

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

# DOCKLANDS NEWS

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## All over Docklands

*Max and Madison Clark were all over Docklands when they visited from Canberra during the school holidays.*

The siblings took in the best the suburb could offer during our extended summer.

Madison, 6, loved a hair clip from H&M while Max, 9, was very impressed with playing mini-golf in the dark. We caught up with them climbing on Callum Morton's Monument Park.

# Docklands is booming

*There are more people than ever in Docklands.*

Our footpaths and promenades are more crowded than ever and more people live here too.

Development Victoria has just released population estimates showing 13,000 residents and 65,000 workers making the trip here each day.

The City of Melbourne has been counting pedestrians in Docklands since 2009 and the 2018 figures are the highest.

Last year, the four automated pedestrian counters recorded 6,322,180 impressions across four sites - NewQuay Promenade, Victoria Point, Waterfront City and the Webb footbridge.

The total annual numbers had been hovering at about 5.5 million since 2010, but took off significantly last year - mostly noticeably in NewQuay where nearly two million pedestrians were recorded (1,999,226).

The numbers at Victoria Point (corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade) have been rising steadily since 2012, but are still down on a peak period during 2010 and 2011. Last year 1.6 million pedestrians were recorded here.

The numbers recorded at the western end of NewQuay Promenade at Waterfront City have been steady over the past decade. Last year, nearly one million people were recorded (998,022).

In 2018 the highest number of pedestrians crossed the river via Webb Bridge. Numbers here have been rising steadily - from just 324,929 in 2009 to 1,722,797 in 2018.

Development Victoria (DV) says in March this year, it estimates 13,000 people now live in Docklands. Unlike the national census, DV multiplies the number of apartments by 1.3 residents to arrive at its estimate.

The 2016 Census found the Docklands had a residential population of 10,437 - more than double the 2011 number.

DV further predicts a final residential population of 25,000 by 2025 and between 80,000 and 100,000 daily commuting workers.

And, with all these people, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce is reporting success for its members.

"Retail is tough everywhere, but the long summer has been good for our members," said chamber president Johanna Maxwell.

Mrs Maxwell said the entertainment precinct at The District Docklands was working well, with the new Hoyts and the Melbourne Star reporting growing figures.

"Some of our newcomers are doing really well too," Mrs Maxwell said.

"All the indicators I'm getting from people is that things are growing."



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**Journalist:** Meg Hill

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# Neighbour Day

***On Sunday, March 31, 300 locals came together to celebrate Neighbour Day, connecting with local retailers and organisations in our community.***

In a block party hosted in Buluk Park, 11 local organisations took part in the day, meeting with the local community to make connections and encourage participation in upcoming community activities.

Local groups including the Dock Community Hub, Docklands Community Garden, the Wooden Boat Centre and social enterprises Good Cycles and Co-Ground all took part in the day's activities, with performances from

local Bollywood dancers and a silent disco and face painting for the kids.

The day was a great success with Docklands Community Garden raising over \$500 for the local garden, in addition to singing up 11 new volunteers.

The Country Women's Association also received enough registrations to start a new Docklands branch.



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# Proxy farming tackled in new Bill

*The state government has moved to close loopholes which render owners' corporations (OCs) vulnerable to takeover by limiting "proxy farming".*

Currently, there is no limit to the number of proxy votes that can be "farmed" and, as reported in our March edition, unscrupulous short-stay operators are currently poised to take over OCs in investor-majority towers.

But an "exposure draft" of a proposed *Owners Corporations and Other Acts Amendment Bill* tackles the issue and, if made law, would bring Victoria legislation into line with other states.

The government is seeking feedback on the Bill by May 10 and intends to introduce the new legislation later this year.

The new Bill is unlikely to be enacted early enough to stop "takeovers" during this year's annual general meeting (AGM) season. But once it does become law, proxies will lapse after 12 months.

And, tellingly, proxies farmed by non-lot owners won't be able to be used to vote out strata managers.

Under the proposed Bill: A person who is not a lot owner but who is the proxy of a lot owner may not vote on any matter that affects that person relating to —

- (a) the delegation of powers and functions of an owners' corporation under section 11; or
- (b) the appointment, payment or removal of the manager of an owners' corporation under Part 6.

And, in the future, it is unlikely that proxy holders will be able to command a majority of voting power because the government proposes to limit the number of proxies held by individuals.

The Bill proposes: A person must not vote as a proxy on a resolution at a meeting of the

owners corporation —

- (a) on behalf of more than one lot owner — if there are 20 or less occupiable lots on the plan of subdivision; or
- (b) on behalf of more than 5 per cent of the lot owners — if there are more than 20 occupiable lots on the plan of subdivision.

The Bill also tackles threatening behaviour being used by unscrupulous individuals to "farm" proxy votes. It introduces a 60-penalty-unit offence for "requiring or demanding" proxy votes from lot owners.

The Bill has been cautiously welcomed by the We Live Here movement, which represents OC committees.

In its column on page 22 of this edition, We Live Here says: "... at first glance the proposed new Bill does seem to give more support for owners' corporations than previously, indicating that our voice is at last being heard."

In the column, the movement highlights aspects of the Bill which recognise that different sized OCs require different treatment.

It also draws attention to moves designed to stop builders and developers from setting up unfair, long-term contracts with related companies when an OC is first formed.

The column says: "We Live Here has previously expressed concern that the government has been consulting in private and only with commercial groups — businesses that make money from buildings that are governed by owners corporations, and not the owners' corporations themselves."

"However, it seems submissions and campaigning by us and others have not been in vain, and we welcome the proposals that are aimed at creating a clear distinction between the role of owners' corporations and the role of owners' corporation managers in buildings that are governed by owners' corporations."

But not everyone is happy with the Bill.

In his Owners' Corporation Law column in this edition (see page 23), strata lawyer Tom Bacon says the government has failed to give OCs real power to seek legal remedy for the things that really matter — such as building defects like non-compliant cladding.

Mr Bacon writes: "... when you dig a little deeper into the detail, the truth of the matter is exposed. In fact, the reform to lower the barrier from a special resolution to an ordinary resolution is only activated if the subject matter in dispute is 'within the civil jurisdictional limit of the Magistrates Court.' This limit is currently described as any matter worth less than the sum of \$100,000."

"So, if an OC sought to terminate an OC manager's contract, or a caretaker's contract, and if those agreements had remaining value (including insurance commissions) in excess of \$100,000, then it is back to square one of requiring a special resolution."

"Indeed, if an OC had a report detailing building defect issues on the common property, then most likely a special resolution is still required."

"This keeping of the status quo only suits the tier one developers and builders, and the strata management and facilities management sectors."



A piece of styrene is removed from our local waterways.

## Paddle Against Plastic

*Environmental group Ocean Crusaders is back in Docklands on June 2 to clean up Moonee Ponds Creek.*

The group removes rubbish from canoes and kayaks, but founder Ian Thomson said there was also plenty of work to be done from the shore.

"Last time, there was so much rubbish down there, we didn't even get to the first bridge," Mr Thomson told *Docklands News*.

He said the group was commercially sponsored by the Port of Melbourne but would also tackle both sides of Moonee Ponds Creek in the days following.

The first of three 2019 Moonee Ponds Creek Paddle Against Plastic and Clean Up days will run from Ron Barassi Snr Park from 9am to noon on Sunday, June 2.

Last year's inaugural event was a huge success, with more than 100 people turning up and removing nearly a tonne of trash.



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# Run a marathon for breast cancer

By Sakshi Agrawal

*The Yarra's Edge Progressive Marathon returns to Docklands this May for its second consecutive year.*

Developer Mirvac invites locals and others to complete 42.2 kms over stages, at their own pace between May 4 and May 18. Participants can complete the distance by strolling or sprinting during this two-week period.

On May 18, everyone will cross the finish line to end the marathon and enjoy a celebratory event at Yarra's Edge.

Apart from promoting health and fitness, the event also supports breast cancer patients. The funds being raised through the \$25 registration fee and any other donations will go to Think Pink, a charity that supports breast cancer patients and their families.

Mirvac's Victorian residential general manager Elysa Anderson said: "Wellbeing is important to Mirvac and is emphasised in all our communities with dedicated wellness facilities to promote a healthy lifestyle for residents."

"Mirvac has been working with Think Pink since its inception over eight years ago, assisting over 3000 women who have

accessed Think Pink's services."

Participants also have a chance to win prizes for their accomplishments like most money raised and first to complete the marathon, with the biggest prize being a "Day on the Bay" cruise for six people by Pleasure Cruising Club Docklands.

After registration, participants will download *Strava*, a free fitness-tracking app, to log in their kilometres and get started.

To register, visit [yepm.mirvac.com](http://yepm.mirvac.com)



Think Pink ambassadors Karen and Fem Belling survey the course at Yarra's Edge.

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# Charter operator feeling squeezed

*After 13 years, the Melbourne Show Boat, "Lady Cutler", owner Jeff Gordon says he's being forced out of Docklands' waterways.*

Mr Gordon has been given notice that his Central Pier berth is no longer available for any vessels because of "urgent remediation work" to the pier.

He's been offered two alternative spots, but he says neither is suitable and he suspects the authorities have ulterior motives.

"It feels like the rug's been pulled out from under us," he said.

"If they don't want us there, then that's fine - compensate us out," he said. "But don't squeeze us out and kill us off by a thousand cuts."

Mr Gordon said he had proposed an alternative suitable floating structure for the south basis of Victoria Harbour but had failed to secure a high-level meeting with Development Victoria and the City of Melbourne to discuss the proposal.

"And all this after we've just spent \$500,000 on maintaining the vessel," he said.

Mr Gordon said, if Central Pier needed remediation, then this should be done in stages to allow *Lady Cutler* to remain at the general location while it was being done.

"And, tell me, how is it that Atlantic Group is allowed to continue to operate if the pier is in serious need of remediation?" he said.

In reply to an April letter from the City of Melbourne's waterways unit, Mr Gordon wrote: "With our knowledge of Central Pier for over a decade, it is surprising to me that this matter of maintenance now appears to have great urgency."

"There has been no consultation or offer made to allow us to continue to operate at Central Pier whilst the remedial work is being carried out."

"To offer alternative berthing at CH03 or VH02 is unacceptable for a number of reasons, of which you are well aware," Mr Gordon wrote.

Mr Gordon said he felt he no other option



*Jeff Gordon feels like he's being forced out of Docklands.*

than to engage lawyers to fight the eviction.

"After 13 years, they should have come up with a place for us, and they haven't," he told *Docklands News*.

He said he had moved *Lady Cutler* three times previously to allow maintenance work on the pier.

The City of Melbourne manages Central Pier berthing on behalf of its owner, Development Victoria.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson said: "The City of Melbourne has been notified by Development Victoria that urgent upgrades are needed to maintain the structural integrity of Central Pier. The wharf structure is owned and maintained by Development Victoria with the City of Melbourne only

having responsibility for issuing licences over the adjacent water."

"All vessels that have been impacted by changed berthing arrangements have been contacted by the City of Melbourne. Five other vessels have already been successfully relocated."

"The City of Melbourne's waterways team has been working with the owner of the *Lady Cutler* and has identified two alternate options. The waterways team will continue to work with the *Lady Cutler* to be relocated within Victoria Harbour."

"The City of Melbourne does not manage the safety of the pier and is not privy to the arrangements that that the landlord Development Victoria has with other tenants."



## Fake Uber Eats thieves

*Melbourne Crime Investigation Unit detectives are appealing for public assistance following a burglary in Docklands on March 4.*

Police believe two men tailgated into the private car park of an apartment block on Rakaia Way about 4.30pm.

The men gained access to the car park by pretending to be Uber Eats delivery riders and tailgating a vehicle through the security gate.

On the fourth level of the car park the offenders used an angle grinder to cut the security chains off two bikes attached to a railing.

The two men walked around the car park for a short time before leaving the area with the bikes.

Investigators have released CCTV footage and images of two men they believe may be able to assist with their enquiries.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or submit a confidential report online at [www.crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au)

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Luke Creasey - Labor



Adam Bandt - Greens



Lauren Sherson - Liberal

## Port of Melbourne moves in

*The headquarters of Australasia's largest port will join some of Australia's most recognisable brands when it moves its operations to Victoria Harbour.*

Port of Melbourne will join anchor tenant ANZ and Australia's largest global insurer QBE at 839 Collins St, taking almost 2000sqm on Level 19 - the building's top floor.

ANZ pre-committed to 26,500sqm of the building, with QBE set to occupy approximately 6000sqm across three floors.

Only one floor remains available for lease at the Denton Corker Marshall-designed building, which is located where Collins St meets the Yarra River.

The 39,000sqm building reached practical completion in late March and the first commercial tenants have moved in.

Port of Melbourne employees will enjoy an enviable, sweeping bird's eye view of 500 hectares of their port asset, which includes 21 km of waterfront. The building also includes an outdoor garden and terrace with a multi-purpose sports court and outdoor seating, available for all tenants. Port of Melbourne is set to move later in 2019.

In addition, Lendlease has secured tenants for five of the six retail shops in what is Victoria Harbour's last major commercial building.

The Other Brother by Melbourne hospitality venture Continental Hospitality Group will operate a signature restaurant and lobby cafe. The same group is behind Mr Grazier at 700 Bourke St and Super Eight at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

Other tenants set to open their doors in the coming months include Chilangos Mexican Cantina, PonyBoy and Thai Thani, leaving one shop available for lease.

## Seven candidates to choose from

*On May 18 Docklands voters have seven candidates to choose between to represent them in the House of Representatives in the next federal parliament.*

Three-term Greens sitting member Adam Bandt, 47, again starts as favourite, with the ALP and Liberal parties throwing up new candidates and minor parties and an independent also in the hunt for the federal seat of Melbourne.

Mr Bandt is a former industrial lawyer and first was elected in 2010. In 2016, he won the seat comfortably over the Liberal Party, with the ALP performing poorly in a seat which used to be one of its safest.

This time around, the Liberals have pre-selected self-described "global entrepreneur" Lauren Sherson and Labor's hopes ride on the shoulders of gay-activist and high school teacher Luke Creasey.

Ms Sherson, 39, summarises her LinkedIn profile as: "Investigating unsolved problems through entrepreneurship, psychology and politics."

The profile also says she achieved a Master of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Swinburne's Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship in 2007 and followed on with post-graduate qualifications in teaching and psychology.

"Lauren's energy is her signature trait and acute focus is her approach. She uses the science of entrepreneurship to catalyse opportunity and applies context from her extraordinary life experience and life-long bonds to produce unimaginable outcomes," her profile says.

She lists five years' experience as "chief safecracker" at The Safecrackers Club and two years as "director of opportunities" for The Jade Lions. A company search shows that the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) is in the process of de-registering The Jade Lions.

Mr Creasey teaches health and food technology at Coburg High School. Before moving to Coburg High, he taught for four years at Princes Hill Secondary College. He has a science degree and a teaching qualification from RMIT university.

In August last year, the then 28-year-old told Joy FM it was his mother's experience as a victim of Kennett-government education cuts that inspired his political aspirations.

"My mum was one of those teachers who was out of work and I've seen what that does to people," he said.

He told the radio presenters: "I am a Labor leftie. I quite often agree with things that the Greens say. But I don't just want to feel good about the words I say, I want to feel good about the lives we can change and I do think we can change lives through winning government."

Mr Creasey lists his volunteering experience on LinkedIn as being co-convenor of Rainbow Labor Network Victoria and also being a member of Victorian Labor's LGBTI Affairs Policy Committee.

He listed housing affordability, renters' rights and the restoration of penalty rates for hospitality works among his top political issues.

Both Ms Sherson and Mr Creasey failed to respond to *Docklands News's* requests for interview.

Other candidates are the United Australia Party's Tony Pecora, the Reason Party's Judy Ryan, independent Dave Blake and Lawrence Pope of the Animal Justice Party.

Mr Blake, a biotech analyst, is a North Melbourne local who is campaigning for more support for the biotech industry. He wants nuclear power in the energy mix.

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# Council answers call for new toilet

*A new public toilet will be installed at the corner of Harbour Esplanade and NewQuay promenade, answering the calls of local traders and customers.*

In discussions with the City of Melbourne, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce told the council the area would benefit from increased amenity in light of complaints.

This especially came to the fore on weekends, as Docklands Sunday Market patrons struggled to find facilities.

Often, market goers were forced to buy food or coffee from local restaurants in order to use their toilets.

In a letter to market organisers, the council said its findings mirrored those of the public.

“City of Melbourne’s own investigation confirm that accessible toilet facilities would improve the amenity of this important retail and dining area of Docklands and the marina,” the letter stated.

The \$400,000 project is expected to be installed in late May, and be operational by the end of June.



# Chinese beauty on display

*The Victorian section of the 2019 Miss Australia Chinese Pageant was launched in Docklands on April 12.*

According to organiser Grace Hu, the pageant aims to combat stereotypes and showcase Chinese women to the world.

“It’s to show the beauty of the Chinese girls, but also to show how educated, well-travelled and smart they are,” Ms Hu said. “On the inside they have a strong and tough

heart which means they can do everything a man can do.”

Ms Hu said the Docklands event was to kick off a series of competitions which would culminate in late July, when the local winner would contest in Sydney for a chance to represent Australia in Hong Kong.

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# Eye to eye with a fishmonger

By Rhonda Dredge

*Chinese diners have a keen appreciation of seafood and the Australian industry has been adapting to the demands.*

Live coral trout bring up to six times the price of dead ones but a lot of skill goes into keeping them alive. The tanks are well stocked at Docklands' Live Fish Market where the temperature and salinity are monitored.

Coral trout are the most highly valued for their red colouring and sweet flesh, according to salesman Perry Wong.

Wild coral trout are fished off the Queensland coast and transported to Melbourne in trucks, then kept alive in tanks.

"Once you try a fresh one you can taste the difference," Perry said.

The market sells live barramundi for \$28 a kilo and crayfish for around \$150 a kilo. "We sell 40-50 a day when we have a promotion."

Angler Perry, as he jokingly calls himself, spends his days thinking, talking and fantasising about fish. He will sell you a wild coral trout at \$98 a kilo and believes in its culinary power but won't partake himself.

"I ate too much fish when I was young," he said. His mum worked in one of Hong Kong's



Angler Perry on the job in Docklands.

seafood restaurants and his dad in a seafood shop.

Angler Perry prefers to release the fish he catches off the cool waters between Queenscliff and Geelong.

He's eagerly awaiting the return of the snapper out the front this month.

When a customer arrives, he or she selects the fish and it is gutted and cleaned. Angler Perry supervises and keeps up the patter. He doesn't like to poke a crayfish.

Why is the barramundi so cheap? "It's farmed," said Perry. How long can the fish survive? "About a month. Some last only a couple of days."

Fish in tanks attract questions. The live fish market is not for the faint-hearted. This is a place where you, the consumer, comes eye to eye with your meal before it is killed.

Angler Perry prefers a rocky ledge. From his desk he can see a patch of blue. He caught a 5 kg snapper right there two years ago.

# Low-flying chopper

*Yarra's Edge residents didn't have to be particularly alert to spot this low-flying chopper at 10am on April 14.*

Ken Collier suspects the helicopter was shooting a video for a river charter boat.

The pilot may have had permission to do so, but the Civil Aviation and Safety Authority (CASA) says aircraft are generally not permitted to fly lower than 1000 feet over built-up areas.

Exceptions are made for: Taking off or landing; Instructions from an air traffic controller; and Aerial work e.g. power line inspection, geographical survey work, aerial firefighting, agricultural spraying.

CASA says: "To investigate a low flying incident, we need enough information to identify the aircraft. Photographs are helpful, and details of the aircraft's registration number, type, make and model as well as the date and time of day."

No problem with this detail in this case.



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# Docklands' lake and shanty town

By Meg Hill

*David Sornig, author of "Blue Lake", said it was growing up in the western suburbs of Melbourne that led to an obsession with a corner of Docklands, right on the western edge of the city centre.*

Everything in the area around what is now a section of the Moonee Ponds Creek, and the CityLink above it, is designed to get you out as fast as possible. It's all highways and train lines.

"You can't really walk through there, you can drive on the highway or go on high speed on the train. There's no real stopping place," David said.

"I was wanting to know why it had that type of feeling. I'd always had a sense that it was somehow outside."

For David, the origin of that continuing feeling of "outside" is the instrumental changes European settlement made to this little corner of Melbourne.

And it's the same reason that it was home to a shanty town during, and after, the Great Depression.

Before European settlement, the whole area of Docklands was part of a river delta. A large part of it was a big salt water lagoon, famous for its blue colour.

The area was extremely difficult for the settlers to traverse, and the lake was filled in in the 1880s. But even in earliest stages of Melbourne, it was changing.

Because it was low, "everything" drained into it from early Melbourne. Everything means mainly sewerage. It had become fettered after only a decade.

"It also became a site for boiling down works, all the kinds of noxious trades that were associated with slaughter yards," David said.

"It became a place people avoided, and because of that it also became a place for dumping rubbish and rubbish tips."

That, in turn, led to a shanty town being built there when the Great Depression hit. It became a home to people who were turfed



David Sornig points out how life used to be at Dudley Flats.

out of their jobs and homes.

They built shelters from materials from the tips.

On the southern side of Moonee Creek was the Bachelors Flats, for single men, and on the other was Dudley Flats, for couples and families.

David's book focuses on three characters he encountered in research: Elsie Williams, Jack Peacock and Lauder Rogge.

Elsie, a singer, was born in Bendigo. Her family were some of the Afro-Caribbeans who came to Australia before the White Australia policy abolished such immigration at the start of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

She suffered from structural racism, spending half her adult life in prison – mostly on vagrancy charges. She died while living at Dudley Flats, apparently pushed into a fire by her partner.



Photo courtesy Oswald Barnett, Housing Investigation and Slum Abolition Board, c 1935: Sourced from State Library of Victoria.

Jack Peacock was a teetotaler who became known as the King of Dudley Flats, the master of selling scavenged goods. He apparently made more money than needed to move away, but preferred the life there.

The lake wasn't the only element of

ecological altering of the area. The entire course of that section of the Yarra was changed.

David's third character, a German named Lauder Rogger, had his life changed along with the change to the river.

He'd bought an almost derelict ship – a black birding schooner that had been used in the 1880s slave trade.

He salvaged it and worked the waterways carrying material when dredging allowed.

"Not long after he bought the ship he was interned during the first World War because he was German. He was locked up and sent to New South Wales," David said.

"He was told to tie the ship up on the original part of the Yarra. It became a disused part, it was silted up and filled in."

When he arrived back after the war, his ship was no longer on a river, and no longer seaworthy.

"He stayed there on his boat on dry land until the '30s and made a living selling dogs at the Eastern market."

The spot where his ship was stranded is now Appleton Dock, just a stone's throw from The District Docklands and Docklands Studios.

The spot where the shanty town was located is still deserted, and feels "creepy" in David's words.

But right next to it is The District, The Melbourne Star, even Costco. Walking from one to the other takes about two minutes and, knowing the history, is a surreal transition.

David Sornig will be speaking at this event at the Wheeler Centre on May 22: [www.wheelercentre.com/events/melbourne-was-underwater](http://www.wheelercentre.com/events/melbourne-was-underwater)

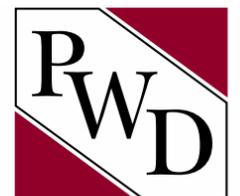
## Jenny Samuel answers your legal questions

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# New home for charity, Miei Fiori

*Collins Square has welcomed a new social enterprise, floral concept store Miei Fiori, to its Village St undercroft.*

As a service provider operating under a 100 per cent net-profit-to-charity-model, Miei Fiori's mission aligns with Walker Corporation and Development Victoria's shared vision to provide a space to support meaningful initiatives that enrich the community.

Owned by husband and wife Rob and Lyly Greca, Miei Fiori (Italian for "My Flowers") aims to help close the poverty gap and improve the lives of disadvantaged children by raising funds for The Smith Family, a national charity that provides long-term educational support for children in Australia.

Mrs Greca said that securing a "brick and mortar" concept store was something the business had been working towards for some time.

"We are so grateful to have the opportunity to operate the business in a space that is supported by the wonderful vision of Walker Corporation and Development Victoria," she said.

"It's refreshing to have a large functional space where our team can undertake workshops and create daily floral arrangements of our customers."

Miei Fiori's concept store is located opposite Tribute Boxing at 43-44 Village St and features 110sqm across two spaces. One part encompasses a workshop space and



*Lyly and Rob Greca at their new Docklands location.*

the other part a concept gift store displaying products from Australian entrepreneurs and other social enterprises, including flowers and plants, designer furniture and home products, quality gifts for men and women, educational toys and personalised items for children.

Walker Corporation's general manager of commercial assets Emily Carroll said the new service provider was a "most suitable" occupant for the undercroft tenancy.

"Miei Fiori does exceptional work in raising funds for deserving charities and

this supports the objective we have for the undercroft at Collins Square. We couldn't be more pleased to have them on board," Ms Carroll said.

"Not only has the iconic Goods Shed been transformed in the restoration of its historic structure but also in the way its space is being used to provide a thriving work hub for some of Australia's biggest blue chip organisations, and now a group using business as a force for good."

Group head of precincts at Development Victoria Geoff Ward was also pleased to see the vision for the undercroft space come to realisation.

"Tribute Boxing has established its community program component, which is proving a huge success, and now Miei Fiori will contribute to the charity component to further enhance the Docklands community," he said.

For over a year Miei Fiori has provided Collins Square with fresh floral arrangements, which can be observed weekly in the lobbies of the Collins Square towers.

Every Friday, the floral arrangements are auctioned-off to the highest bidder through its online silent auction, and all funds raised are donated to the Property Industry Foundation.

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# Poignant art from prison

By Rhonda Dredge

*Paintings are a way for indigenous artists to connect with their cultures by using traditional symbols and methods to represent lost pasts.*

An exhibition of paintings by Ralph Rogers at Deakin's Downtown Gallery in Collins St, Docklands, shows his connection with the fish traps at Brewarrina.

The exhibition was the first solo exhibition organised by Torch, which supports indigenous artists who are also prisoners.

Torch is not releasing any information about Ralph except to say that he has been with them for five years and that he is prolific.

Usually artists are known purely on a first-name basis. Ralph was due for release before the opening of the show last month but this was delayed and he was escorted to Deakin by prison guards.

Many of the indigenous men and women in Victoria's 15 prisons face identity issues and art can help connect them to country.

"I'm a Martu woman," Torch CEO Susannah Day told *Docklands News*. "My grandmother was stolen when she was three years old and taken away. What is traditional country to me? I'm quite removed from that."

Torch supports prisoners with arts officers, resource books, exhibition programs and post-release support.

"We study styles for an area and put together resource books of traditional mark-making, language and images of country."

Torch takes particular care not to interpret cultural material nor rewrite original words so memories can be encouraged.

"One of our arts officers remembers when artists came to prison and showed him some picture of carved trees from country. It jogged a memory he had as a child."

Torch has taken a political stand that there are too many indigenous people in custody.



Ralph Rogers Bushka Tribute to My Grandmother.

"I think the system is really broken," Susannah said.

It aims to use art to lower recidivism rates.

"We're trying to show that if you can connect to culture, it's proven that you have a better chance of not re-offending. It's about confidence and pride. There's a lot of challenge when you don't know who you are. You have a loss of identity."

Ralph has included stories about his family and the fish traps, which form a network of stone weirs in the Darling River.

"I had always wondered about the truth about my country, given the years of cultural disruption," Ralph wrote in the catalogue. "However, I'm relieved to discover that much of the history has been preserved for future generations."

Ralph has painted his memories of the place on 10 large, colourful canvasses depicting Murray cod, platypuses, footprints and eels, among other symbols of country.

The works are doubly poignant given the environmental degradation of the Darling and the fact that they are being shown so far away in a Docklands corporate tower.

Deakin University has bought one of the paintings. All of the funds will go into a trust account for the artist, which will help him re-establish himself after release from prison.

The organisation also supports prisoners post-release. "We don't ask why they're in prison. We try and stick to what we know. We're friendly and non-judgmental."

Torch raised \$267,000 from art sales last year, distributed to more than 100 prisoners.



## Gowrie artwork hoarding

*Children from the Gowrie Child Care Centre in Docklands have contributed their drawings to a new artwork gallery on a 25-metre long hoarding behind No. 1 Collins Wharf.*

The project was a collaboration between Gowrie and Lendlease's Victoria Harbour precinct. The project gave the children the opportunity to explore what "home" meant to them through drawings that are now displayed on the site's hoarding.

The artworks capture the children's interpretation of home and their connection with place and community, while creating something that the community can appreciate and enjoy. The children have drawn their homes and their families along with references to the urban environment of Victoria Harbour.

The temporary hoarding was installed last month and will remain on site for 12 months.

### ADVERTISEMENT

## UPDATE ON THE WEST GATE TUNNEL PROJECT

A key milestone in the building of the West Gate Tunnel Project has been reached with the arrival in Melbourne of the first of the two massive tunnel boring machines that will build the tunnel. Bella, the tunnel boring machine (TBM), is one of the biggest in the Southern Hemisphere, and is currently being assembled.

Tunnelling will start mid-year at the northern portal in Yarraville and move south-west towards the southern portals in the West Gate Freeway near South Kingsville.

The West Gate Tunnel, once complete, will provide an alternative to the West Gate Bridge and take trucks off residential streets.

With construction well underway on the West Gate Freeway widening, progress is being made to relocate powerlines and sewer pipes so an extra two lanes can be added in each direction on the freeway,

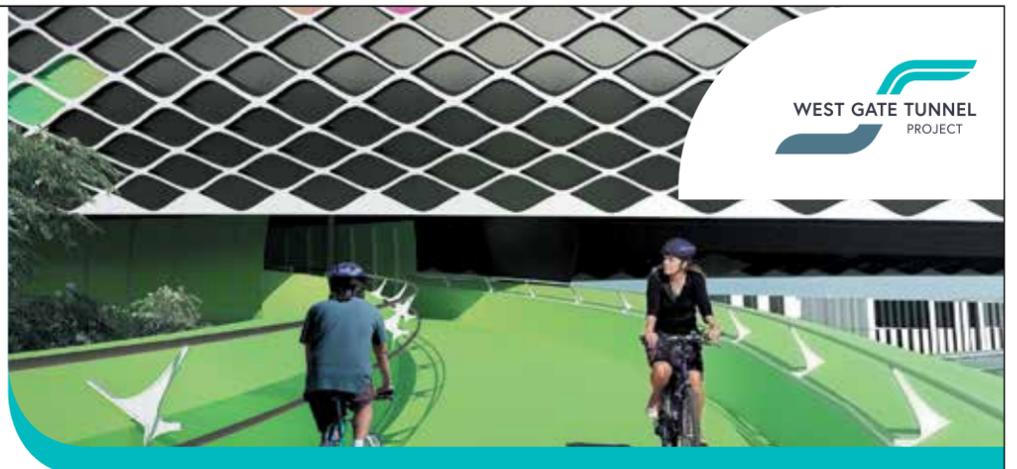
helping traffic move better.

The section of the West Gate Freeway near Williamstown Road is a hive of activity where the exit ramp is being shifted to make room for a tunnel entrance that will take people to the city.

It's early days for construction activity at the city end of the project where a new road will be built above Footscray Road to take traffic from the tunnel to the city and into the port. You may have noticed barriers on the side of the road and the shared use path has been realigned.

This is what we need to do to create safe space to build the new road, while still keeping traffic moving. There'll be more to come later this year.

There is a lot happening around the project with periodic road closures and traffic disruptions, so stay in touch with what is happening in your area.



Visit [westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions), and follow [facebook.com/westgatetunnelproject](https://facebook.com/westgatetunnelproject) for regular updates.

### World class design

The West Gate Tunnel Project includes world-class architecture, urban and landscape design that celebrates the Aboriginal heritage and maritime history of Melbourne's west. We will establish new cycling and walking links to popular trails and parks. This includes a new 2.5 km elevated veloway which will give cyclists a safe and express route to and from the city, while rebuilding and retaining the existing ground-level path along Footscray Road. Visit [westgatetunnel.vic.gov.au](http://westgatetunnel.vic.gov.au) to see the range of features that are part of the project.



Translation service – For languages other than English, please call 13 14 50. Please contact us if you would like this information in an accessible format. If you need assistance because of a hearing or speech impairment, please visit [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

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# School is underway

**Construction has started on Docklands' primary school and it is expected to open in 2021.**

Builder Monaco Hickey has started piling on site to support the foundations of the school building.

An Education Department spokesperson told *Docklands News*: "Docklands Primary School will cater for up to 525 students, and

will include a library and indoor gym, as well as art and music areas."

"The school will help to alleviate enrolment pressures for surrounding schools and help meet demand of a growing inner-Melbourne population."

Last year's State Budget allocated \$18.8 million to the school build. It is expected that more funds will be allocated in this year's budget.

More information is available at: [www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/schools/Pages/DocklandsPrimarySchool.aspx](http://www.schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au/schools/Pages/DocklandsPrimarySchool.aspx)

# Charity event runs into trouble

**The April 7 Run for the Kids brought plenty of welcomed visitors to Docklands, but some residents were blindsided by unexpected inconvenience.**

Mosaic resident Damian Ng told *Docklands News* he saw signs in surrounding streets in the lead up to the event, but didn't realise that all roads leading out would be closed for several hours.

"The road signs said 'restrictions' not 'closures', so we assumed we'd be able to get out," he said.

He said neither the residents nor the owners' corporation of his building had been informed about the event.

"If we'd got a letter drop we might have been able to plan better," he said. "We managed to find a race organiser on the Sunday so it was okay in the end."

"But I hope they don't do it again. They can't just close it off," he said. "It's great for Docklands, but they have to plan it better."

Race organiser Anita Blencowe claimed that all Docklands residences had been letterboxed - twice.

"We letterbox dropped the whole of Docklands twice, once in early February and again in mid-March, plus we ran geo-targeted social, on top of what Vic Traffic and *Herald Sun* both did," she said.

"We have run into an issue with Victoria Harbour residents assuming it was the same closure as previous years, so that's just something for us to manage going forward."

But it appears many Docklands towers were not letterboxed. Strata managers confirmed that 888 and 889 Collins St were missed (but also that flyers were dropped off to 883 Collins St). It appears that Dock 5 was letterboxed.

And the complaints were not confined to Victoria Harbour.

Daryl Mead, who lives in an apartment at The District Docklands, said his complex was not letterboxed.

"The letterboxes for the apartments are in secure lobbies, accessible by the postman, so we do not get notices if not delivered by Australia Post," Mr Mead said.

"But, regardless of notification, the whole point is that future events could be planned for less inconvenience."

"Docklands is a tram and road 'dead-end' we have limited opportunities to get around these closures."

"I would be happy to help organisers come up with a better solution."

Mr Mead said: "My neighbour, whose wife has difficulty walking, was not able to leave by tram as all tram services were stopped."

He said a friend at Yarra's Edge was also unable to leave by car.

"It raises some issues of access for local residents of Docklands that, I'm sure could be overcome with some planning," he said.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Johanna Maxwell said Docklands was notoriously difficult to letterbox because mailrooms were secured.

She pointed out that the event was in its infancy in Docklands and would improve.

"We're happy to feed back to Run for the Kids to improve the event next year," Mrs Maxwell said.

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Volunteers plant out the Docklands Community Garden on April 20.

# How does your garden grow?

By Greg Wise

**We now have 85 registered volunteers who regularly donate their time to work in the Docklands Community Garden.**

Every Docklands resident is welcome to become a volunteer in the garden. Volunteering in the garden is a great way to do something useful for your community and to meet people and make new friends.

We completely replanted the garden with its autumn/winter crop on April 20. The 30 or so volunteers who attended this event had a great time preparing the beds and planting the new vegetables, herbs and flowers and enjoyed a barbecue lunch.

We are grateful to Woolworths at Victoria Harbour which generously donated the food and drinks for this event.

Woolworths has agreed to help the garden in this way when we hold future events which gives a clear indication of their commitment to local community activities.

We have been able to significantly improve the quality of soil in the garden following a sponsorship programme offered to us by Cheryl Andrews, the MD of local business Melbourne Facilities Management.

Another local business, Lifestyle Working, continues to support the garden and we are very grateful for its regular, generous contributions.

As the garden grows and matures it continues to become more self-sufficient in terms of the basic requirements of successful gardens, we now have three worm farms and three compost making facilities on site and will hopefully soon have two professionally-managed bee hives close by.

Anyone who would like to join the gardens volunteer group can do so by emailing Greg at [wiseguy873@gmail.com](mailto:wiseguy873@gmail.com)

# Tourists love our art

**The largest number of international downloads of the Harbourside Docklands Art Trail app are from China.**

Chinese tourists are leading the way in wanting to learn more about our public art, with almost 3000 downloads of the app via Apple in its first year.

The statistics have prompted Development Victoria (DV) to translate the accompanying Art Trail brochure into simplified Chinese and place it at the Melbourne Visitor Hub.

DV created the Harbourside Docklands Art Trail app to showcase public art.

Featuring 25 pieces of art, the trail covers a range of themes including land and sea, past and present, humanity and technology and what it means to be Australian.

DV's group head precincts, Geoff Ward, said the Docklands public art program featured renowned Australian artists, as well as a mix of international artists.

"We are proud to oversee the extensive public art program in Docklands and it is great that it is attracting the attention of tourists," he said.

"The majority of the featured artists in the art app and brochure are Melbourne-

based, such as RONE, Callum Morton, Sally Smart, Alexander Knox, Kate Daw and Stewart Russell and we are now showcasing their work to an international audience."

Minister for Priority Precincts, Gavin Jennings, said "Melbourne's CBD has its laneways and graffiti art which are huge drawcards; Docklands features a selection of amazing sculptures and public art which are growing in stature."

The walking trail has been divided into three sections: "Real and unreal"; "The dynamic earth" and "You, us and them" and takes art lovers on a journey throughout Docklands.

Each section is around 2.5 km and takes approximately one hour to complete.

The app has been developed for both Apple and Android and can be downloaded from the Apple Store and Google Play. The translated Harbourside Art Trail brochure is available at The Melbourne Visitor Centre.



Edge of your Seat, by RONE.

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# The riverkeeper's call to arms

By Rowan Webb

*Yarra Riverkeeper Andrew Kelly has called on residents of the Docklands to continue to embrace the Yarra River.*

"They're probably the greatest advocates for the river and we need more wild places in Docklands," Mr Kelly said. "I'd just really like to see the people in Docklands embrace the river and look after the river."

Becoming Yarra Riverkeeper in 2014, Andrew is a passionate advocate for protecting the river and improving it as a place for people to enjoy.

He recently collaborated with Aunty Joy Murphy and Lisa Kennedy to tell the indigenous and geographical story of the river, publishing *Wilam: A Birrarung Story*.

"It [Wilam] stands for all rivers that flow through a major city in the world, because all those rivers face the same sort of challenges", Mr Kelly said.

Andrew has seen many changes in the river throughout his four years as riverkeeper, remarking that "every time I go down the water it's different".

Developments such as the Bolte Precinct and visitors such as "Salvatore" the seal ensure a dull working day is a rare occurrence.

A 200kg seal, Salvatore is a proud resident of the Yarra River and has been seen in Southbank.



Yarra Riverkeeper Andrew Kelly ... he wants Docklanders to get more involved.

"It's fantastic to see so much life in the river," Mr Kelly said when asked about Salvatore.

"We're seeing lots of dolphins in the river now as well and you often see fish in the river."

Mr Kelly hopes to improve the health of the river to the point where Docklands locals can witness more of the river's animal residents.

"You don't have the frogs you once had, you don't have the birds you once had and you don't have the bush for the birds to live in."

"All sorts of things have gone missing along the way. I'd like to see lots of wetlands and mangrove swamps along the river so that we can see all the birds."

Mr Kelly's vision for the future health of the

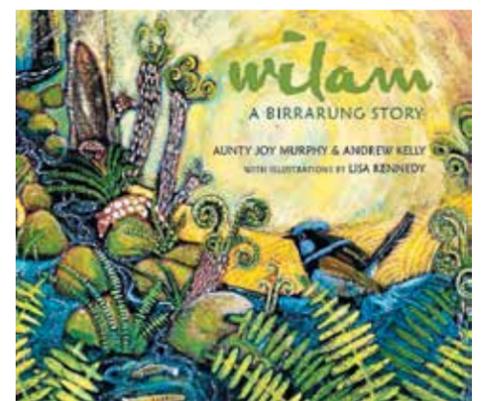
Docklands portion of the Yarra is one where the river runs consistently clear.

"I think Docklands is maturing and as part of that maturing we need more green places and people identifying with those green places," he said.

"I'd like to see residents spend more time on the river, spend time near the river and get to understand the river."

Mr Kelly encourages local residents interested in learning more about the river to join the Yarra Riverkeeper Association.

Membership forms can be found at [www.yarrariver.org.au/membership](http://www.yarrariver.org.au/membership)



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## Thanks for the pic

*Thanks for local resident Farah Hassim for this lovely photo.*

Farah says she loves living so close to the water, with a view of boats and ships. "Also, the resident community is really friendly – especially the dog owners," she told *Docklands News*. "I enjoy the visitors who go shopping at The District and the families in team shirts going to stadium." She also loves the suburb's proximity to the CBD and public transport.

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# A colourful gift for Malawi

By Rhonda Dredge

*A container painted in a freeform modernist style left Docklands last month with large African portraits to guide it on its way across the world.*

The colourful gift was heading towards Malawi with a load of medical and school equipment inside.

Sean Car, director of Educaring Africa, organised the shipment and its residency on Harbour Esplanade as artists gathered for a week of creative expression.

"This is a big, bold idea, something colourful for the community," Sean told *Docklands News*.

Ethiopian-born artist Tamirat Gebremariam supervised the art project. He has a particular affinity with both community and belonging.

"I'm here because Melbourne has more culture and diversity," Tamirat said. He moved to Melbourne 10 years ago leaving the rest of his family in Sydney.

"I come from a large family. We're 12 with my mother in the middle. I belong here. I started the portraits to create my own family."

Community art offers scope to those who wish to combine artistic and communitarian skills. Tam joined Sean, also director of Hyperlocal News, in his vision to help develop communities in Africa.

Educaring Africa has built a medical clinic at Chizula village at Monkey Bay.

"Without this container the clinic can't operate," Sean said. Nearby schools will also benefit with the gift of desks and chairs. "They only have enough classrooms for half the population."

Students and passers-by took to the container with spray cans and stencils in a project that will culminate in the establishment of a Rotary Club at Docklands. Rotary helped fund the project.

Tam arrived in Australia 20 years ago from Cairo. In the old days he preferred international-style modernism with texture and gestures. Now he has gone more figurative to honour his new community.

He currently has an exhibition of portraits on at Melton for a multicultural festival. His



Artist Tamirat Gebremariam touches up the Malawi-bound container.

career demonstrates how difficult the life of an immigrant artist can be.

When he first arrived in Melbourne it was at the time of the Black Saturday bushfires.

"There was horrible heat. I was watching TV. I was very emotional and sad," he said. "I went to Marysville and took pictures and made sketches a week or two after."

These became the basis for a series of large gestural paintings he did for a Master of Visual Art at the Victorian College of the Arts.

"I think it was challenging. I have a skill and I captured the moment. It was not about me. It was where I belong. I was confronting the difficulties of a new place."

## Container lights up Docklands

*A shipping container turned public mural provided a welcome addition of colour to Harbour Esplanade in April.*

Ethiopian artist Tamirat Gebremariam worked with a number of artists, students and the public over a week to transform the container into African-inspired art.

An initiative of not-for-profit organisation Educaring Africa, in partnership with the new Rotary Club of Central Melbourne (Docklands Branch), the container will transport medical and school supplies to Malawi later this year.

With supplies donated by Rotary's Donations in Kind (DIK) facility in West Footscray, the event aimed to raise funds to ship the container to Malawi, as well as awareness of Educaring Africa and the new Rotary Club.

The container was placed on Harbour Esplanade on Tuesday, April 9, with the event culminating at the Docklands Sunday Market on April 14, where the Docklands Rotary Club hosted a stall.

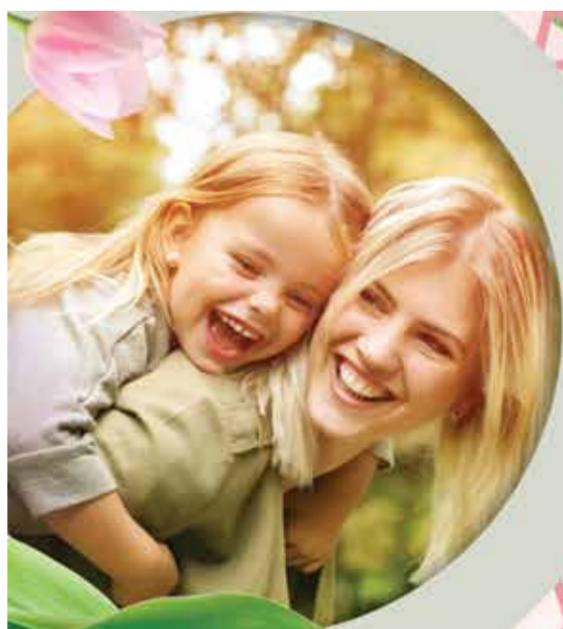
The week saw artists and students from the Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) bring their own artistic flair and inspiration to the container to create a collage that attracted plenty of public attention.

Featuring some striking large-scale portraits, African wildlife and a smattering of bright colour across all sides of the container, the initiative also helped celebrate our African community here in Melbourne.

Locals and visitors of all ages grabbed a brush or a spray can throughout the week, writing messages and putting their own creative stamp on the container.

Educaring Africa director and Docklands Rotary Club member Sean Car said he hoped it would be the first of many for Docklands.

"The container was a great example of what can be done to draw more positive attention to Docklands as a destination," he said. "The attention it attracted was endless and the artists had so much fun engaging with so many different people throughout the week."



## Happy Mother's Day!

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\*Terms and Conditions apply.



MELBOURNE STAR  
OBSERVATION WHEEL

# A tankerman on leave

By Rhonda Dredge

*Ports were once dangerous places and seafarers were away from their families for 10 months at a time so a little bit of Christian attention didn't go astray.*

Counselling is offered, help with finances, maps of the city and bars are available at Melbourne's two missions.

"It used to cost \$11 a minute to phone home. Now a call costs a couple of cents a minute," said Captain Eric Flores, off a Stolt chemical tanker from Singapore.

Captain Flores spoke to *Dockland News* about the way the industry has changed over the past 20 years. He makes the journey between Singapore and Melbourne every two months.

"Now seamen can talk to their families every day while on board," he said, "and they have entertainment, karaoke and play stations."

The life of a seaman is more one of routine than risk.

The industry is heavily regulated for chemical tankers with safety checks every

six months to guard against spills during unloading and accurate weather forecasts mean that the tanker can avoid most low pressure systems, travelling at 30 knots to arrive 14 days later in Melbourne.

Pirates still roam the Malacca Straits, the captain conceded, and they can scale a tanker.

Some seaman won't risk some ports in Africa, Brazil, the Caribbean, and the United States, preferring to stay on board.

"The crime rate is high," Captain Flores said of these places. "The port itself is safe but once you go outside you're on your own. In the Caribbean a cadet got stabbed. In some parts of Asia they will rob you. I usually go with a lot of people."

The missions have contributed to the safety of Melbourne's port. There is the Stella Maris Seafarer's Centre in Little Collins St and Mission to the Seafarers in Flinders St.

When the chemical tanker arrived it was 1 am and the captain and his second mate were looking forward to a bit of shore leave.

They had the brochures from the two missions, one Catholic, the other Anglican.

Both missions offered to send down a bus to pick them up.

Some of the more enterprising seamen store bicycles on the boats and ride down to the



closest shops, The Distric Docklands for tanker crew where there are cafes and Costco for a few supplies.

Captain Flores followed his father into the industry. "The best time is going home," he said.

He had just one complaint. A seaman once had the chance to transfer between different types of ships.

Now, once a tankerman, always a tankerman.

SkyPad Living

## Vertical village parcel delivery

Mail types and volume have changed but how are our mailrooms coping?

Recent years have seen a rapid decline in the number of letters delivered to our vertical villages, while the amount of sent parcels has soared. This change is inline with the national shift towards parcel delivery as Australians continue their love affair with online purchasing.

This change may be most evident in our traditional deliverer of letters, Australia Post, where since 2008 (when Australian letter volumes reached an all-time high), the number of letters it delivers has declined by more than 50 per cent.

However, it is not a case of doom and gloom as Australia Post has reoriented its business to focus on Australian's preference for online channels and home delivery.

Indeed, according to the Parcel Shipping Index, parcel volume in Australia grew 8 per cent last year to 841 million parcels. And our parcel market is expected to grow to more than 1 billion parcels a year by 2021.

But just what is being delivered to our vertical villages?

One visually notable category is the home meals kits, which arrive in their white styrofoam boxes and wait for their owners on the floor of our mailrooms.

But we are told that there are actually increases in several categories of parcel delivery:

- **Business-to-consumer:** This is the main category and includes such popular items

as online ordered clothes;

- **Business-to-business:** This is a growing category with many small businesses operating from their apartment home;

- **Consumer-to-business:** In terms of our apartments, this category includes the many "returns" which wait in our mailrooms for courier pickup; and

- **Consumer-to-consumer:** Such as when we send a parcel, such as a gift.

And accompanying this rise in the volume and variety of parcels, are the expectations of customers for timely receipt. Retailers now say that two out of three shoppers expect to place an order at 5.00 pm for next-day delivery and three out of five believe orders placed by noon should be delivered the same day.

However, there are several issues arriving with our parcels – and mailrooms strewn with parcels too large to fit into standard letterboxes may well be the least of our challenges.

So says Shay McQuade from My Parcel Locker, an Australian-owned business specialising in intelligent mail systems.

Shay sees the emergence of the parcel delivery sector as a genuinely interesting space but one where the broad impacts are, as yet, largely unappreciated.

For instance, there are customer issues such as failed or redirected deliveries, which are particularly annoying for apartment

residents who do not have concierge services to sign and receive. This means that we will either have to stay at home to await delivery or collect our parcel after hours from a secure drop-off point. Not really the purpose of parcel home delivery!

However, a more critical and wider felt issue emanating from these increased, repeated and often failed deliveries is the growth in traffic congestion, which is exacerbated by these deliveries being made predominantly (and repeatedly) during business hours.

While bicycle couriers may not take up too much space, an army of delivery trucks (seeking spots to unload and hand deliver parcels) will certainly impact upon the traffic flow surrounding our apartment blocks.

Another issue raised by Shay involves security and theft – both of our goods and our identity. This is a concern shared by the Australian Federal Police whose first piece of advice on protecting yourself is to "secure your mail".

### What to do?

Once again, this is a multi-faceted challenge requiring the involvement of our transport and traffic regulators and well as our more innovative minds.

Some of the more creative solutions involve drone drop-offs or robot deliveries – though both of these options bring their own

raft of issues.

Other options include greater use of "click and collect" where the customer orders online but collects from the outlet, but this assumes a local physical store.

And then there is another trend which is being adopted by many new apartment builds – the smart locker solution. This is where an array of secure lockers are designed and installed into our apartment blocks – possibly replacing our mailboxes or as an additional facility in a common area like our car park. These lockers come in various sizes and configurations and can include "refrigerated and frozen lockers" – catering for those home meal kits!

Utilising a system of pre-approved authorisations, it allows deliveries to be made out-of-hours to secure but accessible units.

So, here's another item to add to your owners' corporation list for future-proofing!



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

Docklander

# Johannesburg to Docklands

Farah Hassim and Dave Husy have lived in Docklands for less than two years, and Australia for 12. They moved in 2007 from South Africa's biggest city.

They were both activists against Apartheid "in different ways" – Farah in the union movement, and Dave in the ANC Youth League.

The whole family had met Nelson Mandela in a number of separate, some chance, meetings.

"My story is absolutely ridiculous," Farah said.

"I came off a plane and saw him walking ahead with his body guards and ran across the tarmac and when I got to him I couldn't speak because I was just crying."

Years later, the couple's youngest daughter was in Mandela's great granddaughter's class at school.

"We were active and invested in the transition, and because it had kind of all gone through we wanted to see a bit of the world because we'd lived in Johannesburg for our whole lives," Dave told *Docklands News*.

"We also had two daughters becoming teenagers, and where we lived was pretty dangerous. We wanted to give them a bit more opportunity."

They originally lived in Parkville, followed by Carlton. But Farah said Docklands has been the nicest, and the most community-based.

"It's the most social place in terms of people talking to each other, and we have a dog and love the dog scene here," she said.

The point was illustrated when *Docklands News* mentioned the chow chow we'd met on the way to the interview.

"The black one? That's Monique's dog," Farah said.

Farah and Dave had originally set "close to water" as a condition to whatever city they'd move to from the infamously dry Johannesburg.

After living around the inner city of Melbourne for years, the scarce supply of three-bedroom apartments led them to Docklands. But they stayed for the social connections.

And their daughters apparently have the



Dave Husy and Farah Hassim.

same natural affinity for community. One of their daughters is playing a leading role in establishing a Docklands Girl Guides group.

Farah has been helping out – putting up posters and dropping off pamphlets at the library. Both their daughters have been in guides since they moved here.

The Docklands group will be a step forward for the community. Up until now Farah's daughter has travelled to Carlton for Girl Guides.

"She likes that people should belong to groups and feel a sense of belonging. She's chosen guides as a way in which she can contribute," Dave said.

The couple plan to stay in Docklands, but perhaps downsize their apartment once both daughters have moved out for good.

"Docklands is great. The people are wonderful, the community but also the tourists make it really international. There are people from all over the world," she said.

Farah's go-to cafe is Sir Basil, which she says is emblematic of the suburb's energy.

"They worked really hard to get it working. There's that side of Docklands which is really nice, it's not just big business investment in the area."

Dave said when they first moved here everyone warned them it was a "social wasteland". The couple said it wasn't true then, but also that the suburb is changing and becoming more community-focused.

## Chamber Update

# Run for the Kids

It's come and gone but the organisers, participants and spectators all loved the Herald Sun Run for the Kids coming to Docklands.

It's here to stay now with possibly the best feedback coming from all the runners with both the 4km and 12km participants being able to run over the Bolte Bridge.

### Charity breakfast

Speaking of the Run for the Kids, we hosted a charity breakfast for the Good Friday Appeal and raised well in excess of \$5000. This is the first time the chamber has actively hosted a charity event and we were very pleased with the turnout and the funds raised. Steve Moneghetti was the special guest for the morning.

### Firelight Festival news

We can't yet release the special entertainment planned for the Firelight Festival, but this year there will be a new attraction along Harbour Esplanade – longer

and more regular shows with a very special theme will occur right along the esplanade.

Keep track of the coming events on our social pages such as our Facebook – Visit Docklands Melbourne.

Speaking of our social pages, one recent post for a member business went ballistic. Over 5000 comments were generated on a single post with in excess of 3000 clicks through to their booking page. You have to be a member to take advantage of our pages so head to either of our websites – [docklandsc.com.au](http://docklandsc.com.au) or [visitdocklands.com.au](http://visitdocklands.com.au)

### The Docklands chamber executive

The chamber is a not-for-profit entity supported annually by the City of Melbourne.

We've just happily submitted our acquittal of public funds for the previous year and our application for 2019/2020. We do this annually to promote Docklands.



Shane Wylie

Media Director  
[www.docklandsc.com.au](http://www.docklandsc.com.au)





# DOCKLANDS FASHION



## Fashion on the streets of Docklands

# Kangan Institute hosts Global Skills Challenge

*Docklands' Kangan Institute was one of a select few Victorian TAFE institutes to host the 2019 Global Skills Challenge at the start of April.*

The competition was Australia's biggest international skills excellence competition for the year, and saw 500 competitors and officials from 15 different countries and 24 different skills competitions.

The event provided an opportunity to showcase the Kangan Institute's training facilities and for teachers to exchange ideas about best practice with some of the world's best teachers and trainers.

The competition included a range of different trades and skills, from carpentry and cookery through to 3D game design and cloud computing.

Victorian skills commissioner Neil Coulson said events such as this were "real opportunities for these students to showcase the skills they have learnt on a national stage".

"This event highlights the level of proficiency achieved by Australian apprentices in their chosen trade and allows the apprentices to challenge themselves against their contemporaries," he said.

The competition was the final selection process for the WorldSkills International Championships in Russia in August, where competitors will compete in front of an audience of 250,000.

WorldSkills Australia CEO Brett Judd said Australia was regarded as a high performing Vocational Education Nation, and we were currently 10th on the WorldSkills rankings after the 2017 International Championships.

### Brett Schubert, 38, business specialist

**LOCATION:** Docklands Park.

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:** Smart casual.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?** A cool pair of jeans.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** I work in the city.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?** Pretty casual.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** I am not wearing it today but a nice shirt.

### Janet Lynch, 60, public servant

**LOCATION:** Docklands Park.

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:** Just casual trousers and shirt because it's very hot. I came out to have my lunch so I put a cap on.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?** Trousers and jeans.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** I work in one of the buildings on Collins St.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?** Just a mum style but just casual or work trousers. More formal when it's cold weather.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** I think nice shoes and nice dresses look nice on some people but sometimes not practical in Docklands. It's very windy.

### Sophie Leone, 15, student

**LOCATION:** The District Docklands

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING:** I am wearing a navy blue top with white shorts and some white sneakers.

**WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?** Probably jeans.

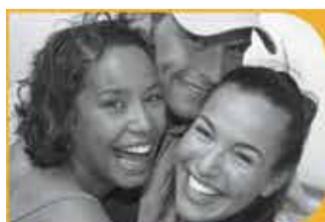
**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?** Carls Junior

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?** Comfy casual.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?** Lots of colour.

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## Health and Wellbeing

# Express workout for corporate workers

Express workouts don't take long, normally 20-30 minutes with a focus on maximising effort and work completed during the session.

This concept is a perfect match for corporate workers who have limited time before, during and after work. The good news is that the express workout is an effective way to train, and nowadays most exercise programs and service providers have adapted shorter formats and variations to suit corporate workers.

Spin the clock back 10 years and a gym workout could be an hour long, as were the fitness classes. Longer time workouts are still effective, but more for purpose and by choice.

If you have the time to enjoy a longer class or spend 60-90 minutes in the gym then that's fine and you should enjoy the experience. But just know, that as workout time increases, workout intensity decreases and there are real benefits with higher intensity training.

It is horses for courses though - not everyone is looking for the body smashing ultra-Spartan time torture workout. It's just that most corporate workers don't have the luxury of spare time, so the express workout is the best match for them.

Back to the express workouts ... They are great for many reasons including the fact that you can burn up to, and in excess of 300 calories in 30 minutes.

However, there is a downside and you need to be realistic and conscious of this. We all learnt in school sports and exercise 101 that we should warm up and cool down effectively before any activity. If we just turn up to gym straight from the desk and launch into a high intensity workout without an effective warm up, there is a real risk of injury.

On top of that, we place significant stress on the cardio vascular system (your heart and lungs) when we move too quickly from a sedentary position at our work desk, to the gym and straight into some plyometrics, sprint work or lifting weights above our head.

An express workout should have a small warm up at the beginning of the class which is a good start. Arrive early for the classes and tack on a proper warm up of, say, five minutes on a rower, assault bike or cross trainer. These machines used with a low to moderate intensity will warm up your muscles and kick-start your heart so you are ready for the higher intensity work ahead.

As well as warming up, stretching and cooling down are important parts of any exercise routine. Dynamic stretching and mobility exercises and movements are more effective than static stretching, especially at the beginning of your workout.

Think about mobility exercises as shortening and lengthening the muscles while moving a joint or joints through their full range of motion. Dynamic stretching helps prepare both the muscles and joints for the "good" physical stresses of exercise and will help reduce the risk of injury and muscle soreness.

Here are some express classes and workouts you might like to try, all which last for 30 minutes: BodyPump Express, Core Express, Warrior, MetaFit, Stretch and Roll, Cycle Express, Boxing Express, Boot Camp and many more! Or why not just go for a 30 minute run ...

## Relax, recharge, reset and meditate

There are so many reasons why we should all make time to meditate, many now backed up by medical science. Common reasons why people don't take up the practice of meditation is time (or lack of it) and not knowing where or how to start.

The great news is that you don't need to set aside hours each day for mediation - you can start with just a few minutes each day and build on that as you go.

Here are five reasons why you should make time for meditation:

- Reduce stress and anxiety;
- Increase in kind thoughts and actions;
- Decrease blood pressure;
- Helps manage pain; and
- Improves sleep.

Here are some tips to begin your own practice:

Create time and space. Start with two to three minutes each day, preferably in the morning. Morning rituals and habits are easier to form than later in the day when you are most likely tired and distracted.

Get started:

- Choose between seated or lying position, ensure you are comfortable;
  - Close your eyes;
  - Turn your focus to the breath, both the inhalation and exhalation;
  - Observe how your body responds to your breath and breathing; and
  - Maintain focus on your breathing for two or three minutes then open your eyes.
- Next steps:
- Increase the time you meditate - consider your personal comfort. You can buy a mediation chair or use mats, pillows or bolsters to improve the experience.
  - Use technology. There are many great apps that you can download that will help guide and educate you on your mind body journey. Examples of apps are *Headspace* and *Calm*.
  - Consider a class. Search for a local meditation class within a reputable facility or community centre.

## Bodyweight training and the benefits

Bodyweight training can be described as exercising without equipment or machines, instead using the mass or weight of the body to provide resistance.

Here are seven great things about bodyweight training that should encourage you to get off the machines and use your body to its full potential.

Body weight training is suitable for all levels of fitness. It can be adapted to anyone's level of fitness or goals. If you are just starting out, the intensity and repetitions maybe lower. As you increase your fitness levels, you might add speed, power, more repetitions or advanced movements to the activity. Take an exercise like the squat for example, a new exerciser might do eight to 10 reps of a half squat and rest for 30 seconds, whereas a more advanced participant might squat deeper, do more squats, add a jump and have less rest, all resulting in higher intensity!

The variation is endless. There are a couple of foundation exercises like the squat, lunge, crunch and push up, but for each of those there might be 10-20 variations. These variations provide a range of challenges and benefits to the exerciser.

It's portable. You don't need any equipment for bodyweight training. All you need is your own body! Look for structures like benches, walls, trees, playgrounds etc to help set up opportunities to train different muscle groups in different ways.

It's functional. Functional training is training for the purpose of living. We can link exercises like the squat and lunge in training to life because we repeatedly perform these movements every day when we move lift and carry things. Training functionally with life in mind, daily tasks can become easier, we can perform them better and we will reduce the likelihood of injury.

Improvement in cardio fitness, strength and flexibility. Your bodyweight training will and can cover all three of these key exercise components. Make sure you take time at the end of each workout to stretch.

You will get results. Many of the bodyweight exercises use compound movements. Compound exercises like a

lunge, squat or push up include movements of more than one joint and involve many muscles and large movements. If you go to a gym, a good trainer would have you completing compound exercise as a preference.

It's free! Once you know how to execute a few of the key exercises and movements, you are ready to go. You can work out anywhere at any time and there are no excuses not to train!



**Andrew Ward**

Andrew Ward from Push! Fitness.

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We Live Here

# More support for OCs in the new Bill

The long-awaited exposure draft of the Owners Corporations and Other Acts Amendments Bill has now been released by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) for public consultation.

The exposure draft can be accessed at [www.consumer.vic.gov.au/OCBill](http://www.consumer.vic.gov.au/OCBill)

Submissions emailed to [cav.consultations@justice.vic.gov.au](mailto:cav.consultations@justice.vic.gov.au) will be accepted until May 10, 2019.

Subject to the satisfactory resolution of any issues raised during the consultation process, the Bill should be introduced into Parliament later this year.

It has taken more than three years since submissions to the Issues Paper closed in 2016 and at first glance the proposed new Bill does seem to give more support for owners' corporations than previously, indicating that our voice is at last being heard.

The introduction to the Explanatory Memorandum states: The proposals that have emerged from the review seek to make buildings governed by owners' corporations better governed and more liveable taking into account stakeholders' experiences and industry developments since the Owners Corporation Act 2006 commenced in December 2007.

The amendments seek to:

- Rationalise the regulation of owners' corporations;
- Enhance protection for owners' corporations by improving the quality of owners' corporation managers and expanding and improving developers' duties to the owners' corporations they create; and
- Improve the governance and financial administration of, and internal relations in, owners' corporations.

## Some significant features of the proposed new legislation

Four tiers of owners' corporations to replace "one size fits all".

The current legislation fails to distinguish between 50-storey skyscrapers and suburban blocks with two units. The new legislation will allow for different regulatory requirements based on the number of occupiable lots.

This is a huge step forward and one that "We Live Here" has campaigned for since the review of the legislation commenced in 2016.

The four tiers are:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <b>Tier</b>       | Composition  |
| <b>Tier one</b>   | 51 or more occupiable lots, and not a services only owners' corporation    |
| <b>Tier two</b>   | 10 to 50 occupiable lots, and not a services only owners' corporation      |
| <b>Tier three</b> | Three to nine occupiable lots, and not a services only owners' corporation |
| <b>Tier four</b>  | A two-lot subdivision or a services only owners' corporation               |

Limiting the powers of developers and owners' corporation managers to determine how buildings operate to enhance protection for owners' corporations.

**2(a)** In relation to developers the new legislation provides for the expiry of any contract appointing a third party manager (a person who is neither an initial owner or a lot owner) entered into by the applicant for registration of the plan of subdivision at the first meeting of the owners' corporation.

Provision is also made that any other contract entered into that relates to the owners' corporation and benefits the applicant for registration must not exceed three years in duration. Further it will be a provision of the new legislation for the minutes of the first meeting be kept.

**2(b)** For owners' corporation managers the current registration system will be strengthened to improve the quality of owners' corporation managers.

Other proposals relate to additional obligations placed on owners' corporation managers regarding procurement of goods and services on behalf of owners' corporations (including disclosure of any beneficial relationship with a supplier, commissions, payments and other benefits received), influencing voting on owners' corporation matters and owners' corporations' access to their financial records.

One long-overdue reform is the insertion of a new section in the Act that relates to the appointment of an owners' corporation manager, prohibits certain terms in owners' corporation management contracts and gives more power to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) to rule generally whether other terms in management contracts are unfair.

Terms that will be prohibited in owners' corporation contracts of employment include those that:

- Impose procedural restrictions on the revocation of the manager's appointment;
- Enable the manager to renew the contract of appointment at their option;
- Provide for the automatic renewal of the contract of appointment if the owners' corporation fails to give notice of its intention not to renew the contract, and
- Must not restrict the ability of an owners' corporation to refuse consent to the assignment of the contract of appointment to a person appointed as the manager, other than one which provides that such consent must not be unreasonably withheld.

We Live Here has previously expressed concern that the government has been consulting in private and only with commercial groups - businesses that make money from buildings that are governed by owners corporations, and not the owners' corporations themselves.

However, it seems submissions and campaigning by us and others have not been in vain, and we welcome the proposals that are aimed at creating a clear distinction between the role of owners' corporations and the role of owners' corporation

managers in buildings that are governed by owners' corporations.

Future columns will review more of the Bill - the good and the not-so-good proposals.

We encourage as many of you as possible to review the Exposure Draft and provide us with your feedback.

## Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to make a donation please visit our website at [welfarehere.net](http://welfarehere.net)

We Live Here does not accept donations from commercial tourism interests.



[www.welfarehere.net](http://www.welfarehere.net)  
emails to [campaign@welfarehere.net](mailto:campaign@welfarehere.net)

Docklands Secret

## Go figure!

Mixing cyclists with pedestrians is always testing fate, so why does the crossing at the corner of Harbour Esplanade and Docklands Drive insist on this?

Roadmarkings instruct cyclists to line up on the eastern side of the shared track as they head north to Footscray. But, by the time they cross over, they are expected to be on the western side.

*Go figure!*



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## Owners' Corporation Law

# Bill fails to protect residents

New "draft" owners' corporation (OC) legislation still protects builders and developers, shuts out owners

On its website, Consumer Affairs Victoria has released a copy of the proposed amendments to be made to the Owners Corporation Act 2006.

The "draft" legislation is available for comment from stakeholders until May 10. The state government proposes to introduce the new legislation later this year.

Of particular note is the proposed reform to allow an owners' corporation to file legal proceedings if an ordinary resolution (50.1 per cent of lot entitlements) is passed at a special general meeting or at the AGM.

Under the current legislation, a special resolution (75 per cent of lot entitlements) is required. It has proven to be virtually impossible under the current legislation for a medium- to large-sized OC (above 50 lots) to be able to pass such a special resolution in the current legislative environment, owing to a combination of developer / builder proxies and absent and overseas Asian investor owners.

Even an interim special resolution (where over 50 per cent, but less than 75 per cent of lot entitlements vote in favour of the motion) has proven impossible to procure due to overseas investors and language barriers.

I have acted for many large residential

towers in the metropolitan Melbourne area that are riddled with multi-million dollar building defect issues, but were unable to file a claim against the builder or developer because they were unable to garner the special resolution support.

Many stakeholders spoke out during the Consumer Affairs consultation process to bring forward their case studies about this breach of natural justice. And seemingly, Consumer Affairs listened to the feedback.

I was heartened initially when I read the press release to see that the new "draft" legislation sought to reform this important area of the law.

However, when you dig a little deeper into the detail, the truth of the matter is exposed. In fact, the reform to lower the barrier from a special resolution to an ordinary resolution is only activated if the subject matter in dispute is "within the civil jurisdictional limit of the Magistrates Court." This limit is currently described as any matter worth less than the sum of \$100,000.

So, if an OC sought to terminate an OC manager's contract, or a caretaker's contract, and if those agreements had remaining value (including insurance commissions) in excess of \$100,00, then it is back to square one of

requiring a special resolution.

Indeed, if an OC had a report detailing building defect issues on the common property, then most likely a special resolution is still required.

This keeping of the status quo only suits the tier one developers and builders, and the strata management and facilities management sectors.

It appears that, once again, Consumer Affairs has tipped its hat to the top end of town, leaving OCs disadvantaged and with a serious barrier to justice to try to overcome.

This is especially true in light of the combustible cladding crisis that is currently gripping Victoria, and where hundreds of towers around Melbourne are finding they have had the incorrect cladding installed on their facades. This proposed keeping of the status quo serves only to further protect the building surveyors, engineers, architects and indeed the government bodies that might otherwise be answerable to such claims.

It is worth noting this is not the case in other states and territories. For example, in NSW, only an ordinary resolution is required to commence such legal proceedings, and only then, the voting percentage is made up of those who actually attend the meeting

(i.e., if the motion is passed by over 50 per cent of those lot owners that actually turn up to the meeting or send a proxy, then the motion is carried).

Consumer Affairs had an opportunity to bring Victoria into conformity with NSW on this hot topic. Instead, it botched it.

Perhaps the interests of builders and developers in getting away with constructing defective buildings mattered more to the government than allowing its citizens to have their day in court.

Tsk tsk. It appears the government is still clueless about the strata sector, it seems only to care about how quickly and how high the towers can be built. Beyond that, they haven't really thought about it at all.



**Tom Bacon**

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.

[Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au](mailto:Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au)

## Pet's Corner

# A road trip companion

By Sakshi Agrawal

On New Year's, the Nezic family drove 2000 kms from Melbourne to the Gold Coast with their dog, Alexi.

Almira Nezic said it was probably a crazy thing to do but they couldn't leave their dog behind.

She said that they wanted to take Alexi so they decided to take their car, instead of a flight.

"On the first day, she was just standing and looking out the window. She didn't know she could lie down. But then the next day, she learnt and just slept the whole day. Even when we were coming back home, after the trip, she just slept the whole way back," Almira said.

When asked if they plan to take another road trip, she said, "Yes, we would take it sometime but would not go that far."

She said the family loved the trip and so did Alexi. "We had a good time with her," she added.

Alexi, a Multi Shih Tzu, was adopted from a pet shop in Melbourne, three years ago. Since then, she has been the fourth member of their family.

Almira said before Alexi joined the family, coming home and talking to her husband and son was just normal.

"Now, when we come home, it's much more exciting because we are greeted with Alexi jumping on us and our day becomes much better," she said.

The family takes her out for a walk at least once a day but on Almira's day off, she has two walks in a day.

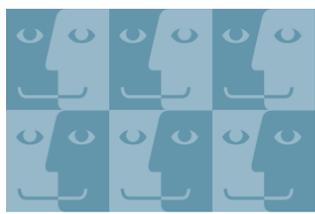
Talking about her sleep schedule, Almira said Alexi lived a normal dog's life by sleeping all day and, in the past three years, Alexi hadn't damaged anything in the home.

"I wish I could live her life and be a dog. She does not have to go to work or school, but just sleep every day," she laughed.

She feels that everyone should have a pet in their house. "When you have a dog in the house, you feel more relaxed and there is so much love. It's hard to explain but she [Alexi] brings so much love in the house. It's simply amazing," she added.



Almira Nezic with her Multi Shih Tzu Alexi.



# DOCKLANDS FACES OF



JULIA EVANS, 35, PERSONAL ASSISTANT

I love it. It's great. I work at KPMG so I come down here every day just to get some green and some access to nature.



DRAGON RAJAK, 37, PROFESSIONAL

The Docklands Park is great. Looks like fun. There are kids everywhere and a lot of smiling faces.



ELLIE HAYHURST, 40, BANKING

It's lovely. It's great to bring the children and to hang out at lunchtime and to enjoy some time away from the office.



ROBIN SCOTT, 40, BANKING

I enjoy it. So, I come for lunch and just to get out. It's got a nice environment to sit in.



GEORGINA HAYHURST, 7

I am hanging out with my mum. My favourite thing about the park is the swings.



SAUMYA MARRAPU, 29, BUSINESS CONTROLLER

It's amazing. I think having these kinds of parks in the middle of these busy building concrete structures is great. I think it's just a relief to come out of the building.

## Question:

### What do you think about the Docklands Park?

## What Women Want

# Do not fear how love can hurt you

Sometimes we give love to the wrong person.

And when we do, the realisation that they are the wrong person is often a painful one. It's painful not necessarily because they specifically hurt you (although often they have shown you behaviour that is hurtful), but because you realise they were not the person you thought they were.

This can often leave you questioning yourself - How did you not see those red flags? Did you miss the early warning signs? How did they play you so easily? What kind of bullshit is this dating game?

And it becomes easier to simply shut yourself off from trusting anyone again, telling yourself your life is better without the ups and downs of playing in this farce they call the "dating game".

I've considered myself to be quite "slow" in trusting. I don't rush into things. I don't "need" a man in my life, as I have a very happy and fulfilling life already.

I have my own business, my own mortgage, my own system of chaotic debt management that doesn't need a man to pay for things.

I've been single for long enough to be very happy with my own company, my own friends, my own colleagues. I'm not needy,

demanding or insecure.

But I sure would love to meet someone I can genuinely spend time with - to embark on a great relationship built on experiencing things in life together, to support and admire each other's passions, and direction - to just let go and enjoy time together.

And to also enjoy time apart. After all, I'm incredibly independent and genuinely enjoy time on my own - I don't need someone next to me at all times.

But apparently these are not always good attributes to have, and I am more often told I'm too busy, too independent, too - well just too something that means that it all just kind of fades away. And you realise what you saw in that person either doesn't actually exist, or is unsustainable. And you give up on the whole dating thing.

But here's the thing ... you shouldn't give up. As hard as it is, you have to pull up and reframe.

I reflect now on how disappointing a certain person was, as I was truly excited and happy to have met them. But it turns out they just couldn't seem to take all the joy we felt and just let things happen.

It almost seemed that the better things got, the more frightened he felt. And it all just got into a tangled bundle of pain and confusion as the past resurfaced and fears, guilt and regret overtook his path forward.

And as hurtful as that all is, I now reframe to think how exciting it is that I actually came

close to thinking I could love someone again.

That is good news! I have within me the capacity and ability to open up to someone, to start to wonder if what I'm feeling is going to be something that I - we - hold onto. And it's a long time since I've felt that. So maybe I am simply a little further along on my pathway to discovering love, to finding that soul companion I've wondered if I'll ever meet.

So if you've been going through a rough run with romance, and feel like it's all been a waste of time, maybe you too can focus on how YOU were able to give and not on how they were able to hurt.

Focus on the love that is possible, that there is a growing strength inside you that you are getting closer to discovering truly magnificent things with someone you haven't yet met. Don't do as I have done previously and bury yourself in so much work and commitment that you justify shutting down being open to others and bury the desire of wondering if there's somebody out there for you. It's not healthy, it's not what life is all about, and you're wasting not only time but the beautiful wonderful energy you have to give.

And when you reframe, and realise the wealth of love you have in your heart to give, it will make you smile, it will make you feel connected to this wonderful life and it will make you realise that this is what makes you a beautiful person, a beautiful human being.

For when you allow yourself to love, freely and without hesitation, without fear of rejection or hurt, then you in turn allow others to do the same.

Be brave my darlings, and do not fear how love can hurt you - instead choose not to live life without love.

What a woman wants is her perfect partner to appear and join her to live a wonderful loving life, but what a woman also needs to see is that by being in touch with the love that is in her own heart she is already giving this to all those around her, her children, her family, her friends and her world.

Love yourself and those around you first, and surely, surely, surely love with a partner will find you.

My fingers are crossed.

Until next month, and always with love,  
*Abby*

PS you can reach me at [life@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:life@docklandsnews.com.au) or join me on insta and facebook [@abbyjanecrawford](https://www.facebook.com/abbyjanecrawford)



Abby Crawford  
[life@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:life@docklandsnews.com.au)

Letters to the Editor

**Confusion over place names**

I have just read your April edition. As a new Dockland resident (Forge building three months), I really enjoy your content to keep me a breast of what is happening, but I am confused by the names given to areas as follows:

Page 7 "Councillors unimpressed with request"

This article starts off by referring the Lendlease's Collins Wharf development, but quickly refers to "its ambition for the North Wharf area".

I'm not sure but believe that Collins Wharf refers to the area between ANZ and the recently completed Lendlease apartment block at the end of Collins St. Whereas everything else along North Wharf Rd is actually North Wharf, not Collins Wharf - yes?

And then at P14 "New hotel for North Wharf" article is not actually referring to North Wharf (as above) but the area opposite DFO which the article later properly calls Northbank?

And whilst I am at it, what is the wharf area in the middle of Victoria Harbour called? Hope I'm not being too picky, but I am keen to monitor new developments and having agreement on the areas would assist greatly. Talking to my neighbours it is also clear that they are confused also.

Maybe an official map naming each area could be published.

Thanks again, I really do enjoy reading *Docklands News*

Regards,  
*Tony Donohue*

**Editor's reply**

Thanks for your letter.

I agree that North Wharf is a somewhat ambiguous term.

I stand to be corrected on this, but we use the term to describe pretty much everything on the north bank of the river from the Spencer St Bridge to the end of the "peninsula" near the Bolte Bridge. We do this because we understand that this was how the berths were described when the river was used as a port. The berths were numbered. For example, the Riverlee development referred to in our "New hotel

for North Wharf" story is described as Berth 5, North Wharf".

The term Collins Wharf is a recent descriptor coined by Lendlease to describe its new residential development in Victoria Harbour (Victoria Harbour being used to describe the precinct and not the body of water!). Lendlease uses the term to describe everything along the river west of the ANZ Centre to the control tower at the end of the peninsula.

The pier in the middle of Victoria Harbour is called Central Pier.

Regards  
*Shane Scanlan*

**Public toilet woes**

Yo, what's up with all the public toilets in Docklands?

The public toilet under the NAB has gone from one of the cleanest toilets in Melbourne to filthy. It's absolutely disgusting.

The public toilet in Cumberland St has been permanently locked for over a year, as has the public toilet on the Footscray side of the piazza.

The toilet on the city side of the piazza is closed for unknown reasons on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and has had graffiti in the disabled toilet since before Christmas. The graffiti has been there so long its actually been graffitied over ...

I wonder if whoever pays to have these toilets maintained realises that they're paying to have toilets cleaned that don't (or rarely) actually open.

Also, I'd like to know if there is ever any analysis done of bacteria in them, as I bet dollars to donuts that taps, walls and doorhandles haven't been cleaned in a long while.

*"Spend a Penny"*



*Council is installing this toilet on the Harbour Esplanade. See our story on page 7.*

**Options will be considered**

I'm pleased to advise that Hon Jacinta Allan MP Minister for Transport Infrastructure and the director of communications and engagement and the Department of Transport have responded to my emails and are honouring their election promise to consider alternatives to a tram bridge from Collins to Lorimer streets.

We all agree that the best way to provide transport to Fishermans Bend redevelopment is rail with trains carrying up to 1000 passengers and most trams carrying up to about 200 passengers.

The latest in transport technology are trackless trams which can carry up to 500 passengers and are considerably cheaper to roll out than light rail and can run on existing roads with rubber wheels. They are run on rechargeable batteries and don't require expensive rails and wires and have to be better for our environment.

They have agreed to look at an immersed tube option under the Yarra River which can be used for various transport modes and would be ideal to carry containers from Webb to Swanson Docks, thus eliminating the need for road transport along busy Lorimer St which would reduce much congestion particularly at the Montague St intersection.

We have also lodged a Legislative Council e-petition to be heard by the Upper House prior to September this year. If anyone would like to sign our petition use this link - <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/council/petitions/electronic-petitions/view-e-petitions/details/12/119>

It is very important if you object to the current tram bridge proposal that you voice your opinions this way.

This has been an ongoing concern over many years for residents from Docklands and Yarra's Edge and many boat owners who will loose access to Marina YE which is one of Melbourne's most photographed tourist attractions.

Hopefully the government will consult widely with the many stakeholders when considering their options.

*Keith Sutherland*  
*Chairman*  
*Yarra Residents Action Group*



**Is this an accident waiting to happen?**

A growing number of commuter cyclists from or to the Moonee Ponds Creek / Capital City Trail or Footscray bicycle path are cutting through NewQuay Promenade, to save a few minutes off their journey.

They're doing so to not have to stop at the several traffic lights along the route, or bustle along with other cycling traffic.

Is this a problem or just my perception? I get so nervous when I see these cyclists speeding on NewQuay Promenade, especially in the afternoon when they weave their way through visitors, children, dogs and their walkers and residents.

I don't have access to data that outlines how many people or animals were brushed, or injured by commuter cyclist on this stretch - but I'm sure it's happening and I'm not seeing anything being done about this problem.

What's the solution to speeding cyclists along a pedestrian boardwalk?

Gated entrances forcing cyclist to get off their bikes? Speeding limits and fines? Citizen reporting to the City Council or Police or VicRoads?

*Farah Hassim*



**Send your letters to**  
**news@docklandsnews.com.au**

10 Years On

Looking back in time, this is a story published in *Docklands News* - May 2009, Issue 42

**Little by little for Docklands Rotary**

Docklands' fledgling Rotary Club is inching closer to becoming chartered with 12 signed-up members as of late last month.

Club "mid-wife" Ann White said 20 people seemed to be the magical number when those who had been sitting back to wait and see became emboldened and finally submitted an application.

At its April 21 meeting at Moored, Waterfront City, the club was addressed by Laverton resident Barbara Irving who organised a camp for 54 bushfire-affected

children following the Black Saturday disaster.

Barbara intends to repeat the feat in June and is seeking assistance in sourcing manchester, toiletries, games, toys and other items that the children will take home with them. She can be contacted on 0412 867 931.

The club meets formally every fortnight, with a "happy hour" social meeting every other Tuesday night. The next happy hour will be held on May 12 from 6.30 to 7.30 at Watermark Bar, Victoria Harbour.

For further information about the club, Ms White can be contacted on 0402 306 790.



*Participants from the Docklands Rotary Club's April 21 meeting at Moored.*

# WHAT'S ON

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

### FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH 9.30AM-12PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK CHINESE BOOK CLUB

Come along for morning tea and a look at the new Chinese books at the Library at The Dock. Meet other readers, have a chat and find some new Chinese books, magazines or DVDs to borrow. **FREE**

### 7 AND 7.30 AM ON FRIDAYS AT THE HUB BASKETBALL COURTS EARLY MORNING FITNESS

\$10 per class after the first month. 30 minute high intensity classes designed to fire the metabolism and burn fat. Call Bill on 0438 628 301

### 11AM EVERY SUNDAY SUNDAY WORSHIP

City Light Methodist Church at St Peter the Mariner's Chapel. Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St. English and Chinese service  
中文

### TUESDAYS 6:30-8PM, THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, COMMUNITY HUB AT THE DOCK, 921 COLLINS ST. GIRL GUIDES DOCKLANDS

Girls aged 5-17 are invited to come to our Unit meetings. Helping girls gain new skills and make a difference in the community. 03 8606 3500 email: leilahusy@inet.net.au

### SCOUT GROUP PORT MELBOURNE

Is looking for Leaders, Adult Helpers and new Scouts for their scout troop located at the Fishermen's Bend Community Centre in Port Melbourne.

Susan Harris: portmelbscouts@gmail.com

### SATURDAY 4 MAY, 10.30AM-12PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK CRAFTY POT PLANTS

Learn how to make fun and interesting creations from recycled items in this **Dock Eco** recycled crafting session. Bookings Essential. **FREE**. dock-eco-recycled-crafting-tickets

### EVERY WEEKDAY 6.30AM CORNER OF SOUTH WHARF DR AND POINT PARK CRES, YARRA'S EDGE LIVE LIFE GET ACTIVE

Free outdoor fitness classes, including X-training, boxing and yoga. Register at [lifelifegetactive.com](http://lifelifegetactive.com)

### EVERY SUNDAY 10AM-5PM NEWQUAY PROMENADE DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

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

### WEEKNIGHTS – MON-THURS DOCKLANDS AND CITY SOCIAL NETBALL

Living inner city? Come and meet new people and burn some stress. Mixed teams and ladies over 18+ Call or text 0419 887 719 [melbournenetball.com.au](http://melbournenetball.com.au)

### TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS 12-2PM SATURDAYS 11AM-3PM SHED 2 ALMA DOEPEL RESTORATION

Tour "Behind the Scenes" the work involved in restoring this 115-year-old Australian three-masted top sail schooner. Learn the rich history, the purpose of the restoration and the challenges. **FREE**

### EVERY TUESDAY 2-4PM SASSONE, 70 LORIMER ST YARRA'S EDGE SOCIAL CLUB

Come along to connect with your neighbours, and/or join one of our mini-clubs. Casual & friendly. [www.facebook/YarrasEdgeSocialClub](http://www.facebook/YarrasEdgeSocialClub)

### 6.30 PM TO 8.30 PM 1ST, 3RD & 5TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - COMMUNITY ROOM MIGHTY DOCKLANDS TOAST- MASTERS

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

<http://mightydocklands.easy-speak.org/>

### EVERY 1ST & 3RD SATURDAY 10.30-11AM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK CODE CLUB

A fortnightly workshop that teaches children to code and improve their problem solving skills and logical thinking. For 9-11 year olds. Book via Eventbrite. 9658 9379 or [makerspace@melbourne.vic.gov.au](mailto:makerspace@melbourne.vic.gov.au)

### 2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH 4-5.15PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK JAZZ BREW CAFE

A monthly Docklands Jazz lounge at Library at The Dock's foyer. Sip some coffee while enjoying the diverse Jazz tunes. **FREE**

### EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 11AM-4PM DOCKLANDS YACHT CLUB COMMUNITY SAILING DAY

Come and try sailing with the community. No age limit and no fitness requirements. People with disabilities are welcome. **\$20**. [docklands.yachting.org.au](http://docklands.yachting.org.au)

### 2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH 2-4PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK ADHD SUPPORT GROUP

Peer-support meetings or Q&A sessions with expert about ADHD in adults. Adults affected by ADHD and their families and friends are encouraged to attend. \$2.

Facebook @AdultADHDMelbourne

### WEDNESDAYS 5.45-7PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK OPEN DOOR SINGERS DOCKLANDS

Find your voice, experience the joy of singing in a choir and meet new friends. [www.opendoorsingers.org.au](http://www.opendoorsingers.org.au)

### MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS 9AM-12PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK WESTJUSTICE

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

### FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH 10AM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB

Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities. Contact [mspc.docklands@gmail.com](mailto:mspc.docklands@gmail.com)

### EVERY SATURDAY 9.30AM COMMUNITY HUB AT THE DOCK CYSM SEA DRAGONS

Three free dragon boating sessions. Contact Vicky at

[cysm.seadragons@gmail.com](mailto:cysm.seadragons@gmail.com)  
[www.cysm.org/dragonboat](http://www.cysm.org/dragonboat)

### WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM SHED 2, NORTH WHARF RD DRAGON MASTERS DRAGON BOATING

Contact Jeff Saunders on 0417 219 888 or [Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au](mailto:Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au)

### LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS

#### STOMPERS MONDAYS AT 10.30AM

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

#### SONGBIRDS WEDNESDAYS AT 10.30AM

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

#### CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

WEDNESDAYS 4.30PM TO 5.30PM.

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

#### EVENING TABLE TENNIS EVERY THURSDAY 7-9PM

Challenge yourself with friends at this regular catch up of ping-pong enthusiasts.

#### TAI CHI AT THE DOCK EVERY THURSDAY 7.30-8.30AM

Come along to find your inner peace and power at this weekly community Tai Chi session that is open to people from all walks of life. The ancient Chinese martial art is a tranquil and graceful way to keep fit. Beginners welcome. **FREE**

#### PRESCHOOL STORYTIME FRIDAYS AT 10.30AM

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

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 Email: [vicharbourpharmacy@nunet.com.au](mailto:vicharbourpharmacy@nunet.com.au)

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# DOCKLANDS NEWS

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## How amazing is that!

By Rosanna Maccarrone

*The "Illusionaire Magic" show runs like clock work every Saturday at 7.30pm at the Mission to Seafarers in Flinders St, Docklands.*

But on April 6, 10 minutes before show time, its sound person, AJ (Aaron) Sherwood, received a life-changing phone call.

With apprehension on his face, he approached Sam Angelico (Illusionist and proprietor of the show) and said: "I've got some really bad news."

Taken aback Sam asked: "What's happened?" AJ replied: "I've got to go ... I've got to go like right NOW! My wife, Lucy, has just gone into labour ... I've got to take her to hospital."

Now picture this: All the patrons have arrived, eager and in anticipation to see the magic show and are waiting to be seated. The sound person is essential to the show. It's like ballet - it has to have music.

At this point, the only possible solution appeared to be cancelling the show. Previous sound technicians were called to no avail.

AJ called a friend: "Mate, can you come and cover me at my job?" and in 10 minutes his true (but unqualified) mate arrives.

Daniel Tanner appears as if from nowhere. Apparently he lives just up the road and around the corner. What are the chances?



Rosanna Maccarrone and Sam Angelico.

He lives next door to Southern Cross Station.

Apparently Lucy was visiting Daniel's wife when her waters broke.

Daniel, who works as a disabled carer by day, learned to be a sound tech in less than 10 minutes.

He'd never done anything like this before. He followed the running sheet, remembered cues, took instructions from the performers and the adrenaline was pumping.

Thankfully, the patrons were very

understanding, all agreeing: "When the baby comes, the baby comes."

At 7.45pm the show was back on track and everything went ahead without a hitch! Daniel was just amazing and hit all the right notes. He was offered a job!

The Sherwoods had a beautiful healthy baby boy. They named him Atticas. He came into the world on the same birthday as his mother.

How amazing is that!



## E-Gate activity

*Locals may have noticed site preparation works at E-Gate alongside Footscray Rd.*

The activity is not the start of the overdue 20ha urban renewal. Rather, it is preparation for the site to be used as a depot for the West Gate Tunnel project.

A spokesperson for the project told *Docklands News*: "The West Gate Tunnel Project is preparing for major works as we extend Wurundjeri Way to connect with Dynon Rd, and build the important connections to the port and from the West Gate Freeway to CityLink and the CBD."

"One of the project's major construction compounds will be in E-Gate to provide a base for workers, equipment and machinery."

"Recent works include site clearing, removing redundant rail track and installing site sheds."

"In the coming weeks, works will start to relocate utilities and prepare for piling to strengthen the ground for the installation of the elevated road."

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