events and enjoy our free Wi-Fi over a hot drink.



MARITIME PORTHOLE GALLERY

440 Docklands Drive

Showcasing the work of artist Robert Lee Davis.

Open by appointment. Contact 0429 091 686.

DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

Every Sunday from 10am until 5pm.
New Quay Promenade

A variety market featuring arts and crafts, vintage, ladieswear, jewellery, secondhand books and more.

Contact 0412 910 496 for more information.

LUNCHTIME TABLE TENNIS

Wednesday and Fridays
The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Cost: No charge.
Table tennis continues to grow in popularity. BYO lunch.

For details 8622 4822 or docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au

MELBOURNE'S OWN TALL SHIP ENTERPRIZE

Unleash your spirit of Adventure! Experience 19th century sailing aboard this traditionally rigged ship: one hour day sails, evening sails, bay cruises or overnight adventure sails. Home ported in Docklands.

View schedule and book online at www.enterprize.org.au or phone (03) 9621 1294



DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS

Every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month
The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

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



FINE LINE DRAWING AND BOTANICAL ART CLASSES

Monday and Thursday

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

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

MISSION TO SEAFARERS PORT CRUISES

April 16 and April 23
Cruise the port onboard the Elizabeth Anne and get up close to big ships.

BYO lunch, camera and sketchpad.

Cost: \$45 per person

Contact bill@missiontoseafarers.com.au for more information.

DOCKLANDS WALKING TOUR

Every day at 10.30am, bookings essential
Etihad Stadium 130 Harbour Esplanade

Explore Docklands on a walking tour. Be mesmerised by the artwork, history and architecture of the Docklands area.

Contact 0448 270 023 or email amwt@live.com.au

DOCKLANDS BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

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

DISCOVER SAILING

Club sailing days every 2nd and 4th Sunday

Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2
North Wharf Rd

Visitors welcome. For further information email docklandsyachtclub@gmail.com

MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

First Thursday of the month, 10am

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 9646 5256 or carolbergcb@gmail.com

DISCOVER POWER BOATING

Pleasure Cruising Club Inc is a boat club that promotes safe boating in Docklands. Open Day the 1st Sunday of Each Month between 10am - 5pm

www.pleasurecruising.com.au
contact Justin 0419 551 967



DRAGON MASTERS DRAGONBOATING

Wednesdays at 5.30pm
and Saturdays at 8.30am

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

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

CITY ON A HILL

Church Services

Sunday 8.45am, 10.30am, 6pm.

Hoyts, Melbourne Central

Sunday evening 6pm

Arrow on Swanston (488 Swanston St)

Contact cityonahill.com.au

JEWISH MYSTICISM... A WEEKLY INSIGHT

Every Thursday, 7.30pm

Chabad Jewish Community Centre, 198 Clark St, Port Melbourne

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

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

ALMA DOEPEL SUPPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Third Saturday of every month
5pm - 7pm

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

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



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

LUNCHTIME MEDITATION

Every Tuesday 12:15 or 1pm
The HUB @ Docklands

Reduce stress. Increase energy and raise awareness. Join in for a 30 minute meditation and calm your mind.

www.mrmeditate.com
or contact Thomas 0411 345 509

DOCKLANDS ROTARY

Every Thursday, 7.15am

Harbour Kitchen, Victoria Harbour Promenade

All welcome.

Contact president, Joseph Ebbage on 9097 1749.

MELBOURNE LIBRARY SERVICE STOMPERS SESSION

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

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

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Contact 0456 303 808 or visit minimaestros.com.au

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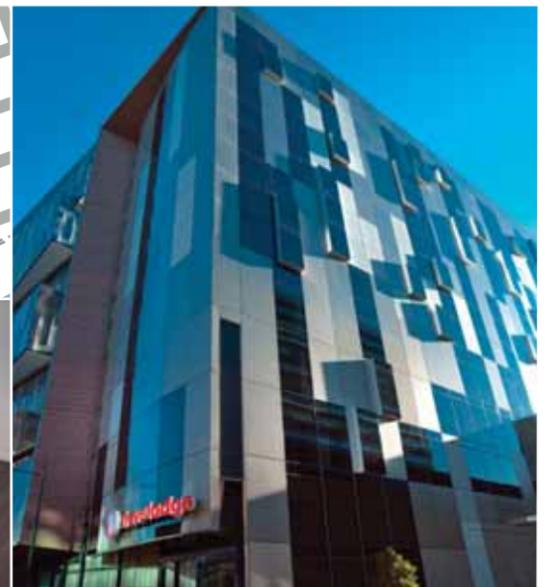
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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

ANDREY DEPARTZIOU



Docklands dragon boater Georgina Wakim will co-captain Australia's national dragon boat team.

Aye aye, Captain Georgina

Local dragon boater Georgina Wakim has been named captain of the Australia's 2014 national dragon boat team.

Ms Wakim will captain the Auroras, alongside Sydney's Marcio Martins, at the Asian Dragon Boat Championships and the inaugural International Dragon Boat Federation (IDBF) World Cup later this year.

It's the second consecutive year Ms Wakim has captained the national team, having been named captain last year and acting as vice-captain the year before.

Ms Wakim said she was selected for the role through a team member voting system alongside the decision of the Aurora's board.

"For me personally, I hope to be the best captain I can be alongside Marcio and lead a positive and well-connected team," Ms Wakim said.

Ms Wakim said she started paddling with Docklands team, the Melbourne Flames, five years ago as a way of keeping fit, before then becoming involved with the Auroras.

Currently, the national team is training six days per week, combining two gym sessions, four dragon boat sessions and as many single craft sessions as they can manage.

According to Ms Wakim, dragon boating is a prolific sport internationally.

Ms Wakim said 952 million people across Asia watched the dragon boat events at the last Asian Games and a similar number are expected to watch the first ever IDBF World Cup in June.

The Auroras will leave Australia for a training camp in Hong Kong at the end of May before heading to the Asian Championships and then to the International Dragon Boat Federation World Cup.

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