

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

# DOCKLANDS NEWS

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## Community hub now open

Docklands' own community services and boating hub was officially launched last month. The Community Hub at the Dock open day on February 20 saw a range activities and entertainment, including a performance from a Polynesian dance group (pictured above). See our report on page 7.

## Waterways authority is starting to sink

*The future of Docklands' waterways is in jeopardy, with the government predicted to dismiss a proposal for a local port.*

It's understood Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Water Lisa Neville will soon release her response to the Lower Yarra River Use Future Directions Group's (LYRUFDDG) recommendations for the management of the Lower Yarra.

The group met on February 19 and was presented with a purported draft of Ms Neville's response to its final recommendations.

One of the key recommendations of the group, which comprised private and government representatives, was the establishment of a new local port.

But proponents have been told Ms Neville does not intend to support this approach, instead favouring a model, which will see the existing governance structure remain relatively unchanged.

A local port would provide a single river authority, resolving the current situation, which sees multiple government agencies managing different aspects of the river.

According to the final LYRUFDDG recommendations to Ms Neville, the current governance situation is too difficult for the private sector to navigate and, accordingly, the river is failing to reach its tourism, heritage and environmental potential.

It's widely agreed that the economic success of the waterways is contingent on

an innovative leader who will unlock the potential of this under-utilised asset.

The group also recommended the establishment of a management committee, headed by an independent chairperson, charged with implementing a "shared vision" for the Lower Yarra and working with all relevant agencies to oversee management of the river.

The shared vision is as follows: "The Lower Yarra is a central feature of one of the world's most liveable cities - Melbourne. The future development of its facilities, activities and natural values need to support Melbourne's role as a leading world city."

But it's understood that, while Ms Neville supports the "shared vision", she is likely to endorse a different approach, which will not lead to the development of a local port, nor a single authority to manage and develop the waterways.

It's understood that, rather than undertaking further work towards a single authority, the Minister could just ask the relevant government agencies to work together more collaboratively.

If she decides this, then there will be no single body responsible for management and development of the waterways.

*Continued on page 9.*





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# Destination Docklands to cease operations

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***Destination Docklands will cease operations and hand over its functions to the City of Melbourne in April.***

The local marketing body last month confirmed it would not apply for further council funding when its current three-year agreement expires mid-year.

According to a statement, the decision was made following an internal review conducted by the board and staff of Destination Docklands and discussions with the City of Melbourne.

The council is yet to confirm how exactly it will incorporate the organisation's marketing and events functions into its own operations, when it takes on the role in April.

City of Melbourne councillor Beverley Pinder-Mortimer said the council was reviewing how it could further boost visitation to Docklands by activating the area with a new events and marketing approach.

"On light of the decision of Destination Docklands to cease operations, there is now an opportunity for council to combine our funding efforts and implement a new events and marketing approach," Cr Pinder-Mortimer said.

"We will work with businesses, the community and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce to continue developing, activating and promoting Docklands over the coming years."

Since its establishment in 2009 the City of Melbourne has provided Destination Docklands with funding of \$1.25 million and Docklands developers have collectively contributed more than \$1.7 million in support of marketing and events services.

Destination Docklands director of marketing and events Kelly Jensen thanked past and

present partners and board members, saying the organisation couldn't have succeeded without their contribution and vision for the precinct.

"We've been united and driven by a strong desire to make Docklands a great place to work, live and visit. I know, beyond Destination Docklands, the partners and stakeholders will remain committed and passionate about the precinct," Ms Jensen said.

Ms Jensen has recently accepted a new role as director of marketing at Harbour Town Melbourne, beginning in April.

She will also continue in her role as chair of the Docklands Marketing Committee, with the opportunity for a new chair to be nominated in April.

The committee will continue to meet and operate under the interim guardianship of Harbour Town Melbourne developer Ashe Morgan and Harbour Town will host the monthly meetings.

"The committee brings key Docklands stakeholders together and provides an opportunity for us to discuss challenges and opportunities. There is huge potential in what we can achieve in collaboration and I'm delighted we'll be able to continue these important conversations during our monthly meetings," Ms Jensen said.

The marketing committee was established in 2015 by Destination Docklands and involves collaboration between the City of Melbourne, Places Victoria, developers, Docklands Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders.

"I am immensely proud of the results Destination Docklands has achieved, in particular over the past nine months following a board-initiated strategic review and most importantly, the collaboration of all stakeholders through their involvement in the Docklands Marketing Committee and associated project groups," Ms Jensen said.



Former Etihad Stadium CEO Paul Sergeant.

## Stadium CEO steps down

***Paul Sergeant last month stepped down from his role as CEO of Etihad Stadium.***

Mr Sergeant has served in the role since October 2012 and was instrumental in attracting a range of colourful events to the stadium.

Mr Sergeant told *Docklands News* that after three-and-a-half years in the role it was the right time for a change.

He said he wouldn't be announcing his next move for around another month.

"There are a number of different of opportunities I'm looking at," Mr Sergeant said. He said his intention was to remain in Melbourne.

Mr Sergeant said he has particularly enjoyed the last six months at Etihad Stadium, with a range of major events happening including the UFC, Edinburgh Military Tattoo and speedway.

As for Docklands itself, Mr Sergeant said: "I think the area has come along in leaps and bounds."

"There still remains a lot of myths around the area, which is disappointing when considering the great work many people, including the stadium are doing."

"I think it's got a few years to go and it will keep growing and changing."

Following Mr Sergeant's resignation, director of operations of Melbourne Stadiums Limited and long-standing member of the Etihad Stadium leadership team Michael Green has been appointed acting CEO.

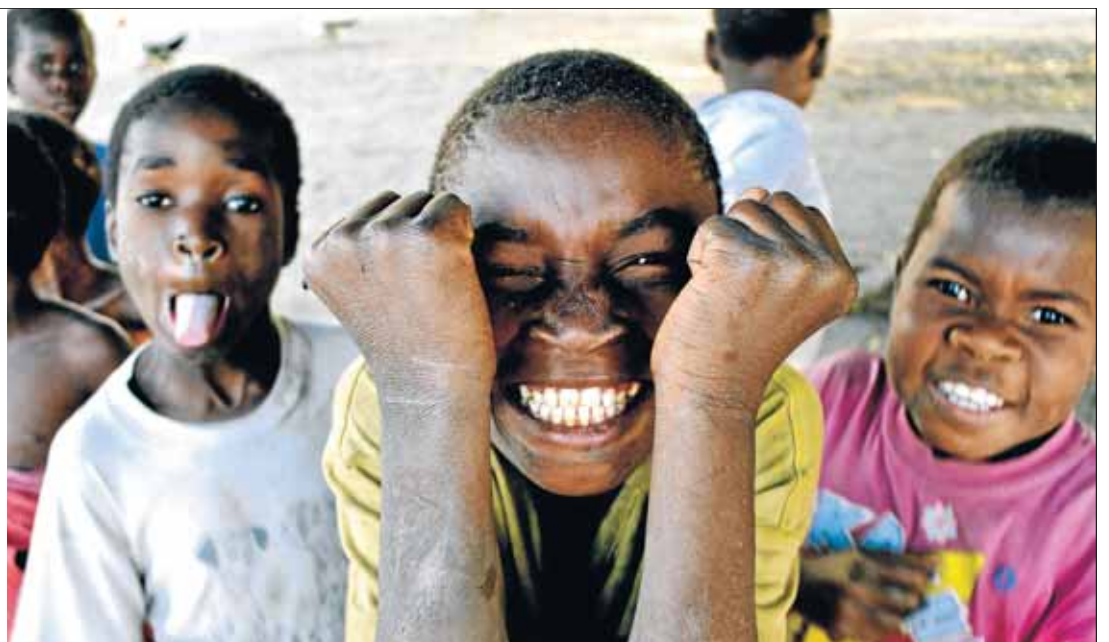
Mr Green joined the stadium in 1998 when it was still under construction. He has worked in a number of roles including chief operating officer, general manager of sales and marketing and general manager of commercial business.



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# Have your say on distributor

*The public has the chance to provide feedback on the Western Distributor project this month.*

The State Government last month released the scoping requirements that will shape the Environmental Effects Statement (EES) for the project and the public can now comment on these requirements before they are finalised.

The project is likely to have a significant impact on Docklands and the neighbouring, currently undeveloped, E-Gate precinct.

The current proposal includes an elevated road above Footscray Rd and three CBD exits, including one that cuts through the 20-hectare E-Gate site, effectively halving the available land.

The Western Distributor proposal also includes two additional lanes in each direction on the Westgate Freeway, between the M80 Ring Road and Williamstown Rd, and a tunnel under Yarraville. The key aims of the project are easing pressure on the M1 corridor, taking trucks off inner-west roads and providing an alternative to the West Gate Bridge.

The scoping requirements currently available for public comment will outline the matters to be investigated and documented in the EES.

The EES itself is expected to examine a number of issues, including public and stakeholder consultation, predictions of significant environmental effects, proposed measures to avoid, minimise or manage adverse environmental effects and a proposed program for monitoring and managing environmental effects during project implementation.



The Western Distributor proposal features three CBD exits.

According to Planning Minister Richard Wynne everyone will have the chance to examine the scope of the EES, view the available information and have their say.

“The EES is the proper process for assessment of this project and will ensure we get the right information and make the best decisions about how the much needed \$5.5 billion Western Distributor Project comes together,” Mr Wynne said.

Residents and businesses will also be able to make submissions as part of the EES process over the next few months and a report will be prepared and submitted to Mr Wynne.

The community will also be able to have input at community consultation sessions in April.

The sessions are expected to be held along the route of the project and will display plans, maps and other information. Technical specialists will also be available to answer questions.

The scoping requirements are available online at [delwp.vic.gov.au/planning/environmental-assessment/western-distributor-project](http://delwp.vic.gov.au/planning/environmental-assessment/western-distributor-project)

Submissions can be made by emailing [environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment.assessment@delwp.vic.gov.au)



Docklands Community Garden volunteer Greg Wise is seeking support for a garden project.

## Pledge your support for community garden

*Docklands Community Garden has launched a crowd-funding campaign in hope of raising enough money to replace the soil in the garden beds.*

According to volunteer gardener Greg Wise, the soil hasn't been replaced since the garden opened seven years ago.

“That soil is now depleted of all of the organic matter and minerals that are needed to grow vegetables, herbs and flowers,” Mr Wise said.

“As a result we have to spend a lot of money every time we replant the garden on fertiliser, mulch and other organic ingredients we dig into the garden.”

“In addition we have to find the money for this, which is generally out of the volunteers' pockets,” Mr Wise said.

Replacement of the soil will cost around \$3000, including the soil itself, transport and Bobcat use.

The Docklands Community Garden is offering a number of rewards for those who donate to the cause including tours of the garden, produce packs and public acknowledgement on the garden notice board and community garden website.

Visit [www.pozible.com/project/204166](http://www.pozible.com/project/204166) to learn more about the Docklands Community Garden and to pledge your donation for the soil replacement project.


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An artist's impression of the proposed Voyager tower at Wharf's Entrance.

# New tower for Wharf's Entrance

*Plans for Mirvac's newest residential tower, Voyager, were revealed last month.*

The City of Melbourne's Future Melbourne Committee considered the tower proposal at its February 16 meeting, with councillors unanimously agreeing to support the plan, subject to a number of conditions.

Mirvac is now awaiting approval from Planning Minister Richard Wynne. If approved, the 43-storey tower would become the tallest building at Yarra's Edge.

Forming part of Mirvac's Wharf's Entrance precinct, the new tower would be located east of Forge, which is currently under construction. The future Lorimer Park and Tower 12 are planned for construction west of the Voyager site.

The building will stand 130 metres tall, will feature 315 apartments and will house a rooftop residential space to be known as "The Societe".

The open-air rooftop, encased in glass, will feature indoor and outdoor spaces including dining rooms, a karaoke theatre room, yoga lawn, fire pit and barbecue facilities.

Voyager residents will also have access to planned health and wellbeing facility "The Wharf Club", which will feature a pool, fitness

centre and cafe.

According to Mirvac's head of residential John Carfi, Voyager is a product of market forces, with buyers increasingly expecting hotel-like living in Melbourne apartment buildings.

"Voyager is about taking apartment living to a whole new level and providing residents with an experience that meets the demand that has emerged in recent years," he said.

Mirvac architect Michael Wiener said the building was designed in the context of its location as the first building visitors see when arriving into Melbourne from the Bolte Bridge.

"Voyager will be a beacon in Melbourne, with a fluid form that reflects the ripples of the adjacent Yarra River and water breeze," he said.

"As the largest building in the precinct, it is designed to be the whole package – architecturally distinct, full-service with its concierge and promoting a connected and high-end lifestyle through its resident amenity."

# Local jobs triple

*Docklands is the place to be if you're looking for work, with local jobs tripling in the last 10 years.*

The most recent Census of Land Use and Employment (CLUE) data, released by the City of Melbourne last month, found that there were 53,300 jobs in Docklands, up from 14,700 in 2005.

According to the council, Docklands has seen the largest increase in employment across the Melbourne municipality.

When launching the data, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the ongoing CLUE study meant we could see the City of Melbourne's long-term planning come to fruition.

"One of the most interesting indicators of this growth is the 38,600 new jobs created in Docklands, a growth area which is only half complete," Cr Doyle said.

CLUE provides information about economic activity, tracks changes in land use and identifies key trends in employment. It is collected through face-to-face interviews with every business in the Melbourne municipality.

The most recent update indicates that the most prevalent industry in Docklands is finance and insurance services, which employs more than 22,000 people.

The second largest industry is professional, scientific and technical services (around 6000 employees), followed by public administration and safety (just over 5000 employees).

Given the surge in local jobs over the last decade, it's no surprise that Docklands has more than 990,000 sqm devoted to office use.

Other significant uses of Docklands space include parking (943,200 sqm) and accommodation (782,272 sqm).

However, at the other end of the scale, "community use" only occupies 3969 sqm of space.

Across Melbourne generally, the data reveals there were 29,000 new dwellings and 8 million sqm of floor space added to the municipality in the last 10 years.

The CLUE data found that Melbourne's economy is now worth 44 per cent more than it was in 2005, valued at \$90.6 billion.

The number of jobs across the Melbourne municipality has also increased by 33 per cent in the past decade, with 450,336 local jobs.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the latest data reinforced anecdotal evidence and reports from other agencies and business that the city's economy was booming.

"We are growing in a smart and sustainable way with our largest industries being professional services, finance, insurance and technology, clean-tech and biotech – paving the way for an innovative knowledge economy," Cr Doyle said.

"Great cities provide great opportunities for their people."

"This report also highlights that cities continue to be the economic engine rooms of our nation. Melbourne now represents a third of Victoria's total economic activity," Cr Doyle said.



City of Melbourne Lord Mayor Robert Doyle launched the new CLUE data last month.

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# Wynne rules out tram bridge

*Planning Minister Richard Wynne has publicly ruled out the Fishermans Tram Bridge.*

Speaking at a Fishermans Bend community forum on February 29, Mr Wynne said: "That's been ruled out. It was ruled out before the last election by us in opposition."

"We will be coming up with proposals for how we address a light-rail link, just not that one," Mr Wynne said.

The statement comes after the City of Port Phillip took its campaign for the construction of the tram-bridge to Federal Parliament.

Last month it made a submission to a parliamentary committee inquiry claiming the early delivery of the tram extension would unlock up to \$200 million in state and local government revenue.

The council has been pushing for construction of the Collins St tram extension since 2014. The tram extension would see a bridge built from the end of Collins St across the river, blocking off the marina and cutting through Yarra's Edge.

The council continues to advocate for construction of the bridge despite the State Government ruling out the tram bridge option following the Labor Party's election in 2014.

In its submission to the parliamentary inquiry on "The Role of Transport Connectivity on Stimulating Development and Economic Activity", the council says the early delivery of the Collins St tram extension is "vital in realising the envisioned boost to accessibility, land values and in the longer-term an improved urban renewal outcome" for Fishermans Bend.

The submission relies largely on a 2014 report by AECOM, which the council commissioned.

Port Phillip Mayor Bernadene Voss said the independent report had found early delivery of the \$300 million Collins St tram extension could result in a \$1.1 billion uplift in the value of Fishermans Bend land.

"The uplift generated for landowners and



An artist's impression of the proposed tram bridge.

developers by this public investment could lead to about \$200 million in extra revenue to State and Local Government through rates, stamp duty, development contributions and land tax as Fishermans Bend attracts more families and businesses," Cr Voss said.

"The 2018 delivery of a 'turn up and go' public transport link to the CBD, such as the Collins St tram extension, remains a key council priority and we welcome the committee's interests in exploring value capture as a funding mechanism for critical, city shaping projects."

The council has the support of the Bicycle Network, which agrees the bike and tram bridge would have a positive impact on the economy.

The Yarra's Edge community has been vocal about its opposition to the proposed bridge since 2013, when it was featured in the draft vision for Fishermans Bend.

Yarra's Edge resident Phillip Spender said his reaction to the AECOM report was that it was out of date.

"It was written to perfume a pig and support a cause. It's not relevant to the discussion at the moment given Fishermans Bend is being recast," Mr Spender said.

"Presently there isn't a transport plan for Fishermans Bend and everyone recognises this is necessary for its success, but there are plenty of other options."



An artist's impression of the pavilion installed in Docklands.

## Unique pavilion finds a Docklands home

*Docklands has been gifted a unique pavilion, to be installed on the corner of Harbour Esplanade and Collins St.*

The pavilion, designed by Amanda Leveté, was part of the MPavilion program, which sees architects design a temporary pavilion for the Queen Victoria Gardens.

Places Victoria began installing the pavilion at its new permanent home in Docklands at the end of February.

Places Victoria precincts general manager Simon Wilson said the pavilion would be incorporated into new landscaping in the existing open space between Collins St and the multipurpose sports courts on Harbour Esplanade.

"We're very grateful to the Naomi Milgrom Foundation and the City of Melbourne for gifting this beautiful pavilion to Docklands so it can continue to be admired and enjoyed," he said.

"It will be a new architectural feature for the precinct, a welcome lunch spot for around 15,000 workers in the vicinity and a place to take shelter."

The MPavilion program started in 2014 and sees a new pavilion commissioned and created each year over four years. The program was initiated by the Naomi Milgrom Foundation with support

from the City of Melbourne and the State Government.

Chair of the foundation Naomi Milgrom, said the pavilion would continue to inspire and be part of the city's cultural heritage in its new permanent home.

"Amanda's magical forest-like structure joins a growing family of architectural masterpieces to be enjoyed by the people of Melbourne for years to come," Ms Milgrom said.

Ms Leveté's design was the 2015 MPavilion and features an "ultra-thin forest-like canopy", which comprises a series of five-metre-wide translucent petals.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the City of Melbourne was thrilled to be working with the Naomi Milgrom Foundation and Places Victoria to provide a permanent home for the pavilion in Docklands.

"MPavilion is a unique architectural feature that will provide a wonderful drawcard for the Docklands community, both as an event space, a meeting hub and a symbol of the value of public art and urban design," Cr Doyle said.

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# School review to continue

*The State Government's review into school needs in Docklands has found more local schools will be needed in the next 15 years to meet expected growth.*

Stage one of the review found that there would be a shortfall of around 4800 government primary school places and 2000 government secondary school places across the study area of Docklands and inner-Melbourne by 2031.

The review found that the number of primary school-aged students living in Docklands is expected to grow to 866 by 2035. It's anticipated around 691 secondary students will be living in Docklands by 2035.

The State Government has confirmed the review will now move into stage two, which will focus on further community and stakeholder consultation and look at options to deliver schooling across Docklands and surrounding areas.

The study area focuses on inner Melbourne including Port Melbourne, Albert Park, South Melbourne, Carlton, North Melbourne, Kensington and Docklands.

Education Minister James Merlino said: "As promised, we are reviewing the future education needs across Docklands and inner Melbourne to tackle a dramatic reduction in school infrastructure investment under the former Liberal government."

In the meantime, Docklands parents have continued their campaign for a local school, with lobby group City Schools 4 City Kids gaining a following.

The group, recently formed by Docklands parents Denise Fung-Henderson and Michelle Styles, held a morning tea for around 70 people at Parliament House last month to raise awareness for the cause.

The group is advocating for public primary and secondary schools for children living in the inner city, including Docklands, the CBD and Southbank.

Speaking to the group Ms Styles said every family in Docklands was affected by the



*Around 70 people attended City Schools 4 City Kids' morning tea at Parliament House last month.*

current situation, describing her own experience of driving her seven-year-old son to school each day in peak hour heavily congested roads and city gridlock.

"This crisis does not just affect Docklands, it affects many inner-urban communities including the CBD, Southbank, West Melbourne and South Melbourne which have no local state schools," Ms Styles said.

Ms Styles also highlighted the impact on neighbouring communities of North Melbourne, Carlton, Kensington, Parkville, Port Melbourne and Albert Park, which are dealing with overcrowding in local state schools.

"I really hope as a united community we can do this. We can support the children of Docklands, Southbank and the CBD to have a school in their own community."

"Schools are the glue that help communities stick together."

City Schools 4 City Kids has already attracted political attention with Greens Melbourne MLA Ellen Sandell putting her support behind the group.

Speaking at the morning tea, Ms Sandell said it was important to maintain the pressure on

the government to deliver a school for inner-city families.

"We need to see money in the budget for a school," Ms Sandell said. "I know that we can win but it is going to take some more work."

Attendees at the morning tea also included Sex Party leader Fiona Patten, Prahan Greens MLA Sam Hibbins and City of Melbourne councillors Jackie Watts and Ken Ong.

Other speakers at the morning tea also included social and urban planning academic Professor Carolyn Whitzman and Albert Park Primary School principal and Docklands-based grandmother Elaine Mills.

Prof Whitzman said the authorities had so far ignored the reality of families living in high-rises.

Ms Mills commented that inner-city schools were full because "living in or close to the city is Melbourne's best kept secret."

"Docklanders have the best place in the world to live," Ms Mills said. "They just need a school."

## Step back in time

*Get ready to step back in time when "Jurassic Creatures" opens at Harbour Town this month.*

The interactive event will see visitors explore an ancient world full of animatronic moving dinosaurs and prehistoric creatures.

You'll be able to get up close with some of the most infamous prehistoric animals including colossal mammoths, sabre tooth tigers and of course tyrannosaurus rex.

Visitors to the event will be able to try their hand at palaeontology and dig up their own fossil. You can also meet Buddy and Tiny from Dinosaur Train and see them live in their own stage show.

Other activities will include dinosaur art and craft, fossil displays and amusement activities.

*Jurassic Creatures* opens at Harbour Town on March 12 and runs through to April 17.

Tickets range from \$22 for children to \$32 for adults. Visit [www.jurassiccreatures.com.au](http://www.jurassiccreatures.com.au) for more information.



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# Community hub launched

*Docklands newest community facility was officially opened to the public last month.*

The Community Hub at the Dock was launched with an open day on February 20, offering boating, food stalls and children's activities.

The unique facility features a boating hub on the ground floor, which is home to the Docklands Yacht Club, the Victorian Dragon Boat Association and the Melbourne Outrigger Canoe.

The second floor of the building houses Docklands' family services centre, with consulting rooms, a playgroup room, an outdoor play area, a group program room and a large multi-purpose room overlooking the water which is available for community hire through the City of Melbourne.

In launching the new facility, Planning Minister Richard Wynne said Docklands was about 60 per cent complete and, while 10,000 people have already moved in, the suburb's population will grow to around 20,000 and will accommodate 60,000 jobs.

"New infrastructure means Docklands is taking shape as a place for families and it is great to see more community facilities complementing existing residential and commercial development," Mr Wynne said.

"Docklands is developing its own character, which will be further enhanced over the next 10 years - right now there is more than



*Open day visitors participate in the traditional dragon boating eye dotting ceremony.*

\$2 billion worth of construction underway across 13 projects."

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle agreed Docklands was becoming more and more popular with families.

"We recognised a need for a family services centre in Docklands to support these families through maternal and child health services, counselling and immunisation services, as well as spaces for meetings and community events."

As with the Library at the Dock, the \$8.5 million Community Hub at the Dock was delivered through a tri-partnership between Places Victoria, Lend Lease and the City of Melbourne.

"The great alliance we share with our partners, the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria, has been critical to the success of the Community Hub and the entire \$63 million civic precinct in Victoria Harbour."

## Space for a growing community

*Yarra's Edge could soon have a new community space, with council last month accepting a land transfer from Mirvac.*

As part of a development agreement between Mirvac and Places Victoria, the developer was obliged to provide to the council 250sqm of space at Yarra's Edge for community use.

The property was last month transferred to the City of Melbourne for a peppercorn price of \$1.

The space provided is a ground floor tenancy at the Array building, but the specific community use is yet to be determined.

The Docklands Community Place Plan had identified the property as a possible future community neighbourhood centre.

The council will undertake community consultation to determine an appropriate use for the space and funding will be proposed as part of the 2016-17 capital works cycle to fund the fit out.

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# Non-compliant cladding common

*An investigation into external building cladding has found some 51 per cent of inspected Melbourne buildings are non-compliant with building regulations.*

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) launched the audit following the Lacrosse apartment fire in Docklands in November 2014.

An MFB post incident analysis of the fire found that the use of non-compliant aluminium composite panelling had contributed to the spread of the fire.

According to VBA CEO Prue Digby, the VBA's audit examined thousands of documents relating to some 170 high-rise residential and public buildings in the Melbourne CBD and surrounding suburbs.

"The non-compliance rate found by the VBA audit was 51 per cent," Ms Digby said.

"However, working with its regulatory partners, the City of Melbourne and the MFB, it was determined that the buildings' non-compliance did not pose a risk to the safety of occupants."

"Only one other building, the Harvest Apartments in Clarendon Street, South Melbourne, required immediate emergency action," Ms Digby said.



The cladding investigation was launched following the Lacrosse fire.

The City of Port Phillip's municipal building surveyor issued emergency orders to the building and remedial action has been undertaken to comply with the order.

The VBA is now considering further actions including investigation of building practitioners involved in multiple instances of non-compliance identified through the VBA audit.

The VBA's investigation into the conduct of building practitioners involved in the construction of Lacrosse also continues.

# Residents to vote on Lacrosse plan

*Lacrosse residents will soon be able to vote on a solution to make their building compliant with Australian building regulations.*

The building has been facing issues with compliance since a fire brigade (MFB) investigation into the Lacrosse fire found that non-compliant cladding had contributed to the spread of the November 2014 blaze.

In October last year the City of Melbourne issued all 400 Lacrosse owners with building orders requiring them to replace the external cladding on their building within 350 days.

Fraser Main, managing director of Lacrosse's facilities management company, Trevor Main Group, said he was currently awaiting council approval on a sprinkler solution for the building.

Once approval of this solution is received Mr Main said he would present the building's owners' corporation (OC) with three options. Once the committee signs off on these options they will be presented to owners to vote on.

Mr Main said the three options available

to owners would be: to appeal the council orders at the Building Appeals Board; a sprinkler solution (pending council approval) involving installation of sprinklers on balconies; or the entire re-cladding of the building.

Mr Main said Lacrosse builder LU Simon had committed to delivering the sprinkler solution option at no cost to owners.

"I do continue to see a real dedication from LU Simon to find a solution. They're not admitting liability, but they're certainly looking at finding a compliant solution at no cost," Mr Main said.

However, Mr Main said if the owners decided to proceed with the re-cladding option it will be at their own cost and compensation would need to be sought through the courts or via negotiation.

Owners are still waiting to learn the outcome of the Victorian Building Authority's investigation into the conduct of LU Simon and the relevant building surveyor.

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## Waterways authority is starting to sink

Continued from page 1.

Rather than an independently-chaired management committee Parks Victoria could be provided with funding to establish and support a committee to advise it on management and berthing issues.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Joh Maxwell has requested a meeting with Ms Neville before the Minister makes a decision.

Mr Maxwell said she had not officially heard Ms Neville's response to the LYRUFDG recommendations.

"However, the chamber will continue to support a single governance model," Mrs Maxwell said. "Under a single governance model our waterways will become the jewel in Victoria's crown."

While the future governance of the waterways isn't looking good, it's understood the situation is potentially more positive for commercial boat operators.

The LYRUFDG had advocated for longer-term leases for commercial overnight berths and provision of exclusive commercial berths and "quick stop" berths at a fee for service.

It's understood Ms Neville broadly supports these recommendations and that money will be provided to improve berthing conditions.



The Neighbourhood Houses team moved into its new home in Docklands last month.

## Neighbourhood Houses moves in

*The peak body for Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria moved into Docklands last month.*

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria advocates for and supports members throughout inner Melbourne, suburbs and regional area.

According to CEO Bridget Gardner, the organisation has moved from Flinders Lane to its new home on the Etihad Stadium concourse.

"It's a great spot for us, we love it here," Ms Gardner.

According to Ms Gardner, Neighbourhood Houses can take many forms and names, but the key ingredients are a community and a gathering place.

"They are generally community managed and run, with a strong volunteer base attached to a paid staff," Ms Gardner said.

The houses offer a range of opportunities to the community, from classes to occasional

childcare or simply a place for people to meet.

"We've got a saying in the sector that if you've been to one neighbourhood house you've been to one neighbourhood house, because they take on the culture of the community they are in."

According to Ms Gardner there are no neighbourhood houses in the CBD or Docklands, but she can see plenty of potential in the area.

"I can see that there are a number of organisations and groups within Docklands that have tones of a neighbourhood house."

"I could even see in the not too distant future that local community groups would value and maybe even advocate for their own community house."

## Agent of the year

*Local agent Baden Lucas has been named Victoria's top real estate agent.*

Baden was named the Victorian Agent of the Year at the 10th annual Australasian Real Estate Results Awards (ARERAs) on February 1 in Sydney in front of a crowd of more than 400 agents and industry experts.

Hosted by industry training body, the Real Estate Results Network, the ARERAs are the independent real estate industry's night of nights and showcase outstanding performance by both agencies and individual agents.

"It was a great honour," the Lucas Real Estate director said of the win.

"It is an amazing achievement. My team has worked incredibly hard over the past year to be the local area experts and really elevate our level of service for our clients. It's fantastic to see the results we achieve for our clients recognised nationally," Mr Lucas said.

Mr Lucas was also recently recognised by eminent industry publication *Real Estate Business* as the top young Victorian agent. He was named Victoria's top young agent and ranked number six nationally in the inaugural "Young Guns" ranking.



Baden Lucas with the Real Estate Results Network's Michael Sheargold.

## David Phelan answers your legal questions.

**Q** I am opening a business with my family. What do you advise?

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## First lunch

*Don't forget to book your seat at the first Docklands Networking Lunch for 2016.*

The March lunch will be held on Friday, March 18 at TAP831 at 831 Bourke St.

Hosted by *Docklands News* and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, the quarterly networking lunches offer an opportunity for local business people and stakeholders to get to know one another.

The menu for the March lunch is:

Entrée: Scallops

Mains: Lemon pepper calamari or Chicken saltimbocca

Dessert: Victorian cheese plate

Beverages: Tap beer, house red, house white and non-alcoholic beverages

As always, the networking lunch is \$60 per person and bookings can be made by contacting *Docklands News* via [lunch@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:lunch@docklandsnews.com.au) or on 8689 7979.

# Chinese New Year celebrations

*Docklands was the place to be during last month's Chinese New Year celebrations, with a tasty lunar market attracting some 85,000 people to the waterfront over 14 days.*

With plenty of Asian cuisine on offer to satisfy the masses, visitors and locals also enjoyed the trail of illuminated lanterns, moon and stars, pandas, opera masks and a phoenix found around the suburb.

The launch of the Docklands Chinese New Year festival on February 8 saw the suburb come alive with traditional performances including Chinese dancers and stilt walkers and roving lion and dragon dancers.



## Dragon boat championships

*Victoria Harbour will be alive in a blaze of colour, buzz and excitement on Saturday, March 5 as dragon boat paddlers compete in the 2016 Victorian Championships.*

Come along and see how a sport, with more than 2000 years of history, has transformed into one of the fastest growing sports in Australia.

Crews will be competing over 200m, 500m and 2000m distances and will be looking to win their category along with bragging rights.

This Championship regatta culminates the Dragon Boat Victoria 2015/16 competitive season.

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# Battle lines drawn in council election

By Shane Scanlan

*October seems a long way off, but tensions are rising over this year's City of Melbourne council elections.*

The first skirmish of a probably-protracted war took place at the Future Melbourne Committee meeting on February 16 over voting methodology.

The battle-lines didn't take long to form up - with Team Doyle and fellow "business" councillors Stephen Mayne and Ken Ong using their dominant numbers to slap down the four "residential" Green and Labor councillors.

A seven to four voting pattern is likely to become the norm on electoral matters from here on in. On the "business" side of the fence are councillors Doyle, Riley, Wood, Louey, Pinder-Mortimer (Team Doyle), Mayne and Ong. On the "resident" side are Greens councillors Oke and Leppert and ALP-aligned councillors Foster and Watts.

So far, only councillors Doyle, Oke and Leppert have declared their intention to contest the October 22 election.

Melbourne's uniquely complex electoral system has been designed and refined by successive state governments over decades to prevent a "ratbag" element (of whatever colour) getting its hands on the prize capital city council.

The primary tools employed are an unsubdivided municipality and granting

each business two votes while residents are restricted to one. Apologists of the system claim legitimacy by equating representation with relative rate contribution.

Giving voters a choice of either posting their ballots or dropping them into a box at a polling booth, would appear to give little advantage to either business or residential interests.

Nevertheless, on February 16 business councillors resisted a pitch by residential councillors to add attendance voting as an option to the currently-exclusive postage voting method.

Choice of voting system is the only decision that councils can take in relation to the conduct of their elections.

In advocating a choice, Cr Rohan Leppert predicted that the declining standards of Australia Post delivery times, coupled with the fact that in 2012 some 4335 ballot papers arrived late, would result in 10,000 ballots arriving after the October 21 cut-off date.

"We can't guarantee that there's a one-day turn-around for the majority of our voters," Cr Leppert said.

Cr Stephen Mayne had earlier said: "Frankly I find advocacy for attendance voting

a very sectional position to benefit the residential section of the voter roll and quite disrespectful of, and disenfranchising of, the other segments, which are uniquely important in a capital city council."

Despite 40 per cent of enrolled voters failing to vote in 2012, Cr Mayne said: "It seemed to work very well. It does achieve higher turnout rates and, obviously suits our unique role with a lot of off-shore and interstate and corporate interests."

And while voting methodology may be contentious, what is far more important for the opposing camps is getting their constituents enrolled before August 26.

City of Melbourne residents, in particular, aren't particularly interested in voting in local government elections. If they did, they could dominate the vote, despite the gerrymander against them.

In 2012, only 43,789 residents were enrolled to vote at a time when the residential population was around 110,000. As such, they comprised just 40.3 per cent of the total 108,434 enrolments.

There are now 124,000 residents in the municipality, but the council is not compelled to make sure they are on the roll. On the other hand, if a corporation fails to

nominate its two voting representatives, the council is obliged by law to enroll company officers from Australian Securities and Investment Commission records. This provision does not apply to any other Victorian municipality.

This month the council will start a three-month door-knocking census of businesses in CBD, Docklands, Southbank and St Kilda Rd to ensure all eligible businesses are on its roll.

It does send letters to residential addresses which are absent from the Victorian Electoral Commission's database and, in 2012, sent 26,109 such letters. However, this exercise only netted 2000 extra residents to the council's roll.

Cr Leppert complains that the business component of the council's voter roll is far more accurate than the residential component.

But residents don't have to be Australian citizens and need only have lived in the municipality for a month to be eligible to vote.

Should the estimated 112,000 residents of voting age sign up, the 2017 Melbourne City Council could have a very different composition.



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A shot of Victoria Harbour captured by Elle Chen.

## Capturing Docklands' beauty

*Docklands' beauty has been captured in a range of photographs as part of a recent competition.*

The Destination Docklands "Docklands I Love You" photography competition saw amateur and professional photographers busily snapping photos around Docklands.

Entrants were asked to take photos focusing on three different categories: people, parks and green spaces and Melbourne's jewel – the waterways.

"We have been overwhelmed with the positive response and the calibre of entries from the 480 amateurs and professionals who visited Docklands to enter the competition," Destination Docklands communications manager Georgina Hood said.

The organisation also partnered with Chris Cincotta of @MelbourneILoveYou for the competition and Mr Cincotta will serve as a guest judge.

The winner of each of the photography categories will be awarded the major prize of \$1000.

You can currently view the top 15 entries at the lower plaza at Collins Square. The winners of each category and the People's Choice Award will be announced when the exhibition closes on March 4.

## March social club

*Local workers and residents are invited to come along to this month's Docklands Social Club on March 9.*

The monthly event offers locals the chance to meet and socialise in a relaxed, informal setting.

The next gathering is on Wednesday, March 9 from 7pm at Bar Nacional at 727 Collins St.

Come along for a drink or sit down for a meal. Everyone is welcome.

# Dispute over land ownership

*Who are the traditional landowners of Docklands?*

That's the question authorities are grappling with due to competing claims from two Aboriginal groups.

Both the Boon Wurrung Foundation and the Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council claim that they are the traditional landowners of a region including Docklands.

Currently there is no formal recognition of the traditional owners of the Docklands area. It's understood official speeches made in the area acknowledge only the overarching Kulin nation, rather than a specific group.

Both groups have made submissions to the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council (VAHC) applying to be named the Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the land, but both requests have so far been denied.

The VAHC is responsible for appointing RAPs, which represent traditional owners and make decisions relating to the protection, management and preservation of Aboriginal culture in specified areas.

According to a VAHC spokesperson, the council is currently of the view that more discussion is needed between the groups to identify how their interests should be understood.

The council has previously recognised the Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council as a RAP of much of inner Melbourne and a large section of Victoria.

The group is considered the traditional landowners of the land extending to our north of the Great Dividing Range, west to around Daylesford and east to Mount Baw Baw.

It's most recent application related to a section of land south of its existing RAP area from Werribee River in the west, along the Port Phillip Bay coastline,

extending south almost to Frankston and beyond the Bunyip River in the east.

VAHC denied this application on a number of grounds including overlapping claims from other traditional owner organisations.

According to the council's September 2015 report on the decision, the VAHC is aware of claims made on behalf of the Boon Wurrung people by the Boon Wurrung Foundation, the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation and the Bunurong Land and Sea Association Incorporated.

However, the group is supported in its claim relating to Docklands by National Titles Services Victoria (NTSV), which works to assist traditional owners with land rights claims.

"Following comprehensive research by NTSV we are supporting Wurundjeri in applications under the Aboriginal Heritage Act and the Traditional Owner Settlement Act over an area that would include Docklands and some other southern metropolitan areas not currently included in their existing RAP area," NTSV CEO Matthew Storey said.

The Boon Wurrung Foundation is not currently a RAP, with the VAHC declining its application relating to an area encompassing the coastline of the Werribee River to Wilsons Promontory National Park, most of Port Phillip Bay, Western Port Bay, Cape Liptrap and all of the Mornington Peninsula.

In its May 2015 report on the decision the VAHC said parts of the application overlapped with RAP applications from other organisations including the Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council. At that time the council said it had not formed a view about the competing applications for the areas.

*Docklands News* contacted both the Boon Wurrung Foundation and the Wurundjeri Tribe Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council in relation to this story. Neither party was available to comment.



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More than 1200 cast and crew were in Docklands for the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

# Military tattoo in Docklands

By Ella Gibson

**More than 1200 cast and crew came to Docklands last month to put on the 66th annual Edinburgh Military Tattoo.**

It's only the fourth time that the Tattoo has been overseas, only leaving its Scottish homeland three times touring to New Zealand in 2000 and Sydney in 2005 and 2010.

Producer Brigadier David Allfrey said he was "absolutely thrilled the way the cast and crew have come together."

"We've had some astonishing support here in Melbourne and great friendship all the way through," Brigadier Allfrey said

The event was a unique blend of music, ceremony, entertainment and theatre, at the heart of which was the Massed Pipes and Drums drawn from Scottish regiments who joined massed military bands from the Royal Navy, the Army and the Royal Air Force.

The show was highly technical in nature, spread over the entirety of the Etihad Stadium surface. A full size replica of the Edinburgh Castle provided a backdrop for the performance.

Performers came from 10 regiments in the UK plus bands from Switzerland, Norway, Tonga, Fiji and all across Australia. With such a large international cast, all rehearsal was done in their home countries before being brought together to rehearse in Etihad Stadium over three days.

"It's very easy with a show like this to appear arrogant when it visits other parts of the world and it's very important to us that we've got Australian content and performers here," Brigadier Allfrey said.

The Australian content included the Australian Defence Force's military band,

Australian dancers, the South Australian Police and Aboriginal elders who performed a smoking ceremony.

"The first people are going to be coming on at the very start of the show ... their elders are going to do a smoking ceremony for us, they will be the first onto the field and they will be the last off," Brigadier Allfrey said. "I think Australia is going to be incredibly proud."

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is one of the most famous events in the world, playing to around 220,000 people each year in Edinburgh and attracting an annual television audience of 100 million.

"There is a great sense of emotion in the show, there's a great sense of Australian identity, I think, and there's a shared past, a shared present and a shared future, God willing, that we will all enjoy."

The grand finale drew the entire cast together for the performance of Auld Lang Syne, while The Lone Piper, standing high on the castle ramparts, brought the event to a conclusion.

"It's popular I think because in a changing world, people do like a sense of anchor, they like a sense of tradition and a sense of heritage," Brigadier Allfrey said.

"But that is not to give the impression that the tattoo is simply locked in the past ... it's a fanfare for the future."

# Helicopter noise to be addressed

**Local residents hope the daily disruption of aircraft noise near their buildings could soon be a thing of the past under a new plan by the City of Melbourne.**

The council last month agreed to develop Fly Neighbourly Agreements (FNAs) with local helicopter companies in an effort to reduce the impact of aircraft noise on residents.

Last year some 6289 helicopters flew over the City of Melbourne between January and July.

Regulation of helicopters and small aircraft is at a federal level and generally require aircraft to fly at a minimum of 1000 feet. However, current regulations don't address issues such as flight paths, time of operation and minimum heights for hovering.

In order to address these issues, the City of Melbourne will seek to develop FNAs with all main helicopter companies operating with the municipality.

Residents from Siddeley St, who live close to the Yarra River helipad, and also East Melbourne, have been campaigning for action on the issue for some time.

Flinders Wharf resident Todd Henderson, said he had been in conversation with the City of Melbourne about the issue of helicopter noise for more than a year.

With a helipad located just 60 metres from the building, Mr Henderson said the sound of the helicopters taking off and landing or flying in front of the building was extremely loud.

He said there were currently between five and 10 flights a day arriving and departing from the helipad.

While he's pleased the council will support the development of FNAs, Mr Henderson said he was unsure how much it would impact on the current noise situation, given the agreements are non-binding and voluntary.

"There's a number of us keen to have the helipad itself shifted," Mr Henderson said.

Mr Henderson said he would like speak with other residents impacted by helicopter noise and asked that they email

Councillors unanimously agreed to support the development of a Fly Neighbourly Agreement at the February 16 Future Melbourne Committee meeting.

However, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said residents were right to be realistic about the enforceability of the voluntary agreements.

He also said the first hurdle was the acceptance of the agreements by the relevant federal authorities.

He said there was no precedent for FNAs in urban areas, with the agreements previously being applied to remote and regional areas.

# Chinese crew visit Docklands

**Melbourne City Marina hosted some special guests earlier this year when the crew of Shuguang Haiyang visited after competing in the Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race.**

It was the first time a team from mainland China had competed in the race, with Shugang Haiyang and another Chinese crew competing in the well-known race.

According to skipper of Shuguang Haiyang, Dong Qing, it was the first time most of the crew had visited Melbourne.

Mr Qing said he was surprised to find that the council managed Melbourne City Marina.

"It's very different in China as most marinas are private. There isn't any marina in China that is like Melbourne City Marina," Mr Qing said. "We can see that sailing sport is popular in Australia and local government promotes sailing activity well."

According to Mr Qing, sailing sports have only emerged in China in the last 15 years and have only begun to attract attention in recent years.

He said sailing in China remained a "luxury



The crew of Shuguang Haiyang at the Melbourne City Marina lounge.

activity" that only middle and high-class families could afford.

"The sailing industry in China is still new and many things can be improved, for example, understanding of sailing, establishing sophisticated sailing regulations, safety standards and capital investment in the industry," he said.



We Live Here

# Giving people a voice

*The support and feed-back for the We Live Here Movement has been overwhelming since our December launch.*

Thank you to everyone that continues to visit our website to keep up to date or register as a supporter. We are growing in number as people become aware of the movement and we are proud to say that we now advocate for more than 70 buildings.

As the movement gathers momentum We Live Here is now being recognised as a genuine voice for residents and community groups grappling with issues arising from inner city living that are not being adequately addressed.

This month's column will focus on issues facing two community groups that have invited We Live Here to lend support.

## City Schools 4 City Kids

City Schools 4 City Kids are actively lobbying for local, inclusive and quality education for both primary and secondary students living in the inner city communities of Melbourne for which there are NO schools.

The government has known of reports showing a critical CBD shortage and subsequent surrounding school overcrowding for over five years with little action!

City Schools 4 City Kids has taken its case to Parliament where a forum and morning tea was held on February 25. We encourage you to sign the group's Facebook petition at: [www.facebook.com/cityschools4citykids/](http://www.facebook.com/cityschools4citykids/)

## Development of Harbour Esplanade, Docklands

A small group of Docklands residents dedicated to ensuring that residents are given a voice in deciding the final plans for the development of Harbour Esplanade are now being supported by the We Live Here movement.

Harbour Esplanade is an area that has been overlooked and neglected by authorities during the development of Docklands. It is clearly the most vital carriageway in all of Docklands and provides Melbourne with its only true urban waterfront.

The Harbour Esplanade Master Plan created with Places Victoria now receives approval oversight from the Melbourne City Council. We hope that their oversight is sufficiently strong and informed to create the Harbour Esplanade needed by the public - visitors, workers and residents - and not one that just suits the developers!

Consideration of a linear park, street-level water views and traffic flows are imperative. Further information can be found at [www.welivehere.net](http://www.welivehere.net)

## Short-stay apartments

In our previous column we referred to the Independent Panel on Short Stays. We are still awaiting the Government report.

The stance of the We Live Here Movement is for the government to legislate for stays of 30 days or more, which is consistent with a Residential Tenancy Agreement.

Anything less and residential apartments operate as hotel-style accommodation which is not what Class 2 residential buildings were designed for.

We need the government to hear us, the people that actually work and enjoy living in high density inner city areas.

We would like to work with all levels of government to find solutions to the many and varied issues that are unique to this mode of living.

Please continue to support us, by joining up via our website, and encourage other like-minded residents to join up as well.

We also welcome and encourage input and contributions from YOU on the issues that affect YOU.



[www.welivehere.net](http://www.welivehere.net)  
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*Little did I know what was in store (literally) for me on my most recent visit to Coles.*

I think you need a little bit of background first. You see, I've had the most incredibly stressful two months I have ever had. Kind of in a good way, but stressful none the less. Just the very, very, very, busy kind of stress.

I haven't had a day off since early December. Seriously. I have literally worked seven days a week and a great majority of those days have been at least 14-hour days. It's the kind of stress where you have lists running constantly through your head.

It's stress from rapid business growth and not quite having the resources to employ an assistant - but desperately needing one. And desperately needing a holiday! But it's good stress, so I try not to complain.

Anyway, it was really at that "ok, just take deep breaths" stage, and with very little sleep for maybe the second week in a row, I realised I could really crack soon. Like really flip my lid over something simple.

One of the things I realised with horror, was how I'd let myself go. Looking in the mirror, the startling regrowth line in my hair colour told me just how long it had been since I'd been to the hairdresser (three months!), plus my local courier delivery guy looked at me on the same day and said "you look like shit". Hmmm, how many signs do you need?

So I'd booked an appointment, and a week later felt like a new woman walking out of the salon. I figured I'd do a quick grocery shop for the essentials, so off I headed to Coles feeling very refreshed! As I walked by the coffee shop at the entry to Coles, humming in my mind and feeling like a fabulous mum about to have fresh fruit and veg in the house again (!), I did notice a man look up but thought perhaps he was waiting for someone behind me.

In I went to select some peaches and out of the corner of my eye this man was now picking up a bag of apples. I headed over to the avocados (and put them back - who can afford those prices?!) before settling on some asparagus and sugar snap peas. And that's when he popped up right in front of me.

He wasn't exactly IN my personal bubble,

but he was close enough to be demanding attention. He took off his sunglasses, and said "Hi. I think you are the most beautiful woman I've ever seen. Are you Australian?"

Well that made me giggle and I replied that I was. I thanked him for the compliment. He told me he thought maybe I was Swedish. All power to my hairdresser, I can tell you.

Anyway, he asked if I was single, and I lied and said no, but thank you. "What a lucky guy he is," he said, and promptly plopped the bag of apples into the potato display and walked back out of Coles.

It made my day. I finished my shopping and couldn't stop little smirks and giggles from shining on my face. It was so lovely to receive a compliment, even from someone who I didn't want to respond to with anything other than thanks.

It still makes me smile and I figure he was pretty brave to do it. Of course, it could be his modus operandi and I could be just one of his daily hits on dozens of women, but I really don't think that matters! The point is, it doesn't take much to make someone's day.

In this life, we are often so serious, focusing on business, what we need to achieve, what we feel we must get done. We often keep to ourselves, to our lists and to our agendas and it's easy to forget the power of our words.

This month, let's look up from our phones, from our schedules, from our deadlines - and smile at someone. Give a compliment, reach out and share something nice, let someone know you're thinking of them. You never know the day they've had, the stress they may be under, and the magic your words may bring.

Have a great month,

And, by the way, I like what you're wearing today.

Abby x

PS Don't forget you can reach me at [life@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:life@docklandsnews.com.au)

Or join me on Facebook and Instagram @ [AbbyJaneCrawford](https://www.instagram.com/AbbyJaneCrawford)

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## OWNERS CORPORATION LAW

With Tom Bacon

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

### The impacts of crime in high-rise buildings

As we all can tell just from looking out our windows, high-rise buildings now make up the predominant form of new housing in the Melbourne inner-suburb areas.

Local and state governments have implemented changes to planning legislation to permit high-density housing in an effort to combat the pressures of maintaining and repairing a sprawling infrastructure asset base.

The changing housing and social environment will mean that more and more Australians will be calling an apartment their home in the coming years. However, little consideration has been given as to how the government's changes to its policies might impact on levels of crime and perceptions of safety and the fear of crime within these vertical communities.

However, research academics are finding considerable empirical evidence to suggest

that the interconnections between transport networks, land use, and population density can contribute a great deal to explain the crime rates at certain places and at certain times.

Dr Sacha Reid (Griffith University) and others recently published a report to the Criminology Research Advisory Council called Crime in High-Rise Buildings: Planning for Vertical Community Safety.

From a large sample of high-rise buildings in Queensland, the report rather unsurprisingly found that buildings with predominantly long-term residential tenure recorded the lowest levels of crime. Buildings with short-term tenancies only (such as hotels and serviced apartments) recorded the next highest rates of crime, while the runaway leader were buildings with mixed tenure (being buildings that had a combination of both short and long-term tenures) which reported the highest amount of crime.

Surprisingly, whether or not a building had a sophisticated security system, roving security patrols or had an on-site building manager mattered little in the reported

crime rates at a building.

The report makes for powerful reading for committee members, building managers, security contractors and owners' corporation managers.

There is great potential that some high-rise buildings in and around our local communities might be labeled as "risky facilities" in the future, which could lead to a diminution in value of all of the apartments within those buildings.

Often, the design of the building can lend itself to being targeted by criminals, or can otherwise raise the fear of crime amongst residents.

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) is often not taken seriously by developers and builder (nor the councils - in approving the buildings).

However, owners' corporations should take charge of the security of their communities and should consider engaging an expert to advise them on security measures to shore up entry points and to ensure that ground floor units are not easy to access.

The presence of an on-site manager can also act as a great crime deterrent in and of itself. A manager that works 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday would be unable to react to matters quickly and this can greatly enhance resident's perception of safety and guardianship.

Security patrols are another key component of regulating vertical community safety. Anecdotally however, I have seen many owners' corporations that have terminated the security patrols from the annual budget in an effort to save rising costs.

The one point that I would note is that owners' corporations should consider approaching their neighbours to share the costs of security patrol during nighttime, weekends and at special events, thus each paying a smaller cost to receive the service.

Much more research needs to be done in this very important area, and I would encourage local and state governments to impose greater restrictions on developers and builders at town planning stage to ensure that CPTED is strictly planned for and enforced.



## GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



### Greetings Everybody

#### Fairfax Lunar Markets

Running from February 4 to 14 as part of the Chinese New Year celebrations, the evening markets along Harbour Esplanade from Victoria Harbour to Central Pier added considerably to the atmosphere of the area. It was well patrolled by security.

What appealed, besides the various food offerings, were the crowds of customers who sat and ate under the trees near the Victoria Harbour Promenade and along the bank along the esplanade at the water's edge.

This created an atmosphere rarely seen at Docklands and highlighted what can be done to utilise and liven up the area.

It highlighted our opinion that council's plan to erect buildings along the esplanade will interfere with such open air usage.

Associated with the event were two lines of white and red lights at either end of the stalls running down to the water. I have asked council if they can be made a fixture, to continue to lighten up the area.

#### Fishermans Bend Forum

I received an invitation from Martin Foley MP to attend the consultation forum on Fishermans Bend development held at the Port Melbourne football ground on February 29. I was pleased to attend and offer advice relative to our Docklands experience.

#### Schools tours - addresses

We get requests from schools to address student tours on the subject of Docklands community development. On February 26, I addressed the Year 12 geography class of Viewbank College and will give a similar address to Year 12 geography class of Emmaus College on March 3.

#### Melbourne Quarter development - Lend Lease

DCA has been approached by Lend Lease offering to discuss and review the project on an ongoing basis. We will be pleased to accept the offer.

#### Better Apartments

Broad discussion of the Better Apartments Review at the last CoRBA meeting indicated that single bedroom apartments should not be less than 50sqm, bringing us into line with other Australian jurisdictions and cities such

as London, New York and Hong Kong.

Yet it seems Melbourne is considering the erection of 50-storey towers of student apartments of 12sqm! These would equate with the size of a car space. There would be common facilities such as recreation, kitchens and study. Formerly this would have been defined as a "rooming house".

Those present felt this should not be allowed under the Better Apartments Review.

#### Noise from a venue

We referred a complaint about noise from a venue to council. Interestingly, council has responded that: "when the State Government of the day originally created the Docklands precinct, most uses of an entertainment or leisure nature were made 'as of right' within the zone, meaning that no permits were required from council to conduct uses such as the one the subject of your complaint."

"Consequently, the City of Melbourne has no control over the present use of the area and council is unable to assist you in regard to the enforcement of the noise created by the venue. You should, however, direct your concerns relating to noise and patron

behaviour to the Victorian Commission for Gaming and Liquor Regulation [VCGLR] and to the Victoria Police."

"Generally, premises operating in that precinct have liquor licences with conditions relating to the playing of music, and to detrimentally affecting the amenity of the area. The VCGLR is the authority responsible for enforcing liquor licence conditions."

"Council's health services may have some scope to investigate your concerns as a noise nuisance issue pursuant to the Public Health and Wellbeing Act and, consequently, I have referred the issue to them also."

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

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

Regards to all  
Roger Gardner  
President DCA



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# DOCKLANDS FACES OF

## Question: If you could witness any event in the past, present or future, what would it be?



**OZLEM AKSU, 39, CHAUFFEUR**  
From: Airport West

Oh boy, well it would have to be the knocking down of the Berlin Wall. It was such a massive worldwide event and I would have loved to have been there to see it.



**GLENN LANE, 51, BANK WORKER**  
From: Hampton Park

I would like to see more events, such as big fun fairs, in Docklands over the weekends. It just feels a bit quiet now, so that would be a great thing to happen.



**LUCIA LENNA, 27, JOB-SEEKER**  
From: Italy

Good question! Well, in the future I would like to see more big events live, such as performers, singers and big sports events such as the Superbowl.



**KON TSIPOKAS, BANK WORKER**  
From: Coburg

I would love to see a Wimbledon final. However, more importantly, in the future I would want to see equality for all people.



**ASHIMA SHUKLA, 34, BANK WORKER**  
From: Glen Waverley

I would like to see more open mic poetry nights. I was at one last month at NAB, and it was so good I would love to do it again.



**KELSEY SAWATZKY, 20, JOB-SEEKER**  
From: Canada

I want to be present when a rocket ship is being launched into space.

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## Letters to the Editor

Send your letters to [news@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:news@docklandsnews.com.au)

### Clean up the graffiti

It is becoming obvious that the vandalism called "graffiti" is rife in our area with no attempt to clean it up. Many buildings, walls and public areas are being degraded by this wilful damage and it is giving our region a reputation we do not deserve.

Travelling around Melbourne there are offending pockets. But everything from the bridge over the Yarra, the walls around Etihad Stadium, fences and public buildings have this unsightly mess all over them.

There is a big push to recycle and respect the environment but no one is cleaning up this visual pollution.

I have heard comments that the youth are just expressing themselves. Well as far as I am concerned they should do it at their home.

The council needs to go out and clean up plus police should charge offenders with "wilful damage". The courts need to convict offenders so they start to understand that this kind of action will have long-term effects on their futures.

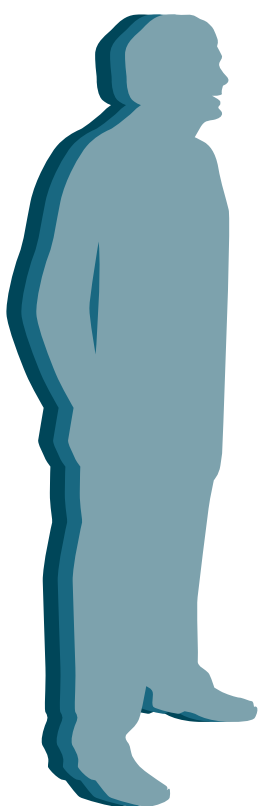
Chris Sweetman

### DOCKLANDS DAZE

by Michelle Commandeur







# DOCKLANDER

By Eva Garnes

## Georgina fans the Docklands flames

*Every evening, people in Docklands can spot Georgina Wakim and her dragon boat team practise in the beautiful water.*

"I've been the captain for the Melbourne Flames for about four years now and we're based just behind the library," Georgina said when we met up on a sunny day by the waterside.

She was all smiles in the warm weather as she perched next to me in her dragon boat gear.

"My favourite thing about dragon boating is that it is the ultimate team sport. It teaches life skills, working as part of a team and team ethics. I also like the fact that it is a sport which is very community based," Georgina explained with passion when I asked her about the sport.

Although she lives in Northcote, she is in Docklands every day. Not only is she part of the Melbourne Flames' practise every night, she is currently working on a vessel around Docklands in the mornings.

"The amazing thing about Docklands is how it possesses the ability to present itself differently every day. I love being surrounded by the water on all sides and, combined with the open spaces, Docklands is one of the best places in Melbourne. If there was one thing I could change, it would be me moving here," she laughed.

Currently the Melbourne Flames is the number one premier club in Australia and

Serghei Cucsă, who also coaches the Auroras Australian dragon boat team, is their coach. However, he is not the only representative for Australia.

"I was the captain for two campaigns for the Auroras, as well as vice-captain for one. Being part of taking the team from strength to strength has been a huge achievement for me," Georgina said with pride in her voice.

Not only are both Georgina and her brothers involved in dragon boating, it has now become a full family affair with her son now also competing.

"It is really a sport that caters for all ages, and it promotes unity," she finished.

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## *Docklands has played a pivotal role in successfully delivering a city-wide collaboration for the Chinese New Year celebrations, the "Docklands Trail of Illumination".*

A united approach to the 2016 Chinese New Year celebration saw eight precincts across Melbourne come alive between February 6 and 12 as we celebrated the Year of the Monkey.

The monkey is the ninth of the 12 terrestrial branches, called the "Shen" branch, and symbolises irrepressible curiosity and creative energy.

Monkey babies are thought to possess traits of intelligence, hyperactivity and inclined to be strong-minded. The Monkey type will not hesitate to test theories, experiment and think the unthinkable. On the shadowy side the Monkey is a tricky tactician, opportunistic and not all that trustworthy. How many of our public figures were born in the year of the Monkey?

The Docklands activation was co-ordinated by Destination Docklands through the Docklands Marketing Committee group and provided the collaborative support of Harbour Town Melbourne, Melbourne Star Observation Wheel, O'Brien Group Arena, MAB Corporation and Collins Square to form an activation partnership.

The partnership added Docklands-wide activation to the hugely successful feature event The Age Lunar New Year Market, supported by Places Victoria, which brought an array of attractions, markets and pop-up food stalls to Docklands.

The market saw many thousands of visitors over the fortnight - it was great to see all of those people enjoying themselves on Melbourne's waterfront.

Still on display at Collins Square until March 4 is the "Docklands I Love You" summer photo competition exhibition. The People's Choice award will be announced on March 4 - so you have a short time to go and see the exhibition and cast your vote!

Looking ahead to March, and the arrival of autumn, the Docklands community has an opportunity to engage in a number of social gatherings.

Starting on Wednesday, March 9 the ever popular Docklands Social Club will be at Bar Nacional from 7pm. A great opportunity to meet your neighbours!

For business people, don't miss the Docklands Networking lunches. The next one has only a handful of seats left and is on Friday, March 18 at TAP831 from 12 noon.

If it is local issues that tick your box, then consider the Docklands Community Forum that meets regularly and discusses local issues. If you have not been to any of these and you are interested in the Docklands community, then get along to the next one in April.

Last month I wrote about the success of Australia Day festivities that brought thousands of visitors to Docklands. I should have mentioned in the acknowledgements the day was delivered by Australia Day Victoria who has done a magnificent job over the last three years in bringing this event to Docklands.

With our waterside location and many vantage points, Docklands is a great place for a celebration! Docklands is Beautiful, after all!



## CHAMBER UPDATE

BY PAUL SALTER  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



# An exceptional evening overlooking Victoria Harbour

*Over 60 chamber members and guests enjoyed watching the sun set on Victoria Harbour on Thursday, February 25. Congratulations to Tony and his team at Black Cod who provided scallops, prawns, sliders, tacos, beer, wine and sparkling mineral water.*

We are grateful we had the opportunity to showcase some of our local waterway businesses and activities, MV Grower, MV Calypso Lady, SV Alexander Stewart as well as representatives from the Alma Doepel, the Enterprise and Melbourne City Marina. Also thanks to Kayak Melbourne and dragon boating.

Members really did appreciate Cr Ken Ong from the City of Melbourne giving up some of his valuable time to chat with the attendees. Some members may have spoken about what was on their mind on specific issues, but Cr Ong is a real professional - a great asset to the people of Melbourne in his current portfolio but, more importantly, he is

a true friend to the Docklands.

We welcomed new members, Neil and Kerry York from NR York Plumbing, Gary Billings from Eyes on Docklands and Jeremy Nordkamp from Peppers Docklands. David Anderson was there from Nelson Alexander as well as Henry Ngo and Darcy Sudholz from Highroad Design.

Also Lucia Cardamone from Nutrimerics, Wendy from Eastern China Health and Mahamoud Fahour from the Goodlife Health Club. Nick Hill from Party Boats and Joe Speziale from Calypso Lady have also joined the chamber. All these new members have a wealth of business knowledge skills that add real tangible value to the Docklands

community.

### How to recognise a chamber member?

One of the highlights of the evening was seeing Gavin Bell, one of Melbourne's top caricaturists (bloodyfunny.com.au), drawing caricatures for each of the attendees. Next time you visit a business and you see the caricature of the owners at their premises, you will know they are chamber members.

### New executive committee member

Kerry York has agreed to become an executive committee member, and brings over 25 years of business experience to the committee. Kerry and her husband Neil were recognised with a silver award in the

Lord Mayor's Commendations in 2015. All members of the committee are looking forward to working with Kerry.

Add some value to your business - Join the chamber today!

The combined quality of the business skills that members have is the best reason to join the Docklands Chamber of Commerce and connect your business to people with like minds who are actively encouraging the development of the Docklands community.

If you have anything you wish to share, or you want to join us simply email: [admin@docklandsc.com.au](mailto:admin@docklandsc.com.au) or visit our web site [www.docklandsc.com.au](http://www.docklandsc.com.au)





# DOCKLANDS FASHION

## Fashion Festival styling

By Kara Bertoncini

*Here we are again folks. It's just about that time for the Virgin Australia Melbourne Fashion Festival to roll out the red carpet once again for another season of fashion runways.*

Now, the fashion industry may seem quite intimidating at first, what with all the long-legged beauties traipsing around, but in actual fact, the women and men of the fashion industry are some of the nicest people you'll meet.

While it can be nerve-racking attending a runway show surrounded by bloggers, fashionistas, models and other media alike, there really is no need to have a freak out. I know you do though.

The million-dollar question when attending these sorts of fashion events is: WHAT ON EARTH DO I WEAR? Well, the answer is simple really. Clothes. What kind of clothes I hear you ask? Okay, okay. I won't be cheeky.

Look, a good rule of thumb is to wear something from the designer who you're actually going to see. You may think that's a bit of a fashion faux pas and will make you look out of season if you do that, but I think it shows just how much you actually support their fashion concepts, which is why you're going to their show in the first place, right?

It's also important to remember that this kind of event is not a traditional red carpet, so DO NOT EVER pull out that ball gown you've been saving. This is not the time or the place. Yes you want to look paparazzi-ready, but it's a fashion event, not the Logies.

Fashion shows are where you can really educate yourself on upcoming local and international designers, alongside the well-established ones who are bringing out their latest collections.

If you do need a little style direction, look no further than these local designers: Josh Goot, Kookai, Alice McCall, Scanlan Theodore, Bec & Bridge, LIFEWITHBIRD, and Manning Cartell. Pop into their stores, talk to the styling team and get them to style you from head to toe.

If you feel like you look the part, then you are. That's all that matters.



## Fashion on the streets of Docklands

### Jing Wang, 32

Bank Worker

**LOCATION:** Harbour Esplanade

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** Today I am wearing a simple dress, paired with a suit jacket.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE**

**OF CLOTHING:** Dresses. I wear them all the time. They go with everything.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE**

**DOCKLANDS:** I work here.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** I think I would say quite elegant. I wear a lot of formal dresses. It kind of comes with the job.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

When the outfit suits the person wearing it and it matches their personality.

### Shan Lo, 31

Bank Worker

**LOCATION:** Harbour Esplanade

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** I am wearing a minimalistic outfit today. It is the style that never go out of fashion, so I am a big fan of it.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE**

**OF CLOTHING:** Maybe not a piece of clothing, but rather an accessory. It is my watch. I really love my watch.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE**

**DOCKLANDS:** My office is here.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** I normally go with basic colours and then add something that stands out to grab people's attention when I feel like it.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

I think it is not so much what you are wearing but how the person carries the outfit. Their attitude needs to fit the outfit.

### Bianca Bernini, 20

Exchange Student from Italy

**LOCATION:** The Hub

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** Today I am wearing straight olive coloured jeans, gym shoes and a white singlet. It is more casual than what I would normally wear.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE**

**OF CLOTHING:** I really love dresses and high heels. It is just a beautiful combination.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE**

**DOCKLANDS:** I just moved here and will stay for six months.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** I would say that it is comfortable but I have to still be able to look in the mirror and think: "I look good".

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

Hm, that is difficult to say. Perhaps it is having a completed style. I do like the Italian way of finishing off outfits in a stylish way. It makes the whole impression much better.



# The tale of Tim the Trolley

*This is the (probable) story of how Tim the Trolley got stuck in the side of the Jim Stynes Bridge.*

"Weeeeeee," cried Tim, as he was pushed down aisle three of Docklands Woolworths by an enthusiastic child.

Tim loved the thrill of being driven down the aisles. Turning the sharp corners felt like he was in a Formula 1 race. After all, Tim was only four years old so any fast-paced activity made him excited.

After spending about 40 minutes in the store, Tim reached the checkout.

"That'll be \$72.45, thanks. Do you have Everyday Rewards?" said the checkout chick.

"Imagine how much oil that could buy to grease my wheels," Tim muttered under his breath.

Moments later, he was taken to the basement car park. The mother unloaded the groceries into her car and zoomed off. Oh no! Tim was left stranded.

It was such a dark and gloomy car park. Tim became frightened. He yelled out for help, but no one came. The only thing he could do was close his eyes and cry himself to sleep.

Around 10 o'clock at night, Tim was jolted awake. Finally, a customer had rescued him!

An old man with a bushy, grey beard pushed Tim out of the car park and onto Bourke St. The old man loaded Tim up with his rather smelly belongings: a ripped blanket, old clothes, food scraps and some cardboard boxes.

Tim quickly realised that the man was one of Melbourne's many homeless. He'd heard about other trolleys getting trolley-jacked and taken away from their supermarket home.

"Let me go!" shouted Tim. His demands fell on deaf ears as the old man continued pushing him down Bourke St.

Near the corner of Navigation Drive and

Bourke St, a group of drunken men stopped Tim and the old man in their tracks. They must have come from the Nixon Hotel, Tim thought.

"Where do you think you're going?" one of the drunkards snarled. Surrounded, the old man panicked and ran for dear life into Docklands Park.

The men laughed cruelly. "Let's empty the rubbish out of the trolley and take it for a spin," one of them suggested.

Before he knew it, Tim was propelled down Harbour Esplanade. He had two men sitting inside him, and three others pushing him. Although Tim enjoyed life in the fast lane, he didn't like these particular hooligans. They were off their trolley, so to speak.

Tim noticed a pot hole coming his way, which the men were too drunk to notice. Just before reaching it, Tim sneakily angled his front wheels towards the hole.

Bang! Tim crashed over, and the men spilled out onto the esplanade. One man landed awkwardly on his elbow, while another was screaming in pain with a bloody knee.

The bloodied man picked Tim up in a rage. "I'm gonna chuck the trolley into the Yarra," he called out to his mates.

Tim was petrified. He didn't know how to swim and had heard rumours about other Woolworths trolleys' lives ending at the bottom of this murky, muddy river.

Suddenly, blue and white lights flashed over the scene, and a couple of policemen came rushing down from the direction of the ANZ headquarters. The men darted off, but not before the bloodied one hoisted Tim up into the side of the Jim Stynes Bridge. "That'll teach ya!" he growled.

"Let me downnnnnn!" Tim blubbered. But it was too late - the cops were already chasing

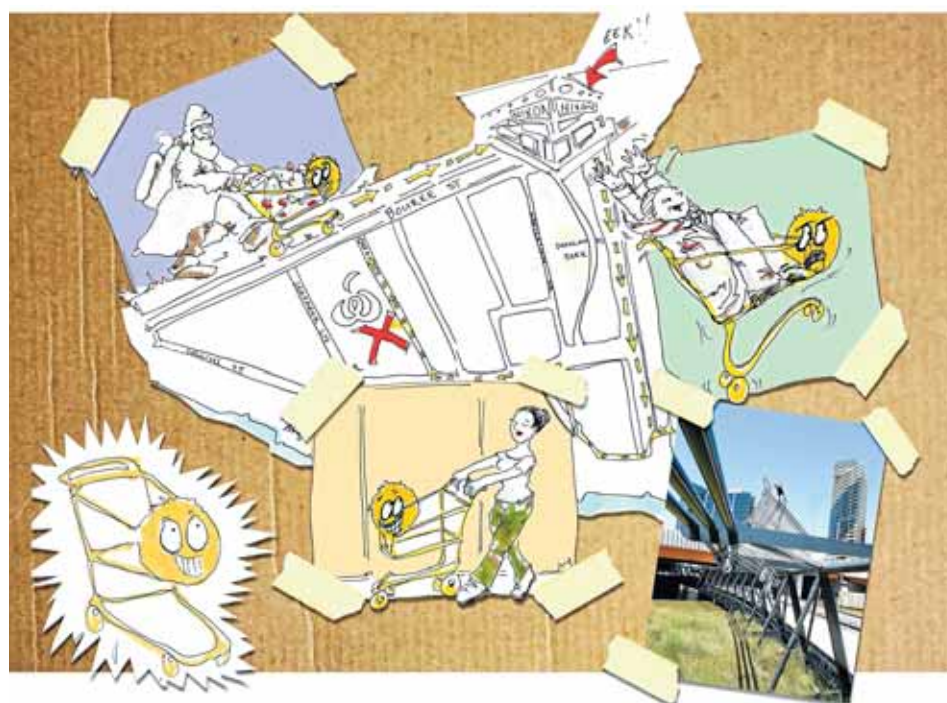


Illustration by Dave&Tam

the men down Wurundjeri Way.

For the second time that night, Tim cried himself to sleep. Hopefully someone would rescue him tomorrow. It was a hard life being a trolley.

The morning sun started to peek through the clouds. Docklands started buzzing again with its sometimes-self-obsessed white-collar workers. They hurried past him in all directions as they guzzled their coffee and chatted on the phone about the latest episode of My Kitchen Rules.

As the sun beamed down on Tim, he started to feel somewhat positive. The sunshine always seemed to lift Tim's spirits when he felt sad and it was at that point that he saw her - a stunning middle-aged woman.

Her hair was pinned back so tightly, you could almost see her scalp. Her long nails were covered in high-gloss polish, and her lips were slicked with bright pink lipstick. Tim was convinced that his guardian angel had just appeared.

The lady gently dislodged Tim from the bridge and carefully wheeled him back to Docklands Woolworths, where he was reunited and safely chained to his family and friends.

The guardian angel walked off smiling, scoring herself a cheap coffee at DG Espresso with the two-dollar coin she had ejected from Tim.

"Ahhh, it's all over," sighed Tim. He was home at last!

## Model Corgi

*As we bump into Sparky and his owner Benjamin on Waterview Walk, the first thing he does is jump up to check out the camera.*

"He is really photogenic and loves having his photo taken," Benjamin explained. The 8-month-old Corgi lives in Docklands with Benjamin and his partner.

"It was my partner who decided that we needed to have a dog. The choice stood between a Corgi or a purebred Maltese, both perfect for apartment living," Benjamin said. The choice fell on a Corgi, and that is how Sparky bounced into their lives.

While we're talking to Benjamin, Sparky is eager to get his share of the attention.

"He is a very sociable dog and he has a lot of tricks up his sleeve that he likes to show off," Benjamin continued.

On a daily basis Benjamin studies for his masters at Swinburne and he says Docklands is the perfect place for a dog like Sparky.

"Being a Corgi, he is comfortable in our flat during the day and there is so much space to walk him once we get home. The amount of parks here is just fantastic," he said.

However, there is one thing that will always get Sparky going.

"He works for food and it will always make him happy," Benjamin laughed as Sparky cocked his head and prepared for his close-up.





# 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  
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**LIVE MUSIC**

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

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**VISIT [AATIMES.ORG.AU](http://AATIMES.ORG.AU) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

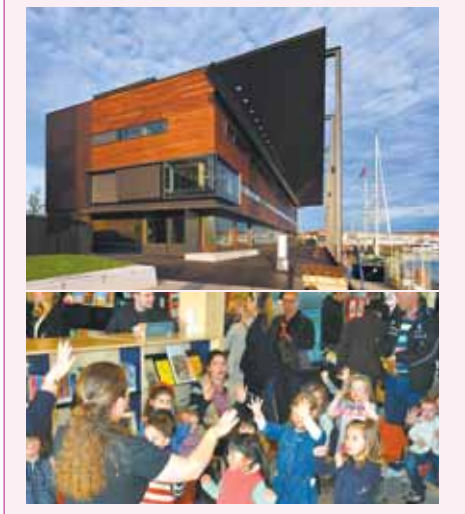
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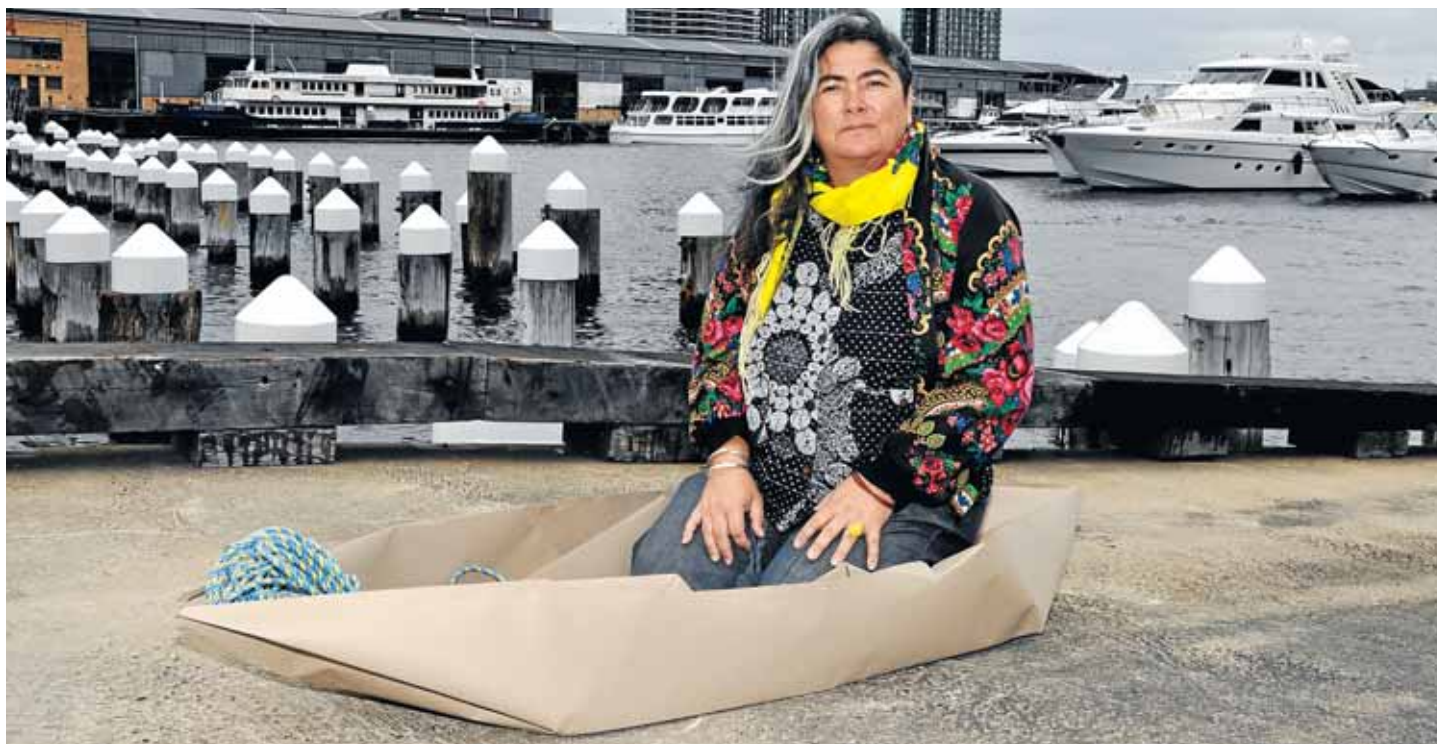
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Artist Dagmara Gieysztor will feature work in the upcoming Docklands art walk.

## Community grants available

*Expressions of interest for a share in up to \$150,000 worth of community grants are now open.*

As part of the 2015 Federal Budget, each federal electorate across Australia has \$150,000 worth of grants available per year small capital projects or small infrastructure projects as part of the "Stronger Communities" program.

The two-year program is currently in its final year. Grants between \$5000 and \$20,000 are available and will be awarded through the Melbourne Community Consultation Committee.

Greens federal member for Melbourne Adam Bandt encouraged local councils and not-for-profit groups to submit an expression of interest by Friday, March 25.

"The Stronger Communities grants give community groups in Melbourne the chance to build or upgrade important infrastructure to support their important work in our community," Mr Bandt said.

For further information or to submit and expression of interest visit [www.adambandt.com/strongercommunities](http://www.adambandt.com/strongercommunities)

# An artistic exploration

*The many layers and threads of Docklands' past and present will be pulled together this month in a unique art event.*

*Confluence: Art on site in Docklands* will take attendees on a two-hour guided walk through a series of artworks responding to the heritage of Docklands.

Key ideas explored by the artworks will include Docklands as a site of transition, migration and arrival.

Wynter Projects and The Front have curated the work, the latter of which was based in Docklands until recently as part of the Docklands Spaces project.

According to Deb Bain-King of The Front, the idea of the walk is using the area around Victoria Harbour as a site for art making.

"It has a really rich history and there are so

many layers and threads to it," Ms Bain-King said. "This project is called 'confluence' because it brings together so many threads of the history as well as the present."

The walk itself has been in the making for at least 18 months, with the idea emerging when The Front was first established at Harbour Town.

"Melbourne's a young city and all the transition it's been through can be seen here," Ms Bain-King said.

"That's what I like about Docklands - it's not totally been covered over yet. Even though a lot has been taken out, if you look it's still there and the stories are still there."

Beginning at Ron Barassi Senior Park, the walk will move around the waterfront, with different art works focusing on different themes. Artist Dagmara Gieysztor's piece will focus on the question of how most Australians and their ancestors travelled to Australia originally.

She said her contribution to the art walk was part of an ongoing paper boat project she has been working on for the past three years.

"The context of this is that I'm a refugee. I didn't come by boat, but I know a lot of people who have. Being in Docklands there's a history of people working on boats and a big relationship with boating life and the Docklands," Ms Gieysztor said.

Other pieces featured in the art walk will include a sculptural work exploring where the timber that created the docks came from and a performance piece reflecting on the sense of loss people experience when they leave their home and come to a new country. The walk will also feature video work and an audio piece.

*Confluence: Art on site in Docklands* will take place in Docklands on March 19 from 2pm, commencing at Ron Barassi Senior Park.

Tickets are \$15 and can be bought at [www.wynterprojects.com/bookhere/confluence](http://www.wynterprojects.com/bookhere/confluence)

## DOCKLANDS NEWS

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