

*The voice of Docklands* | 道克蘭之音

# DOCKLANDS NEWS

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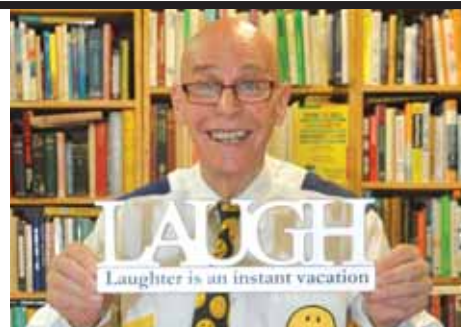


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## Dragon returns to Docklands

*The colour and excitement of Chinese New Year returned to Docklands last month, with the arrival of the Docklands Dragon on Harbour Esplanade.*

In celebration of the Year of the Goat an 11-day Chinese New Year festival kicked off in Docklands on February 19.

The launch event saw the dragon accompanied by dragon dancers, traditional Chinese drummers, tai chi demonstrations, dance troupe performances, dragon boat demonstrations and an Asian-style food truck park.

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# Don't hold your breath on short-stays

By Shane Scanlan

***The State Government has been quick to put the short-stay apartment rental issue into the spotlight but, so far, has offered only a platform to talk about it.***

Consumer Affairs Minister Jane Garrett last month announced a panel to look at the impact of short-stay accommodation in residential apartments and make recommendations to her and Planning

Minister Richard Wynne by the end of May.

Former local member and failed Melbourne Labor candidate, Jennifer Kanis, went to the election pledging to retrospectively legislate the practice out of existence.

But Ms Garrett's current language indicates a more conciliatory approach and acknowledges the rights of property owners as well as residents affected by disruptions.

"We need to find the right balance, and the panel will take a common sense and practical approach to minimise disruption," Ms Garrett said.

The Greens also took an anti-short-stay policy to the election and even former Coalition planning minister Matthew Guy pledged but failed to regulate short-stays out of existence when in power.

The short-stay industry, buoyed by the recent entry of global giant Airbnb into the local market, remains confident of its position.

Local operators have met every challenge so far – most significantly beating the City of Melbourne last year in the Supreme Court of Appeal. The council attempted to tackle the industry via alleged breaches of the

building code but, after three years and more than \$350,000 in legal costs, succeeded only in forcing operators to install extra smoke alarms and notices in affected apartments.

That test-case action centred on the Watergate building in Docklands and this building continues to offer both sides a platform for battle, with the Watergate owners' corporation (OC) taking operator Paul Salter to the Victorian Administrative and Appeals Tribunal (VCAT) alleging breaches of the OC rules.

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The deadline for the April edition is  
March 27.

Published by Shane Scanlan  
Edited by Bethany Williams

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An artist's impression of the proposed fountain and flame show.

## Support for Docklands fountain show

*Docklanders overwhelmingly agree that a one-of-a-kind fountain and flame show in Victoria Harbour would put Docklands on the map.*

Some 46 of the 52 people (88 per cent) surveyed by *Docklands News* supported the concept.

Those who backed the plan commented that the show would give Docklands an international profile, that it would "ignite" Docklands, and that Victoria Harbour was the perfect location for the spectacle.

Other comments included:

"A bold concept of an elegant, artistic installation."

"It's unique ideas like this that will put Docklands on the map."

"Docklands is in dire need of something like this. It would be truly amazing to have this feature on Melbourne's Waterfront and

would actually bring people to Victoria Harbour and surrounding areas."

Just five respondents (10 per cent) said no to the proposal, while one person said they didn't know if the idea would be successful.

One respondent described the show as a "gimmick" and said they would prefer to see a cultural space such as a theatre.

Another said the idea would put Docklands on the map for all the wrong reasons. "This new idea is awful in every aspect of its concept," the respondent said.

Mr Ryan presented the concept to the Docklands Community Forum on February 25 and received a positive response from attendees.

## Recognition for businesses

*With the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Lord Mayor's Commendation Awards, this year is a special year for recognition of small business owners in the CBD.*

The awards recognise the contribution that small businesses make to the prosperity and fabric of the city and the search is on for nominees.

Bronze award recipients nominations are sought from small business owners who have been conducting business in the City of Melbourne for 10 years or more.

Businesses with 25 years under their belt qualify for a silver award, gold is awarded after 40 years and platinum after 50. Families with more than three generations in the same business are recognised with the highest award.

The chair of the advisory group, and founding member, Kay Craddock, said the award was unique in the world and had gone from strength to strength because it was not a competition.

"It's recognition for a job well done – a pat on the back from your contemporaries," Ms Craddock said.

"We know how hard it is to survive in small business. So it's saying 'congratulations' coupled with a civic recognition for making it."

Ms Craddock called on readers to encourage small business proprietors to put themselves forward for the award.

She said, at the very least, it would be a useful marketing tool but, more significantly, it was an opportunity to join a growing group of surviving small businesses in the city.

Nominations officially open on March 18 and close on May 22. See [www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/enterprisemelbourne](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/enterprisemelbourne) for further information.

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The Chinese New Year food truck park proved to be very popular.

## Dragon returns to Docklands

*Continued from page 1.*

Entertainment continued on Friday and Saturday nights throughout the festival, which also saw Victoria Harbour lit up with 1000 good luck lanterns.

The 100-metre-long dragon was handmade by Chinese Culture Works and was constructed using eight tonnes of steel, 1500 metres of silk fabric and 800 LED globes.

This year the dragon was also accompanied by a number of other figures including pandas and a goat, representing this year's Chinese zodiac.

According to David Men, general manager of Chinese Culture Works, in Chinese culture the goat means good luck.

"So if you want to have good luck come to Docklands and see the goat," he said at the festival launch.

Commissioned by Eureka Skydeck, the dragon is part of growing Chinese New Year celebrations across Melbourne.

"We are proud to deliver a bigger Chinese New Year celebration in 2015," Eureka Skydeck general manager John Forman said.

"Our aim is to position Melbourne as the destination of choice for the increasing number of Chinese visiting Australia and to celebrate our rich diverse history."

City of Melbourne was one of the sponsors of the dragon and at the launch of the festival Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the council was delighted to celebrate Chinese New Year with Melbourne's Chinese community.

"When we decided to invest in the Docklands Dragon we wanted to activate Docklands," the Lord Mayor said.

"We now spend as much on Chinese New Year in Docklands as in the central city."

"We hope Docklands becomes a real destination for people to come down and enjoy not only the dragon, but also food trucks and the wonderful view across the harbour."

Destination Docklands also partnered with Eureka Skydeck to support the dragon and engagement and events manager Kelly Jensen said: "We are thrilled to see the return of the Docklands Dragon to its home on Harbour Esplanade and we are looking forward to seeing the growth of Chinese New Year celebrations in docklands this year and for years to come."

Over the 11 day Chinese New Year Festival between February 19 and March 1, the Docklands Dragon is estimated to have attracted more than 100,000 people.

# Workers want a local school

***A primary school in Docklands would service not only residents but also local workers, according to a survey conducted by Docklands News.***

Some 98 Docklands workers completed the survey, with just over 70 per cent saying they would enrol their children in a Docklands primary school.

"I would be very keen to have the option of enrolling my child in a Docklands school, life would be so much easier for our family," one participant said.

Analysis of the need for a local primary school in Docklands has so far excluded the local working population, instead focusing on the residential population.

Education department spokesperson Craig Simon said government primary schools were typically planned to meet a minimum expected long-term demand of 450 primary school students living in the school's future catchment.

Most respondents survey said they had one primary-school-aged child (44 per cent) or no primary-school-aged children (31 per cent) and would want to be able to enrol their children in a local primary school in 2016 (36.6 per cent), 2017 (27 per cent) or 2018 (23 per cent).

Just 10 per cent wanted to enrol their children after 2020.

A state primary school was the post popular option, with 51 per cent of respondents saying they would prefer a public primary school to be built in Docklands.

Only 5 per cent of respondents wanted a private primary school, while close to 44 per cent would be happy with either option.

According to most of the participants (75 per cent), enrolling their children in a Docklands-based primary school would make life easier.

Most commonly, participants commented that a local school would reduce travel time, pick-ups and drop-offs would be easier and that they would be able to spend time with their children.

One worker even said a local primary school would prompt them to buy an apartment in Docklands.

However, a small number of local workers said they would not enrol their children in a Docklands primary school in case their work situation changed.

Many of the parents also commented that before and after school care would be necessary in order to make a Docklands primary school a viable option for their families.

Apart from demand from local workers, in 2013 former Places Victoria CEO Peter Seamer said Docklands residential population of children aged 14 and under was predicted to reach 750 by 2016.

Anecdotal evidence suggests families tend to move out of Docklands when their children reach school-age due to the lack of a local primary school and being zoned out of schools in surrounding suburbs.

One of the survey participants highlighted this in their survey response, commenting: "The Docklands school situation has led to many families moving out, turning it into a chicken-and-egg situation as census and statistics would not reflect this fact. For the suburb to grow and develop a sense of community people need to stay and a school is an integral part of any community, through which the strongest networks grow."

*Continued on page 9.*

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# Victoria Point gym to close its doors

*The YMCA will close its branch at the troubled Victoria Point building in May.*

The building’s owner Victoria Point Joint Venture (VPJV) is currently locked in a bitter legal dispute with the building’s owner’s corporation (OC) over unpaid gym and pool levies.

While the YMCA has no involvement in the dispute or legal proceedings, the organisation has decided to prematurely end it’s 20-year agreement with VPJV after just 10 years.

In October last year VPJV locked residents out of the YMCA-operated pool and gym it owns.

VPJV said the OC had failed to pay for resident’s use of the facilities for more than 12 months, amounting to a six-figure debt, and filed Supreme Court action against the OC to recover the alleged unpaid fees.

But the OC said it couldn’t continue to pay the gym and pool levy because doing so would be a breach of the Owners’ Corporation Act.

According to the OC, the developer of the building entered into the levy agreement without authority from owners to do so, making it invalid.

Victoria Point OC chair Ilana Kempler last month told *Docklands News* the case had been temporarily adjourned.

YMCA manager Andrew Ward said

following the Victoria Point closure the gym would continue to operate solely from its ANZ site.

Mr Ward said the organisation had a 20-year agreement with landlord Victoria Point Joint Venture (VPJV), with the option to renew every five years.

Mr Ward said after 10 years at the site the organisation had decided not to renew its lease.

He said the fact YMCA had two sites operating within close proximity was something that was considered when making the decision.

“For us the long-term plan is to have a presence in Docklands but we don’t require two facilities,” Mr Ward said.

“It’s mostly a business decision,” Mr Ward said. However, he conceded there had been some operating challenges involved with running a gym in a residential building.

The Victoria Point gym will close on May 31.

YMCA is currently five years into a 20-year lease at ANZ, which Mr Ward said the organisation intended to see out.

“We remain heavily committed to Docklands,” Mr Ward said.



## Miss Docklands

*Local teenager Caelee Webb (pictured) will represent Docklands at the Miss Teen Galaxy Australia pageant next month.*

The 17-year-old NewQuay resident is a national finalist and will compete against other teenagers from around Australia at the finals in Queensland.

If successful, Caelee could soon be off to America to compete on an international level.

“If I win Miss Teen Galaxy Australia I’ll go to Florida to compete with girls from all over the world because it’s an international pageant,” Caelee said.

Diagnosed with narcolepsy last year, Caelee said she hoped to inspire other people with health conditions like herself to overcome the obstacles in their lives.

Narcolepsy is a neurological brain condition, which means the sleep and wake cycles controlled by Miss Webb’s brain are not fully functional.

“I was diagnosed last year, but I’ve had the symptoms for a while,” Miss Webb said.

“It’s always hard at first when you have a condition like narcolepsy, but I can’t let it take over my life.”

## Merchant St upgrade

*Lend Lease is upgrading part of Merchant St in an attempt to create a stronger hospitality precinct in Victoria Harbour.*

Work on the upgrade on the western side of Merchant St started in December and is expected to be complete by May.

“The aim is to create a high quality, visually

interesting retail area that is suitable for high-quality hospitality retailers,” a Lend Lease spokesperson said.

“We have partnered with retail experts Six Degrees Architects to design an interesting and modern, retail-friendly scheme.”

The spokesperson said new tenants had been secured for four of the five retail spaces and two new businesses had already opened.

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# Harbour Esplanade plea

***Docklands developer and resident David Napier has implored the City of Melbourne to bring forward funding for the upgrade of Harbour Esplanade in a single stage.***

Current plans allow for the development of Docklands over 10 to 15 years, but Mr Napier says work needs to happen in one stage in the near future.

Addressing the Docklands Community Forum on February 25, Mr Napier said: "I personally believe the development of Docklands has been held back because of the barrier Harbour Esplanade is to visitors."

"I think it deserves an upgrade over a much shorter time-frame than what is being planned."

Mr Napier referred to the \$300 million committed to Docklands community infrastructure by the Docklands Community and Place Plan (DCPP) and to council's predicted \$57 million surplus from Docklands over the next five years.

"I'm imploring the Melbourne City Council to contribute some of those funds to a one-stage upgrade of Harbour Esplanade, rather than the 10 to 15 years planned," he said.

He also called on further discussion about the future of Harbour Esplanade, saying the community consultation conducted prior to the release of the master plan last year did not necessarily reflect the community's desires.

"Only 460 people responded to the community consultation," Mr Napier said. "Based on this, certain assumptions have been made which I think don't necessarily represent community interests."

Mr Napier said he believed Harbour Esplanade should be transformed into a linear park with trees, barbecues and potential for temporary structures, rather than permanent buildings.

He argued that the esplanade should remain at one level, as opposed to the multiple raised platforms, which would be reinstated according to the master plan.

He also objected to the built form limits outlined in the master plan, which would



*Docklands developer and resident David Napier wants to see more green space along Harbour Esplanade.*

allow up to 50 per cent development along both the waterfront and street edge.

"We haven't opened up the waterfront to then close it up with buildings," Mr Napier said.

He rejected claims that built form was necessary to ameliorate the affects of wind and said this could be achieved through screening and planting.

"We don't need buildings to stop the wind, we just need clever, considered landscape to achieve that objective," he said.

Mr Napier also opposed the complete reinstatement of heritage sheds along Harbour Esplanade but said shed "skeletons" would be acceptable.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said the \$300 million figure related to an estimate of the cost of all projects included in the DCPP.

"Funds to deliver the DCPP would be required from a number of agencies including the State Government, Places Victoria, private developers and the City of Melbourne and would be required over a 10-year period from 2012 to 2022," the spokesperson said.

"The City of Melbourne's contribution to Harbour Esplanade would need to be assessed by council alongside competing demands related to the delivery of other key DCPP projects."

The spokesperson said varied views about what Harbour Esplanade should include were expressed during the community consultation process.

According to the spokesperson, these ranged from a linear park with no permanent

buildings or structures through to a mix of hard and soft landscaped open spaces with some buildings.

"Council has not yet considered the master plan or its position on what would be right for Harbour Esplanade," the spokesperson said.

"Council welcomes Mr Napier's contribution to this important debate."

Places Victoria declined to comment specifically on the issues Mr Napier raised.

However, Places Victoria CEO Gregory Anderson has previously defended the Harbour Esplanade consultation process.

"Places Victoria is confident the engagement process provided a genuine opportunity to contribute to the conversation about Harbour Esplanade for a broad range of people, including Docklands residents, workers and visitors," Mr Anderson said.

"We spoke with more than 300 people, shared information with almost 4000 people via the Participate Melbourne website, and 455 people filled in the questionnaire."

Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson has also previously commented on the built form limits in the masterplan.

"Feedback from the community during the engagement process showed people were generally comfortable with a mix of 40 per cent built form and 60 per cent open space," Mr Wilson said.

"The masterplan respects the community's desire for passive, open spaces through the incorporation of green areas along Harbour Esplanade and makes provision for slightly less than 40 per cent built form."

## Don't hold your breath on short-stays

*Continued from page 1.*

The case is scheduled to be heard over two days in April and the outcome will, arguably, have a far greater impact than Ms Garrett's "expert" panel's recommendations.

One of the options in the short-stay accommodation panel's terms of reference is to amend the Owner Corporation Act 2006 "to allow owners' corporations to make rules prohibiting or restricting short-stays". However, owners' corporations already have processes for changing the rules but this is rarely achieved in inner-city towers largely because of the high proportion of non-resident and off-shore ownership.

Lowering the threshold for change would be a double-edged sword and such talk is already making OCs which currently don't have a problem with short-stays nervous.

More significantly though, in the April Watergate building case before VCAT, the OC already has rules prohibiting stays of less than 30 days. Should Mr Salter win, it will open the floodgates for short-term rentals.

It is understood that Mr Salter's case will rely on case law supporting the right of owners to rent their properties without restriction.

Short-stay operators are similarly confident that, even if legislation was passed, it could not be made retrospective and, therefore, would not affect their businesses.

Ms Garrett's panel is being chaired by lawyer Simon Libbis, who will have his hands full reaching any consensus within the group, which contains widely polarised positions.

Mr Salter is on the panel representing the Victorian Accommodation Industry Association. At the other end of the scale is pugilistic, Docklands-based, serial-protagonist Roger Gardner representing residents.

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# Lillie's love letters

*An exhibition currently on display at the Library at the Dock provides a snapshot of a different time and an insight into the life of a very interesting lady.*

*My Little Melbourne Girl* explores the letters of Lillie Duncan, a volunteer at the Mission to Seafarer's (MtSV) Ladies Harbour Lights Guild (LHLG) during the 1920s and 30s.

Ignoring the etiquette of her time, Miss Duncan maintained correspondence with at least seven seafarers she met at the mission, despite specific LHLG rules against such activity.

The guild operated between the early 1900s and the 1960s and assisted the MtSV chaplain with fundraising, networking and hosting social activities for seafarers.

The current exhibition is a collaboration between the Mission to Seafarers Victoria (MtSV) and the Library at the Dock and opened at the end of January.

According to MtSV curator Catherine McLay, Lillie Duncan's letters, telegrams, a family photo album and individual photos were donated to the mission by one of her family members in 2011.

She said the exhibition featured around 30 objects, including the LHLG member's register, photographs taken at LHLG social events and the Duncan family photo album.

The exhibition also includes the LHLG constitution, which shows rules Lillie disregarded including not giving out personal addresses or socialising with seafarers outside of mission activities.

In addition, multimedia elements of the exhibition include a narrated projection of three of the letters Lillie received from different seafarers.

The title of the exhibition was taken from a letter Ms Duncan received from one of her admirers who called her his "little Melbourne girl".

"The significance of the collection is that it gives as a unique insight into the social context and etiquettes of the period, as well as into the life of an extraordinary woman who disregarded the rules of her organisation to develop romantic relationships with several men," Ms McLay said.

"Letter writing is a fading method of correspondence in a modern world



Lillie and her sister Olive circa late 1920s and Lillie pictured in her the yard of her family home circa 1920.



where the internet provides instant communication, and so collections such as the Lillie Duncan letters are becoming increasingly rare to find."

According to LHLG records, Ms Duncan and her sister Olive were involved with the LHLG between 1927 and 1931, while they were both in their late 20s and early 30s. It is not known if Ms Duncan's association with the mission continued after this point.

"Curiously, despite the relationships she had with men early in life, Lillie did not marry her husband James Morgan until 1969 at age 72 and he 73," Ms McLay said.

"Information given by the collection donor indicated that they had a long-term affair because James' then wife refused a divorce. So they did not have an opportunity to marry until her death."

Ms McClay said the collaboration between the MtSV and the Library at the Dock for the exhibition began prior to the library's opening when City of Melbourne

community heritage curator Bronwyn Roper began developing an exhibition presenting the history of Docklands.

"Having had a glimpse of the MtSV collection at that time, Bronwyn saw the opportunity for a display of Lillie Duncan's fascinating life and the Ladies Harbour Lights Guild," Ms McLay said.

"She and I have been working on the project in earnest for some time, which included digitising and transcribing the whole collection for our ongoing use as well as following up the stories of the men Lillie was communicating with."

On March 26, from 6pm to 7pm, the Library at the Dock will host a free talk for visitors from MtSV CEO Andrea Fleming and historians Sarah Rood and Professor Rob Pascoe.

The *My Little Melbourne Girl* exhibition will be on display at the Library at the Dock until April 14 and is free of charge.



## Book your seats at March lunch now

*Get in quick to reserve your spot at the first networking lunch for the year.*

The March networking lunch will be held at Renzo's Bar Café Italiano on Friday, March 13 from 12 noon.

While superstition would have us believe that Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> is an ill-fated date, judging by the menu, guests at the lunch will have plenty to feel lucky about.

The menu for the March lunch is:

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# No art gallery for Docklands

*Docklands has missed out on the chance to have its own contemporary Australian art gallery after developer Michael Buxton donated his 300-strong collection to the University of Melbourne.*

Originally MAB Corporation planned to build the gallery on Harbour Esplanade, near the corner of NewQuay Promenade, where it has development rights.

But in December, Mr Buxton announced a \$26 million donation to the university's Southbank campus, which is home to the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA).

The donation includes more than 300 works by 53 of Australia's most significant artists including Howard Arkley, Ricky Swallow, Tracey Moffat, Emily Floyd and Bill Henson.

The donation also includes funds for the construction of a new purpose-built museum, to be known as the Michael Buxton Centre of Contemporary Art (MBCOCA).

Mr Buxton said he'd been planning a permanent home for the collection since 1995 and that the decision not to build the museum in Docklands was based on ensuring the future of the collection.

"The reason we decided to go with Melbourne University rather than Docklands is really longevity," Mr Buxton said.

"The idea we looked at for Docklands was a fantastic site and beautiful building but my concern was that, while it would be fine to finance it throughout my lifetime, it would



University vice chancellor Glyn Davis with Michael Buxton.

struggle to survive another generation."

"With Melbourne University we'll have an ongoing relationship but won't have the financial obligation after 20 years."

Mr Buxton said the decision was also prompted by a desire for the collection to serve as an education resource to help foster an appreciation for contemporary Australian art.

"By donating this magnificent collection to the University of Melbourne we are ensuring its longevity as a dynamic collection which will evolve and grow, educating future generations of students and serving as a resource for all Australians aspiring to understand or collect challenging contemporary art," he said.

University of Melbourne vice chancellor Glyn Davis said, thanks to the partnership with Michael Buxton, Melburnians would be given unprecedented access to Australia's finest contemporary art.

"We believe the impact of this will be profound, enhancing the Southbank precinct's position as the heart of Melbourne's cultural life."

MAB Corporation plans for the Docklands site where the art gallery was originally going to be located are currently unknown, with Mr Buxton saying the plans were "a work in progress".

Docklands News understands MAB Corporation has development rights over the site until 2018, after which time if work hasn't commenced, the site will be returned to Places Victoria.

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**Docklands** 1701 / 8 McCrae Street  
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4 bed 2 bath 2 car

**Private Sale** \$1,140,000

**Inspect** By appointment

The apartment has a huge private Roof-Top Terrace with exceptional views and a highly sought-after location. Enjoy these astonishing views towards the Yarra River, Docklands Marina and Port Philip Bay from the bedrooms, living and the dining areas. All bedrooms include BIRs and the master has an ensuite. This corner North-South-West apartment is fitted with quality window furnishings as well as additional protection screen around the Roof-Top Terrace wall. Close to Casino & Entertainment Centre, and Etihad Stadium.



**Docklands** 2005 / 50 Lorimer Street  
STUNNING MARINA & YARRA VIEWS

2 bed 2 bath 2 car

**Private Sale** \$780,000

**Inspect** By appointment

Captivating views from this 20th floor, 2 bedroom apartment located in Mirvac's most sought after Tower 1 at Yarra's Edge. Boasting spectacular views across the Marina and down the Yarra all the way to the Bolte from every room. Offering a large living/dining adjoining a modern kitchen which include quality Smeg stainless steel appliances, glamorous stone bench tops, integrated fridge/freezer and plenty of cupboard space. The large main bedroom features double robes and a luxury en-suite with deep relaxing bath, separate shower.



**Docklands** 2706/241 Harbour Esp

THIS WILL NOT LAST LONG  
2 bed 2 bath 1 car

**Private Sale** \$700,000

**Inspect** By appointment

Located on the 27th floor in The Quays building and has a car park and a storage cage. Located on the harbour in New Quay and minutes from Melbourne City Centre, The Quays harbour-side development puts you in a location that is close to everything. You will be only minutes away from fantastic shopping, great food and Etihad Stadium in Docklands, as well as tram stops literally at your front door. Residents have exclusive access to The Quays Health Club - complete with gym, swimming pool and spa, rooftop garden.



**Docklands** 1705 / 60 Siddeley Street  
FANTASTIC VIEWS OVER DOCKLANDS  
2 bed 2 bath 1 car

**Private Sale** \$690,000

**Inspect** By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 17th floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 2 bedrooms, 2 toilets, a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The two bedrooms have built in robes, perfect for entertaining family and friends before heading into the City for a night of fun. Includes fully equipped gymnasium, steam and sauna rooms & spa.



**Docklands** 1402/60 Siddeley Street  
VIEWS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE  
2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

**Private Sale** \$640,000 plus

**Inspect** By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 14th floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 2 bedrooms, a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The two bedrooms have built in robes, perfect for entertaining family and friends before heading into the City for a night of fun. You have the option to use the impressive facilities which include a fully equipped gymnasium.



**Docklands** 1402 / 8 McCrae Street  
SUIT BOTH OWNER OR INVESTOR  
2 bed 1 bath 1 car

**Private Sale** \$540,000

**Inspect** By appointment

A stunning property where you not only get water views from every room of this home, you also get 2 bedrooms with built in robes and a large living room. But wait there's more! Storage cage, balcony, stone bench tops, integrated fridge and the use of the stunning leisure centre that Lorimer Street has been renowned for. The facilities include access to Mirvac's Rekdek which includes indoor heated lap pool, spa, steam and sauna room, and fully equipped gymnasium.



**Docklands** 705 / 1 Point Park Cres  
ABSOLUTE WATERFRONT  
1 bed 1 bath 1 car

**Private Sale** \$610,000

**Inspect** By appointment

Fully furnished north facing luxurious apartment with spectacular panoramic views of the harbour, Docklands and Melbourne's dynamic cityscape; This light filled luxury apartment on the 7th floor of this near new Yarra Point development boasts a spacious 63 sq.m of internal space, plus 7 sqm of balcony ideal for entertaining family and friends. The bedroom has amazing views and soaks up the sunlight through glorious floor to ceiling windows. This prestigious apartment / home consists of: 1 car park, spacious living area and dining.



**Docklands** 1306 / 50 Lorimer Street  
VIEWS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE  
2 bed 1 bath 1 car

**Private Sale** \$620,000

**Inspect** By appointment

A stunning property where you not only get water views from every room of this home, you also get 2 bedrooms with built in robes and a large living room. But wait there's more! Storage cage, balcony, stone bench tops, integrated fridge and the use of the stunning leisure centre that Lorimer Street has been renowned for. The facilities include access to Mirvac's Rekdek which includes indoor heated lap pool, spa, steam and sauna room, and fully equipped gymnasium.



**Docklands** 204 / 80 Lorimer Street  
STUNNING PODIUM APARTMENT  
2 bed 2 bath 2 car

**Private Sale** \$770,000

**Inspect** By appointment

Offering state-of-the-art finishes podium apartment comprises high quality designer kitchen with stainless steel appliances, stone bench tops and ample cupboard space, open plan to a huge living-family room leading to large terrace ideal for entertaining guests, huge master bedroom with exquisite ensuite, second double bedroom and second bathroom. Features include 2 secure car park spaces located on the same level, European style laundry and resident access to the famous RekDek with heated indoor pool, spa, sauna, and fully equipped gymnasium.



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# Approval for final tower

**Walker Corporation has received planning approval for the final building in its Collins Square development, despite opposition from neighbouring residents.**

The building will be constructed at the corner of Batman's Hill Drive and McCrae St, next to Village Docklands.

Walker Corporation chairman Lang Walker said the company was "delighted" to gain approval for the next tower at Collins Square.

"The Victorian Government is showing strong commitment to the development of the state's economy and property sector, while supporting us in creating one of the largest mixed-use commercial and retail developments ever undertaken in Melbourne's CBD," Mr Walker said.

As reported by *Docklands News* last year, residents of Village Docklands oppose the building and say it will cause disruptions to traffic flow, will overshadow their building and pool area and will block resident's views.

Speaking at the Docklands Community Forum on February 25, Village Docklands resident Janine Standfield also highlighted concerns about pedestrian safety, which she says have resulted from the entire Collins Square development.

"The only building approved so far under Minister Wynne is the Walker building, despite so many misgivings," Ms Standfield said.

"How can a building go ahead when there are such serious pedestrian and safety issues, apart from the impact on the building next to it?" she questioned.

Two of the five Collins Square towers have been completed, along with the former Goods Shed and lantern building. The KPMG tower is currently under construction.



PhD student Fabian Hasna is looking for research participants for his study of Docklands as a "restorative" environment.

# De-stressing in Docklands

**Anyone who's taken a walk around Docklands on a nice day can tell you just how relaxing the place can be.**

After a busy day, a simple stroll around the waterfront can do wonders at de-stressing.

Monash University PhD student Fabian Hasna is currently researching just how effective Docklands is at helping people recover from stress and mental fatigue.

According to Mr Hasna, his study will look at how Docklands' urban environment might be considered "restorative".

"Restorative environments are environments or spaces that help to reduce stress or mental fatigue," Mr Hasna said.

"I would like to understand the experience of people in urban public spaces such as open spaces and parks and I'm also interested in the public art spaces, which Docklands has a significant collection of," Mr Hasna said.

"I would like to see people's experiences

and emotions in certain spaces and how this contributes to reduction of stress and mental fatigue."

According to Mr Hasna, restorative environment research generally focuses on natural environments such as forests or coastlines. His study differs, by targeting an urban environment.

With a background in landscape design, Mr Hasna is interested in how urban spaces and public art can help with mental recuperation.

His research will target both residents and workers in Docklands, aged over 18.

"My target is workers and residents in Docklands, because they are the day-to-day users," Mr Hasna said.

Mr Hasna has created an online survey and would also like to interview Docklands residents and workers face-to-face.

To take part in the online survey visit [www.surveymoz.com/s3/1735152/melbdockrestorativemap](http://www.surveymoz.com/s3/1735152/melbdockrestorativemap)

You can volunteer to participate in a face-to-face interview by emailing Mr Hasna at [mflas3@student.monash.edu](mailto:mflas3@student.monash.edu)

# Workers want school

*Continued from page 3.*

Currently, there's no local primary school on the horizon in Docklands, with the Labor Government's pre-election promise to release the Docklands school feasibility report yet to materialise.

"The Government has committed to re-starting the planning process for a school in Docklands," Mr Craig said.

"In 2015 the Department of Education and Training will refresh its demographic assessment of the demand for a school in Docklands and surrounding suburbs and work with the City of Melbourne and other government agencies to identify the preferred school site to meet the needs of families that live in the Docklands and inner Melbourne."

Meanwhile, Port Melbourne could get its own independent secondary school, which will service Port Melbourne, Melbourne, Southbank and Docklands.

The start-up school is the brainchild of teachers Dr Jeanne Shaw and Sophie Fenton who last month launched a Pozible campaign, aiming to raise \$2.15 million to make the "start-up school" possible.

Dr Shaw and Ms Fenton have secured a heritage building at 164 Ingles St in Port Melbourne, requiring major refurbishment.

Aiming to open in 2016 with an initial intake of year seven students, the school would grow each year.

By 2021 it is estimated the Sandridge School would have capacity for 1000 students from prep through to Year 12.

The school is currently in the process of obtaining school registration in preparation for opening in 2016.

For more information about the proposed start-up school visit [www.sandridgeschool.org.au](http://www.sandridgeschool.org.au).

## John Henry answers your legal questions.

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# Wind tunnel testing key to development

*Wind engineers say developers need to give greater consideration to wind conditions and the comfort of ground-level pedestrians when designing new buildings.*

While in some overseas jurisdictions, such as Canada and a host of European countries, developers are required to conduct pedestrian wind studies before building, that is not the case in Australia.

According to Global Wind Technology Services consultant Craig Skipsey, while there is strict safety criteria in place when it comes to the height of a development, rules governing ground level wind speeds were not being enforced.

"The safety criteria is pretty well-known and that's the minimum – which is an average wind speed both mean and gust, so that's pretty straight forward," he said.

“There is a further set of criteria, which defines what the pedestrian area is being used for, and that is walking, standing and sitting.”

“Different wind engineers use variations of these criteria but generally they’re all on the same principle and that is what is the area going to be used for?”

When it comes to built-form, current safety standards render a building unsafe if any aspect of the development is susceptible to an average gust speed of more than 82 kmh (measured over three seconds) or 54 kmh over an hour.

According to Mr Skipsey, ground level wind speeds are an issue of comfort rather than safety and become a concern when developers incorporate space for retail or cafes.

Wind engineer and director of JDH Consulting Dr John Holmes said under the current system, developers could choose to ignore wind tunnel findings if the recommended changes weren't financially viable.

"It may be the case that, even though wind tunnel tests were done, they didn't really



*A recent wind tunnel test conducted at Monash University in Clayton for a Southbank development.*

follow the results of the test," he said.

“They accepted them and got the planning approval but didn’t implement what was recommended.”

However, Dr Holmes noted that in certain planning jurisdictions, such as Southbank and Fishermans Bend, the requirements are more stringent.

"In Southbank and Fishermans Bend they've actually designated wind speeds in numerical units," he said. "That is different to

other parts of Melbourne, which tend to just have more general criteria.”

“But in this area, for the first time, they’ve actually designated certain comfort levels of wind speed that mustn’t occur more than a certain percentage of the time.”

The City of Melbourne's design and development overlay policy states that developments in Southbank are expected to be acceptable for stationary long-term wind exposure "where the peak gust speed must not exceed 10 m/s."

Dr Holmes said he believed such guidelines had been implemented by the City of Melbourne due to lessons learned from planning failures in Docklands.

"I think there has been a lot of problems in Docklands," he said. "I think there have been cases where people have set up outdoor coffee shops and they can't use them and the businesses are suffering as a result," he said.

Wind tunnel testing typically models a development and its surrounding area in either 1:200 or 1:400 scales, in order to assess a building's impact on adjacent air conditions.

Small sensors are scattered in various locations across the model area, which provides a range of statistical data that is subsequently correlated back to the meteorological data collected from surrounding weather stations.

While all developments will go through wind tunnel testing, Mr Skipsey said explicit guidelines needed to be enforced to ensure developers undertook a wind analysis before the design phase.

"There is definitely value in getting wind advice early rather than creating a design and then dealing with wind as a problem to solve later," he said.

Dr Holmes said the matter was a national issue and that the Australasian Wind Engineering Society was seeking more consistency on the criteria.

He said the group had put forward a proposal to the City of Melbourne to conduct a comprehensive temperature and wind-speed study.

If given the green light, it is hoped that findings from the study will assist Australian planning authorities to implement a blanket criteria for all developers to adhere to.

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# Comedy institute looking for new home

*Docklands could become home to the biggest comedy collection in the southern hemisphere.*

Amassed by Australian comedy legend Peter Crofts throughout his life, the collection comprises some 30,000 humour-related books and 3000 comedy records, paraphernalia and memorabilia.

It includes some of the earliest joke books ever written, including a book printed in Britain in 1809.

Mr Crofts said the collection would form part of the Australian Institute of Comedy (AIC), which would be the go-to-hub for all things comedy and Aussie humour.

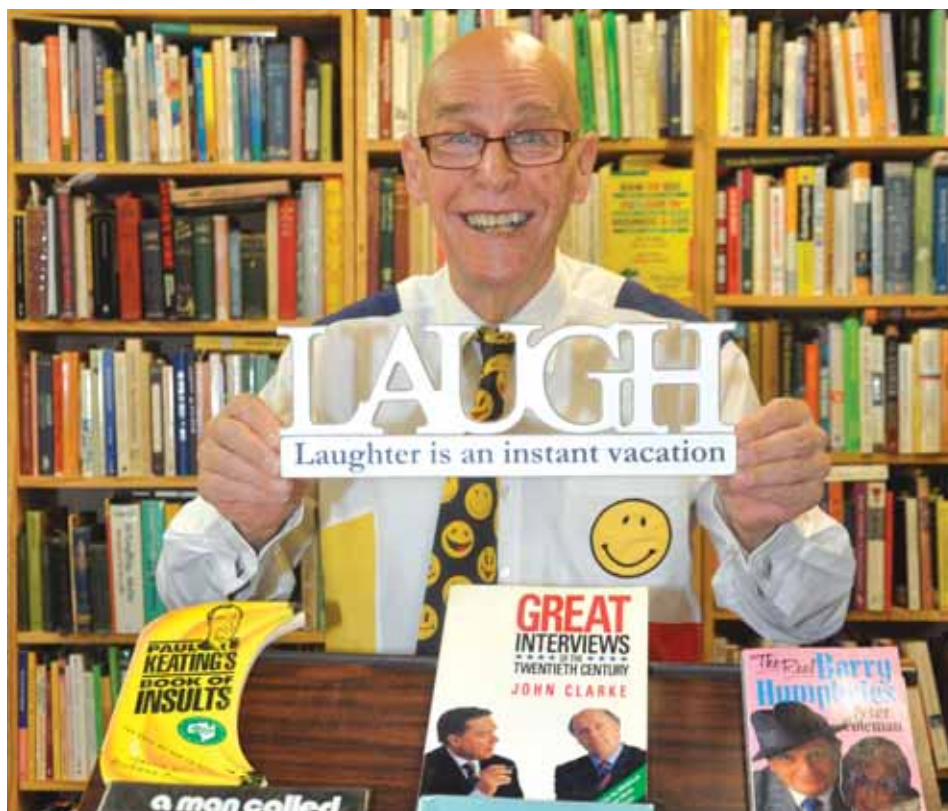
He believes the CBD or Docklands would be the perfect location for the collection.

"Sydney's got the Opera House, Melbourne needs the comedy house," Mr Crofts said.

A not-for-profit organisation, the AIC would be a "national culture treasure" according to Mr Crofts.

Currently located in Murrumbidgee, Mr Crofts wants to pass his collection of resources, memorabilia and paraphernalia onto a new generation of people who will value it and support it.

"As well as being a home to comedy greatness, the AIC will continue to build what will be a legacy from my own vast collection of 50 years and will provide comedy training, seminars, humour in business courses, presentation skills training



Comedy legend Pete Crofts has amassed an enormous comedy collection throughout his life.

and much more," Mr Crofts said.

"I see Docklands as a creative hub and, of course, humour's all about creativity so I would like to see laughter land in the Docklands," he said.

Mr Crofts is widely credited as the pioneer behind the first humour festival at Melbourne University in the 1980s, which grew to become the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

His proteges include some of Australia's top performers, including Elliot Goblet and Russell Gilbert.

Jack Levi (also known as Elliot Goblet) is part of the committee working to find a new home for Mr Crofts' collection.

"It's the biggest comedy collection in the southern hemisphere, so we really need to find a home for it where the public can go and experience it," Mr Levi said.

The first fundraiser towards the cause was held at The Comic's Lounge in North Melbourne on March 1.

"A Comedy Night for Pete's Sake" featured comedy performances from Elliot Goblet, Russel Gilbert, Dave O'Neil, Bev Killick, Lehmo and Rod Quantock and raised significant funds.

For Mr Crofts, the most important part of finding a new home for the collection is ensuring it is open to the public to be appreciated by a wider audience.

"The immersive experience of being surrounded by physical comedic resources and bodies is a key element of the AIC," Mr Crofts said.


"It's ability to educate and fulfil its purpose and its value to future Australians is my greatest desire."

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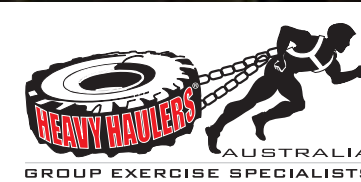
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Call Warren Mills  
0419 329 877  
[www.BunchOBlokes.org](http://www.BunchOBlokes.org)





## Alma Doepel update

**More funding is needed to ensure the future of Docklands' historic top-sail schooner, the Alma Doepel.**

That was the message Alma Doepel restoration director Peter Harris gave to the Docklands Community Forum on February 25.

With the support of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, the Alma Doepel team is seeking a further \$1.7 million in order to complete the project.

The team has an estimated two years to complete the restoration at its current Shed 2 location, before Lend Lease's Collins Wharf development will require them to move to another location.

A shipping container providing information about the Alma Doepel's history and charting the fund-raising progress was installed on Harbour Esplanade in January.

Last month students from Brunswick

Flexible Learning decorated the sides of the shipping container under the supervision of their teacher and past Alma Doepel trainer Chris Loughheed.

The Alma Doepel also hosted the Masonic Lodge Unique Car Group's car show at Shed 2 in February.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce executive member Bill Reid said support for restoration was going well.

"Plans are currently underway for an auction night fundraiser at a local venue with views over the water," Mr Reid said.

"The chamber is looking for businesss in Docklands who would like to support the restoration program and donate goods or services for the auction night."

The chamber and restoration team continue to promote the "Buy a Plank" scheme, which allows individuals and businesses to fund the purchase of a \$500 plank for the restoration of the ship's hull.

Total fundraising tally for February: \$500

Masonic Lodge Unique Car Group: \$500



Some 850 AIME delegates enjoyed a gala dinner on Docklands' Central Pier last month.

## A "Strictly Melbourne" event

**Some 850 international guests enjoyed Docklands' unique ambience last month when they dined outdoors on Central Pier.**

The inaugural AIME Gala Dinner was held at Central Pier on March 25.

The Asia-Pacific Incentives and Meetings Expo (AIME) brings event managers and professional conference organisers from around the world to Melbourne.

The "Strictly Melbourne" AIME Gala

Dinner was the final major event of the expo and saw guests welcomed by Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and then treated to performances inspired by Strictly Ballroom.

The event was organised by the Melbourne Convention Bureau, Atlantic Group and Peter Jones Special Events.

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# Time to roll up your sleeves

**Corporates will roll up their sleeves in an innovative approach to developing leadership skills beginning in Docklands next month.**

Former director of the Fox Classic Car Collection and CEO of the Auto-Horizon Foundation, Brian Tanti, has paired with HR academic and Docklands local Jillian Cavanagh to create a series of workshops aimed at corporate leaders.

A master craftsman, Mr Tanti says many of the lessons learned in a workshop or through manual skills can be applied elsewhere.

"A lot of the values that you place on yourself as a craftsman or a master craftsman transcend the workplace," Mr Tanti said.

"I think being introduced to an ethic of caring about what you're doing through the example of a mentor who embodies a spirit of either craftsmanship or excellence can actually carry over into other pursuits you might take up, beyond what you do in the workplace."

*Brian Tanti's Workshops* will be held at Mr Tanti's Docklands-based workshop at the Automotive Centre of Excellence and will see participants learning car restoration skills.

"I think one of the things we'll do in this program is give them that opportunity to work with their hands and do something creative and constructive and learn from it," Mr Tanti said.

Ms Cavanagh said she had designed three workshops, which were aimed at managers, supervisors, HR managers, CEOs and "anyone who wants to be involved in a creative and innovative leadership workshop", but could also create workshops tailored to specific organisations.

"Fundamentally, one of the reasons we have developed these workshops is that a lot of managers and supervisors plateau in their thinking and a lot of them don't believe they can make change in the workplace," Miss Cavanagh said.

"These programs are designed to challenge



Master craftsman Brian Tanti and HR academic Jillian Cavanagh have created a series of workshops aimed at corporate leaders.

managers and supervisors to hopefully get them to look at their organisations and see what is not working," she said.

Mr Tanti said he had been running corporate events and tours at his workshop for more than 20 years and said often corporate leaders would ask questions about working to a high standard.

"What we've tried to do with Jillian's support is create something that has an academic

framework around it," Mr Tanti said.

"We're not here to make them into good tradesman but I think a lot of the values around aspiring to a high standard are universal and we can certainly give people a very different experience."

Organisations interested in taking part in one of the *Brian Tanti's Workshops* should email [briantantiworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:briantantiworkshop@gmail.com)

## Docklands car exhibited

**Docklands' FR-1 concept car will feature in a major exhibition opening at the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) this month.**

*Shifting Gear: Design, Innovation and the Australian Car* will feature Australia's most iconic vehicles, alongside a collection of photographs, models, sketches, illustrations and archival material.

The Brian Tanti-designed concept car was developed in Docklands and is one of the 23 cars to be displayed at the exhibition, which runs from March 6 to July 12.

Director of the RMIT Design Archives and guest curator of the exhibition, Harriet Edquist, said she became interested in the FR-1 concept car because Mr Tanti was a master coach builder and coach building was one of the themes of the exhibition.

"The fact that this skill still survives through Brian is quite astonishing," Ms Edquist said.

"I think people will love it (the concept car) because it shows cars are still being designed and thought about in new ways by individuals," Ms Edquist said.

Mr Tanti said it would be interesting to see people's reaction to the concept car at the exhibition.

"It's a great opportunity for people to gain an understanding of what happens in the design process," Mr Tanti said.

"They're objects of art and the disciplines being applied are a mix of art and science."

Mr Tanti has also recently been involved in documentary series, which looks at the lives and work of people living in various cities around the world.

The five-part series *Cities by the Sea* is being produced for ARTE, a public TV network that broadcasts in Germany and France.

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Lisa Dillon (front) and the rest of the Hive Docklands Business Community networkers on February 6.

# Buzzing about business at the Hive

*There's a buzz of people doing business together in Docklands' latest small business building, Lifestyle Working in Collins St.*

Businesses within the building have started a monthly Hive Docklands Business Community and the numbers are growing.

Organiser, Lisa Dillon, said the first meeting started with just nine, increased to 14 for the second and peaked with 25 at the February 6 meeting.

"We had to open the glass doors and spill outside because there were so many there," the Flexi Personnel business manager said. "We're just wrapt with the turnout."

"There's a great buzz in the building. As you walk around, people recognise faces and wave to each other."

And membership at the monthly meeting is not confined to Lifestyle Working occupants. At the February meeting, people from NewQuay and other Victoria Harbour businesses also attended.

Ms Dillon is using 4Networking Australia

methodologies to run the 8am-start, two-hour meetings. She is a member of 4Networking, which she said was big in other states and in the United Kingdom.

So far, the meetings have been funded by Lend Lease and local designer Craig Sayers designed the "Hive" logo the group has adopted.

Ms Dillon said referrals had been made within the group but it needed to stabilise before serious business would start changing hands.

"We're going to need some stability, but you can see that some very strong relationships are building," she said.

The next networking function is scheduled for March 6 and the April event has been penciled in for April 17.

Ms Dillon can be contacted at [lisa.dillon@flexipersonnel.com.au](mailto:lisa.dillon@flexipersonnel.com.au)

# This bloke thinks he can help

*Docklander Warren Mills thinks he knows how to help men who have lost their way in the world.*

He has founded an organisation called Bunch O Blokes (BOB), which aims to facilitate a network of self-help men's groups to tackle their problems.

It advocates acceptance of the evolving and changing gender roles in contemporary society but, nevertheless, essentially excludes women from the solution.

"Women are already very good at talking among themselves, but men are not," he said. "And the conversations that some men have are dominated by ego and implied competition - which is never going to the helpful."

So, he said, men struggling with their role needed to come together with others in a similar situation to explore their options for a more fulfilled life.

"Men need to take a leadership role in society and within their families by being servants," Mr Mills said.

He said there was only one golden rule, which was to treat others the same way as they would like to be treated.

And, yes, Mr Mills is involved with a Christian church but, he says, in this instance there is no religious agenda.

"Religions typically talk about transformation and redemption," he said. "And we're not talking about redemption. But we are talking about transformation to a better way of living."

Mr Mills' Bunch O Blokes journey started 30 years ago when he first had the idea of writing a book about theology and motor sport.

The 68-year-old only started seriously on his writing project after his wife recently successfully applied for the principal's role at a local primary school and he found he could do less in his "day job" as a systems safety and quality management consultant.



Warren Mills has developed a program aimed at helping men tackle their problems.

So, after 100,000 written words (apparently edited down from 1 million!), Mr Mills now has a manuscript in review with Harper Collins.

The book is called *God's Speed and the Motor Spirit: High Performance Life* and focuses on the life story of American champion drag racer, "Big Daddy" Don Garlits.

But the literary journey and exposure to the themes within the book threw up so many other aspects that he ended up with material for a second book.

And that second book has now materialised as Bunch O Blokes and not a book after all.

This realisation was encouraged by church contacts and also by a close friend and business client Phil Munday, who has contributed \$100,000 to the cause.

Mr Munday will also expose the BOB brand on his V8 supercar and the program will be launched to coincide with the beginning of the car racing season.

Mr Mills is planning to hold a Docklands Bunch O Blokes meeting at the Library on Dock. He can be contacted on **0419 329 877**.

For further information, see [www.bunchoblokes.org](http://www.bunchoblokes.org)

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# Have your say on Lorimer precinct

*Docklanders are invited to take part in a community consultation on the future of the Lorimer precinct in Fishermans Bend.*

Bordering Yarra's Edge, the Lorimer precinct is the only part of Fishermans Bend that falls within City of Melbourne's jurisdiction.

Following the release of the Fishermans Bend Strategic Framework Plan in 2014, the council is now working to develop a Lorimer structure plan.

Speaking at the Docklands Community forum on February 25, council planner Leanne Hodyl invited the community to take part in the community consultation.

"We want to hear from the community at this early stage," Ms Hodyl said. "Our question for the community is what are your aspirations and priorities for this area?"

However, Yarra's Edge resident and community forum representative Phil Spender said the community wouldn't be ready to participate in a community consultation until concerns regarding the Fishermans Bend Strategic Framework plan were addressed.

"We were told by Labor before the election that there was going to be a complete review of the Fishermans Bend plan," Mr Spender said.

The Metropolitan Planning Authority (MPA) prepared the Fishermans Bend Strategic Framework Plan and is also the responsible authority for the urban renewal area.

The City of Melbourne will host two sessions next month to assist with development of its Lorimer structure plan.

The first information session is on Wednesday, March 11 from 6pm to 7.30pm at the Library at the Dock.

The second information session is on Thursday, March 19 from 6pm to 7.30pm at Geotech Engineering at 174 Turner St, Port Melbourne.

You can also provide feedback at <http://participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/projects/lorimer/>



DJ Ruby Rose entertains the crowd at Victoria Harbour's Summerfest. Photo by Glenn Hester Photography.

## Summerfest in Vic Harbour

*Locals and visitors were treated to a day of free entertainment in Victoria Harbour last month.*

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# Come out and meet your neighbours

**The Docklands Social Club is growing in popularity, with attendance doubling at last month's event.**

Held every second Wednesday of the Month, the Docklands Social Club offers local residents and workers the opportunity to get to know other people within their community.

Organised by *Docklands News* publisher Shane Scanlan, the Docklands Social Club aims to bring people together at a different Docklands venue every month.

"We'd love to see people get out of their comfort zones and explore new parts of Docklands and meet new people," Mr Scanlan said.

"There's no hidden agenda, it's all about getting to know people and having a good time."

The next Docklands Social Club will be held on Wednesday, March 11 from 7pm at The Merchant Society, which is located at 71 Merchant St.

Enjoy some photos from the February social club at The Conder restaurant in NewQuay.



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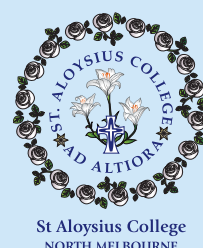


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# Stan is a Docklands man

*Docklands local Stan Liacos knows more than most about his suburb's beginnings.*



# DOCKLANDER

Profile by  
Bethany Williams



Mr Liacos spent two years working as the general manager of marketing communications and waterfront activities at the Docklands Authority, during the early days of urban redevelopment in the area

Today he works as executive director of the City of Greater Bendigo, but spends around two days a week living in Docklands.

For Mr Liacos, the changes he has seen in Docklands since the beginning of the urban renewal project have been monumental.

"About 12 or 13 years ago, the whole area we know as Docklands was totally and utterly out of range and fenced off," Mr Liacos said.

"It didn't exist in a public sense so it's phenomenal to see what has happened in Docklands."

According to Mr Liacos, Docklands is overwhelmingly a success story.

"It's got great attractions like Docklands stadium and the waterfront but it's also giving central Melbourne a spot where it can house say 10 or 20,000 residents within a five minute walk of the CBD," he said.

"What's making Melbourne vibrant now is the sheer number of residents now living here and the tourism."

Mr Liacos said one of the most significant lessons he had learned from his time working in Docklands was ensuring the principles were right.

"One of the biggest ones for Docklands is that everywhere along the waterfront is there is at least a 15 metre setback from the water to where the buildings are."

"So if you look at Docklands every bit of the waterfront is publicly accessible and I think it's good there hasn't been any private fencing off of the waterfront."

With seven kilometres of waterfront in Docklands, Mr Liacos said this feature was important to Docklands' success.

"The fact that there has been no privatisation of the waterfront has set Docklands up for a great future," he said.

He also said further involvement of the City of Melbourne would benefit Docklands.

"I've now been round long enough to be able

to comment and say the more involved the City of Melbourne is, the better," Mr Liacos said.

"I believe the City of Melbourne is a better developer of public facilities and planning guidelines than the State Government."

"I personally have enormous respect for the City of Melbourne's planning team and am particularly in awe of their urban design team, headed up by Prof Rob Adams, who was my first ever boss."

Living part-time in NewQuay, Mr Liacos said Docklands was the easiest part of central Melbourne to get in and out of from Bendigo, where his family lives most of the week.

"I've also enjoyed a long association and respect for the area," Mr Liacos said.

"Docklands is unfairly maligned by much of Melbourne's chardonnay set. The fundamentals of Docklands are terrific."

He said the area had a "fabulous" waterfront and residential ambience, particularly at NewQuay.

"And it will only get better with time in my view," he added.



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# FACES OF DOCKLANDS



**GRACE MARTIN, 22**  
*Apprentice chef*

Why are you in Docklands? Looking for an apartment.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Jude Law because he's a really good-looking Englishman, has a cute accent and makes great movies.



**BRYCE FLINTOF, 26**  
*Chef*

Why are you in Docklands? Looking for an apartment.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Charlize Theron because she's really hot.



**BRAD RODDEN, 26**  
*Cricketer*

Why are you in Docklands? I'm here for my brother's wedding.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Taylor Swift because she has a sassy nature about her and what she brings to her videos is incredible. She's clever and has a great personality.



**SARAH BRAND, 32**  
*Fleet manager*

Why are you in Docklands? I'm here for my brother's wedding.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Usain Bolt because he's pretty amazing and it's impressive what he has achieved. There is a degree of arrogance to him but it's entertaining.



**SAM DONLAN, 20**  
*Marketing at Channel 9 Sydney*

Why are you in Docklands? I'm on holidays.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Sam Burgess because he has a sexy English accent and he's really hot.



**MICHAEL KOVACIC, 21**  
*Football player*

Why are you in Docklands? I'm on holidays.

Who would you go on a date with and why? Jennifer Aniston because she's really good looking.

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# HEALTH & WELLBEING



By *Andrew Ward*  
YMCA Docklands manager

## Exercise of the month – The squat

The single best physical exercise, period.

We all should be performing some kind of squatting movements as part of a regular routine to improve our baseline health fitness. Before you run out and buy yourself a bar and weights, and start mimicking cross-fit dudes you find on YouTube, you should first get some professional coaching and advice. No matter how experienced we are or think we may be, we can all improve and refine our squatting techniques – this is where a trainer or coach can help. This step is mandatory if you are new to the gym or squatting.

You should squat because it will improve the quality of your life. Yes it will! Here are some specifics:

- Build strong legs, lower back and torso;
- Improve the mobility and flexibility of the hips and legs;
- Reduce lower back pain;
- Improve your overall body balance;
- Reinforce and imprint proper daily and workplace lifting techniques – use your legs, not your back; and
- Aesthetics. You can always pick the people who squat.

## Smart and realistic goal setting

Most of us are on a journey of self-improvement. I don't know many (if any) people who wake up every day and try to be worse than they were yesterday!

When it comes to our own health and wellness, we are all pursuing a better version of our current self, and there is nothing wrong with that. Realistic goal setting is a very important part of achieving the results you want. Like anything, if the goals are stretched too far, you may end up injured or failing to achieve. This can be disheartening and counter productive, especially when your progress may have been on track with better guidance and more realistic milestones.

Here are some tips to ensure you get where you want to go in 2015:

- Ensure clarity – know exactly what you want to achieve;
- Make it measureable – not just the end game, but the milestones;
- Make it achievable – A professional has rubber-stamped the activities and timeframe, and supports your plan; and
- Make it meaningful – It should complement or improve your life. This will help you stay motivated.

## Save a life – First aid and CPR

If you are employed in the health and wellness industry, current first aid and CPR qualifications are mandatory for all workers. CPR is renewed annually and workplace, senior or level 2 first aid is renewed every three years.


Most quality health and fitness centres are well equipped with trained staff and a defibrillator on hand in case of any serious incidents, so you're relatively safe in our hands. That's at least for the 4-5 workouts you do each week. But that's only 4-5 hours of 168 hours in a week. What about the other 164?

You are the potential first responder for everyone you come into contact with – your family, friends, clients and colleagues. Are you ready and able to help them if someone suddenly suffers cardiac arrest? Are they ready to save your life if the scenario is reversed?

Does your workplace have a defibrillator in an easily accessible location? Are you confident in using a defib?

These are all good questions you must ask yourself, your closest friends and your family members if you truly care for them.

Don't delay – get first aid and CPR certified today! It can also be a great team building activity!



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

*I am mesmerised by the light that is dancing and bouncing off the crystal tear of the chandelier above my desk.*

Its beauty, the perfection of its shape, the edges of each cut of the glass create something that is so fragile and beautiful, and yet so incredibly strong. It is this balance, between beauty and strength, that intrigues me – and on some days eludes me.

It’s eluding me today. Today I want to let the tears run down my face as I stare at the beautiful crystal tear drops above me. The femininity, the purity, the light they represent is juxtaposed against the heaviness of sadness and disappointment.

I feel that, unlike the chandelier, I am not a glass crystal shimmering in beauty and strength but I am shattering into tiny shards. I know it’s temporary. I know it’s because we all get tired of being strong all the time. I know it’s understandable, and we all have bad days. I know that most of the time, I am tougher than a diamond that simply won’t crack

under pressure. But we all have our moments. Thus, my fascination with the chandelier.

The question on my mind is how do we maintain the tough impenetrable exterior, yet still let the light in – still allow hope and love to exist, still relentlessly pursue our dreams – yet maintain our armour.

The armour is needed against the bitter words of those who cannot understand our happiness or vision, or those who want to chip away at our confidence and progress – those who want to take us down a notch for whatever reason is tying them to their own insecurities – those who want to warn us against proceeding.

After more than a decade of focusing on how to keep a personal barrier firmly in place, I’ve realised we are not glass crystals. We are not meant to be all things beautiful and light

whilst constantly hard as diamonds.

As humans, our vulnerabilities are one of our most endearing qualities. As humans, our hopes and dreams should not be tempered by fear of pain or loss.

As humans, we will be under fire from those dear to us from time to time, and as humans, this will hurt. But it mustn’t stop us from going in the direction we believe in our heart to be the path – however thorny and treacherous it may appear to others.

Finding love in your heart for those who have hurt us with their words, is our armour. Our strength is in forgiving those who can’t understand what our soul desires, and our empathy for those who won’t nurture us on our journey deflects the impact of their departure, and stops our world from shattering.

What a woman wants is to dream, and be able to share her most heartfelt truths with those who are close to her. What a woman needs to know, is that not everyone will see her life the way she knows herself. But what a woman must not do, is build a barricade and become an island unto herself.

I encourage you to all have strength of purpose, to follow your dreams and not allow fear of pain, or discouragement from others, stop you in your tracks. Be strong, be vulnerable, but do not be afraid of what your heart desires.

With much love, and light

Abby x

Don’t forget you can email me at [life@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:life@docklandsnews.com.au), thankyou to so many of you who have written to me and shared your stories.

## PET'S CORNER Working dog

*Seven-month old chocolate Labradoodle Cosmo loves to go to work with his owner Teo Torrelli.*

Teo works in Docklands Park, which means Cosmo gets to go for a run, an activity he enjoys almost as much as meeting new people.

Labradoodles are known for their energetic and friendly nature and Cosmo sure has that trait in spades.

Cosmo is a Reservoir native so the chance to take in some new scenery in Docklands put him in a particularly lively mood.

“Yes, he loves to go for walks and is great with other people,” Teo said. This excitable pooch also loves to be close to his owners and enjoys spending time with other dogs. Surprisingly, Cosmo is so full of love that he even doesn’t mind the family cat.

According to Teo, the one thing that Cosmo may love more than walks is a good belly rub. Cosmo loves a belly rub so much that Teo says he often catches him crawling along the ground scratching his belly on the grass.



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# DOCKLANDS FASHION



## Fashion on the streets of Docklands

### Chris Parsons, 50

**LOCATION:** Harbour Esplanade

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING?** Black dress and trench coat from Cue. Black dress shoes by Steve Madden.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?** I love a lot of my dresses. I really couldn't choose one.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** I work at the Langley Victoria Harbour office.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** It has to be comfortable, the cut has to be nice. It can't make you look fat. Most importantly it has to be something classy.

### Esma Voloder, 22

**LOCATION:** Docklands waterfront

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING?** Ankle length jeans from Portmans. A casual white t-shirt from Sussan. It's my favourite white t-shirt. I'm also wearing black boots just in case it rains.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?** I love jackets.

Specifically, leather jackets but they can't be too restrictive

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** I live in Docklands so I'm just heading out to meet a friend in the city.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** Simplicity and it should match. That doesn't mean they have to be a perfect fit for each other, they just have to make a story.

### Stephanie Catalano, 28

**LOCATION:** Harbour Esplanade

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING?** This is a simple black dress and cardigan from Myer. It's light and easy to wear.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ITEM OF CLOTHING?** Actually, this is one of my favourites for work. As I said before, it's just so easy to wear.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** For work. I'm just going to work now.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** Accessories. Not that I wear many but they can make an outfit. Accessories are especially good for when you're going out.

## Trends for winter

*The Melbourne summer may feel like it has just started, but retailers are already turning their thoughts towards winter stock.*

Winter is a great time to live in Melbourne – it rarely gets so cold that we need excessively bulky clothes, but it's great fun to experiment with layering.

And there is one trend this year that both men and women are going to enjoy layering with: the humble skivvy (also known as the turtleneck).

The turtleneck is making a big comeback this year. Look for light merino wools to help moderate body temperature and stay comfortable. A turtleneck can also be a great way to add a pop of colour from under a bulky jacket.

Speaking of bulky, the trend for all things boxy and oversized has continued. If you still have your bomber jacket from last year, don't throw it away yet! Bomber jackets, chunky sweaters, peacoats and oversized coats were on a lot of the major designer runways. (They looked great paired with a large scarf!)

International designers focused on contrasting fabrics in these items to add interest. Forget the old leather elbow patches, we're talking fur panels on jackets (Louis Vuitton, A/W 14/15).

There has also been a resurgence in quilting and shearling. Quilted jackets are a great way to keep out the cold. Uniqlo has some fantastic quilted down jackets. Shearling is another way to add a layer of warmth, and a shearling jacket with a collar sure can keep the ears warm!

And finally, colour.

Melburnians will be pleased to know that black is a key colour for the season, along with basic neutrals. If you want to make your look more exciting, plaids and checks are an interesting alternative.



**Laura Timberlake**

Laura is a fashion and lifestyle writer who enjoys hunting down the latest trends in Melbourne to share them with the world.



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# GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



## Greetings everybody

### Chinese New Year

The function attended on February 19 hosted by the Chinese community was a pleasant and informative evening, with speeches by the Lord Mayor and Chinese dignitaries. The huge dragon is a great feature and livenes the otherwise bare area. It also shows how the area can be livened when the area is lit up. All the best to the dragon boat participants.

### Fountains and Flames proposal

At the Docklands Community Forum on February 25 the promoters gave us a thorough briefing on this proposal including video presentation of spectacular shooting fountain and flame displays, which they propose being operated from a barge at the end of Central Pier at intervals during the day and early evening.

It appears to be a feature that would be a great drawcard for Docklands. It would be particularly useful when allied to events. I took the opportunity on air to say we need associated and supporting services and spaces such as a ferry service and a welcoming esplanade park for people to view everything from.

### Panel appointed

In announcing the appointment by the State Government of a panel to review short stays practice, the Minister of Consumer said the government had listened to concerns of residents and was fulfilling an election promise.

I have been selected on the panel to represent the views of residents against the practice; also on the panel is a council manager (being against the practice); other members include two operators, and representatives of strata managers, tourism and a strata lawyer.

I have six years' experience along with others in opposing the practice. The first meeting of the panel is on March 6. I am asking for any input from chairs of buildings which have short stay/serviced apartments who would like to add any particular comments. The panel is scheduled to complete the review and report to the Minister by late May.

### Esplanade re-development

Also at the community forum, the director of the Digital Harbour development, David Napier, gave a presentation supporting principally a linear park.

This was great to have a developer agreeing with the DCA; we're not used to it. He intends to make the presentation to the council committee.

We hope that this shifts Places Victoria and council from their steadfast proposal for sheds. As David said, we don't want the vista blocked and we want open space for people to enjoy. We also are sick of council, Places Victoria and media commentators claiming the area is windswept as a generalisation.

Yes, it is windy when amongst and close to the buildings due to wind tunnel effects but it is not normally windswept on the open esplanade. All they have to do is walk along it to check but they don't; none of those responsible live here.

### Ron Barassi Snr Park

It's good to see the ground work progressing. We understand the structures will be put in place in the next few months.

### Lorimer Structure Plan

Residents in Yarra's Edge are strongly opposed to the 74-level residential tower proposed for the south side of Lorimer St opposite the Yarra's Edge residential complex. It will be considerably taller than

those buildings. There is concern over the effect on amenities and open space. The proposal has not yet received government approval.

### Coming Events - March

Events notified to us by council include:

- Hot Wave Music Festival - NewQuay Piazza March 7;
- Annual Melbourne Fashion Festival - Central Pier - March 14 -22;
- Herald Sun Fun Run for the Kids - March 22; and
- Dragon Boats Victorian titles - March 29

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](mailto:docklandscommunityassociation@gmail.com). We're also on Facebook.

If you would like to talk to me about any aspect or becoming a committee member you are welcome to call me on **0412 097 706**.

Regards to all  
Roger Gardner - President DCA



# OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.  
[Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au](mailto:Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au)

# 'Extra' policies buy peace of mind for owners

*At every annual general meeting, there will be a standard motion on the agenda to renew the policy of insurance for the owners' corporation (OC).*

An owners' corporation is required by the legislation to hold a minimum of \$10 million coverage for acts that involve public liability, as well as replacement and reinstatement insurance for the value of all buildings and structures on the common property.

However, there are many other types of insurance that can be taken out by OCs, and owners should carefully review the policies and decide whether any of these extra types of insurance ought to be added to the policy.

Factors such as the age of the building and whether there are any legal disputes on the horizon ought to influence the type of insurance coverage that an OC should elect to add to its policy. I should point

out, however, that OCs are required to comply with the utmost duty of good faith in disclosing any actual and potential issues to an insurer prior to entering into any policy.

In addition, owners ought to instruct their managers to obtain at least two quotes from different insurance providers, or otherwise use a broker. There are rumours that a large foreign-owned insurer will enter the market soon, offering competitive rates which may lead to lower insurance premiums in the coming 12 months or so. Watch this space.

By ordinary resolution at an AGM, the OC can decide to take out additional policies to cover things such as:

- Office bearers' (committee) legal liability;
- Workers compensation;
- Fidelity guarantee;
- Machinery Breakdown;
- Catastrophes;
- Legal defence expenses;
- Government audit costs;
- Appeal expenses; and
- Common property contents (for items such as art, floor coverings and furniture in the lobby areas).

Recent events such as the fire in the Lacrosse

building in Docklands should serve as a sobering reminder to all that the operation of these types of policies ought to be of paramount importance to the OC.

Having good legal advice to translate the general and specific exclusions of each policy will also assist owners to understand exactly what level of coverage might be expected.

A comprehensive policy will provide ease of mind for both residents and owners alike. If owners are unsure about what policies will be right for them, a number of managers and brokers can organise a meeting and personal briefing with committees to discuss their options.



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# COUNCILLOR PROFILE

By Shane Scanlan

# From community activist to councillor

*It's been interesting to watch Jackie Watts' transition from community activist to councillor.*

She clearly struggled during her first term, coming in mid-way through to fill a casual vacancy on a count-back of votes. This period was marred by a bitter personal dispute with Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and resulted in Cr Doyle being exonerated over accusations of harassment and bullying.

It would have been entirely understandable had Cr Watts not sought re-election in 2012.

But contest the election she did – and was the seventh of nine councillors elected.

The ALP member raised a few eyebrows in the process though – having aligned herself on the ticket of pollster Gary Morgan and larger-than-life conservative figure John Elliot.

Cr Watts prefers not to talk about the issues that dogged her first term, pointing instead to a victory in successfully lobbying for two extra councillors to help shoulder the burden of elected office.

“Having two extra councillors has ameliorated the situation,” she said.

However, she is far from satisfied with the electoral system, which sees businesses in Melbourne granted two votes, while individuals have only one.

“I am agitating constantly for reform and I am very keen that the new Labor Government pick up the recommendations of Petro Georgiou’s review of electoral reforms,” she said.

The former Coalition government commissioned a review of the state local government system and released its findings last September.

Recommendation four of Mr Georgiou’s first stage report is: “A corporation may nominate only one representative, who may be enrolled only once in a municipality.”

However, when releasing the report, former local government minister Tim Bull said the Coalition would: “retain the existing electoral structure and franchise for the City of Melbourne.” It is yet to be determined what the new Labor Government makes of the recommendations.

Cr Watts said: “The overarching problem remains and it will remain while the gerrymander remains. I’m hoping that some of the Petro Georgiou recommendations will

be adopted before the next council election.”

When she became a councillor, Cr Watts was the convenor of the Coalition of Resident and Business Association (CoRBA), an umbrella group of 17 groups throughout the City of Melbourne.

Her own particular area is Carlton where she has held various executive roles with the Carlton Residents Group.

CoRBA, she explained, was created to give the smaller disparate groups a louder voice with the City of Melbourne. These groups favour a return to dividing the city into wards, each represented by a councillor.

“There was a shared view among community associations in relation to the city,” she said. “The general view was that they were not being heard. How do you get heard? You create a group and you tackle things collectively.”

So, if the electoral system is broken, how come Cr Watts managed to get elected?

“It’s been thrown up a lot over the years that, because I was elected under the current system, it must work. It doesn’t. It’s dreadful. And it’s ludicrous that Sydney should be considering a shift towards what is occurring in Melbourne,” she said.

Cr Watts could count on support for her views on the electoral system from ALP councillor Richard Foster and the two Greens councillors would agree that businesses should not be favoured, but the other seven councillors certainly wouldn’t agree.

And the loose alliance on electoral matters with the Greens doesn’t necessarily extend beyond a few broad principles. After all, in the inner-city environment, the battle for political dominance is not between conservative and progressive, it’s between the Labor Party and the Greens.

Cr Watts distances herself from party politics, saying she believes it has no place in the council chamber. Her alignment with John Elliott at the last election is evidence of this. But it makes her harder to read in council, particularly as she is not the most vocal contributor.

Essentially a private person, it’s easy to form a view that Cr Watts became a councillor out of obligation for a cause and doesn’t really enjoy it.



She has been suffering illness of recent times, which also doesn’t help her confidence or how she performs in the council chamber.

Cr Watts is the daughter of English “economic migrants” who came to Melbourne in 1951 and essentially grew up in the eastern suburbs during a time when Doncaster and Blackburn were as much rural as urban.

Her father was a retailer and small business man and her parents twice returned to live in England (resulting in Cr Watts attending five different primary schools).

She travelled extensively as a young woman, including overland from London

to Kathmandu and around Africa in a converted bus. She has two children and four grandchildren.

Cr Watts is also defined by her academic career, which saw her start a part-time arts degree at LaTrobe University when her children were young in 1977 and culminate with a doctorate in vocational training from RMIT.



**In next month's Councillor Profile we look at:**  
Cr Kevin Louey



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## REPORTING FROM THE DOCKLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# What an exciting month it has been in Docklands!

*We very much enjoyed the Australia Day festivities that brought thousands of visitors to Docklands.*

Soon after the conclusion of Australia day we started preparing for the Lunar New Year with the return of a 100m illuminated dragon that lined Harbour Esplanade along with dancing, music and food vans. Workers, visitors and residents in Docklands had plenty to see and enjoy.

As reported in the *Docklands News* last month, there is much local enthusiasm and buzz for the new proposed local attraction of a giant fountain and flame show. There have been a number of proposals for attractions in recent times, but this one seems to have wow factor and has the support of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce because it will enhance Docklands as a visitor destination. It is estimated it could attract more than 5 million visitors annually and potentially generate \$230 million in revenue for Victoria.

The Chamber of Commerce is also throwing its support behind activation of the waterways. It is apparent from recent events, where a ferry service is included, that visitors are very supportive of the water as a means of access. The water attracts visitors, and questions have been raised why there are no ferries between Docklands and other precincts such as St Kilda, Williamstown

as well as obvious closer neighbours such as South Wharf, Southgate and Federation Square.

The answer is in the current labyrinth of governing legislation that makes up the decision making authority of the waterways. There are multiple authorities responsible for governance of our waterways and this makes a focus of attention on activation very difficult. We look forward to hearing the outcome of a current study into a best practice model of governance for the waterways, that is currently underway.

Support for the restoration of the Alma Doepel is going very well. The chamber is very keen to see a return of Melbourne's maritime heritage. Plans are currently underway for an auction night fund-raiser at a local venue with views over the water. The auction dinner is planned to occur during the regular Docklands fireworks to add an extra dimension of entertainment for the night.

The chamber is looking for businesses in Docklands who would like to support the restoration program and donate goods or services for the auction night. Businesses will be acknowledged, and we hope to see many

of you coming to the event to support this great Docklands project that aims to restore some of our maritime heritage.

The Mission to Seafarers at 717 Flinders St, is possibly our oldest example of maritime heritage still in existence. The mission plays host to the forthcoming Maitreya Loving Kindness World Tour arriving in Docklands on Saturday, March 28 and Sunday, March 29. The exhibition is of ancient and sacred relics from the historical Buddha Shakyamuni and of other great Buddhist masters from India, Tibet and China. It will be open between 10am and 5pm daily and entry is free. However, donations are happily accepted. There will be food and refreshments available for sale.

The *Docklands News* and Chamber of Commerce would like to see you all at the next networking lunch. This lunch is very popular and often fully subscribed so ensure you book in plenty of time to avoid disappointment. The next lunch will be held at Renzo's on Friday, March 13. Renzo's Bar and Cafe Italiano at 46 New Quay Promenade is one of the Docklands originals but it's taken until now to host a networking lunch there. The menu is delicious and the day

promises to be fulfilling and memorable. Bookings can be made via **lunch@docklandsnews.com.au** or by ringing *Docklands News* on **8689 7979** before March 6. As always, the cost is \$60 and must be paid in advance of the day.

For locals who just want to connect with other locals, then put the next Docklands Social Club event in your calendar now! The March social club is at The Merchant Society in Merchant St next to Woolworths on Wednesday, March 11 from 7pm. Come along, get to know people living in your neighbourhood and enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

That is some of the many good news items in Docklands. If you want to keep your finger on the pulse and be in the know as things happen, then LIKE the following local Facebook pages: [www.facebook.com/pages/Docklands-is-Beautiful/263936710311261](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Docklands-is-Beautiful/263936710311261) [www.facebook.com/DCCchamber](http://www.facebook.com/DCCchamber) [www.facebook.com/pages/Docklands-News/304870494656](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Docklands-News/304870494656)

Docklands is definitely on the move and is set to become a major place of interest to Melburnians and visitors alike! Discover the secret today.



## Come out and meet your fellow Docklanders

**Wednesday March 11 at Merchant Society Restaurant**  
**71 Merchant St (next to Woolworths) From 7pm**



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# Anyone for some incidental exercise?

*My iPhone maps app takes me to some unexpected places, as does my spontaneous nature.*

This last month I have been commuting into Docklands on the train – the Upfield line – from Brunswick, a mere 7km away but a trip that can take over an hour on the tram.

Spontaneity has been at play when I get to North Melbourne station where I have three choices:

- A 20-minute commute through the city loop to Southern Cross and then onto the Collins St tram or walk to work;
- Get off the train and change platforms and get onto a train that goes to Flinders St/Southern Cross – also 20 minutes; and
- Get off the train and walk from North Melbourne to work – yes, it's 20 minutes.

I rarely make my choice until seconds before reaching North Melbourne. I don't know why – and I guess I don't need to over-analyse it – but I have been choosing to get off at North Melbourne and walk.

I walk along Adderley St, past Festival Hall (thought bubble #1 – I must get out and see more live music), down the street that goes under the bridge (thought bubble #2 – OMG I'm breathing in so many car fumes it's not worth the exercise), and along Harbour Esplanade, beside the water, and the jellyfish, and the boats (thought bubble #3 – I love this walk I really must do it everyday!).

Strangely, I have been feeling fitter and stronger for it. I figure if I feel less stressed, more sane and altogether better this must mean something right?

So ... I've taken to doing what everyone does when they have expended effort doing something that is vaguely like work and reaped some rewards from it – become a ZEALOT.

I've been talking about my new one-week-old routine like I've been doing it for a year... like I've been walking rain hail or shine –

instead of only in the sunshine.

I must say, it has paid off. My friend Ber has been given me lots of positive affirmation/validation/support for my efforts (which pale in comparison to her 10km run/sprint she achieves every morning at 4.30am while I am fast asleep and dreaming of ice-cold glasses of sav blanc).

But I still haven't succumbed to consumer pressure and become the proud owner of a wristwatch style device that measures my steps, or a pedometer.

For me there is something lovely about doing something you like doing, which happens to be good for you.

So there.

Until next time.

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## MISSION NEWS



WITH ANDREA FLEMING

## Offering shelter from the storm

*Located on the Yarra River at 717 Flinders St, Docklands, the Mission to Seafarers (MtS) has operated as part of the seafaring community since 1917.*

So far this year, more than 1500 seafarers have visited the mission and certainly, from the MtS Flying Angel Club (as it is known to seafarers), via Seafarers' Rest and across Seafarers' Bridge, the precinct has a distinctly maritime theme that welcomes visiting crew to a "home away from home" during their shore leave.

The MtS is one of Australia's oldest charitable institutions dating back to 1857 in the port of Melbourne, and provides an on-shore facility and extended services that operate daily from 10m to 10pm.

Visiting crew know that it's a "sure thing" during their leave, that between Southbank's DFO stores and JB Hi-Fi, they can get most of their necessary items. It's kind of like going camping – preparing for a long stretch "out bush" without communication and conveniences and then, after time, you stop at a place for supplies. Arriving in port is like this for seafarers, except they are not camping. Rather, they are working to tight timelines, so shore-leave and convenience

are important.

At any one time, there are about 1.4 million seafarers at sea. The seafaring community is responsible for 95 per cent of world trade and we rely on them to bring our daily needs.

For the MtS, January was a sorrowful start to the year. Reports of the loss of seven Polish and one Filipino crew from a cargo ship MV Cemfjord and, just days later, two Filipino seafarers were reported to have perished in the sinking of the Bahamas-flagged bulk carrier Bulk Jupiter. From this incident, a further 16 other crewmen were reported missing, and are now feared dead.

At this time, MtS Cyprus Port Chaplain, Ken Wiseman, is a voice of advocacy for the welfare of the seafarers' families impacted by the tragedy.

Henri Nouwen, a Dutch-born priest, professor and writer once said: "The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing ... not healing, not

curing ... that is a friend who cares."

For seafarers, their shore leave is profoundly important and their interaction with a MtS port chaplain or volunteers can be healing and helpful.

During March you can visit the My Little Melbourne Girl exhibition at Library at the Dock. The exhibition from MtS Victoria's Heritage Collection, shares an insight into the life of the mission in the early 1920s.

Of course, whilst much has changed in shipping since then, the now heritage-listed MtS building remains active daily and so does the need for community for those who otherwise live and work in isolated and often harsh conditions at sea.

If you are interested to support this work please visit the website [www.missiontoseafarers.com.au](http://www.missiontoseafarers.com.au). You can also find Mission to Seafarers Victoria on Facebook or visit 717 Flinders St, Docklands.

Andrea Fleming is CEO of the Mission to Seafarers

## DOCKLANDS DAZE

by Michelle Commandeur



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# Businesses in Docklands

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

## NO END OF OPTIONS



The Conder Restaurant manager Tommy Shum.

*At The Conder Restaurant in NewQuay, there's an option for everyone.*

Whether you like laksa or risotto, sashimi or scotch fillet steak, The Conder Restaurant is sure to keep you satisfied and won't cost you a fortune.

"With our range we have an option to suit any customer," managing director Charlie Tu said.

According to Mr Tu, The Conder offers a range of European and Asian cuisines, with most meals on the menu priced between \$10 to \$14.

"For me it's all about offering a lot of choice," Mr Tu said. "There aren't many restaurants offering such a wide range of Asian and European cuisines."

The restaurant opened at the base of the Conder apartment tower two months ago and Mr Tu said it was a convenient option for local workers and residents.

"Why bother shopping or cooking if you can come here and have a restaurant meal?" Mr Tu said.

"And why have fast food when you can enjoy a restaurant quality meal for around the same price?" he added.

The restaurant is also fully licensed, meaning guests can enjoy a drink with their meals too, something you can't do at a fast food restaurant.

At the same time, The Conder also offers the convenience of takeaway, making it an easy option to take back to the office or apartment, according to Mr Tu.

Mr Tu said new meals will be added to the menu regularly and staff will keep guests informed of the fresh additions.

"Every time a customer comes in my manager will let them know what new items we have on the menu," Mr Tu said.

"The main point for me is having European and Asian cuisine and keep new meals coming through," he said.

Mr Tu said the main goal for the restaurant was to provide great service and great meals to residents and workers in Docklands.

The Conder Restaurant is located at 8-10 NewQuay Promenade.

Visit [www.theconder.com.au](http://www.theconder.com.au) or call 9670 8388.

## IT'S ALL ABOUT THE COFFEE

*If you're a coffee connoisseur then chances are you've already paid a visit to new kid on the block Little Bean Dockside.*

Robert Mancini and Vince Leone opened the Collins St cafe in January and say so far they have been "flat-out".

According to Mr Mancini, Little Bean Dockside is "all about the coffee".

"We specialise in single-origin roasts, we roast our own coffee and we're very fussy about our coffee," Mr Mancini said. "Everything is secondary to the coffee here."

"We have our own house blend, which we roast ourselves and then we have our single origin that come from Costa Rica, Kenya, El Salvador, Rwanda and Mexico."

"What sets us apart is our attention to detail with the coffee, we're very fastidious with the way we make it," he said. "That shows because we have customers who are trying our coffee and coming back."

The cafe also serves a full range of loose-leaf teas, along with cold brew tea and coffee through a nitrogen filter.

Little Bean Dockside is Mr Mancini and Mr Leone's third venture together, with two other cafes in the CBD.

According to Mr Mancini, the Docklands location is "going great guns".

In another life, the pair worked in the corporate world but both decided they needed a change around the same time.

Coffee lovers themselves, they opened their first cafe, Little Bean Blue, three and a half

years ago and haven't looked back since. "Four years later and we're still going strong," Mr Mancini said. Little Bean Dockside is the pair's first venture with a kitchen and Mr Leone said the all-day breakfast was a great option for local corporates. "We're trying to cater for all the corporates in Docklands with something quick, but also good for you," Mr Leone said.

With a large seating area, and plenty of tables, Mr Mancini said Little Bean Dockside was also a great place for work meetings.

He said the cafe also offered corporate catering.

And if you're looking for something sweet to go with your coffee, Little Bean Dockside has a range of cakes and biscuits, with something for almost everyone.

"We're getting into some healthier options and tailoring for different requirements like paleo, vegan and gluten-free," Mr Mancini said.

He said the cafe planned to introduce a lunch menu and a bar on Friday nights, tailoring to the after-work crowd.

Little Bean Dockside is located at the base of the Aurecon building at 850 Collins St.

Visit [www.littlebeandockside.com.au](http://www.littlebeandockside.com.au) for more information.



Little Bean Dockside co-owners Vince Leone and Robert Mancini.



# WHAT'S ON

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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



**MARCH 7 - 12PM - 11PM**  
**NEWQUAY PIAZZA**

### HOT WAVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

A range of independent Melbourne musicians will perform at the free Hot Wave Music Festival. Food and drink stalls also available.

**MARCH 11 - 7.00PM**  
**THE MERCHANT SOCIETY**  
**71 MERCHANT ST**

### DOCKLANDS SOCIAL CLUB

Docklanders are invited to come along to a new monthly event to meet each other in a social environment.

**MARCH 26, 6PM - 7PM**  
**LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

### DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP

Share a cuppa and stories with other local history enthusiasts and learn about the people, places and industries from times gone by.

**EVERY SUNDAY FROM 10AM UNTIL 5PM**  
**NEWQUAY PROMENADE**

### DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

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



**TUESDAY 7.30PM - 9.30 PM**  
**WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY 12PM - 2PM**

### LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

#### TABLE TENNIS

Join in a free and social game of table tennis at the library. Bookings are essential.



**TUESDAYS 12.30PM - 1.30PM**  
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### DOCKLANDS ROTARY

All welcome.  
Contact president Richard Clark on

**0418 855 112**

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**WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM TO 7.30PM**

**THE LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Docklands Daily Reflections group meets in meeting rooms two and three on level two.

**VISIT AATIMES.ORG.U FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

**WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM AND SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM**  
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### LIBRARY AT THE DOCK MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

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### LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS



#### PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Fridays at 10.30am

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

#### STOMPERS

Mondays at 10.30am

Encourage your child to have a life-long love of books by coming along to Stompers, Melbourne Library Services weekly program for toddlers aged 18 months to three years.

#### SONGBIRDS

Wednesdays at 10.30am

Come along for songs, rhymes and stories to engage your budding book worm's mind and introduce them to the fun and rhythm of language. Suitable for babies and toddlers aged up to 18 months old.

#### CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Wednesdays 4.30pm to 5.30 pm.

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

#### BABY BYTES

Last Thursday of the month 10.30am to 11.15am. Ground floor activity room.

Come and join our monthly iPad program for 18 month to three year olds. Learn fun, educational ways to use technology with children. We will be exploring different games and apps every session in a small group. If possible please bring your own iPad.



# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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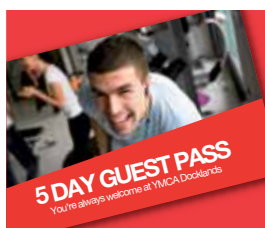
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SPORTS PAGE



Speedway is coming to Docklands' Etihad Stadium.

Hopes for the

'other' east-west link

*Proponents of the Melbourne B1 Veloway are confident that the new State Government will accept their novel idea to separate cyclists from CBD motorists and pedestrians.*

If accepted and finally built, the Veloway cycle path would be “clipped” to the outside of the 1.7km railway viaduct, passing over Banana Alley and six intersections, between Flinders St and Southern Cross stations.

The consortium behind the novel idea has taken to calling the Veloway “the other east-west link” and is hopeful of a better reception from the new Labor government than the original east-west road link.

“At this stage, all we are seeking from government is a commitment to fund a fuller feasibility study which we believe will prove the business case and show a net state benefit for the state and for all Melbournian’s,” said consortium spokesperson Grant O’Donnell.

Mr O’Donnell, a director of Melbourne Life-form Development, said the Veloway would provide an important link connecting Melbourne’s bicycle networks from Cremorne, Richmond in the east to Docklands in the west.

Getting up to speed

*Three-time speedway world champion Ole Olsen visited Docklands last month, ahead of the upcoming Speedway Grand Prix.*

The grand prix will be held at Docklands’ Etihad Stadium on October 24 and Olsen will lead the track construction team, which will consist of six European track specialists.

Olsen will work alongside Etihad Stadium’s arena management team and operations department team in the lead up to the event to source local materials to design and construct the track and safety fence.

Although the stadium has most commonly hosted sporting events such as AFL, soccer and cricket, Olsen said the venue was the perfect location to

construct a speedway track.

“Etihad Stadium is one of the biggest venues on the circuit which means we’ll be able to build the largest and quickest track of the grand prix championship series,” he said.

Etihad stadium signed a five-year deal to stage the Australian FIM Speedway Grand Prix in Melbourne with rights holders BSI Speedway in October last year.

Etihad Stadium CEO Paul Sergeant said he was excited to bring more world-class sport to the stadium.

“Bringing FIM Speedway Grand Prix racing to Etihad Stadium has been on our agenda for some time and is a tremendous coup for Melbourne,” Sergeant said.

“We’re looking forward to an exciting five years of SGP action and are in no doubt it will become a hugely popular event due to its spectator atmosphere.”

The event already appears to be acting as a significant attractor to Docklands, with 63 per cent of ticket sales so far coming from outside Victoria and a further 7 per cent internationally.

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