

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Classic cars line the harbour

Docklands was a car lover's paradise last month when the annual Tour Classica departed from NewQuay.

The tour kicked off the Motorclassica exhibition, an annual event that sees Australia's most rare, historic, vintage, veteran, classic and collectible cars and motorcycles on display.

With the exhibition held at the Royal Exhibition Building from October 23 to 25, the tour on October 22 saw some 60 classic cars travel from NewQuay through the city to the exhibition building.

Local waterways reform in tatters

An agreement to reform the governance of Docklands' waterways spectacularly collapsed last month.

After nearly a year at the table, the major stakeholders hammered out a compromise position, which pointed to the establishment of an independent single authority for local waterways.

But at the final meeting of the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group on October 16, Parks Victoria (PV) unexpectedly withdrew support for the consensus position.

It is understood that PV chair Andrew Fairley and acting CEO Chris Rose would not accept the committee's collective recommendation.

Yarra River Business Association (YRBA) representative John Ahern said PV's move was an unexpected "slap in the face that had

come from nowhere".

Mr Ahern said industry representatives on the working group would not be putting their name to any final report which did not reflect the previously-agreed and minuted position.

Mr Ahern said he hoped to organise a delegation of industry representatives to speak about the matter with new Parks Victoria CEO Bradley Fauteux after he starts in the role on November 16.

The Docklands Community Forum has previously identified waterways governance as one of three priority issues for the suburb.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president

Joh Maxwell said great hope had been held that governance reform would result in a single independent authority. Currently numerous organisations and multiple uncoordinated pieces of legislation govern what happens on local waterways.

Mrs Maxwell said the current system was too complicated and Docklands would not reach its full potential without waterways governance reform.

"It is pretty clear to everyone that a single independent waterways authority is needed," Mrs Maxwell said.

The Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group was chaired by Tony Kelly and was originally expected to report to the Minister

for Environment, Climate Change and Water, Lisa Neville, in May.

Mr Kelly did not respond to phone calls from *Docklands News*, but is understood that Ms Neville may be now be presented with competing options.

YRBA executive officer Tim Bracher said he was very disappointed and deflated that consensus had been abandoned.

Mr Bracher questioned why industry representatives had bothered to sit down with Parks Victoria in good faith for so long if the result was going to be "back to status quo".

Continued on page 13.

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Watergate OC lodges appeal

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Tel: 8689 7979 Fax: 9602 2929
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The Watergate Owners' Corporation (OC) has lodged a Supreme Court appeal against the VCAT decision that found it did not have the power to make rules prohibiting short-stays.

In September, VCAT member Linda Rowland published her orders on the case, which was brought to VCAT after the OC alleged multiple owners of short-stay apartments had breached OC rules.

She not only found against the OC, but also ordered it to pay the VCAT costs of the short-stay party.

The OC is appealing both Member Rowland's decision and the costs order in the Supreme Court, with the first directions hearing set down for November 11.

The VCAT case had focused on action taken by the OC against nine owners of apartments used as short-stays, with the OC alleging the nine owners had breached multiple OC rules, in particular relating to length of stay.

Docklands Executive Apartment operator Paul Salter had represented all of the owners at VCAT.

However, Member Rowland found that the OC did not have the power to make the rules it alleged had been breached.

The Supreme Court case will proceed on two of the nine matters, one being Mr Salter's own apartment, with the remaining seven cases struck-out, with right of reinstatement pending the outcome of the appeal.

Mr Salter confirmed he would be defending Member Rowland's VCAT decision if the case

proceeded to the Supreme Court.

The OC was able to lodge the Supreme Court appeal after its interim special resolution was finalised last month.

The OC achieved the interim resolution on September 14, with 95.5 per cent of those who voted in favour of the appeal. This equated to 53 per cent of the lot entitlement.

Less than 25 per cent of the lot entitlement opposed the resolution in the following 29 days, allowing it to be made official.

Appeal documentation submitted by the OC to the Supreme Court shows the OC is appealing the VCAT decision on a number of grounds, including:

- The tribunal erred in law in holding that the OC did not have the power to make rules restricting length of stay or the use of lots or common property for commercial purposes;
- The tribunal erred in law by holding that rules restricting length of stay or commercial use were invalid;
- The tribunal erred in law by maintaining the OC had no power to regulate the use of a private lot;
- The tribunal erred in law by not upholding the OC's claims; and
- The tribunal erred in law by ordering the

OC to pay the respondents VCAT costs.

The OC is seeking a number of orders from the Supreme Court, including:

- That the VCAT orders be set aside;
- That the respondents be ordered to cease using or permitting the use of their unit for the purposes of short-term accommodation;
- That respondents be ordered to comply with all of the additional rules of the OC; and
- That the respondents pay the OC's VCAT costs.

Alternatively, the OC asks that VCAT's orders and reasons for its decisions be remitted to the tribunal with the Supreme Court's opinion on the questions of law determined for reconsideration.

The OC is also seeking costs of the Supreme Court proceedings.

The appeal will be the second time the Supreme Court has dealt with the matter of short-stays at Watergate after an earlier legal battle between the City of Melbourne and Mr Salter.

Alongside VCAT, issues relating to Watergate short-stays have also appeared at the Building Appeals Board and the Supreme Court's Court of Appeals.

Social Club is a hit

Docklands Social Club returned with a bang with about 20 local people catching up at the Nixon Hotel on October 14.

The club is a monthly informal gathering held every second Wednesday of the month at a different location in Docklands.

Organiser Andy said three local couples would share the organisational duties which would ensure it did not become a burden.

He explained that larger venues would be used in the beginning as their kitchens were more able to cope with unknown numbers.

No bookings are required. "Everyone is welcome and it's just a matter of turning up on the night," he said. "It was great to see how quickly we all we found so much to chat about."

The next gathering will be at Platform 28 at 7pm on Wednesday, November 11. There will be no function in December.



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From left: Campbell Walker, Michael Ibbott, Matthew Reid and Michael Aladjem

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Rone could be spotted working on his mural at M Docklands throughout October. He's pictured with the artwork mid-way through the process.

Wharf rebuild

Places Victoria expects to begin rebuilding wharves along Harbour Esplanade in the first half of next year.

The urban renewal authority is currently waiting on approval from the State Government in order to proceed with the work.

“Construction to rebuild the wharves either side of Central Pier on Docklands’ Harbour Esplanade is planned to begin in early to mid 2016, subject to Places Victoria receiving approval from the State Government,” Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson said.

“Places Victoria is already working with all stakeholders in the vicinity to minimise disruption during the works and the Hortus café will continue to operate near the Cow Up A Tree public art during the works.”

Demolition and removal of wharves, which are more than a century old, started last November in preparation for Harbour Esplanade’s redevelopment.

According to Mr Wilson, the master plan for Harbour Esplanade will be realised in stages over the next 10 years, as funding becomes available.

“The Harbour Esplanade master plan includes plans for green open space, improved connections and a number of zones, including exhibition and events, water transport, heritage vessel and recreation zone featuring a water play area,” Mr Wilson said.

“There is potential for some buildings, such as restored heritage sheds, where people can buy an ice-cream or visit a gallery, which we know from community engagement is what people want to do along Harbour Esplanade.”

“The community will continue to have the opportunity to provide feedback on future stages of Harbour Esplanade’s redevelopment.”

Street cred for Docklands

By Jack Hayes

Adding to an already extensive collection of public art, the Docklands area is now the proud owner of a piece by internationally-renowned street artist, Rone.

Famous for his sumptuous paintings of glamorous women, in particular an often-recurring image of his so-called Jane Doe, Rone has quickly become one of Melbourne’s most influential and featured street artists.

The piece of artwork *Edge of your Seat* was commissioned by Capital Alliance to grace the walls of its residential tower and 5-star hotel project M Docklands.

Rone admitted unequivocally, this new project ventures far beyond realms of his comfort zone.

Situated at the LaTrobe Street entry to Etihad Stadium, Rone’s huge mural draws on the angst and elation of AFL supporters, with both a historical and personal twist.

“It’s about that moment of anticipation, when it can go either way. Changing of identity. When the team wins you win, but when the team lose you lose. You no longer have your own identity and switches to something else,” he said.

The artwork presents a unique adaptation from classic AFL club logos of Geelong and Carlton, along with the iconic figures of the Brownlow Medal and AFL Premiership Cup.

“A lot of the stuff in the background is personal to me and is familiar to a lot of other people. I’ve seen a lot of people come past and stand here reading it confused and not quite sure what it is about. I find it cool that they recognise things but then are, like, wait that’s not right. “

Unlike his fleeting interest in AFL (the last match he saw was in 1992) and most of his other bodies of work, this piece may stand the test of time.

“I’ve never done a wall that has had to last longer than a couple of months. I personally quite like the idea that my work is ephemeral, so this is a new challenge for me. This one might be here for 25 years. I had to take into consideration the paint and the way it’s going to look in 25 years,” he said.

The artwork will be officially launched this month and M Docklands is expected to open in February next year.


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Owners ordered to replace cladding

Some 400 Lacrosse apartment owners have been ordered to replace the non-compliant cladding which covers their building.

The City of Melbourne's municipal building surveyor last month issued building orders to the owners, requiring them to replace the cladding, which will make the building compliant with the Building Code of Australia.

Owners have 350 days to replace the cladding and have 30 days to appeal the orders to the Building Appeals Board.

In November last year, a fire, started by a stray cigarette, quickly spread up the outside of the building, causing more than \$5 million worth of damage.

An MFB report found that combustible materials used in the non-compliant external cladding contributed to the spread of the blaze.

"We have great sympathy for the owners of properties in the Lacrosse building. Although the building has been deemed safe for now, the external cladding needs to be brought into compliance with the Building Code of Australia," City of Melbourne CEO Ben Rimmer said.

"We appreciate that owners will feel aggrieved that they have purchased properties that have been found to have a defect and that they may be seeking compensation, however that is a matter between them and other parties," Mr Rimmer said.

Mr Rimmer said under the Victorian Building Act, it was not possible to make the building orders against any other parties.



Damage to a balcony following the Lacrosse fire.

"Owners and owners' corporations are strongly encouraged to work together to respond to the orders. The changes required to the building exterior are the same for all owners and is likely to require a whole-of-building response," Mr Rimmer said.

The building orders come after the council issued "show cause" notices to Lacrosse owners in June, asking them to set out how they intend to make their properties compliant with the Australian Building Code.

The City of Melbourne held an information session for owners on October 27, as *Docklands News* was going to print, to discuss the building orders.

Fraser Main, the director of Lacrosse facilities management company Trevor Main Group, said the company was focused on getting the best outcome for owners and residents "as fairly and quickly as possible".

Mr Main told *Docklands News* earlier this year that it was both the owners' and Trevor Main Group's position that the owners would not be liable for expenses related to making the building compliant.

"The owners' position is that the cost of that compliance would be paid for by the insurance policy, or by those who were responsible for the design and construction," Mr Main said at the time.

The Victorian Building Authority is continuing its investigation into LU Simon Builders and the relevant building surveyor in relation to the use of non-compliant external cladding, which was found to have contributed to the spread of the fire.



Watergate building manager Marshall Delves, with owners' corporation president Barbara Francis and Capital Green Solutions managing director Leigh Davies.

Lighting the way

The Watergate building has boosted its green credentials, completing the installation of LED lights in all common areas.

The final stage of the process was the changeover of more than 700 light fittings in the building's car park, which was completed at the end of September.

According to Watergate OC president Barbara Francis, the decision to change the lights to LED was a "no-brainer" when considering the significant cost-savings for the building.

According to building manager Marshall Delves, the new lighting will save the building \$2300 a month on its power bill, along with an estimated \$3000 saving per month on reduced maintenance and repair costs.

The building had replaced hallway lights with LEDs two years earlier and Mr Delves said this change had led to savings of \$70,000 per year.

Mr Delves also said a leasing agreement meant the building could pay back the cost of the new lights from the power savings over the next two years.

Capital Green Solutions carried out the lighting upgrade and managing director Leigh Davies said, in the car park alone, the new lights would save more than 103,000 kilowatts of energy each year, effectively halving the power usage.

He also explained that the new LED lights had a much longer life expectancy of 12 to 14 years compared with the standard two-year lifespan of a fluorescent light, meaning Watergate won't have to worry about replacing lights anytime soon.

The building also benefited from the State Government's energy efficiency scheme, which will see it receive a rebate of \$14,400 covering some of the costs.

Ms Francis said innovations like the new lighting made Watergate a more attractive place to live.

"It raises the standard of the building and maintains a high level of living," Ms Francis said.



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E-Gate stalls

By Bethany Williams

The E-Gate project appears to have stalled, with the State Government yet to select, or even shortlist, developers to construct the new suburb to our immediate north.

Expressions of interest to develop the 20 ha site closed on February 19 this year but, according to a Major Projects Victoria spokesperson, the Government is still considering the submissions.

“No developers have been short-listed or selected to develop the site yet,” the spokesperson said.

“To protect the probity of the E-Gate procurement process, details on the number, nature or source of the submissions cannot be provided.”

Slides illustrating a speech by Planning Minister Richard Wynne to the Property Council on October 27 did not include E-Gate in a map of future inner city urban renewal areas. Docklands, Fishermans Bend and Arden were marked on the map.

When questioned why E-Gate was not there, Mr Wynne didn't say.

He said: “If you think about E-Gate in the context of the new Melbourne Metro Rail station, this will be basically in the middle, around Queensberry St in North Melbourne, that is going to open up that whole area. It's seen as being both Arden/Macaulay and E-Gate. It's part of the plan for the greater growth of the area.”

While Major Projects isn't giving anything else away, some have drawn connections between the lack of movement and the Western Distributor proposal currently being assessed by the State Government.

The proposal, put forward by toll road operator Transurban, would connect the West Gate Freeway with CityLink near Footscray Rd. The new road is proposed to also continue beyond CityLink towards Docklands but its exit point remains (literally) up in the air.

The most recent Western Distributor design update was released in September and shows the elevated road above Footscray Rd ending approximately adjacent to the E-Gate site, around the point of Costco.

A Transurban spokesperson said the proposal included freeway-to-freeway connections with CityLink and that connections with the city were still being explored.

The spokesperson did not comment on how Western Distributor would connect with E-Gate.

Other elements of the Western Distributor proposal include additional lanes in each direction on the West Gate Freeway and a tunnel under Yarraville.

See our story (right) for further detail on the proposal and potential impacts on Docklands.

The State Government is yet to make a decision on the Western Distributor proposal.

However, Transurban says it understands the Government expects to make a decision about whether it should proceed to the next stage of assessment by the end of the year.

As for E-Gate, it's unclear when any movement on the project can be expected.

The idea of redeveloping the 20-hectare site, bounded by Dudley St, the railway line, Moonee Ponds Creek and Footscray Rd was first floated in 2009.

In 2012 the State Government funded a \$2 million business case to assess the potential of the site and in 2013 committed \$2.14 million to progress E-Gate planning.

In October last year the State Government opened the Expressions of Interest process.

At the time, the Government said it expected the 20 ha project would generate \$3-4 billion worth of investment in Victoria.



The most recent Western Distributor design update shows the elevated road ending in the middle of Footscray Road.

River crossing could mean more cars

Plans for a new river crossing could mean thousands more cars on Docklands' roads.

Toll road operator Transurban's Western Distributor proposal to the State Government would see an elevated road cross the Maribyrnong River and run above Footscray Rd.

According to the most recent design update, released in September, the road would end on Footscray Rd, around the point of Costco.

But exactly how the new road would connect with existing Docklands roads is not yet clear.

“The proposal includes freeway-to-freeway connection to CityLink and city connectivity options are still being explored, including improvements to Footscray Rd,” a Transurban spokesperson said.

It's understood the formal approval process for the project would include the completion of detailed traffic assessments.

The Western Distributor proposal also includes plans for two additional lanes in each direction on the West Gate Freeway, between the M80 Ring Road and Williamstown Road, and a tunnel under Yarraville. It will cost at least \$5 billion and, if approved by the State Government, Transurban would fund the majority of the cost.

Greens Melbourne MLA Ellen Sandell was critical of the proposal and the extra traffic it was likely to bring into Docklands and the CBD.

“The current proposal for this tunnel means thousands more cars will be funnelled into the Docklands and CBD, increasing grid lock in the city,” Ms Sandell said.

“All around the world cities are doing their best to get people onto public transport and stop too many cars clogging up their CBD. This proposal does the exact opposite, meaning more traffic, more congestion, more pollution and a less liveable city.”

According to the Transurban spokesperson, the Western Distributor proposal was developed to address long-standing traffic issues in the inner west and along the congested West Gate corridor.

The spokesperson said community information sessions and pop-up stands had been held in both Docklands and West Melbourne.

“The proposal is still in the early stages of development and there will continue to be more opportunities for local residents to be involved, including through a formal planning and approvals process,” the spokesperson said.

The State Government is currently considering the proposal and Transurban says it understands the Government expects to make a decision on whether to proceed to the next stage of assessment by the end of the year.

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Celebrating maritime art

Maritime art from around Australia will be on show in Docklands this month when the Mission to Seafarers' Maritime Art Awards and Exhibition opens.

The annual exhibition, which opens to the public on November 7, celebrates maritime-themed art and also raises funds for the work of the mission.

The Mission to Seafarers has operated at its current Flinders St base since 1917 and today provides services to seafarers visiting the Port of Melbourne, which welcomes 60,000 seafarers each year.

This year entries were received from NSW, Queensland, WA, SA, Tasmania and Victoria, all responding to the annual theme "the relationship between humanity and the sea".

Some 91 artworks will be on display at the exhibition, all vying to win one of the four awards on offer.

Artists will compete for the \$15,000 ANL Maritime Art Award, the \$5000 ASP Ship Management Traditional Maritime Art Award, the \$5000 Bendigo Wealth Emerging Artist Award and the \$2500 Nevile and Co. Commercial Lawyers Highly Commended Award.

Managing director of ANL Container Line John Lines will announce the winners and officially open the exhibition on November 6.

"ANL is very proud to sponsor the ANL Maritime Art Award in support of the Mission to Seafarers fantastic work in caring for seafarers' welfare," Mr Lines said.

"The mission provides seafarers from all over the world a safe haven in an unfamiliar port, a place for well-earned rest and recreation plus a friendly smile and warm heart in times of need when family and friends are thousands of miles away."

"Our seafarers often work in trying and treacherous conditions and the vital role of seafarers in global trade and regional transport is sometimes forgotten," he said.



Warren Lane's "The ship at the end of the street" will be on display at the exhibition.

"We all need to remember the prosperity that Australia enjoys today has been built on the efforts of all the seafarers trading to, from and around Australia."

Visitors to the exhibition are invited to cast their vote for their favourite painting and the Svitzer People's Choice Award will be announced at the end of the exhibition.

Mission to Seafarers CEO Andrea Fleming encouraged locals and visitors to stop by the mission during November and explore the exhibition.

"November is a beautiful time for visitors to enjoy the prestigious Docklands art exhibition and perhaps a glass of wine in the mission's secret garden," Ms Fleming said.

"It will be in full bloom with thanks to our volunteer gardener and local Docklands resident Tom, who has had a bit of help this year from Bunnings Collingwood to ensure that the birds and bees have a CBD sanctuary, as well as the visiting seafarers," Ms Fleming said.

The ANL Art Awards and Exhibition began in 2002 and has grown to become Australia's leading maritime art awards.

This year's exhibition opens to the public on November 7 and can be viewed from midday to 6pm daily until November 26.

All artworks selected for the exhibition are available for purchase and pay a 33 per cent commission towards the charitable work of the Mission to Seafarers.

Final lunch approaches

The last Docklands Networking Lunch for 2015 is on next month, so get in quick to reserve your seat.

Hosted by *Docklands News* and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, the quarterly lunches offer a great opportunity for local business people to meet and network.

The final networking lunch for the year will be held in the Harbour View room at the Woolshed Pub, Central Pier from 12 noon on Friday, November 20.

We've chosen November to avoid the busy December period.

The menu for the November lunch is:

Shared starter

A trio of house made dips, sourdough bread & olives. Shearer's Board with cured meats, cheese, pickles & sourdough bread (Gluten free bread available on request).

Mains

Choice of: Crisp fried fish & chips with mixed leaf salad & house tartare (GFO); OR Woolshed burger, 200g dry-aged beef, lettuce, tomato, beetroot, bacon, onions, house relish & hand cut chips; OR Eggplant & ricotta involtini with pinenuts, parmesan & wild rocket salad (GF, V)

Dessert

Sticky date pudding with vanilla bean ice cream, butterscotch sauce; OR Orange & almond cake, whipped mascarpone, caramel syrup (GF)(DFO)

Beverages

White and red wine, tap beers and non-alcoholic beverages.

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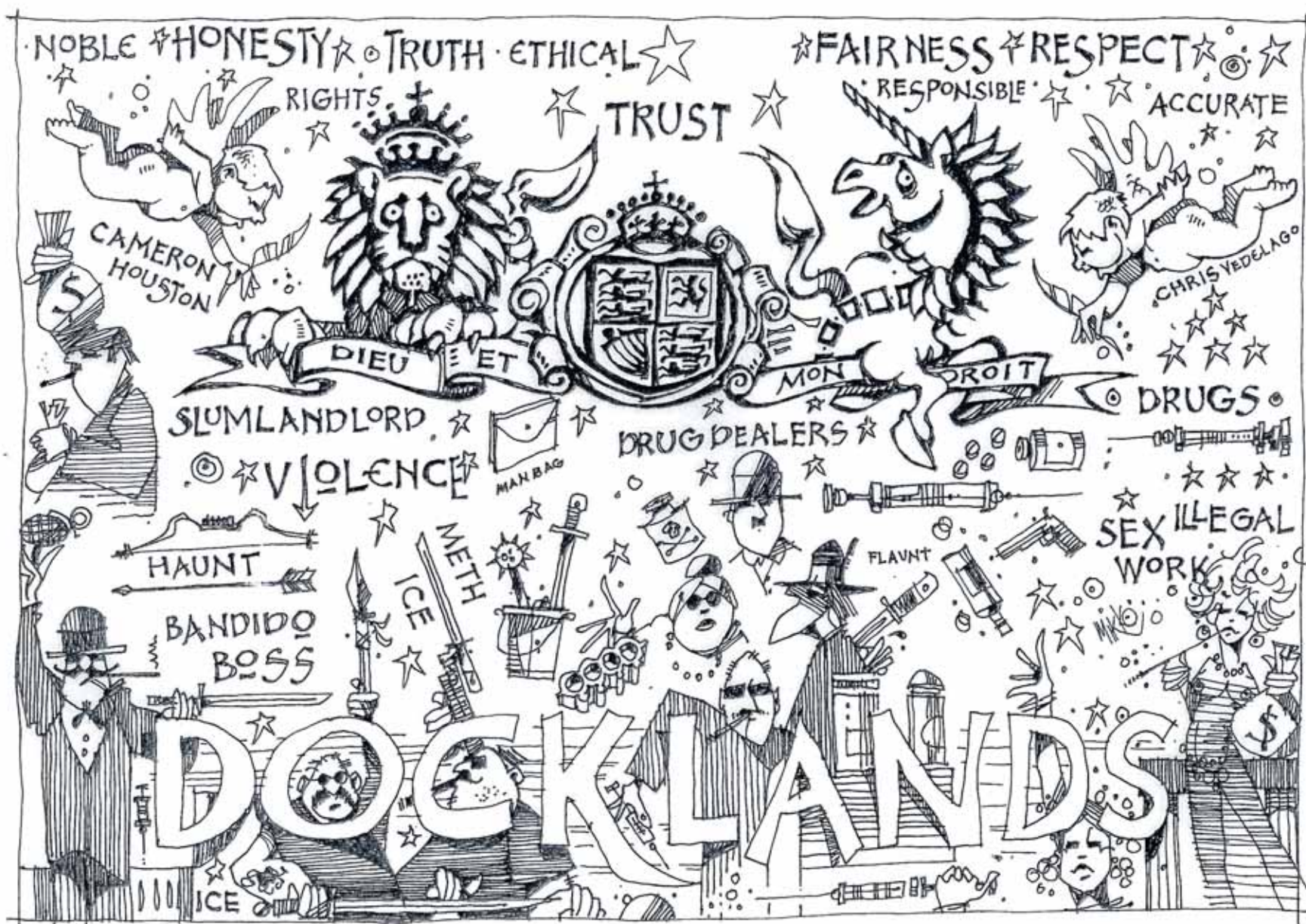
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Docklanders were flattened and disappointed by the latest Docklands bashing in The Age newspaper last month. Reporters Chris Vedelago and Cameron Houston plumbed new lows in their Sunday Age report on October 18. We thought we'd let our cartoon communicate our response.



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Local school approved

Docklands families will have a local school option after Melbourne councillors last month approved a proposal for a vertical school on King St.

Private school Haileybury College will open an early learning centre at the CBD campus as early as next year and will cater for prep to year 12 students from 2017 and 2018.

The school will be a first for the city and comes as a great relief to inner-city families who have thus far lacked local schooling options.

The approval is particularly impressive considering the school proposal was initially met with 62 objections relating primarily to traffic and congestion concerns.

However, following a consultation session with objectors, by the time councillors considered the proposal at the September 6 Future Melbourne Committee Meeting not one objection remained.

The major turn-around was achieved after the school agreed to drop the number of enrolled students from 1300 students by 2025 to just 774 students.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle expressed his amazement at the turn of events, saying he had "never seen this before".

"I don't think we've ever seen an application where there were 62 objections and no objections on the night (when the proposal was considered by council) because the applicant has been prepared to work with those objections, particularly around number of students and therefore traffic and I think that is a great credit to Haileybury," Cr Doyle said.

The approved proposal will see an existing 10-storey vacant office tower on King St, just west of LaTrobe St, refurbished to cater for an early learning centre and a prep-to-year-12 school.

The school, which also has campuses in Keysborough, Brighton and Berwick, purchased the building from Singaporean developer Aspiat Corporation last year for \$50 million.

Haileybury College principal Derek Scott said the school started to consider a CBD school six years ago and began closely analysing demographic data.

"It became clear about four years ago that



Haileybury College Derek Scott on the rooftop of the new CBD campus.

trends were continuing and that the short-term trends and long term demographic trends were in support of an inner-city school," Mr Scott said.

He said a KPMG study supported the long-term trends over the next 30 years.

Mr Scott said the school hoped to begin refurbishment work in November.

Refurbishment plans include alterations to the buildings exterior; outdoor play areas on the podium and building roofs; and creating sports and indoor recreation facilities on the top floor.

The proposal also includes a plan to create a pick-up and drop-off area on the upper level of the basement in a bid to reduce traffic congestion on the street.

School starting times will also be staggered for the junior, middle and senior schools to lessen the traffic impact of students arriving and departing.

Mr Scott said the school didn't want to bring more cars into the city and would be covering the cost of public transport for staff.

"We think this should be an opportunity to provide an education facility that's sustainable and sees people walk, ride bikes and catch public transport in," Mr Scott said.

He said the school had already received an "extraordinary response" from the public with two-thirds of enquiries coming from within the City of Melbourne region.

Mr Scott said most of the enquiries had been received from the CBD, Docklands, Kensington and West Melbourne from people struggling to find spaces for their children in local schools.

Local parent and Docklands Community Forum representative Janine Standfield welcomed news of a local school but said a local public school was still needed.

"We welcome any school, but this won't alleviate the issue that there should be public schooling options for local families," Ms Standfield said.

Cr Jackie Watts also commented on the need for local public schooling at the Future Melbourne Committee Meeting last month saying; "I hope it (Haileybury College's CBD campus) will be complemented before too long with some state education."

The Department of Education and Training (DEET) is currently completing a review to assess school needs in Docklands, North Melbourne, the CBD and Carlton.

It will hold a workshop in Docklands on Thursday, October 29 from 6pm to 8pm at the Melbourne Star.

DEET spokesperson Steve Tolley said: "A workshop is being held to ask local people for feedback on the review's approach and help develop a rigorous process for determining school provision needs, as well as share information and explore local issues and perspectives."

Rediscovering the Docks

By Jack Hayes

In the 90s Docklands was seen as an abandoned industrial wasteland, devoid of culture and identity: that was until the rise of Melbourne's underground rave scene.

A new exhibition titled, *The Docks*, delves into the contemporary history of alternative cultural activities held in the sheds at the Victoria Docks.

At a time when the once-thriving working docks were seen as a barren haunt, a series of cultural events were lighting up that forgotten end of the city: electronic music, circus schools, women's warehouse parties, Queer stage spectacles and dirt bike competitions were all part of this new scene.

The interactive exhibition is officially launched in conjunction with Melbourne Music Week on Friday, November 13.


The following day will host the Melbourne Shuffle-athon, where participants are taught the iconic dance movement, which was born from the Melbourne music scene of the 80s and 90s. The "shuffle" is a full body masterpiece that uses dance as art.

Saturday will also feature the *Style Circle: Fashion at The Docks* - celebrating fashion in the 90s and encouraging attendees to dust off their fishnet singlets, big, big pants and fluffy anything.

The final segment will be *The Dock's Memory Walk* - a journey around Docklands to rehash the electronic music, fashion, dance, drugs, graffiti art and camaraderie that shaped the notorious raves and cultural events held in the former working sheds.

DJs, VJs, promoters, organisers and ravers join for a nostalgic look at our city's more recent, and yet sometimes hazy, past.

Co-presented by Melbourne Raves, Electronic Music Alliance Australia and Monash Art Design and Architecture, the exhibition shines an unheralded light on an often dark piece of Melbourne history.



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Ron Barassi Snr Park now open

Docklanders now have a place to kick the footy, share a barbecue and take their kids to play after Ron Barassi Snr Park was officially opened last month.

Around 600 locals and visitors flocked to the park open day on October 10 for an introduction to the new public facility.

Kids enjoyed sports clinics with Melbourne Football Club and Melbourne Victory, along with face painting and entertainment.

Located at NewQuay West, the \$15 million first stage of the park includes a sports field, pavilion, playground, barbecues and a walking circuit.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and Planning Minister Richard Wynne both attended the open day to officially launch the new park.

Mr Wynne said Docklands was only 60 per cent finished but had already attracted more than \$10 billion worth of investment.

“Ron Barassi Snr Park is a new milestone for Docklands, making it more liveable and a healthy place to call home.”

The park was delivered by Places Victoria and will be owned, operated and maintained by the City of Melbourne.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle commented that community infrastructure was at the heart of all great neighbourhoods.

“The City of Melbourne designed the park with the community in mind. It will help meet the demand for turf sports fields in the inner city and provide great spaces and

facilities for everyone to enjoy,” the Lord Mayor said.

Docklands-based sports clubs are encouraged to express their interest in calling the park home. New or existing clubs can contact the City of Melbourne at recreation@melbourne.vic.gov.au

Enjoy some photos from the open day event supplied by Places Victoria.



Kids enjoyed planting activities at the open day.



Ron Barassi pictured with Planning Minister Richard Wynne and Lord Mayor Robert Doyle.



Face-painting fun at the Ron Barassi Snr Park open day.

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Demolition to begin

Demolition of some of Docklands' last remaining wharves will soon begin.

The dilapidated Wharves 20 and 21, near Ron Barassi Snr Park at NewQuay West, have been in disrepair for years.

Places Victoria will remove approximately 14,500 sqm of concrete and timber wharf along the 430 metre-long section of the waterfront over the next year.

The demolition is estimated to cost around \$4 million.

Places Victoria general manager Simon Wilson said the enormous cost of removing Docklands' wharves, let alone the cost to rebuild, has meant a long-term staged approach to demolishing and rebuilding the wharves.

Rebuilding of the wharves is expected to occur within the next 10 years, as development of NewQuay West continues.

At over 100 years old Docklands' original wharves have been deteriorating and collapsing at a rapid rate over the last few years.

Sections of collapsing wharves at North Wharf were removed earlier this year, while the demolition of Harbour Esplanade's four concrete wharves has also been completed.

"In the 1990s when the urban renewal of Docklands began, sections of its aged concrete wharves had already begun to collapse into the seabed below," Mr Wilson said.

The wharves are some of the last original elements of heritage significance left in Docklands and elements of wharves 20 and 21, which are included in the Victoria Heritage Register, will be retained for incorporation in future developments.

Formerly known as Victoria Dock, the wharves were originally built in the late 1800s and handled a range of cargo including wool, coal, steel, animals and wheat as Melbourne's busiest dock between the early 1900s through to the '50s.

By the 1960s containerisation was introduced, requiring different storage to the sheds lining Victoria Docks.



Festival visitors enjoy a dance on the waterfront.

Seniors celebrate in Docklands

Local and visiting seniors had the chance to explore Docklands last month during the Docklands Seniors Festival.

The event, on October 10 and 11, marked the closing weekend of the annual Victorian Seniors Festival.

Organised by the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, and supported by the Department of Health and Human Services and the seniors program, the weekend saw activities take place across Docklands.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell said all who attended had a great time in Docklands.

With a free ferry service on offer stopping at different points around Docklands, visitors could easily move around the suburb in order to participate in all the activities on offer.

"The ferry service was at full capacity almost all day on both days of the festival," Mrs Maxwell said.

"It definitely demonstrated that water transport in Docklands is popular with the seniors demographic."

Ms Maxwell also said the range of entertainment on offer was well received.

Seniors were spoiled for choice with entertainment on Victoria Harbour Promenade, at NewQuay, the Spiegelent and O'Brien Group Arena.

Seniors visited the Alma Doepel restoration site, took part in activities at the library, toured the Mission to Seafarers, visited Harbour Town for morning tea and took boat tours of the harbour and port.

This year is the second time the Docklands Chamber of Commerce has organised a seniors festival event and Mrs Maxwell said the chamber was looking forward to welcoming the seniors community back to Docklands next year.

"We plan to continue to evolve the event leading into next year's seniors festival," Mrs Maxwell said.

Project for Wattle team

The team behind the restoration of Steam Tug Wattle will soon begin a new project, but they are unsure whether it will take place in Docklands.

The 82-year-old Wattle was restored over the past six years at the western end of Yarra's Edge in Docklands and returned to the water on September 30.

A group of volunteers from the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum painstakingly restored the boat and will next turn their attention to the restoration of 1928 teak-built admiral's barge Janet.

Volunteer Jeff Malley said Janet was currently at the boat builders yard in Williamstown and the group was unsure where the restoration work would take place.

Work on Wattle took place at 19 South Wharf but the group has since moved into the old BHP shed, just west of the Bolte Bridge.

As for the steam tug Wattle, the Bay Steamers Maritime Museum plan to return it to a steaming service on the Yarra by mid-2016.

The process of returning the boat to the water was a lengthy one, starting before dawn on September 30 and finishing at 9pm the same day.

The process involved the boat being lifted by two cranes onto a moving platform, being transported 300 metres west on the platform and then being lifted and gradually lowered into the river by the cranes, with a team of technical staff on hand to check for leaks.

The launch of the Wattle and her hull restoration was then declared a success.



The wattle was lifted onto a moving platform ahead of her return to the water.




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A fond farewell to Docklands

By Katie Wong Hoy

Michele Anderson sips her latte in a cafe along NewQuay Promenade for one of her last times as a Docklands resident.

With a nostalgic tear in her eye, Michele is saying a bittersweet goodbye to the community she has been part of for 14 years.

“Obviously I’ve made a huge amount of friends here and met lots of different people through here,” she said.

Originally living in Williamstown and then Port Melbourne, Michele with her husband at the time who was involved in boats, chose to live in Docklands.

After her marriage broke down, Michele decided that it was time to embark on a new adventure.

“I felt that I needed to go elsewhere for a while and experiment and see what that’s like,” she said.

Michele will soon become a resident of Brighton, another suburb close to the water.

“I like to be near the water and I’ve always thought that you can always come back,” Michele said.

When Michele first arrived in Docklands 14 years ago, she moved into The Arkley, however, the building was not yet finished.

For about three weeks beforehand, Michele and her family slept on a boat.

She has seen many changes over the years and has achieved a lot during her time in Docklands.

Michele was the president of the Docklands Community Association, which involved a lot of contact with the City of Melbourne.

“In the last 14 years I have accomplished a lot, seen a lot and done a lot,” she said.

“It [Docklands] was a baby so you could be part of it. Whereas when you go into a city where it’s already grown, it’s harder to become part of it.”

Along with her community involvement, New Year’s Eve and the Volvo Ocean Race were some of the highlights of her time in Docklands.



Long-term resident Michele Anderson is saying farewell to Docklands.

Leaving Docklands is a big change for Michele. Her children are moving out so she will be living on her own for the first time in her life.

Having mixed emotions is the only way she can describe it, but Michele is excited to explore what the future holds.

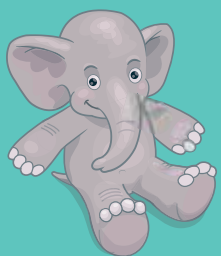
“It’s got me interested again in all these things which I had lost interest in ... I found having a house full of everybody in it and working full-time has kept me really busy. But I’ve realised that I need time to do things now. I’m ready for that,” she said.

Volunteering, travel, sewing and blogging are all on the agenda for Michele as she starts a new chapter.

Before she heads back to her Docklands apartment to continue packing up her belongings, Michele leaves with a parting sentiment.

“I’m just very grateful for the friends that have been around and supported me in the last couple of years,” she said.

“There is a community here that do stick by people and help people. People don’t realise that.”



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Committee to be dissolved

By Bethany Williams

Docklands will no longer receive special financial reporting after the Docklands Co-ordination Committee (DCC) is officially dissolved this month.

A bill was passed in Parliament on October 20 to repeal the legislation that required the committee to exist.

The move comes more than two years after the council's Future Melbourne Committee voted to request legislative changes to dismantle the committee, saying the Docklands Community Forum (DCF) was a better model.

While the Legislative Council has passed the bill, there are further steps to be taken to officially dissolve the committee.

According to a Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) spokesperson, the bill received Royal Assent on October 27, after which there would be a separate proclamation of the provision that repeals the DCC, which is likely to occur in November.

"The DCC's role has been made redundant following the establishment of the

Docklands Community Forum by the council, which provides an improved mechanism for consultation and decision making on matters relating to the Docklands Co-ordination Area," the spokesperson said.

However, the Docklands Community Forum doesn't require the council to provide Docklands-specific financial reporting.

Comprising representatives from the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria, the Docklands Co-ordination Committee was formed as part of the 2007 agreement between the City of Melbourne and State Government to share responsibility for Docklands.

Given Docklands status as a fledgling suburb, the committee and Docklands-specific reporting was seen as a way of ensuring transparency.

Part of the legislation required the council to report what it earned from and spent in Docklands and the surplus it reaped.

The most recent financial report, released at the final Docklands Co-ordination Committee meeting in September, revealed Council made a \$9.16 million surplus from Docklands in the previous financial year.

Apart from finance, the legislation also required the council to separately report on Docklands' infrastructure and place management.

This information will now be absorbed into council's reporting on the municipality as a whole, through the annual plan and budget.

Attempts to include Docklands-specific financial reporting as part of the DCF, which was formed in 2012, also failed.

In 2013, when councillors voted to request the legislative changes to allow the Docklands Co-ordination Committee to be dissolved, they also agreed to an amendment proposed by Cr Rohan Leppert.

The amendment called for a review of the roles and purposes of the DCF within the following 12 months and called for the issue of annual reporting of financial information to the community to be addressed at that time.

However, when the DCF's revised terms of reference were revealed in February 2014, there was no mention of financial reporting to the Docklands community.

The gradual decline of the Docklands Co-ordination Committee is evident through the decrease in meetings since the committee was originally formed in 2007.

Originally meeting six times per year, in 2008 this was reduced to quarterly meetings.

In 2012 the committee met three times, but since 2013 the group has only met annually and appeared to be just a formality to meet legislative requirements.

Waterways reform in tatters

Continued from page 1.

"And that's not to mention the two years spent getting them to the table!" Mr Bracher said.

Melbourne Passenger Boating Association president Jeff Gordon said local operators were "gutted" by the news that PV wanted to retain its power over them.

"We felt we had got to a position that we were not entirely comfortable with, but were accepting of," he said. "It seems obvious now that Parks Victoria are not prepared to give up in any way control of the waterways despite their admissions that they have made a hash of it over the last 10 to 15 years."

The working group had previously reached a position whereby an interim committee would be established to direct Parks Victoria's management of the waterways.

The committee was expected to work towards an independently-funded and resourced authority to manage the river, potentially under a local port model.

Currently Parks Victoria manages aspects of the river upstream of Docklands, but the City of Melbourne manages certain functions closer to Docklands and within Victoria Harbour under delegation from Places Victoria.

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Molly Braddon's proposition for Docklands.

A different kind of Docklands

As we await Harbour Esplanade's redevelopment, a group of students from RMIT have imagined alternative futures for the public space.

From a footstep-activated light and sound show to a giant rollercoaster across Docklands, the Art in Public Space masters students have come up with a range of concepts to transform the way people experience the precinct.

According to RMIT lecturer Clare McCracken, the aim of the project was to explore ways of activating unused spaces in a way that stretched the imagination and creative boundaries.

Supported by Urbis and Pop Up Melbourne, students came up with a range of ideas to activate Harbour Esplanade.

"The concepts didn't necessarily have to be buildable, with the idea being that students unleashed their creativity," Ms McCracken said.

Students each formulated a public art "proposition", as opposed to a public art proposal, which gave them the freedom to imagine things that haven't been done or might not yet be possible.

They researched the design, construction and formation of Docklands and analysed the way the public experienced the area's public spaces, focusing on Harbour Esplanade, before creating their own site-specific propositions.

Student Jie Shu's proposition *Evolution* suggests the development of three robotic creatures, part-marine, part science-fiction that embody the impact of contaminated water on animals.

They would be designed to crawl out of the water onto the harbour-side paths of Docklands before resubmerging themselves.

"Their alarming form and sudden arrival and departure would be a constant reminder of the importance of water to life and the need to protect it from rubbish, chemicals and heavy metals," the proposition said.



Jie Shu's proposition for Docklands involves robotic sea creatures.

"Could the creatures of *Evolution* become the Loch Ness monsters of the Docklands – a tourist attraction in their own right?"

In contrast Molly Braddon's proposition *Connecting to Disconnect > Disconnecting to Connect* suggests an interactive installation embedded in the pavement along Harbour Esplanade.

According to the proposition, every time a foot falls on one section of the work, another section would light up, flash, elevate and make a sound, making simple trips a game of patterns and interactions with other pedestrians.

Other concepts included a performance work focusing on the act of cleaning, a publicly accessible artwork inspired by a water drop and the re-flooding of Harbour Esplanade and planting of an Apple Box Gum, bringing back some of the original terrain to Docklands.

High drowning risk

Life Saving Victoria is completing a risk assessment of the Melbourne section of the Yarra River, including Docklands, after a report found it had the highest frequency of inland drowning incidents in Victoria.

Life Saving Victoria's *Inland Waterway Drowning in Victoria: 2002-2012* report found that there were nine drowning incidents in the City of Melbourne region of the Yarra River between 2002 and 2012.

The report states that this is the highest frequency of any water body in a local government area in Victoria during the period the report examines.

The report excluded deaths from natural causes, suicide and homicide and focused on unintentional fatal drowning incidents reported in Victoria.

Across the 252 km length of the Yarra River, there were 15 drownings in total between 2002 and 2012, meaning 60 per cent of the incidents occurred within the City of Melbourne.

A Life Saving Victoria spokesperson said due to "ethical reasons" it was unable to identify how many of the incidents occurred in Docklands.

However, *Docklands News* is aware of at least two drowning incidents in

Docklands in the past three years.

According to the report, all of the City of Melbourne drowning incidents involved males, with a median age of 27 years.

Approximately half were born overseas, half were tourists and the incidents occurred between 7pm and 9am.

The report found that alcohol was a contributing factor in nearly all of the drowning cases.

Life Saving Victoria is currently completing the risk assessment of the City of Melbourne area and a spokesperson said a final report would be completed by June next year.

"The assessment will include accessible public land parcels, including the Docklands precinct," the spokesperson said. "This includes Victoria Harbour Promenade, Central Pier and New Quay Promenade east of the Bolte Bridge."

The spokesperson said the risk assessment would include a site assessment, review of historical incidents and stakeholder consultation.

Local developer awarded

Mohan Du has been awarded the API's 'Young Achiever of the Year' in Victoria, for his work in Capital Alliance Investment Foundation.

"As a passionate Melburnian, my vision is to turn the world's most liveable city into an international beacon for beautifully designed, innovative, supremely liveable and workable landmarks," Mr Du said.

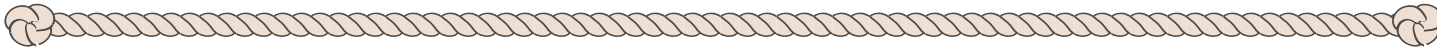
At 28, he has seven year's experience in the property development sector in and

around Melbourne.

In the past year, Mr Du's most notable works has been seen in the development of M Docklands, a 19-level mixed-use tower, which will provide the Docklands with its first 5-star hotel.



Local developer Mohan Du pictured with ISPT CEO Daryl Browning at the awards ceremony.



Alma Doepel fundraising update

It's been a busy month for the Alma Doepel restoration team, with two professional shipwrights currently working full-time on the project.

Restoration director Peter Harris said the two shipwrights had been working full-time since \$40,000 was raised at a gala fundraising luncheon in August.

Mr Harris reported Alma's "knees" were now in place on her starboard side and preparations for planking the starboard side were also completed. The first two planks have been steamed into shape and fitted.

The Alma team has also launched a new crowd-funding campaign, hoping to raise \$7000 for materials needed to construct a new course yard, a 15 metre long horizontal spar on the foremast.



Bill Reid updates the Alma Doepel shipping container.

To contribute to the crowd funding campaign visit www.letsact.com.au/projects/the-long-yard/

Mr Harris also said October had seen a range of supporter club functions including an annual dinner, this year celebrating the Alma Doepel's 112th birthday, a watercolour artists' workshop, a visit from Melbourne Urban Sketchers and ferry visits during the Seniors Week festivities.

October also saw the first update of \$100,000 marked on the Alma Doepel shipping container on Harbour Esplanade. The fundraising tally for October is \$3962.50
 Alma Doepel Supporters Club: \$2000
 Greentram Software Pty Ltd: \$500
 Fredrick Doepel: \$500
 Peter Schoner: \$500
 Robert Carter: \$300
 Barbara Dann: \$62.50
 Leigh Doeg: \$100

Chamber AGM

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) this month.

Scheduled for 6pm on Wednesday, November 11 at Melbourne City Marina, the meeting offers financial chamber members the opportunity to elect the executive committee.

All financial members of the Chamber of Commerce are eligible to stand for election and interested members should nominate by 12pm on Wednesday, November 4 by contacting admin@docklandsc.com.au. Nomination forms are available on the chamber's website.

All current financial members are encouraged to attend the meeting, which will include drinks and canapes.

The meeting will start at 6pm with registration, before the AGM and election at 6.30pm, followed by networking and socialising.



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We are pleased to introduce Dr. Christian Toll who will be joining our team in November.

Dr. Toll was born and raised in Melbourne and received his Bachelor of Dental Surgery at the University of Adelaide in 2012.

Dr. Toll enjoys providing all aspects of dental care with an emphasis on prevention and early intervention. Dr. Toll also works part-time as a Dental Officer for the Australian Army Reserve. His favourite pastime includes tennis, gym, and movies.

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

I am gripped by fear. Its cold hand clenches around my heart, it sits with all its weight on my chest and it tangles around my throat forcing my voice to break and tears to spring from my eyes at the mention of its name.

I am going through some things that feel akin to living a nightmare and I feel powerless.

I try to rally myself with the usual platitudes. As I know, there are most certainly people going through far worse things than I. But trivialising my own fears and emotions, hasn't helped this time.

Yes, they are first world problems, but they're my problems and I'm having to live with them right now. And I feel lost, and scared.

I'm scared of the unknown. I think that's what it really boils down to. I've certainly had my fair share (or more!) of curve balls in life and I like to think I'm pretty resilient and able to quite quickly spring into action and embark on a path to resolve the situation. Or at least I should be able to look the situation

in the eye (figuratively speaking) and confront it, or accept and move on from it.

Often I think of myself, of humans, as being like trees. Our roots are our foundations that hold us to the ground and stabilise us. Our branches are all the different aspects of our lives and how we reach out and grow in many directions – as a family, as a parent, our engagement with community, our interactions with friends, our business paths and our emotional journey are all interwoven and grow increasingly stronger as a noble tree does.

Then there's our leaves and flowers, all the things that we take pride in presenting, that can change with the season, that can blossom and bloom in the right conditions, that bring joy and hope – the very tips of our living and breathing and definition of who we are.

I've always believed that life can shake the tree, and sometimes the leaves and flowers will drop, but if your roots are strong you'll never fall.

This fear is attacking the very roots of my existence, the foundations upon which so much is built. It is fear born from the traits of this latest curveball – it is by nature, literally eating away my foundations. It feels sinister, as it is not visible to the eye but its damage is.

I have no way of knowing the path it is taking, the depth it has reached, or the true level of its destruction. It is hiding from me and I feel powerless not knowing what is happening.

It's hard to empower yourself with action when you don't know what is going to happen. But it eats at your very heart. At your root level. At your foundations.

This may be something that is emotionally unbalancing you – such as heartbreak, grief or illness, or it's physically attacking your careful plans, taking out your hard work, your business, your property or assets.

It is a threat that rocks you to your core and has you wide-eyed desperately trying to look into the future to see what will happen. It is a waiting game.

But here's what I'm learning. I do believe that some things happen for a reason, even though at times it's nearly impossible to understand why.

Or maybe a better way to look at it is, we do learn something from everything that happens – even the truly terrible, undeserved and scary things that life throws us.

I am learning that fear is just an emotion which is largely based on the unknown. Hope is another emotion, and this is also largely based on the unknown. They both require

you to believe in something you can't see – so I'm focusing on switching my fear from overtaking my body and mind and trying to let hope shine some light into this darkness.

Hope can't take it away but it can maybe see opportunities that fear can't. And isn't it better and more noble to live with hope, than with fear?

I leave you with this quote today, something that I really want to share with you.

"Life is amazing. And then it's awful. And then it's amazing again. And in between the amazing and the awful it's ordinary and mundane and routine. Breathe in the amazing, hold on through the awful and relax and exhale during the ordinary. That's just living, heartbreaking, soul-healing, amazing, awful, ordinary life. And it's breathtakingly beautiful". LR Knost.

Know you're never alone, and trust that awful days will become amazing days again.

With much love

Abby

Thank you for some beautiful emails last month, I look forward to hearing from you at life@docklandsnews.com.au.

Don't forget you can join me on Facebook and Instagram [@abbyjanecrawford](https://www.instagram.com/abbyjanecrawford) xx

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Discovering Docklands

For Kelly Jensen, one of the most interesting parts of working in Docklands is discovering surprising elements accidentally.

Whether it's the view of the harbour when driving across the Bolte Bridge or standing at Yarra's Edge and seeing the flames come up from Crown Casino further up the river, Kelly said there's always something new to discover.

"Those little surprise elements you discover are the things that I really love about Docklands," she said.

Having worked with local marketing body Destination Docklands for almost two years, Kelly has got to know Docklands very well.

While she had spent quite a bit of time in Docklands prior to working here, Kelly said the size of the suburb took her completely by surprise.

"I didn't understand the size of the precinct. That's what surprised me - how large it was," Kelly said.

"Every area really has its own character and own interests," she added.

Starting out as Destination Docklands' engagement and events manager, in March Kelly was appointed director of marketing and events, replacing the role of CEO.

She says one of her biggest successes in that time was the formation of the Docklands Marketing Committee, which aims to open lines of communications between key local stakeholders.

"We've seen some really good results and seen people come together and begin talking and planning and that to me has been the best success I've had so far," Kelly said.

While she spends her work-days promoting Docklands, Kelly also flies the flag for Docklands in her personal life.

"I'm really proud of Docklands and really proud of the work we're doing here so whenever I have friends or family visit I make sure I bring them down here and I'm telling the story in my personal life too," she said.



Born in New Zealand and growing up near the coast, Kelly said she had an affinity with the water, so it's no surprise she ended up working in a harbour-side suburb.

"I'm drawn to the water," Kelly said.

Moving to Melbourne in 2009, Kelly says she's excited about seeing Docklands develop.

"The success of Auckland's waterfront was something I'd watched and I saw how positive it was for Auckland," she said.

"So the opportunity to be part of the development of this project was really exciting because there's still so much work to

be done, so you can really watch it unfold."

In particular, she says she's looking forward to seeing how the development of Harbour Esplanade unfolds.

"I'm really looking forward to seeing work commence on Harbour Esplanade. That's the project everyone's really watching and looking forward to."

Kelly said she also hopes to see new water-based experiences or features in Docklands as development continues.

"To see the Melbourne community engaging more with their waterfront would be great," Kelly said.



Profile by
Bethany Williams



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CHAMBER UPDATE

BY PAUL SALTER
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



The Docklands Chamber will hold its annual general meeting on November 11 at Melbourne City Marina at Unit 120, 439 Docklands Drive, Waterfront City.

All current financial members are encouraged to attend. The formalities will be brief and the rest of the night will be a great time to catch up with old friends and make new acquaintances. Come and join us for drinks and canapés.

Registration is from 6pm and will be followed by elections at 6.30pm. This will be followed by an opportunity to mix with successful business owners and key people who are making the Docklands one of the most attractive places to work, live and play.

The AGM will include election of executive

committee members (new or continuing). All financial members of DCC are eligible to stand for election and we urge interested members to nominate by Wednesday, November 4 by 12 noon by sending an email to admin@docklandsc.com.au

Nomination forms are available on the website. Please note you must be a financial member to be nominated for an executive position.

Docklands Chamber networking event for members

We are really looking forward to our next Docklands Chamber of Commerce networking event at Groove Train Harbour Town on Wednesday, November 18.

We will kick off around 5.30 pm (registration), followed by a welcome from DCC president, Johanna Maxwell, while we serve drinks and appetizers.

Be early because all members will leave for a one-hour, interactive session involving the Melbourne Star and Docklands trivia, before

returning to Groove Train for drinks (beer, wine) and appetizers and more networking. The event will conclude by 9pm.

Docklands Networking Lunch

Make sure you have booked a spot for Friday, November 20 at Woolshed Pub, a great forum meet business people who are making things happen. Ring Docklands News on 8689 7979 or send an email to lunch@docklandsnews.com.au

Famil for volunteers

The chamber is looking forward to hosting a familiarisation tour for City of Melbourne volunteers on Wednesday, November 25. This will be a great opportunity to introduce them to all the wild and wonderful activities Docklands has to offer featuring kayaking, trike tours, O'Brien Arena events, Melbourne Star, Wonderland Fun Park and Spiegelent performances.

Finally, well done everyone who contributed to the Seniors Festival.

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Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au



A positive perception

I have been working in the Docklands district (Melbourne Water building) for over a year now and just love the area. It was only when I commenced working in this area that I have appreciated the beauty that Docklands has to offer.

My perception of Docklands was not a good one so I decided to change my preconceived thoughts via photography. I wanted to see if I could change my thoughts of Docklands via my camera.

My latest photo (see above) to me shows how Docklands can showcase a beautiful colour atmosphere during the twilight hours. This photo was taken while I walked to the station one late afternoon. I decided to view the Bolte Bridge from Etihad Station while the sun was setting. As I take my camera everywhere, I was able to capture this fantastic view of Docklands.

As Docklands is still trying to gain popularity, I find myself thinking that this photo capture the beauty of the area and shows that this part of Melbourne is a place to visit.

So through my camera and exploring the area taking many photos, Docklands has changed my perception to a positive one.

Fabian Fernandez-Chavez

In response to Paul Salter

This letter is in response to the letters by Paul Salter, Sean Megson and Andrew Smith published in the last edition of Docklands News (October 2015).

Watergate OC would like to confirm that the interim resolution became a resolution on October 13 2015 with 95.5 per cent of the votes cast in favour of the resolution. Watergate OC has now lodged an appeal in the Supreme Court against the recent VCAT decision.

A successful appeal will help us combat the serious consequences of the unregulated short-stay industry:

- Safety and security issues;
- Increased maintenance costs;
- Loss of property value; and
- Damage to reputation.

The overwhelmingly positive vote in favour of the appeal shows clearly that the vast majority of the owners at Watergate see our building as a residential-only complex. Owners are angry at the actions of a few self-interested owners.

A statistically insignificant proportion of voters (4.5 per cent) opposed the special resolution. This tiny number includes owners who benefit financially from running a hotel-style operation in the building. Of all owners not associated with the short-stay industry, only seven voters opposed the resolution.

The State and Federal Government and

all opposition parties are now on notice. If Watergate is representative, 19 out of 20 voters living in high-rise residential buildings will be opposed to short-stay business operators. There must be regulatory change at the highest level to stop self-interested hotel-style business operators taking advantage of current planning and legislative loopholes.

In response to "venting" and "it's become personal", it is evident that absentee owners involved in the short-stay industry are willing to go to great lengths to defend their commercial advantage by publishing unsubstantiated accusations against Watergate OC and building staff.

Watergate OC is a professionally run organisation and appropriate business processes are followed as required by law.

A quote from our special general meeting: a short-stay operator who addressed the voters saying, "I don't care if 90 per cent of you are against me I will still operate my business here at Watergate."

This alone displays a complete disregard by the short-stay operator for the well-being of the building and the majority of its owners.

Like Martin Ferguson, former Minister for Tourism, we are not opposed to the "sharing" economy but we are opposed to the "taking" economy.

Barbara Francis, chairperson
Rus Littleton, deputy chairperson
Watergate OC

Also in response

Since the special meeting of Watergate owners on September 14, I've received two letters from you including your intended letter to the editor.

More than 95 per cent of owners (who voted) declared that they do not want short stay apartments in the buildings and have agreed to fight to ensure that owners' corporations (OCs) get the power to make and enforce rules, yet you keep encouraging us to change our vote.

I don't need any more letters from you telling us we're wasting money and I don't need any more prefilled proxy forms.

The owners have spoken. We don't want to spend the money, but you won't listen to us and continue to hold the entire building hostage.

We bought in a secure-entry building, with secure elevator entry to our floor, yet now partly thanks to you and completely under the management of your business, we open our front door directly to a "hotel room" door occupied by whoever can click an internet button. Not the dream we've spent so much money for and continue to work bloody hard to pay for!

The Government offers new buildings the protection of specific floors and separate floors so I pray that, with lobbying from other owners and brave OCs willing to fight, they will protect us and our building too with regulation and legislation.

The Watergate owners are not stupid. We voted against short-stays because we don't want them and nobody door-knocked or contacted us prior to the meeting!

It's not personal against you. We just don't want to live in a hotel or be held hostage by anyone wanting to run one.

So as your second letter says "from our family to yours, let's finish this together", please listen to the 95 per cent by respecting what we want instead of your own "livelihood" at our expense.

Take your business elsewhere and support OC's ability to make rules for the benefit of the majority who live here and not those wanting to have fun or make money!

Kelly Mercer

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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Greetings everybody

Sorry there was no column in October due to being in hospital with a leg infection. But now back in action and good to be back.

Short stays/serviced apartments

Watergate is pressing ahead with its appeal to the Supreme Court with the hearing scheduled for November 11. The appeal is against the VCAT member's decision to allow short stays. Watergate obtained the required majority vote by residents to enable it to proceed with the appeal.

I attended a follow-up meeting with department officers to review our position on short stays. I repeated our position of requiring a minimum period of seven days stays which, whilst significantly less than overseas minimums, would allow family holidays and business short trips whilst banning weekend parties. We believe this to be reasonable whilst, on the other hand, business interests oppose any duration ban.

Interesting to note that NSW Planning Minister Stokes has established an enquiry

into the adequacy of short-term letting regulation in NSW.

Age article - poor publicity

An article in *The Age* on October 18 was unnecessarily harsh in its criticism of Docklands in terms of criminals living here and their activities. The article was headed 'Ganglands, not Docklands: new high-rises harbour the gangland crowd'. The article referred to three alleged criminals living here but I think you could find three criminals living in a number of suburbs.

Notwithstanding, I will raise the article with the police at the next Docklands PCCC (Police and Community Co-ordination Committee) meeting in December. These meetings are well attended with up to 20 representatives from various areas, including business and residential.

Railyards gone

We had some battles with the railyards people over the years in terms of noise. We had a number of meetings with their representatives and were able to obtain conciliatory outcomes on a number of issues which we appreciated. Now they're gone and

silence reigns from there except for clean-up works like track removal. Of course this will be superseded by E-Gate development which will get under way in due course.

Better Apartments

I attended a meeting in October on behalf of the DCA with an officer of the planning department and two town planners to establish our views on better apartments with reference to interior design. I suggested that matters included larger rooms, higher ceilings, air conditioning, better construction materials and adequate lifts.

I suggested, however, that it is difficult to separate the interior from the exterior. When asked why we bought our apartment I said it was a combination of the interior newness and layout and the exterior views, closeness to the city and public transport. The exterior brings in a number of other issues including space between buildings, sunlight, public open space and wind tunnel effects. I suggested the interior and exterior should be considered in conjunction.

Events

We seem to be getting more varied public

events in Docklands. At Etihad Stadium we had the speedway championships on October 24 and the cage-fighting on November 15. I notice that the police have stated they will refuse entry to underworld figures and bikies for the cage-fighting. These events will be followed by an AC/DC concert in December and the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in February.

Additionally a fund raising overnight bicycle ride will take place in January from Harbour Esplanade.

There is certainly no shortage of events.

If any reader would like to become a member of the DCA or has any suggestions they wish to put forward regarding activities or issues, they are welcome to contact us on docklandscommunityassociation@gmail.com. We're also on Facebook.

If you would like to contact me about any aspect or becoming a committee member you are welcome to email as above.

Regards to all

Roger Gardner

President DCA



OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

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

NSW reforms show the way

The Owners' Corporation Act in Victoria will be 10 years old early next year. When the legislation first came out, it was hailed around Australia as a highly progressive, sleek and sophisticated example of lawmaking at its "laissez-faire" best.

However, like all acts of Parliament, it suffers from the same curse - the Act represents a particular era at a static point in time. While policymakers try their best to "future-proof" legislation to cater for developing trends, it is often difficult and amounts to no more than guesswork to accurately predict future innovations and preferred future modes of living.

In this case, and over the last 10 years, the skyline of Melbourne has transformed dramatically, with hundreds of new high-rise buildings being erected.

Last month in NSW, the State Government introduced the new Strata

Reform Bill, which is set to start in early 2016. The new legislation brings in a number of controversial changes, including the ability of 75 per cent of the owners of old buildings to sell their block to developers against the wishes of the other 25 per cent.

To combat building defects, developers will now be required to create an account and bond in the Owners Corporation's name with no less than 2 per cent of the value of the building stored there as a fund for dealing with building defects that arise within the first five years of occupation in the building.

In addition, developers will be held to

account and must pay the difference if they promise fantastically low levies for running costs when they sell the units, only for owners to discover upon settlement that the levies are far in excess of what was stated.

In other big changes, local councils will now also be permitted to patrol basement car parks and issue fines to unlawfully parked cars, and the vexed topic of proxy farming is addressed so that one individual can only hold up to 5 per cent of votes in larger buildings, so that more owners get to participate on committees.

Owners' corporation managers can only be elected for a maximum period of 12

months at the first AGM of a new building and caretaker agreements expire automatically after 10 years and without extension.

Not all of the amendments in NSW will be suitable for adoption in Victoria, however many owners' corporations in NSW are hailing the changes as a big step in the right direction. It will only be a matter of time before Consumer Affairs announces a comprehensive review of the Victorian legislation in this area.

This columnist suggests the Consumers Affairs policymakers will be adopting the "cut and paste strategy" with the bulk of the NSW amendments.



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Businesses in Docklands

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A WONDERFUL YEAR IN DOCKLANDS

Local optometry practice Eyes On Docklands celebrates its first year in Docklands next month.

According to optometrist Sue Callahan, the last 12 months have been better than she hoped for the first year in business.

"We've been quite pleasantly surprised," Ms Callahan said.

An optometrist for more than 20 years, Ms Callahan opened Docklands' first optometric practice in December last year.

"It's been fantastic so far," Ms Callahan said. "It's been busier than we expected and quite a good mix of residential and business people have come in to welcome us to the area."

"We are very appreciative of everyone who has consulted with us during our first year in Docklands."

Located on Bourke St, Eyes On Docklands is around the corner from the developing health precinct on Merchant St.

"It's great that we have all the health services quite close together, with the

physiotherapist, medical centre, and dentist nearby," Ms Callahan said.

Offering the highest standard of care is at the forefront of Eyes on Docklands' approach to eye health and the practice uses state-of-the-art equipment to examine eyes.

"Our OCT instrument will detect diabetes, glaucoma and age-related maculopathy (ARM) much earlier than other diagnostic tools," Ms Callahan explained.

Apart from eye health, the practice also prides itself on offering the highest standard of service and it stocks a wide range of frames and sunglasses catering to all budgets.

"The difference with our independent practice is the personal approach we offer, and the aim to establish a relationship which encourages patients to return to us for their ongoing eye care and needs" she said. "We like to give a little more time to people."

That personal approach has helped Eyes on Docklands quickly cement itself within the community.

"We have certainly got to know some local people who pop in regularly to say hello, so it's nice to feel part of the Docklands community," Ms Callahan said.



Practice manager Gary Billings and Sue Callahan at the Bourke St store.

To celebrate its first year, Eyes On Docklands will be offering gift vouchers with purchases made in November and December.

Eyes on Docklands is located at Shop 5, 840 Bourke St. You can contact the practice on 9629 5495.

Visit www.eyesondocklands.com.au for more information.

You can also follow Eyes on Docklands on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Eyes-On-Docklands-309798739212312.

Docklands Directory

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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Renting trumps retail

By Laura Timberlake

The festive season is fast approaching. The tail end of Spring Racing is coming up, only to be followed by numerous events leading up to Christmas.

What is a girl to do for clothing options? So many events require a lot of new outfits.

That's where renting comes in. The concept gained a lot of interest after Carrie Bradshaw's assistant Louise claimed her bag was rented from Bag Borrow or Steal, in the first *Sex in the City* movie.

Luckily for us, Melbourne has its own versions of Bag Borrow or Steal.

Her Wardrobe offers both clothing and accessories, and was founded by Alexandra Osmond. She started the business in 2014 when she realised that she owned 46 dresses, most of which she had only worn once.

Alexandra believes that renting a dress is a financially viable way to have a high-end designer experience without paying the inflated prices. She purchases Her Wardrobe's dresses, millinery and bags wholesale from designers.

The fees range from \$50-\$249 for a dress, or you can hire an entire outfit. The outfit will arrive on the day the rental period begins, and all you have to do is pop it into the pre-paid return envelope after the event. (All dry cleaning costs are covered.)

Her Wardrobe has had a fantastic response since it launched last year, particularly for Spring Racing.

"I was surprised when girls emailed me at the beginning of August asking when our new hats would arrive," Alexandra said.

Emily Collie, editor of *Melbourne Girl*, has been a long time customer at GlamCorner.

GlamCorner is another rental company that offers designer dresses for all occasions. Glam Corner also lists the retail value of the dress you hire, so you know what bang you're getting for your buck.

"These days, we have so many events to go to, like fashion week, weddings and Spring Carnival - what ever the occasion may be, we never want to be seen in the same dress twice," Emily said.

"The concept of renting a dress for the fraction of the price of buying one is just too good not to try."

But if accessories are more your thing, check out Love Me and Leave Me.

Love Me and Leave Me offer a rent or buy option, or a Wear Now Pay Later Plan (this requires weekly or monthly payments for a bag once your application is approved).

The bags can be rented weekly or monthly. It's a better deal if you rent by the month though (like buying in bulk).



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Catherine

Office Worker

LOCATION: Harbour Esplanade.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING: Very corporate

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: A nice pair of pants.

I am a big fan of pants. If I go out, I will wear nice fitted pants and shoes, instead of a dress and heels.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS: Just work.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: Smart casual. On my casual days I will wear something similar to this, maybe with jeans instead.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

I think layering is really important. If your top's too long and you have a long coat on top you just look ridiculous.

Marley

Retail worker

LOCATION: Harbour Esplanade.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING: Striped shirt, denim skirt and white Adidas All-stars.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: Definitely my All-stars.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS: I work at Ozmosis in Harbour Town

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: I guess I'm a bit of a tomboy or kind of skater-ish.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT: Just owning what you're wearing I guess. You have to have confidence.

Stephanie

Office worker

LOCATION: Harbour Esplanade.

DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'RE WEARING: Corporate chic

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING: I'm a turtleneck girl. I love my turtleneck short sleeve, dress.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS: Work here at NAB.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE: I guess I'm a bit of a hipster.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

Your makeup. Whenever I go shopping and makeup isn't done well, I don't feel right in the outfit.



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FACES OF DOCKLANDS

What is the one thing you have always wanted to do in Melbourne?



NAVINE, ENGINEER

Nothing springs straight to mind. I like to go out and go on a long drive down the coast or where ever. I live here so I like getting out of the city.



RAZEEN, OFFICE WORKER

I would love to go skydiving. I have done it once before. I would love to see the whole city from a birds-eye view.



ALI, STUDENT

I have only been here three weeks, coming from Pakistan. I would love to go the Melbourne Zoo.



KROUF, STUDENT

I have been to some places, but I would really like to go to the MCG.



ARI, OFFICE WORKER

I am down from Brisbane, so I would just love to explore the whole city itself.



JOEL, SOCIAL WORKER

I've lived here two years and only just went to the State Library the other day. That was really beautiful. I guess I would like to check out Flinders St or the Botanic Gardens.

DOCKLANDS DAZE

by Michelle Commandeur



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Why the long face at the races?

Are you caught up in the glitz and glamour of the Spring Racing Carnival?

I am. Or was – until I attended a far-from-perfect day at Caulfield racecourse.

Before I get on my high horse (pun intended), let me start by highlighting some of the good things.

The location is wonderful. The racetrack is directly opposite the Caulfield train station, which makes getting to and from the track super easy. And, if you pay to get into a marquee like I did, it's a lot cheaper than Flemington.

Now for the high horse.

It was a really humid day, and the air in the tent was thick like honey. Apart from a few fans scattered around, and some very weak portable air con, nothing could stop the sweat from trickling down my forehead. It was actually cooler outside in the direct sun.

Then there was the food. Granted, there was lots of it – which is always good when you're drinking – but everything was deep fried

or encased in thick pastry. For the girls, it meant managing oily fingers while wearing a fancy dress. Now that's hard!

I probably wouldn't be whingeing like this if it wasn't for the next bit. I'll give it to you straight from the horse's mouth (i.e. mine).

Dying from the humidity, we were rapt to find a couple of seats on a bench outside. We plonked ourselves down, and moved a few men's jackets towards the centre of the bench so that we didn't crease or sit on them.

A guy standing nearby, whom one of the jackets belonged to, made a big fuss about it. He said that the seats were for his group of friends and we couldn't sit there.

We thought he was just being a drunken joker. But when he got closer, stood over us, and tried to start a fight. He turned out to be a drunken, and potentially violent, idiot.

We quickly decided to get up and leave, rather than add fuel to the fire. Our escape?

Back inside the seat-less, steaming tent.

The next day, a few hundred dollars poorer and a heavy head to boot, I realised that there was a real lack of community feel at the event.

As one of my friends cleverly pointed out, hardly anyone mingled, and in fact, most people were there just to get drunk with their mates.

As a worker in the Docklands for a number of years, I'm proud to say that the community spirit here is really strong. It's not a place that fosters unfriendliness or violence. Instead, it's a place that stands for togetherness, safety and having fun.

So while many Melburnians love a day at the races, us Docklanders are more than happy with our community festivals, free activities and happy faces. And who could fight about that?

I'd love to hear from you! Search for "Mike Cairnduff" on LinkedIn.



Solve the puzzle and win a prize

Welcome back to a new instalment in Docklands News, where you'll have the chance to win some wonderful prizes.

Docklands News is collaborating with the Rotary Club of Docklands to bring you a new puzzle each month through to December.

Each month readers will be asked to solve an anagram and identify a pictured Docklands icon.

Submit your answers online at www.rotarydocklands.com/rotary-docklands-competition and all correct entries will be entered into the draw to win a prize.

This month, the winning entrant will receive a breakfast or lunch at Le Cirque (located at 27 Star Crescent, Harbour Town).

All correct entries over the three months (October, November and December issues of Docklands News) will also be entered into the draw to win a major prize.

The major prize will be announced at Rotary Docklands Christmas Festival at NewQuay on December 6. Further details in future editions.

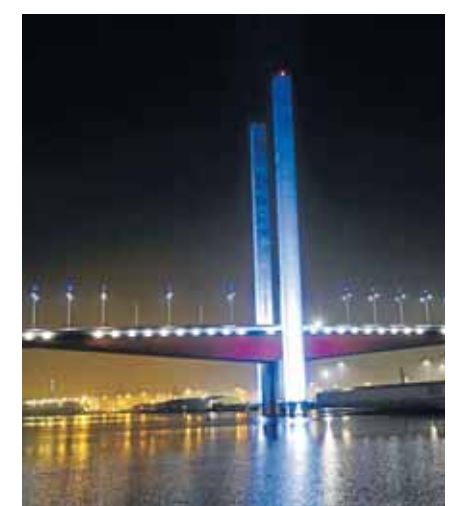
Puzzle 1: Solve the anagram

Involves a Fig Gift

Answer:

.....

Puzzle 2: Name the Docklands icon



It's a small world

Despite living in the same NewQuay apartment tower and having the same breed of dog, Raylea and Holly had only just met when Docklands News caught up with them.

Raylea Reynish (left) has lived at Palladio for six months and Holly Lin (right) has lived there for a year.

Both women own Japanese spitz purebreds, so they were amazed that they hadn't run into each other earlier.

Raylea's Kimba is seven years old and wasn't as keen to play as Holly's seven-month-old Mia.

Raylea said Japanese spitz dogs were known for their sociability and playfulness but were also quite protective. They are also well suited to apartment living, although Kimba is walked twice a day.

"Docklands is a great place for dogs," Raylea said. "And it's amazing how many people you meet when you have a dog."

She said apartments were fine for dogs, as long as they were small animals.

2015 WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
6PM - 7PM
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

DOCKLANDS HISTORY GROUP

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

**EVERY FRIDAY AND SUNDAY
THE JAMES HOTEL**

LIVE MUSIC

Live music at The James Hotel every Friday and Sunday night - free entry.
Every Friday (starting June 19): Shameless
Every Sunday: Stand and Deliver 80s tribute band, from 7.30pm

**NOVEMBER 7 - NOVEMBER 26
MISSION TO SEAFARERS**

THE ANL ART AWARDS AND EXHIBITION

View a range of maritime artworks selected for Australia's leading maritime art awards, from midday to 6pm daily.

**EVERY SUNDAY
SUNDAY WORSHIP**

City Light Methodist Church at St Peter the Mariner's Chapel.
Mission to Seafarers, 717 Flinders St.
11am English service
5pm Chinese service 中文

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

DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

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



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

**LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
TABLE TENNIS**

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



**TUESDAYS 6PM - 7PM
GROOVE TRAIN
HARBOUR TOWN SHOPPING CENTRE**

DOCKLANDS ROTARY

All welcome.
Contact president Loryn Clark on **0418 390 334**



**2ND AND 4TH MONDAY OF THE MONTH
AT 6.30 PM
700 BOURKE ST - ROOM 3.101**

DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

**NOVEMBER
INTRO TO MEDITATION**

During November Mr Meditate is running a series of three week programs for individuals and employees in Docklands to learn the basics of meditation. Programs begin on November 9. Visit www.MrMeditate.com for more information.

**WEDNESDAYS 5.45PM-7PM
THE HUB, 80 HARBOUR ESPLANADE**

OPEN DOOR SINGERS DOCKLANDS

Find your voice, experience the joy of singing in a choir and meet new friends.
www.opendoorsingers.org.au

**MONDAYS 11AM
THE HUB, 80 HARBOUR ESPLANADE**

CHILD-FRIENDLY YOGA CLASS

Come transform your mind and body while your children play. \$7 per class (45 mins). Limited spots, bookings necessary. Contact Prachi Nirvana Yoga on 0422 577 268.

**LIBRARY AT THE DOCK
MELBOURNE SUNRISE PROBUS CLUB**

Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities. Contact membership officer Sue at weddsuzanne@gmail.com

**WEDNESDAYS 6.30PM TO 7.30PM
THE LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

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

VISIT AATIMES.ORG.AU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS



PRESCHOOL STORYTIME
Fridays at 10.30am
Come and share the wonder of books with us. Enjoy 40-50 minutes of fun stories, songs, rhymes and activities with your three to five year olds.

CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
Wednesdays 4.30pm to 5.30 pm.
Ever wanted to 3D print your own superhero figurine? At the Creative Kids After School Club you can. Come hang out and create in our maker's space. Projects will include jewellery making, game design, paper crafts, comics and more.

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.

BABY BYTES
Last Thursday of the month 10.30am to 11.15am. Ground floor activity room.
Come and join our monthly iPad program for 18 month to three year olds. Learn fun, educational ways to use technology with children. We will be exploring different games and apps every session in a small group. If possible please bring your own iPad.

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.

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Speedway thrills at Etihad

By Eva Garnes

After an intense set of rounds, the 2015 FIM Speedway World Champion was crowned in Docklands on October 24.

US rider and three-time world champion Greg Hancock won the Australian GP.

But it was UK rider Tai Woffinden, who was crowned world champion, beating the scores of the 15 other riders.

In motorcycle speedway racing, the riders compete against each other's time on bikes with one gear and no brakes, racing around an oval track. It has been 13 years since Sydney hosted Australia's last Speedway Grand Prix event, and the excitement within the walls of the Etihad Stadium was running high.

In the week leading up to October 24 event, Etihad Stadium had undergone a transformation like never before. The normal turf was covered with 5000 tonnes of dirt. The result was the biggest indoor track for the 2015 season.

The stadium's chief executive officer Paul Sergeant was thrilled before the weekend, with the promise of over 25,000 visitors.

"Big events is in the DNA of Melbourne, and hopefully bringing this event back to Australia will benefit the grassroots speedway clubs across the country," he told the press two days before the race.

Being the first time that Etihad Stadium has hosted a motorsport event, it was only right that retired Australian speedway racer, and



Australian GP winner Greg Hancock.

three-time world champion, Jason Crump rode the first lap around the newly laid track in front of the press while a group of dedicated fans cheered him on.

Etihad Stadium has a futher four year deal with speedway, so we'll see the competition back at the stadium next year.



Local dragon boater Johnny Golino (centre) was recognised with a life membership last month.

Local paddler recognised

Local dragon boater Johnny Golino was recognised for his years of service last month, receiving the Melbourne Flames' first life membership.

Mr Golino has been paddling with the Docklands-based club since 2005, but began his paddling career much earlier, in 1980.

He competed in Melbourne's first dragon boat race in 1983 as part of the Studley Park Boathouse crew. Other highlights have included multiple trips overseas to compete and taking part in the World Championships in Sydney in 2007.

Mr Golino was presented with a photo album archiving his paddling history and a life membership certificate at a ceremony in Docklands on October 3.



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