

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS



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HERE

COME THE

CARS

By Shane Scanlan

*The State Government has released the West Gate Tunnel environmental effects statement (EES) and it confirms Docklands' worst fears: traffic is heading this way.*

Traffic modeling shows traffic calming in the western suburbs, but increased congestion in North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Docklands. Under the plan, Wurundjeri Way becomes a city bypass for traffic, which currently uses King St and Spencer St.

An “extension” is proposed between Dynon Rd and Wurundjeri Way, which planners expect to carry up to 19,000 vehicles per day. Wurundjeri Way itself is to get an extra lane in each direction and is predicted to carry up to 16,000 extra vehicles per day by 2031 if the project proceeds.

Traffic consultancy GHD says that, even if the project doesn’t proceed, Wurundjeri Way will carry 9000 more vehicles by 2031.

But it’s hard to have confidence in the accuracy of the traffic forecasts because of apparent anomalies in the research.

GHD claims that Harbour Esplanade (between Bourke and LaTrobe streets) currently carries up to 14,000 vehicles per day – about a third of the assessed volume on Wurundjeri Way. Those of us who know this single-lane, 40kmh section, complete with multiple pedestrian crossings will question this research.

Regardless of whether or not the project proceeds, the consultancy is further



A map from the EES transport chapter shows data which is inconsistent with consultants' research.

forecasting the Harbour Esplanade daily traffic number will rise to 16,000 by 2031. A map (pictured here) from the EES traffic and transport chapter shows a snapshot of increased and decreased traffic volumes but

it appears to be inconsistent with GHD’s research. The map shows a decrease of 3000 in daily traffic volumes at the southern end of Wurundjeri Way by 2031 should the project

proceed. But in GHD’s *Technical Report A – Transport*, the consultants predict actual net rise of 9000 vehicles for the Flinders St to Montague St section of Wurundjeri Way.

The EES says of the Wurundjeri Way extension: “The Wurundjeri Way extension would connect Dynon Rd and the West Gate Tunnel Project with Wurundjeri Way. Combined with a widened Wurundjeri Way, the extension would form a complete central city bypass, removing traffic from the parallel routes of Spencer St and King St.”

The extension also appears to be critical to the business case for the tunnel project. A Transport Modelling Summary prepared by Velch Lister Consulting reveals that, without tolling at the Dynon Rd /Wurundjeri Way city access connections, the project would be 10.2 per cent less viable. This was identified as the second-highest threat.

On the future of E-Gate, the EES summary document says: “The north-west corner of the proposed E-Gate urban renewal precinct on the western edge of the central city would be occupied temporarily during construction and a smaller area of less than 1.5 ha (from the 20-ha site) would be acquired permanently to accommodate ramps for the Dynon Rd and Wurundjeri Way connections.”

“The new park and shared use bridge on the west bank of Moonee Ponds Creek would present an opportunity to establish a future connection with the E-Gate site, as well as providing an attractive open space for future residents.”

The EES as well as an EPA works approval application and a draft planning scheme amendment will be on public exhibition and open to comment until Monday, July 10.

The full EES can be found at [www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/ees](http://www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/ees) and it is on display at 14 locations.

# DOCKLANDS NEWS Docklands business recognised

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The deadline for the July edition is June 22.

Publisher: Shane Scanlan

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## Long-term Docklanders Emilia Rossi and Socrates Mechanicos' young business was recognised at the Business 3000+ Awards on May 25.

Their online wedding marketplace business, Capriess, won the New Business category.

Ms Rossi and Mr Mechanicos started Capriess at their Docklands apartment more than two years ago. They wanted to provide a platform for people to buy and sell pre-loved wedding items, such as wedding dresses, rings, accessories and decorations.

Both coming from digital backgrounds, the husband and wife quickly became business partners and built the early version of their website together based on lean resources.

Two years on, Capriess has evolved into a well-designed creative digital marketplace populated by people wanting to recycle their wedding items all around Australia.

Business 3000+ Awards recognises and celebrates independent businesses located within the City of Melbourne. The New Business category is open to businesses that have been operating for less than three years and are proving to be a success.

"It has been such a humbling experience to win an award at the Business 3000+ Awards," Ms Rossi said.



Business mentor Paul Smart presents Emilia and Socrates with their award.

"It can boost our business networking and it's fantastic to leverage the networking opportunity to form strategic partnerships. We only can go up from here."

Being a digital specialist who "lives in the online space", Ms Rossi also runs a lifestyle blog. Mr Mechanicos works full-time as a SEO specialist at a large digital company.

"I don't see it as much of a juggle. It's very pleasurable to be able to run a business and not be stuck in one location," Ms Rossi said. "I can take the business with me while I'm travelling."

As featured in the *Docklander* column in the April *Docklands News*, Ms Rossi is passionate about the local Docklands community and takes pride in working and living here.

"Because I live locally, I have built good connections around the Docklands and CBD areas. I often go down to the cafe to work on the business and blog," she said.

Ms Rossi also said the best features of digital-based businesses were that they could operate on very few resources and could be modified, based on data.

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# Nothing for Docklands in council budget

By Shane Scanlan

***The City of Melbourne announced its draft budget last month. Its revenue is up 5 per cent on last year to \$451.8 million. But it plans to spend nothing on Harbour Esplanade.***

In fact, apart from ongoing maintenance, there is nothing of note for Docklands in the 2017/18 budget.

The council refuses to say how much it is making out of Docklands. The State Government used to force it to separate its Docklands financials, but it is no longer obligated and has not done so since 2015.

In that financial year, the council earned a \$9.16 million surplus from Docklands. With thousands of more valuable properties contributing rates since then, one can only imagine the imbalance between taking and giving.

At a press conference on May 4, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle confirmed there was no plan to put money aside for Harbour Esplanade.

"There's nothing in it for Harbour Esplanade in this particular year," he said.

Cr Doyle implied that Development Victoria's failure to restore the wharf decks on both sides of Central Pier was to blame for the council's oversight.

He said: "We're waiting, as you know, on Places Victoria (Development Victoria) to finish the work they're doing on either side of Central Pier. There's not a major upgrade in this budget."

He did, however, have some thoughts to share about the western end of Central Pier, which was condemned on 2011 and closed to car parking.

"I'd love to see the removal of the car park at the end of Central Pier and opening that

up. I don't think it has to be as expensive as people say," he said.

"I don't think you need to remove the whole lot. My view would be to just take off the concrete and cap the piles that are there. I think that would be a wonderful reminder of the history of Central Pier."

The Lord Mayor also took the opportunity to outline his desire to see heritage sheds returned to Harbour Esplanade within four years – a move which is sure to find local opposition to protect water views.

He said: "And also to put back the heritage sheds on land on each side of Central Pier. I'd like to think it's within the four years of this council."

A master plan for Harbour Esplanade was adopted in 2015. Since then, Development Victoria (formerly Places Victoria) has funding to restore three of the four former wharf areas that are currently occupied by white-capped piles.

This work was scheduled to proceed in the middle of last year, but was delayed by the administrative merging of Major Projects Victoria and Places Victoria to form Development Victoria.

This reshuffle is now complete, with Development Victoria now headquartered in Exhibition St in the CBD.

It is understood that another government entity will occupy the former Places Victoria offices in the Good Shed North.



## Kids connect with Craig

***Arham Shah got up high to meet Craig the Crane Driver at Lendlease's Collins Wharf construction site on May 30.***

A group of curious Docklands children dressed up in high-visibility vests and helmets and asked Craig questions about giant cranes.

After being inspired by the actual crane, the children then built a miniature crane with Lego.

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# New reasons to visit Harbour Town

By Sunny Liu

**Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and Planning Minister Richard Wynne visited Harbour Town on May 23 to announce a \$150 million redevelopment to put Harbour Town back on the map.**

An eight-screen Hoyts cinema will be built mid-2018 and Docklands' first full-line Woolworths supermarket will arrive mid-2019.

Harbour Town will get a new name and brand before the end of this year.

Woolworths will anchor a brand-new 10,000sqm fresh food marketplace at the multi-deck Harbour Town car park, along with some unique fresh food shops.

An Asian hawker-style restaurant, a pancake house and a bowling and amusement arcade will join the Harbour Town dining and entertainment scene. The new site will be supported by existing attractions, including the Melbourne Star, O'Brien Group Arena and ArtVo.

The redevelopment will effectively create two distinct precincts at Harbour Town – entertainment and food.



Hoyts CFO Vincent Lloyd, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, Planning Minister Richard Wynne and Ashe Morgan principal Alton Abrahams turned the first sod at Harbour Town on May 23.

Harbour Town will be rebranded with a new name and will get new international retailers to position the centre away from its discount outlet focus and become a full-price and upmarket-focused shopping centre.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the revamp plan could coherently connect Docklands to the rest of the City of Melbourne.

"This is a very rapidly growing area of the city ... Docklands is one of the economic powerhouses of our city and, with this development, what we will see is a coherent whole that is connected to the city as a whole," he said.

"I also think going back to the start, we made some mistakes down here in Docklands.

One of them was, and evidence is here in Harbour Town, was distancing ourselves from the water rather than embracing the water ... thinking of a series of very large installations rather than an experience that people could come down and take part in. And that's the difference in this plan," he said.

"What we want is a vibrant part of Melbourne that people flock to, that they use regularly and enjoy and they take to their hearts as well."

"That's why I'm so delighted to be here and I think we will be seeing some exciting things in the most exciting city here in Harbour Town over the next months and years."

Planning Minister Richard Wynne said the redevelopments would create social and economic boosts to Docklands.

"It lends the opportunity for a complete re-imagining of how this whole precinct is going to work over the next three to four years going forward," he said.

"This is a fantastic investment. It's an enormous vote of confidence in Melbourne and it speaks to what I think is going to be an amazing new precinct, not only for Melburnians, but also for people coming from interstate and overseas to this area."

Mr Wynne also congratulated Hoyts for its commitment in the Docklands area and fondly recalled his very first job as a Hoyts lolly boy as a 15-year-old, saying it "turned full cycle" for him.

The new Hoyts cinema will exclusively feature reclining seats and Christie laser projected screens – a first in Australia.

The construction process will create 2000 jobs across the 8000sqm site.

Harbour Town owner Ashe Morgan's principal, Alton Abrahams, said the redevelopment would create an "unparalleled" shopping and entertainment experience.

"We believe this development will become a new entertainment benchmark for Melbourne, with huge visitor drawing power due to a concentration of great brands and experiences uniquely found in one location," Mr Abrahams said.

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# Welcome to 'hotel central'

By Meg Hill

*Docklands is becoming the go-to place for international hotels looking for a new presence in Melbourne.*

If plans come to fruition, Docklands could contribute nearly 900 new hotel rooms by 2019.

InterContinental Hotels Group is the latest to invest in Docklands, having announced last month its plans for Australia's second Hotel Indigo at 699 LaTrobe St.

Hotel Indigo – the product of a partnership between IHG and Salta Properties – will open in 2019 and include 170 hotel rooms, pool and gym facilities and a street facing restaurant and bar.

"We are thrilled to be partnering with IHG to bring Melbourne its first Hotel Indigo where residents of 699 LaTrobe St will have access to long-term leases and have all of the amenities of a world-class hotel at their doorstep," Salta CEO Sam Tarascio said.

The Quest network's largest Apartment Hotel and Marriott's Docklands Hotel are both also set to open in Docklands in 2019.

MAB Corporation is developing Quest's 221 units on the corner of St Mangos and Caravel lanes.

Marriott's project is a \$96.1 million development by Capital Alliance on the edge of Harbour Town Shopping Centre and will include 200 hotel rooms spanning 18 storeys.

Capital Alliance has submitted a new application for planning approval for a more modest version of a proposal which was last year rejected by the Planning Minister Richard Wynne and later ruled out by VCAT.

The Altus, a multi-purpose tower hosting a 266-room Park Royal's hotel in Digital Harbour, was announced in 2014 for a mid-2017 opening but is yet to break soil.

"We're still waiting on funding to be approved," Digital Harbour director David Napier said.

Mr Napier was confident the building would proceed and said other hotel groups had since made approaches about other Digital Harbour sites.



*Hotel Indigo will sit at the corner of LaTrobe St and Harbour Esplanade.*

He said the appetite for more hotels in Docklands showed no signs of slowing.

The Four Points by Sheraton, including 273 guest rooms, opened on March 28 and Peppers Docklands, our first 5-star Hotel, opened in March last year.

As a central location, Docklands' appeal to hotel investment may stem from an apparent lack of supply in 4-5 star CBD hotels Australia-wide.

Deloitte's 2017 Tourism and Hotel Market Outlook reported that occupancy rates for luxury and business hotels in Australian cities was close to 90 per cent.

However, the National Australia Bank's 2016 commercial property sentiment survey predicted that this shortage was likely to turn into over-supply within three years.

Rivalling the hotel industry's interest in Docklands is the controversial

presence of various short-stay apartment accommodations, including those offered through Airbnb.

On March 24, The Australian Hotels Association's Victorian CEO Paddy O'Sullivan told a parliamentary hearing into the *Owners Corporations Amendment (Short-stay Accommodation) Bill 2016* that policy development was needed to regulate new modes of short-stay accommodation.

"We do believe that government intervention is required to ensure that fair and equitable application of regulations in the accommodation sector are provided to discourage the conversion of residential lots into quasi hotels," Mr O'Sullivan said.

"We are opposed to quasi hotels which is, in essence, commercial tourist accommodation being provided out of residential houses or apartments."

## Docklands to light up with fire

*The much-awaited Docklands Firelight Festival will illuminate Docklands' waterfront with fireworks, fire breathing, sculpture burning and lantern procession from June 30 to July 2.*

Firelight will activate NewQuay promenade and the north part of Harbour Esplanade. The three-day festival will feature a variety of roving local and international musicians and performers, including:

- All-female jazz troupe Chaos Magnet;
- French saxophone and accordion duo Christophe and Phillippe;
- Uptown Brown with his multiple-instrument "Goodtimes Gyratorscope";
- European folk trio Ame Rome;
- Melbourne-based self-proclaimed musical junkyard Lily and King;
- Balkan band Vardos;
- Middle Eastern ensemble Alwan; and
- American-style percussion group D<sup>2</sup>.

Fireworks Dance Company will mesmerise the crowd with cultural dance, modern circus, sensual fire artistry, theatrical fireworks and uplifting music.

Led by the performers, each night festivalgoers can carry lanterns to the waterfront to watch the burn of the nightly sculpture accompanied by music.

The three wooden sculptures, *Man*, *Sun* and *Bird*, have been created by Melbourne-based artist Christian Patton and will be burned on a barge in Victoria Harbour with fireworks as the backdrop.

## Looking to buy, rent or sell?

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# Remember this name

By Shane Scanlan

*Here’s a name to look out for:  
Jenny Huynh.*

Docklands News ran into Jenny at a recent Docklands business networking event, which is not so surprising in itself.

But, while her peers were content to stay home and watch TV (or whatever girls her age generally do), the Year 11 Northcote High School student rode her bike from her home in Preston to Docklands to learn entrepreneurship.

The Hatch Quarter networking event at Peppers Hotel on May 11 was the seventh business networking event the 16-year-old had attended in the previous fortnight. The next day, she was attending another. And there’s plenty more to come.

Her activities have already landed her a paying job with an online start-up geared towards helping international students relocate. And she’s off to Queensland for a two-day global retailing convention – fares and accommodation courtesy of someone she met at a recent networking event.

Jenny has taken the view that she will finish

school but, really, she has no time to lose before following her dream of establishing a business in the wellbeing/fitness area.

She also aware of the need to balance her passion with the other aspects of her life and says her parents are beginning to appreciate her position.

She explained that her parents were unskilled factory workers with poor English. Her father fled Vietnam on a boat when he was 17, and spent time in a Malaysian refugee camp before settling in Australia. His marriage to her mother was arranged by their parents.

She’s well aware of her parents’ struggle and the racism they have encountered along the way. “I just want to make them proud,” she said.

She also said her school year co-ordinator and careers teacher were also coming to terms with her decision to immerse herself in the world of business.

Jenny says she can’t understand why people are making such a fuss about her young age.

“People are amazed,” she said. “But I can’t see what the big deal is. I’ve had this ambition since I was a little girl.”

As you can read in her account of the Hatch



Jenny Huynh learns entrepreneurship at a recent business networking event.

Quarter evening (see below), she speaks of the adrenaline rush when meeting and learning from business people.

She physically glows with freshness and energy. And it’s infectious. One can only

wonder where this passion and drive will take her.

“If there’s a business event on somewhere in the city, you’ll probably find me there,” she said.

## My Hatch Quarter event, by Jenny Huynh

*Colourful city lights blink at me as I take deep, long breaths of fresh cold air that has blanketed Melbourne city.*

As my bike whizzes down LaTrobe St towards Peppers Hotel, a rush of adrenaline courses through my veins. I am sure this event will be a glamorous night to remember.

Arriving at the launch of Hatch Quarter, my mind is in a cloud of bliss. I soak in the sites and simply appreciate the fabulous architecture.

Peppers Hotel has a comfort that envelopes all those who enter. With gorgeous home décor and pot plants sitting aesthetically on tables, it is difficult to not feel right at home.

The people. My attraction to the event. Young, middle-aged, older and retired individuals have all travelled to toast to the future success of Hatch Quarter.

Talking to attendees in the crowd, I completely immerse myself in the world of business with the occasional drink and canapes being offered by caterers who gracefully weave in and out of the crowd.

My passion and determination is boosted as I talk to strangers animatedly about my aspirations and goals. It is amazing to be the recipient of enormous amounts of support that people have provided. Everyone only has words of encouragement and advice that is highly valued and appreciated.

Members of the public wander in and out of the building, either sitting down to dine in or leaving their luggage with eager staff members at the front.

We attract curious looks. An amazing event is most certainly unfolding.

Aromas of alcohol and wine linger around us, people are speaking openly to each other and I listen in, fascinated by the vibrant energy rolling off every individual.

Aiman Hamdouna, the co-founder of Hatch Quarter brings us all together for an empowering speech. He speaks with energy about his visions for the future and is full of gratefulness for the path that has led him to where he is today.

An amazing number of prizes are up for grabs at the end of the speech, generating a vibe of anticipation to ripple through the crowd. Those fortunate enough to beat the odds walk away with vouchers and prizes.

We are all looking to transform the world and create a positive impact. There’s no doubt

about that.

I admire the fancy suits and formal dress code everyone has adorned. I realise that I am proud to show up in my school uniform to represent the younger generation. I am optimistic as to what the future will bring and truly believe we are in the safe hands of those who continually work tirelessly towards improving our way of life every day with a fiery passion.

On my way out, my eyes follow the yellow lights lining the roof. They weave in and around the room, creating a network and ambiance I’ve been looking for. Giving myself a small smile, I know I have the power and ability to change the world.

With positivity, a drive to create change and a willingness to go out there and just do it, I know I am well equipped to reach my throne of success.





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Ewen Cameron, Mo Hamdouna, Ophelie Mouton, James O'Brien and Aiman Hamdouna at the announcement of the prize for start-ups.

## Reward for big ideas

**Docklands co-working space Hatch Quarter has announced \$33,000 worth of services to a worthy start-up business.**

The prize was announced at a function on May 11 and will be awarded following a Pitch Night for short-listed candidates.

Hatch Quarter director Aiman Hamdouna explained that the services would allow a fledgling start-up business to get going.

"The prize will give the chosen start-up a place in our Hatch program to develop their idea and launch their business," he said.

"They will also be given services from our partners at Mo Works Creative Agency and Blitzm Systems. Mo Works will provide the start-up with branding and digital marketing and Blitzm Systems will offer consultations

on software engineering and development, working towards a product prototype."

Mr Hamdouna said the prize was part of the group's long-term commitment to nurturing emerging start-ups and developing the start-up ecosystem in Victoria and beyond.

"The winner will be chosen from a group of shortlisted applicants, who will be invited to participate in the Pitch Night for the Start-up Prize 2017," Mr Hamdouna said.

Applications close at 11.59 pm on July 1. Further information can be found at the Hatch Quarter website [www.hatchquarter.com.au](http://www.hatchquarter.com.au)

## Networking and knowledge

**On Friday, June 16, guests at the Docklands Networking Lunch will hear first-hand the AFL's future plans for Etihad Stadium.**

The quarterly lunch is just \$60 and includes a sumptuous three-course meal, including drinks.

The lunch is in the Laureate Room overlooking the arena and with views of Victoria Harbour. Enter via Gate 6.

As usual, it starts at 12 noon (to be seated at 12.30) and finishes at 2pm.

The lunch is hosted by *Docklands News* and is sponsored by the Docklands Chamber of Commerce. The chamber has organised the AFL to speak about its plans.



This image appeared in the daily press some time ago, but the document is yet to be aired publicly.



Book your place via [lunch@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:lunch@docklandsnews.com.au) or ring the office on **8689 7979**. As always, the cost is \$60 and must be paid in advance (by June 9 please).

### MENU

**Entre:** Taste of the sea – Tathra oysters, cured kingfish, salmon and prawn rillette, pickle cucumber and avruga caviar

**Mains** – alternating: Cannon of salt grass lamb, fricassee of forest mushroom, celeriac and broad beans, lamb jus.

Or:

Lightly smoked blue eye, pomme puree, caponata.

**Dessert:** Chefs selection of miniature dessert.

**Beverages:** Full strength and light beer, white and red house wines and soft drinks.

## DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY FORUM

The Docklands Community Forum is an open public meeting for residents, businesses and workers to hear and have their say on local issues and projects.

Join us at the June forum and help shape the future of Docklands.

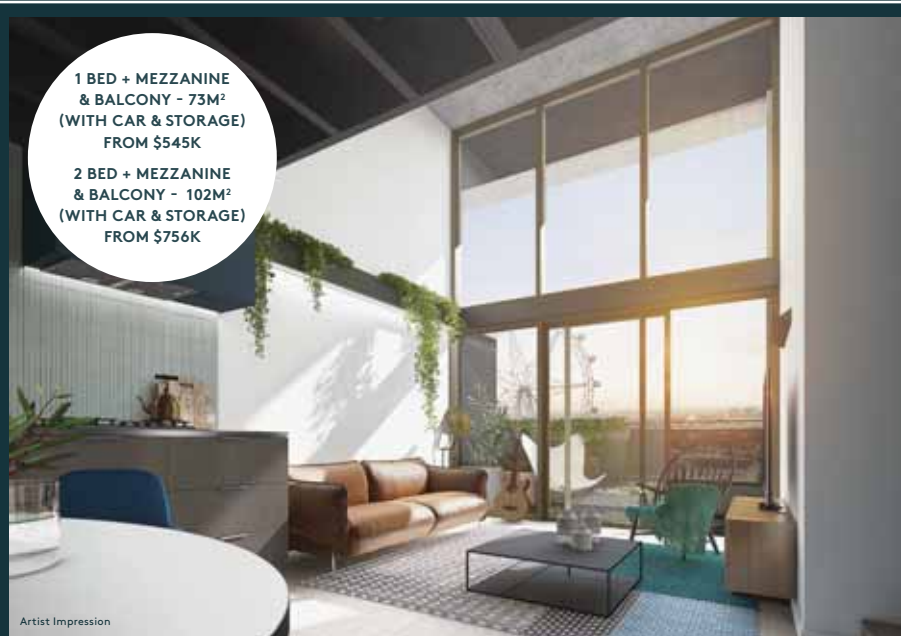
### Meeting Information

**Date:** Wednesday, 28 June 2017

**Time:** 6pm to 8pm

**Venue:** Library at The Dock, 107 Victoria Harbour Promenade, Docklands

Find out more and see the agenda at [melbourne.vic.gov.au/dcf](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au/dcf)



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# 'Give us a chance': river committee

**The Lower Yarra River Management Advisory Committee (LYRMAC) has asked locals to withhold judgement on its success until July next year.**

The State Government established the committee in February, having previously rejected a recommendation for an independent local waterways authority.

It is the 15<sup>th</sup> such committee to be established in the past 20 years.

The committee comprises Parks Victoria board member, Christine Trotman, City of Melbourne director, Linda Weatherson, and private sector representative Jonathon Metcalfe.

The committee was introduced to the local business community at a Docklands Chamber of Commerce event on May 17.

Local business associations were disappointed that the government appointed the committee rather than dismantling the fragmented and bureaucratic waterways governance that is widely believed to be the major obstacle to economic activation.

Mr Metcalfe said: "My feeling is that the time to make the judgement on whether we have been effective as a committee is in July 2018."



Committee chair Christine Trotman.

"Measure us by results. I can say that the three of us on the committee are very passionate about making a difference, so we'll work very hard to knock off as many of these important issues as we possibly can."

Committee chair Christine Trotman spoke briefly at the start of the session but quickly handed control to Parks Victoria regional director Chris Hardman.

Mr Hardman advised the audience to move on from its disappointment and work closely with both Parks Victoria and the City of Melbourne to achieve better outcomes for local waterways.

He rejected the idea of an independent waterways authority for the lower Yarra, claiming it would actually lead to greater duplication.

"What will happen is that you have a waterways authority here and upstream you will have a different one. In the Maribyrnong you will have a different one and out in Port Phillip Bay you will have a different one," he said.

"So, if you want that, you will introduce greater complexity as people move between those areas. Alternatively, we can do the best we can to make this work. Everyone should get on board and see if we can a good show of this. If we can, then the problem is solved."

"What's the problem we are trying to solve? We need to activate the waterways, get the investment in the waterways and those sorts of things."

"So we can work together and do that of we can lament a recommendation that wasn't taken up by the government of the day."

"And, you know what? If it doesn't work and you're not satisfied, then re-prosecute the case in the future," Mr Hardman said.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president, Joh Maxwell, said: "We welcome the newly-formed LYRMAC committee and look forward to an ongoing working relationship."

"LYRMAC has stated clearly that it is

passionate about working proactively on delivering better outcomes for the local waterways and, to support this, the DCC will dedicate focus to work with the water based operators – both commercial and recreational."

"We are all committed to maintain open communication, put forward recommendations and requirements for the future of the Jewel in the Crown – our waterways."

"The time is right for us to work together and maximise opportunity for the future of the Lower Yarra River waterways which includes Victoria Harbour."

The president of the Melbourne Passenger Boating Association, Jeff Gordon, said: "The government has recognised that a first class city needs a first class passenger boating industry and has provided \$2 million dollars for a new floating landing at Southbank and recognises that the Melbourne passenger boat industry is worth at least \$60million per year to the Melbourne economy."

"The commercial vessels of Melbourne showcase the water and the waterfront of Melbourne to its inhabitants and visitors in a safe and enjoyable way."

"However the industry will die a death by a thousand cuts if the government continues its cost recovery model with the Tour Operators Licence charging every passenger \$2.40 per trip plus extra charges for landings where they pick up and drop off clients."

<div>1203/50 Lorimer Street DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DIRECT WATER FRONTAGE</li><li>RARE OPPORTUNITY</li><li>LARGE FLOOR PLAN</li><li>LARGE BALCONY</li></ul></div> <div>\$990,000</div> <div></div>	<div>2301/50 Lorimer Street DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DESIRED FLOORPLAN</li><li>IMMACULATE IN APPEARANCE</li><li>320 DEGREE VIEWS</li><li>HUGE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR</li><li>2 CARPARKS PLUS STORAGE CAGE</li></ul></div> <div>\$1,600,000 Plus</div> <div></div>	<div>3001/90 Lorimer Street DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>OVER 200 SQM</li><li>DESIRED LOCATION</li><li>WATERFACING</li><li>320 DEGREE VIEWS</li><li>MUST BE SEEN</li></ul></div> <div>\$1,750,000</div> <div></div>
<div>604/60 Lorimer Street DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>HUGE TERRACE</li><li>GREAT LOCATION</li><li>NORTH FACING</li><li>MUST BE SEEN</li></ul></div> <div>\$680,000</div> <div></div>	<div>1508/60 Lorimer Street DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>GREAT INVESTMENT</li><li>DESIRED LOCATION</li><li>LARGE BALCONY</li><li>BAY VIEWS</li></ul></div> <div>\$470,000</div> <div></div>	<div>2603/1 Point Park Crescent DOCKLANDS</div> <div></div> <div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>SEPARATE STUDY</li><li>FANTASTIC VIEWS</li><li>LARGE 2 BED FLOORPLAN</li><li>NORTH FACING BALCONY</li></ul></div> <div>\$1,190,000</div> <div></div>

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# Surprise! We're removing your boardwalk

## Comment

Shane Scanlan



***The City of Melbourne has started replacing the NewQuay Promenade boardwalk with bluestone paving.***

And there may be some merit in this. The boards had become a trip hazard. And no one is pretending that a premium treatment is not expensive. But it's a discussion that no one in Docklands was privy to.

My personal view is that Docklands is diminished by the replacement of the boardwalk with paving. A replacement with 100-year-old, recycled and re-milled Docklands wharf timbers would have been far more appropriate.

Hundreds of tonnes of wharf timber have recently been removed from the precinct. Apparently this timber is in storage awaiting an opportunity to return.

Bluestone pavers would complement wharf timbers and would be a great replacement for the cheap, broken and dirty concrete pavers along the promenade.

Be this as it may, the episode shouldn't pass without comment about the way the City of Melbourne operates. Of note are:

- This project is not in the council's annual plan and budget 2016/17;
- Now that work has started, reference appears in its third quarter financial report under a heading "Major streetscape improvements and design (excluding south end of Elizabeth St)". It notes NewQuay as a location, but doesn't mention removing the boardwalk;
- Some traders were sent a letter by the

council's outsourced works arm Citywide only days before works started on May 22;

- The council says the work was too urgent to allow broader consultation; and
- Not only were Docklanders kept in the dark, *Docklands News* understands the council's own events team was similarly unaware of the project which now threatens to derail the Docklands Firelight Festival, scheduled for June 30 – July 2. The council denies this, claiming the events team was notified in early April. Either way, it's not a good look.

The City of Melbourne pretends to be a consultative organisation.

Only the day before the temporary fencing went up around the first hundred metres of boardwalk, its consultants were asking people at a Harbour Esplanade children's event their views and vision for a Docklands of the future. Such a cynical and bitter irony!

The fact that it wants to replace wharf with stone also says it doesn't get Docklands' connection to the water and to its heritage.

Again, what the council SAYS and what it DOES are at odds. When launching new Harbour Town attractions (see page 1), Lord Mayor Robert Doyle talked about mistakes made in early Docklands. "One of them was, and evidence is here in Harbour Town, was distancing ourselves from the water rather than embracing the water," he said.

Indeed, the Docklands Community and Place Plan says: "As Docklands flourishes into a business, residential and visitor destination, it's important that its waterfront heritage is preserved, integrated, celebrated and made accessible to the broader community."

And yet, time and time again, the City of Melbourne treats Docklands as an extension of the Hoddle Grid, without any character or personality of its own.

Tearing up the boardwalk is just the latest example. Removing the fireworks from the water is further evidence. Neglecting Harbour Esplanade also tells the same

story. Failing to take the lead towards single independent authority for the waterways is another.

Refusing to fund the Fountains and Flames concept was another case in point. And merely talking about a home for our heritage fleet but not acting in time to prevent the tall ships seeking homes elsewhere is also

symptomatic of the same failure to grasp a secure future.

Docklands cries out to be appreciated for its unique connection with the water. Bluestone is great. But timber wharves are better.

What do you think? Send your thoughts to [news@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:news@docklandsnews.com.au)



*Between now and September, the City of Melbourne will be replacing the NewQuay boardwalk with pavers.*

## Statement from the City of Melbourne

The existing timber decking on New Quay promenade has deteriorated due to age and vehicles driving on it while conducting deliveries and accessing events.

In 2014, the City of Melbourne undertook a structural assessment of the decking which resulted in the installation of load limit signage and vehicle movement restrictions (including emergency vehicles). In addition, council has spent almost \$200,000 on maintenance works to the decking in recent years.

Despite these regular maintenance works and vehicle restrictions, a further structural assessment was undertaken in early 2017, which confirmed that the structural integrity of the deck has been compromised and significant decking repair works were required.

On advice from an engineer and an urban designer, we made the decision to replace the timber deck with bluestone as it is

more durable and structurally sound. This will enable the promenade to be more fully utilised by members of the public, by emergency vehicles, and for future events.

Works have commenced at the eastern end of NewQuay promenade (stage one to be completed by June 30) and stage two works to complete the project are expected to be completed by September 2017. Where possible, the existing timber deck boards will be saved and recycled for alternative building and landscape purposes.

Communications were issued by the contractor to local stakeholders around a week before works began. We would normally do broader consultation on these works, including at the Docklands Community Forum but, given the urgency of the repair works, it was appropriate that we begin work as soon as possible. Our events team was notified of the repairs in early April in order to co-ordinate the work with other planned events.

## The Partners of Tolhurst Druce & Emmerson and Pearce Webster Dugdales are delighted to announce that the two firms have merged.

**The merged firm will operate under the business name Pearce Webster Dugdales (incorporating the Practice of Tolhurst Druce & Emmerson) and will primarily operate from premises situated at Level 4, 379 Collins Street, Melbourne.**

**The main contact details for the Melbourne office of Pearce Webster Dugdales are as follows:-**

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- Facsimile 03 9614 29654
- Email [info@pearcewebster.com.au](mailto:info@pearcewebster.com.au)

Pearce Webster Dugdales and Tolhurst Druce & Emmerson are both firms of long standing with Peace Webster Dugdales having been established in 1899.

The two firms share similar cultures and values and Pearce Webster Dugdales seeks to continue to provide you with quality legal advice and to service your legal needs as and when they arise from time to time.

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# Goodbye and thank you Andrea

By Shane Scanlan

*It's hard to imagine the Mission to Seafarers without Andrea Fleming, but she is leaving at the end of May after 10 years at the helm.*

The heritage-listed building in Flinders St, Docklands, turns 100 this year and Andrea has ensured that the intriguing Spanish-mission-inspired structure has survived.

But it's the pastoral aspects of the CEO role that she hopes are her legacy.

"The legacy is in the small moments that I've shared with some of the most humble and incredible people that I would not have otherwise met – seafarers," she told *Docklands News*.

Andrea is a surprising, engaging and totally charming woman. She exudes an enthusiastic, almost child-like, persona. Of course, the actual person is far more complex than that.

Her major contribution to the mission has been her passion and rare ability to attract others to the cause. With an infectious smile and genuine warmth, potential donors sometimes found themselves incapable of saying no.

In a recent Maritime Art Show speech, one benefactor memorably admitted being bewildered about how he happened to find himself on stage, microphone in hand, awarding a valuable cash prize to a painter.

"Andrea could charm the pants off a lamp-



post" was his brutally frank assessment.

Unconventional to a fault, no doubt she would have tested the limits of tolerance within the Anglican hierarchy more than once.

*Docklands News* has enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship with the mission. The building is one of our newspaper drop-

off depots that make our distribution task simpler. In return, we have been privileged to bring news of the mission and its activities to our local readers.

Andrea has always been a generous hostess as well as being the life of the party. When publicly speaking off the cuff, her delivery is personal and conversational. It is always grounded, positive and earnest, but interspersed with infectious smiles and bubbly giggles.

Many Docklanders have volunteered at the mission, which has contributed a badly-needed dose of authenticity to our shiny, brand-new suburb. Its faded, weary walls are a restorative antidote to the sterile glass, metal and concrete that have encroached upon and dominated the mission.

"Docklands built up around us and, only when it closed in, did we have a say. We claimed and named Seafarers' Rest. Or the naming of Seafarer's Bridge. We were saying: while all this happening, let's not forget from whence we came," Ms Fleming said.

"Docklands does have an identity. It's a maritime identity. That progress, in 10 years, is huge. I love Docklands. I love sitting out there on the water. I think I'll always enjoy Docklands."

In many ways, the mission has been the heart and soul of Docklands and Andrea has personified this.

"I shared the early heartaches of Docklands. In the early days in this community you either decided you would hang on – for better or for worse – or you were getting out," she said.

"There are some beautiful stories about some people from the early days, who experienced it and who set the whole thing up for the next generation.

Through that hardship, something really beautiful began to blossom and the learning goes on."

So what's next? Having put so much on herself into the mission, it is an emotional time for her.

"Who is Andrea without the mission?" she asked with a trademark smile.

She's putting on a brave face but is uncertain about the future.

"I'm really looking forward to it. I just don't know what it is. And maybe that's part of the excitement – not knowing."

One thing is known. She will be sorely missed.

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# eSports at Etihad Stadium

***The AFL has expressed interest in joining the fast-expanding eSports industry and bringing tournaments to Etihad Stadium.***

AFL spokesperson Patrick Keane told *Docklands News* the AFL was currently exploring the eSports market.

"We are currently gathering more information about this industry and we are attending some conferences to learn how eSports operates," Mr Keane said.

Mr Keane said the discussion would take two to three months and eSports tournaments were "something that could happen".

ESports, or electronic sports, involves

professional competitions among players of video games. International eSports tournaments have been held in the US and Europe and some traditional sporting clubs have established an eSports branch.

In May, the Adelaide Crows became the first Australian sports club to buy a professional eSports team. The Crows bought Legacy eSports, one of the top eight teams in Australia that play the game *League of Legends*.

Darren Kwan, president of the Australian eSports Association, said the eSports industry was growing quickly in Australia and had become even more popular than traditional sports.

"Data shows that 1.5 million Australians identify themselves as playing some kind of eSports. Some 68 per cent of Australians play video games," Mr Kwan said.

"ESports takes the content of traditional sports and adds more excitement and meaning to it. ESports supersedes traditional sports in a way because it provides greater stimulation in terms of cognitive engagement than traditional sports."

Mr Kwan said the Australian eSports Association had spoken with some AFL clubs about the benefits of tapping into the profitable industry.

"The AFL is struggling to attract millennials. By introducing eSports, AFL clubs can build their membership. Whatever members they are losing on the footy side, they can gain on the gaming side," he said.

"The AFL being interested in eSports is a big statement that eSports is huge and it's definitely something the sports industry in Australia needs to catch up on."

# School engagement concluded

***The community engagement phase of the new Docklands primary school has concluded and architects will now be briefed about developing a master plan.***

The Victorian School Building Authority (VSBA) conducted focus groups and consultation sessions in Docklands until May 22. Community members could also comment on VSBA's website.

According to the Department of Education, hundreds of local families were spoken to and 1400 people visited VSBA's engagement website. More than 100 people completed the in-depth survey and 50 attended community workshops.

A Department of Education spokesperson said the engagement process would give the community the opportunity to have its voice heard.

"We're making sure we are engaging with the community to ensure local families have their say on the education framework and design of the new Docklands Primary School, as well as the needs of the broader school precinct," the spokesperson said.

"We will now collate and analyse this feedback so it can help shape the design and education framework of this exciting new school project."

Information gathered will be given to Cox Architecture to guide the development of a master plan.

The master plan, which provides an overall plan of how the school will sit on the site, is expected to be finalised in July.

The VSBA said, while a new primary school was the priority, it was also committed to increasing available secondary school places near Docklands and across inner Melbourne.

A secondary school will be built in Fishermans Bend and work has started on the new Prahran High School.

# Can you see in the dark?

***The "Dialogue In The Dark" phenomenon will kick off at Harbour Town on June 2 to give visitors an opportunity to experience what it is like to be blind.***

Led by blind guides, visitors will walk through total darkness and learn to interact and communicate by relying on other senses.

The roles are reversed – with a blind person being the guide and people with sight losing the sense they rely on the most.

The exhibition will open the visitors' eyes and show them the world of the blind.

Australia is the 40<sup>th</sup> country that *Dialogue In The Dark* has travelled to over the past 25 years. The experience at Harbour Town is presented by Guide Dogs Victoria.



*Last month's Social Club event at Platform 28 was a great success.*

# Woolshed venue is next

***This month's Docklands Social Club events will be on Wednesday, June 14 at The Woolshed on Central Pier.***

The event is an informal gathering for locals who like to meet other locals.

People pay their own way with the venue and no bookings are required. Just turn up at 7pm for the mingling and chatting before sitting down for meal.

Last month's event at Platform 28 on May 9 (pictured) was a great success.

Don't be shy, come out and get to know your neighbours!

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People gather to watch the effigy burn on Friday night.

# Harvest Festival

**The Docklands Harvest festival took off at Buluk Park on May 19, featuring bands, food trucks, lantern making, workshops and an effigy burn to celebrate the Winter solstice.**

Harvest was the first program of the City of Melbourne's Docklands winter activation plan, which will be followed by the Firelight Festival from June 30 to July 2 (see story on page 13).

On the Friday night (May 19) a crowd gathered to watch the burning of a human-shaped wooden sculpture, a highlight of the two-day winter festival.

Docklanders enjoyed Melbourne-based folk band trio the Velvet Archers' remakes of popular songs and a variety of food on offer, from smoked barbecue to Greek doughnuts.

Saturday was a fun day out for families, with lantern making sessions, pickling workshops

and demonstrations of turning apartment balconies to pocketsize gardens.

Local restaurants and boutiques Twirled Pasta Bar, Saluministi and Wawa Chocolatier presented pasta making, porchetta rolls demonstration and tea and chocolate pairing.

Australia's funk trio Cookin' On 3 Burners brought their hard-hitting deep funk, organ jazz and boogaloo to Docklands on Saturday.

More than 1000 people were estimated to have attended Docklands Harvest.

# 'High-rise slums' are amongst us

By Sunny Liu

***Behind the luxurious facade of Docklands' high-rise apartment are some horrifying living conditions for young people.***

Some of Docklands' luxurious apartments are becoming overcrowded with up to six people squeezing into a one-bedroom apartment to save on rent.

A typical one-week's rent for a private bedroom ranges from \$250 to \$400, whereas sharing one bedroom with a few other people would only cost \$140-\$190 per week.

Some tenants are openly advertising beds in shared rooms on flatmate-searching platforms, including Facebook group Fairy Floss and [flatmates.com.au](http://flatmates.com.au).

*Docklands News* found at least six places where more than two people share one bedroom in local apartments.

In a one-bedroom apartment at a residential tower in Victoria Harbour, four people sleep in two double bunks in the bedroom and another two in a bunkin the living room. The weekly rent for a bed in the bedroom is \$160 and \$140 for the living room.

Although it has been widely reported that CBD apartments are often overcrowded with students and workers who strive to save costs, it seems some apartments are becoming "high-rise slums".

In some overcrowded apartments, as many as six people share a bathroom and the communal living space has been turned into a makeshift bedroom.

It is a breach of the Building Act for tenants

to sub-let one room to unrelated people and most residential lease agreements do not allow sub-letting. When multiple unrelated people reside in one shared room, the property owner must apply for the property to become a rooming house.

According to the City of Melbourne, there is only one registered rooming house in Docklands.

A City of Melbourne spokesperson told *Docklands News* the council had received five complaints regarding potential unregistered rooming houses in Docklands.

However, the Building Act does not outline a minimum floor area required for each person in residential apartments, therefore it becomes difficult for the council and building owners' corporations to regulate overcrowded apartments.

On April 26, the State Government introduced the *Rooming House Operators Act 2016* in a major crackdown on Victoria's illegal rooming house operators.

Anyone who owns, leases or manages a rooming house now has to be licensed and pass a "fit and proper person test", which examines the applicant's criminal record and whether they have breached any laws related to unregistered rooming houses in the past five years.

Significant penalties now apply for anyone found guilty of operating a rooming house without a licence, including jail terms of up to two years or a maximum fine of more than \$36,000 for individuals and \$182,000 for owners' corporations.

Also, an online register of licensed rooming house operators will help renters find a legitimate licensed operator.

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Mariene Kairouz, said the new legislation would protect tenants' safety and welfare.

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# Alma wins Victoria Remembers grant

By Bill Reid

*Hidden away in the furthest recess of Docklands, there is a fantastic project underway to restore Alma Doepel.*

Alma is a 113-year-old, three-masted schooner built in 1903 for coastal trading.

She is the last remaining vessel of her type. During World War 2 Alma was commissioned as Army Ketch AK-82 to work as an explosives and ammunition ship, carrying stores and personnel to remote outposts in northern Australia and the Pacific Islands.

The project has been awarded a grant by the Victorian Government under the Victoria Remembers grant program.

The program supports projects that help communities make personal connections to the Anzac Centenary and other wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.

In April 1945 Alma carried about 800 troops into action under General "Red Robbie" Robertson, shuttling them along the coast of New Britain under cover of darkness to assault remaining Japanese strongholds.

The grant will be used to develop a shore-based reflective and memorial space showcasing Alma's war service. It will also be used to facilitate a permanent installation on board the restored ship.

The installation will be known as "Victoria Remembers AK82/Alma Doepel's War Veterans Exhibition". An announcement will be made on the opening of the exhibition for public tours and open days.

Alma worked as a cargo vessel until 1975. For almost 60 years from 1917 she traded from Henry Jones (IXL) in Hobart to the mainland and the South Yarra Jam Factory.

From 1975 until 1999 she operated as a sail-training vessel for youth groups.

Requiring extensive refurbishment to stay in survey, Alma was laid up until restoration started in 2010. Part of that time she was berthed at Port Macquarie where she functioned as a museum ship before returning to Melbourne to commence her full restoration.

The Alma Doepel Restoration Project has reached the final stage of hull restoration required to return her to the water and to vital youth sail training programs.

Donations can be made at [www.almadoepel.com.au](http://www.almadoepel.com.au)



Andrew Ward and friends proudly wear orange.

## Orange is the new black

**Push! Fitness's owner Andrew Ward put on his bright orange volunteering gear for the Wear Orange Wednesday (WOW) during the National Volunteering Week last month.**

Mr Ward has been volunteering for the State Emergency Service (SES) and coast guard for 6.5 years and has been called into all sorts of emergencies from floods to storms and to rescuing cats. He said wearing orange could help spread more knowledge about SES and volunteerism.

"This is a day to wear orange and thank all

the volunteers around the state. All day my customers have been asking me why I'm wearing orange and it's a great way to raise awareness for all the great work volunteers have done," he said.

Mr Ward also encouraged his staff to show up in orange.

"I think it's a great initiative. Hopefully they will be motivated to volunteer more themselves," he said.

"As a business owner and a community member, I believe in not just talking but taking actions. By being involved with SES, I set a good example for the team and for my customers."

He said volunteering could be for everyone, no matter what their lifestyle.

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# School engagement concluded

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"Transpossible" featured poetry, musical and theatre performances.

# Trans and gender diverse art showcased

*Trans and gender diverse artist group Myriad Collective brought the "Transpossible" performances and exhibition to Library at The Dock in May.*

Artists from transgender and gender diverse backgrounds performed at the library on May 12 and 13 in front of more than 200 people.

The performances explored themes that sought to empower and inspire trans and gender diverse people with music, dance, theatre and poetry.

The art exhibition ran from May 4-30 and featured artists' vision for the future of community and creativity across a variety of visual mediums.

This year is the first time Library at The Dock held the *Transpossible* event.

Darcy Gunk, project manager at Myriad Collective, said the performances and exhibition showcased a great diversity of artists and their works.

"We invited artists with a wide range of backgrounds and experiences to tell their stories and showcase who they are," Darcy said.

"We also wanted to give an incentive to non-gender diverse audiences to seek out more artworks and performances by trans and gender diverse artists."

The performances and exhibition invited the audience to envision a future for trans and gender diverse people and a place where they could all be supported.

The two performance nights proved to be extremely popular, with tickets been sold out within two hours of release.

Myriad Collective is looking forward to taking on the Docklands stage again next year.

"This year we have really expanded the program to two nights of performances and a month-long exhibition. Library at The Dock is a fantastic space with beautiful facilities. So hopefully we can bring it here and work with the staff again next year," Darcy said.

# Tourist shuttle set to end

*Docklanders can expect to soon see the end of the City of Melbourne-funded tourist shuttle bus.*

Speaking at a council budget press conference on May 4, Lord Mayor Robert Doyle hinted strongly that the contract for the bus would not be renewed when it expires later this year.

"We've got to look at the tourist bus," he said. "The contract ends later this year – I think the end of August, maybe September."

"The cost of the tourist bus is \$1.4 million per year. But here's the most telling thing, because the easiest thing to record about the tourist bus is the number of people who ride on it."

"I don't know whether it was the introduction of the free tram network, or whether it was the introduction of a private service, which is somewhat more comprehensive. But I can tell you that in the two years from 2014 to 2016 patronage fell."

"In that earlier year, patronage was 330,000 passenger journeys. In the final year of that evaluation period, 2016, it was 43,000."

"So, passenger usage is telling us something about that. And it is \$1.4 million per year."

"Having said that, one of the most popular spots for alighting is Harbour Town. And I want to continue to support Harbour Town retail as it goes through its redevelopment."

"So, there are some big decisions for us to make, but the story of the numbers is, I think, fairly telling."

In 2013, the Docklands Chamber of Commerce lobbied unsuccessfully to prevent the council introducing a \$5 bus fare for what had previously been a free service.

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# Docklanders dig deep for cancer charity

***The Cancer Council of  
Victoria's Biggest Morning Tea  
was again BIG in Docklands  
this year, with about \$13,000  
raised.***

Berth Restaurant in NewQuay again offered its venue for the May 25 event and, by the end of the day more than \$11,000 was raised from ticket sales, raffles, auctions and other

activities to support cancer research.

It was the fourth time Berth had organised the event, with this year raising the largest amount. Local real estate agent Glen Lucas conducted the auction. Items ranged from dinner vouchers at Berth to a designer dress.

Carlton Football Club's AFLW player Darcy Vescio joined the morning tea and presented a jersey signed by Carlton FC for auction.

At Yarra's Edge Petra and Brian Harmer-Shrowder again opened their home and \$1800 was raised for cancer research.

The fundraiser was part of the nationwide Biggest Morning Tea, the most popular and the largest fundraising event in Australia.

Neighbours were joined by members of three clubs – Yarra's Edge Coffee Club, Yarra's Edge Social Club and Ionians Melbourne (82) Club.

Funds were raised through online donations, attendance and raffle prizes such as: Palais Theatre tickets, Ainsworth Estate wines, Arbory Bar and Eatery vouchers, jewellery, transformation life coaching and computer

games. Attendees brought plates of home made goodies with even Florentines brandishing the teal ribbon for ovarian cancer and pink ribbon for breast cancer.

Petra said many attendees had their own story to tell with cancer either undergoing treatment or in remission from pancreatic, heart, bowel, and ovarian cancer.

Recent losses of friends, family and celebrities were remembered, with emotions running high at times.

**\_ 01 . M O N D A Y**

## 02. TUESDAY

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# Long-term leases to be introduced

**Developer Salta Properties is planning to introduce the first ever long-term lease residential tower to Docklands.**

Salta Properties is building a hotel on the corner of LaTrobe St and Harbour Esplanade (see out story on page 5), with 260 apartments sitting above it.

The developer will retain ownership of the residential apartments and will offer tenants long-term, multi-family leases of five or 10 years, a concept new to Australia.

Salta Properties' managing director, Sam Tarascio, said the long-term lease plan would set a new benchmark for Australia's rental market.

"The next generation of Australians are

steadily becoming less obsessed with home-ownership and are renting for much longer periods than their parents, however they are usually constrained to six to 12-month leases," he said.

"Prices in the Melbourne rental market are also increasing at alarming rates, so we are exploring a concept to respond to this situation and provide Victorians with a different housing option," Mr Tarascio said.

This news comes after the site for a primary school in NewQuay was announced. The mixed-use tower will be within walking distance to the school.

Long-term residential leasing can attract more families who will connect with Docklands, with Salta stating its multi-family concept aims at addressing rental shortages and providing long-term certainty of tenancy and rental costs.



## Animal extravaganza

**Docklands-based street artist group Blender Studios is holding a series of animal art workshops for children at Harbour Town.**

The upcoming workshops will take place from 12-4pm from June 10-12.

At the free workshops, children can learn to create animal paintings and crafts under the guidance of experienced artists.

There will be a Looney Classroom Capers live show on at 12pm, 1.30pm and 3pm on each day.

Free face painting, pet meet-ups and jumping castles will also be available for children to enjoy during the three days.

## New waterside public space

Work has started on a new public open space that will connect Collins St to the river.

The under-construction pocket-sized park

located between 889 and 883 Collins St and will be completed between August and September.

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Authorised by J Mikakos, 319 Spring Street, Reservoir. This material has been funded from Parliament's Electorate Office & Communications budget.

# Local sustainability advocate

*Docklands resident and worker Dr Kaushik Sridhar is passionate about sustainability.*

He recently spoke about his life journey to make Melbourne more sustainable in front of 100 people at the EcoCity Storytelling Night at the Town Hall during Melbourne Knowledge Week.

Dr Sridhar is the corporate responsibility manager at a multinational corporation in Docklands and is also a university lecturer.

Dr Sridhar will speak about sustainability at a Volunteering Victoria breakfast in June and the Green Building Expo in Melbourne in July.

He will also be part of the panel made up by representatives from companies like Qantas and will have the chance to engage in conversations with former US Vice President Al Gore at the EcoCity World Summit in Melbourne in July.

Dr Sridhar said he took every opportunity



Dr Kaushik Sridhar is passionate about sustainability

possible to speak publicly about the importance of sustainability and climate change mitigation.

“It’s about raising awareness about sustainability and sharing the knowledge. It’s my commitment and purpose to serve the community,” he said.

“When I take opportunities to speak at an event, it’s to share the journey of advocating for sustainability and how people can effectively and efficiently improve the situation.”

Dr Sridhar said Docklands set a good example for building more sustainable precincts in Melbourne.

“I think Docklands is definitely on the right track. The library here is one of the most sustainable buildings in Melbourne. So I think that’s a really good case study for Docklands. The council is also creating more green spaces in Docklands,” he said.

“I think for places like Docklands, we need to work on what we have. The main infrastructure is already here, so I think it’s more about smart city planning to make sure we have a well developed sustainability strategy to make the place better.”

Dr Sridhar would like to hear more from the Docklands community about their views on sustainability. He can be reached at [kaushiksridhar83@gmail.com](mailto:kaushiksridhar83@gmail.com)

## Where to dispose of your electronic waste

By Nadia Dimattina

*New e-waste bins have been installed at the Library at The Dock.*

The new bins are part of the City of Melbourne’s sustainability initiative around recycling.

A library spokesperson said there was a difference between recycling and disposing of electronic and electrical waste.

“The bins are for e-waste not for recycling rubbish. They are for electrical and electronic appliances that are out of action, so your toasters and your sandwich makers. They are not recycling bins,” she said.

Docklanders should be aware of the appropriate products you can dispose into the e-waste bins.

Accepted materials include electronic devices such as televisions, desktop computers, printers, scanners, fax machines, CDs, DVDs and speakers. Electrical waste, including toasters and household batteries, are also accepted.

You cannot dispose of smoke alarms, air conditioners or any chemical and hazardous materials.

The e-waste bins add to the library’s reputability as being the “most sustainable community building”.

Alongside the new bins, The Dock has other sustainable features such as passive ventilation and 85kw solar panels that supply approximately 30 per cent of the building’s total power.

The Library at The Dock has been awarded as Australia’s first six star Green Star rated public building and has won various awards including the 2015 National Architecture Award for Sustainable Architecture.



Dr Sridhar’s recent photo of Victoria Harbour

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# Take the ferry to the Celtic festival

**Docklanders can enjoy direct Port Phillip Ferries services from Docklands to Portarlington to visit the National Celtic Festival during the June long weekend.**

The 2017 National Celtic Festival will run from June 9-12 in various locations in Portarlington, including both ticketed and free performances, workshops and markets.

This year marks the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the biggest celebration of the Celtic culture in Australia and the Southern Hemisphere. More than 15,000 people flock to the four-day festival annually.

Artists from Ireland, Scotland and Wales will be performing at the Victorian beachside town to showcase one of the world's richest cultures.

Festival director Una McAlinden said the National Celtic Festival had been recognised on the international stage, with artists and visitors from different countries.

"We've seen the festival grow from something small to this big festival recognised internationally. There are visitors from New Zealand and even Japan. It's definitely a tourism boost to Portarlington. People can see there's a lot going on here," she said.



Port Phillip Ferries deck hand Tomas Van Duijne, marketing co-ordinator Connie Trathen, captain Mark Wardley and National Celtic Festival director Una McAlinden.

Ms McAlinden also said the festival could connect Australia's Celtic population to their cultural roots.

"There is a big Celtic population in Australia. People's ancestry can really resonate with them and they can build that connection with the culture at the festival."

"We hope to sustain and support the Celtic culture in Australia. We bring top-quality productions and add a different element to the festival every year."

"The festival will be across the art, including songs, dances, theatre, markets and workshops all around Portarlington. We have a really diverse program. We explore the variety of the Celtic cultural elements.

The National Celtic Festival is excited to announce partnership with Port Phillip Ferries this year, where people can catch the ferry from Docklands to Portarlington.

There will also be musical performances on board during the festival period to entertain commuters.

Connie Trathen from Port Phillip Ferries said the ferry services provided the quickest and most direct route from Docklands to Portarlington and commuters could also enjoy the picturesque view along the way.

"The ferry will be docked a three-minute walk away from where the festival is pumping. Taking the ferry is the best way to get there from Melbourne," she said.

"It's not only about time saving. It's also about making that unique experience. It's the first time some Melburnians will ever be out in the middle of Port Phillip Bay."

Ms Trathen also encouraged Docklands residents to take their maiden voyage.

"A lot of people have never been past the docks. On board the Port Phillip Ferries people can see Williamstown and Port Melbourne and spot a few dolphins and seals," she said.

Port Phillip Ferries provide three return trips from Docklands to Portarlington everyday throughout the year. People can usually buy tickets on board but are encouraged to book their tickets online in advance for the June long weekend.

Docklands News readers can have the chance to win a double pass to the National Celtic Festival and two return trips on Port Phillip Ferries. Email Tilly at [tilly@penneyandlogan.com.au](mailto:tilly@penneyandlogan.com.au) by Wednesday June 7 with your name and contact details to enter the draw. Winners will be contacted before the festival.

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# DOCKLANDS FASHION



## Fashion on the streets of Docklands



Forge Tower at Wharf's Entrance.

### First tower completed at Wharf's Entrance

*The \$200 million Forge residential tower in the Wharf's Entrance precinct in Yarra's Edge has been completed.*

Located at the western end of the precinct, the newest apartment tower has 228 one, two and three-bedroom apartments.

The building exterior consists of silver glass and steel and the overall design alludes to the movement of the Yarra River.

"The completion of Forge is a momentous event for Yarra's Edge, which is now home to a lively community of more than 3000 people," developer Mirvac's general manager of residential Victoria, Elysa Anderson, said.

New residents have also moved into the first stage of the riverfront Wharfside Residences and Cargo homes.

Construction of the precinct's tallest tower Voyager is expected to begin soon.

#### Will Parkinson, 26

**LOCATION:** Victoria Harbour Promenade.

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** Checkered shirt, a pair of shorts and some casual shoes. I got some in the UK and some in American Outfitters.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE**

**OF CLOTHING:** Full suit. I love my shiny Hugo Boss suit for fancy occasions.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO THE**

**DOCKLANDS:** I'm on vacation. I got a week off from work so I'm just exploring Melbourne. I'm staying in the CBD currently and it's cool - weather is good, people are nice.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** Pretty smart casual most of the time.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

As long as it fits you as a person really. It kind of affects your character. If you are not comfortable the way you look, you are going to behave uncomfortably.

#### Buddy Fabileh, 27

**LOCATION:** Victoria Harbour Promenade.

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** I am wearing a suit with checkered blue shirt and a blue tie, brown shoes and a brown belt.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE**

**OF CLOTHING:** My favourite piece of clothing is probably a blazer, because it makes me look smart - perfect smart, casual wear! I usually wear blazers when I go to bars, work or even when I occasionally go clubbing or birthdays. I would wear it with a plain white T.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO**

**DOCKLANDS:** Work. I'm having a team leader lunch.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** For casual wear, I like to wear Converse with jeans, usually just plain white T and some nice jackets. At work, I always wear suits with a nice shirt and belt. I like to dress well.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

Something that matches. I think smart casual is really good outfit. Also something where colors work well together, for example, I think blue and white work pretty well together and something that's not too printed.

#### Rowan Payne, 24

**LOCATION:** Victoria Harbour Promenade.

**DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE**

**WEARING:** I'm wearing a grey sports jacket from Zara that I just bought in Barcelona, ASOS checkered shirt, some more socks that I bought in ASOS and Windsor Smith brown shoes.

**WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE**

**PIECE OF CLOTHING:** I really like sweatshirts, because they're really versatile. You can wear them over a college shirt or you can just wear them over a singlet and still kind of look presentable.

**WHAT BRINGS YOU TO**

**DOCKLANDS:** This is where I work.

**HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE**

**YOUR STYLE:** I don't consider myself as particularly fashionable, which is why I'm still completely out of my comfort zone participating this interview but I decided to do it because I think it would be absolutely hilarious.

**WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:**

One thing I like to do is try to pair colours, for examples, pair my top with my socks. Sometimes I would do it more explicitly than today - like I would wear a red shirt with a red socks, and I do like to wear fancy socks.



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Letters

Illegal surveillance

I moved to Docklands two years ago. When I first moved to Victoria it was one of the first places I visited, and with that visit, I fell in love.

My plan was simple. Semi retire in a suburb that I felt safe and secure in. Where I knew my neighbors and have no maintenance. The view from my apartment is visually pleasing and I could not have chosen a better place. Sounds like a great life, right? Well my bubble of bliss burst last week, when I overheard my building manager talking to an onsite contractor about his use of the surveillance system. They were laughing about how he used it to monitor residents' movements, especially the pretty looking ones and the ones that complain all the time. At first I didn't think much of it, but then as I went about my daily business of going to the local shop for bread, the tram to go into the city, checking my mail, driving my car to the golf range and so forth, I thought, I wonder if I am being monitored.

I started looking on the internet for some rules or a code of conduct, but what I found was even more surprising. There is surveillance law that protects people, and after reading it, I realised what my building manager is doing, is illegal.

I find it even more disturbing that when I brought this to the building manager's attention, he asked me where I go every Wednesday at lunch time. So it begs the question – is living in Docklands too secure? Does it mean no matter where you live you

are being watched by your building staff? I guess after bringing it up with the building manager, I am now on the trouble maker list and will continue to be watched ... which means I will now be beyond safe as I lock myself in my apartment to protect myself from him.

*"Looking over my shoulder"*

Offensive and unfair

I am emailing referring to your article "Who is Docklands steam train?"

Myself and lots of my co-workers (we work in Docklands) have all read it and discussed our concerns, we feel it is a quite offensive article and really unfair to this runner. You have not asked his permission to publish. You have made fun of his "loud breathing" without his consent.

Good on him for running in his community and I don't think it's fair to publish an image of him without permission and potentially make him feel uncomfortable to run in his own community because people will now be looking out for him.

Very poor journalism and not a kind way to talk about a person in the community without their consent.

Sorry for the negative feedback, you have done some good articles and hope to read more of those :)

*Ashlee*

We Live Here

Southbank residents dealt a joker

A proposal by casino operator Crown to build Australia's tallest building, Queensbridge Towers is set to bypass all normal planning processes and Southbank residents and owners are outraged.

The government has declared this a "project of state significance", allowing it to push through an approval (C310) without the usual scrutiny.

The new complex will result in a floor area ratio of 57:1, more than four times that allowed in New York City (12:1) or Singapore (14:1), and three times greater than the government's own Planning Scheme regulation for Melbourne (18:1) introduced in 2016.

This development will have a major impact on the City of Melbourne, including:

- Shadowing of the Shrine of Remembrance;
- Significantly increasing traffic volumes in streets south of the Yarra;
- The likely creation of wind tunnel effects; and
- Overcrowding for residents and businesses in surrounding buildings.

For five years residents have openly supported development of the site as being in the public interest provided it was respectful of the Melbourne Planning Scheme statutes, especially regarding separation between towers to protect privacy and to afford access to daylight and sunlight to all residents.

These concerns seem to have largely fallen on deaf ears. Indeed, in approving this application the Minister for Planning has disregarded his own recently introduced Planning Scheme Amendment (C270) and the significant misgivings of statutory referral authorities to an earlier proposal, which have been sidestepped in this latest process.

We Live Here says: "The blatant circumvention and corruption of the planning process has been a cynical exercise. It shows a complete arrogance by the government to openness and transparency."

"It is an example of kowtowing to the big end of town at its worst. It is outrageous that legitimate concerns by a wide range of state and local government authorities can be ignored."

"We are angered that a hotel and apartment complex can be classed as being of 'state significance' – what is so significant about this apartment tower over any other apartment tower that has

followed the due planning process, apart from its sheer size?"

The value of the uplift allowed by the new amendment (C310), and as calculated under the C270 amendment, is estimated to be \$125 million. Yet the value of the contribution to the Public Realm Improvement Plan is \$65 million - a whopping \$60 million "free kick" for the developer and a corresponding loss to the public coffers.

"This is a reckless and scandalous concession which must be exposed for what it is, a sweetheart deal, unprecedented in its scale," say the residents.

This application must be brought back under the umbrella of the planning process – and it can be.

The Legislative Council has the non-government numbers in the chamber to reject the amendment and thus compel the government to send the application to a planning tribunal.

It will not signify the end of the development, but ensure the processes in place for checks and balances are observed in a transparent manner and that the referral authorities such as VicRoads, City of Melbourne, PTV and others are consulted and their opinions sought on the serious implications that this proposal will have on the immediate area.

This will lead to a planning outcome that delivers a sensible win to the residents, government and developer alike – by simply following and adhering to the guidelines that the government has set itself.

We Live Here urges you to support Southbank residents by contacting your local MP to block this ill-conceived amendment. You can also voice your concerns by signing the Southbank residents' petition which can be accessed at [www.change.org](http://www.change.org)

The petition calls for the government and opposition to ensure this proposal goes through the proper planning process.

Update on the Parliamentary Inquiry

The public hearings for the Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-stay Accommodation) Bill 2016 inquiry concluded on April 13 and the parliamentary committee was due to deliver its report to parliament on May 11.

However by a resolution of the house the reporting date has been extended to June 8. A full report will be included in next month's column.

For further information go to [www.parliament.vic.gov.au/epc/inquiry/446](http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/epc/inquiry/446)

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Business



# Local firm wins double victory

Local accounting firm, Enspira Financial has won both the Business Advisory of the Year and the Community Contribution award at the 2017 Panalitix Accountants Achievement Awards.

The awards recognise the Docklands firm for being the embodiment of excellence in providing strategic advice to growing small and medium-sized businesses. Enspira runs a popular series of workshops on business planning topics, which are complimentary to local businesses, as well as offering a business coaching service to business owners who wish to take their business to the next level. Previously featured in the book, *The World's*

*Most Inspiring Accountants*, Enspira was also awarded the Community Contribution award, having donated over \$1.6 million to charity since 2009. The altruistic nature of the firm is represented in its mission to “enable the business and personal finance aspirations” of its clients. Enspira employs a number of Melburnians at its office in Docklands, having merged the accounting firms Isaacs & Cole, Jaques Stanmore and Abby Practice last year. Enspira also has branches in Brookvale and Hornsby in NSW. Enspira CEO Craig Stanmore said: “These awards belong to the entire team of Enspira, all of whom have worked tirelessly to make a significant contribution both to our clients and to our community.” Enspira’s next complimentary workshop is on “Scale up your Business” on Tuesday, July 25 from 12-2pm. Register at [www.enspira.com.au](http://www.enspira.com.au)

Pet’s Corner



# Docklands News’s office dog

By Melissa Chung

Our colleague Sunny occasionally travels with her beloved two-year-old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel to work in Docklands.

Molly, a resident of Caulfield, enjoys travelling to Docklands by train. Unlike other overly energetic young puppies, Molly sits quietly on Sunny’s lap during the train ride. Being an attention seeker, Molly sometimes gets a bit upset when people

are busy with their work. However, she never gets mad and continues greeting everyone who walks through the office door. Not only does she greet everyone in the office, but also everyone on the street – even stressed corporate workers. Molly has the magical power to put a smile on their faces. Molly blends into the Docklands community so well that she has already become friends with some of the other Docklands doggies and animals, including the seagulls. She has a habit of chasing the gang of seagulls on Harbour Esplanade! Our new office member is a frequent visitor to Docklands Park – she does her business there during lunchtime. Docklanders can definitely try meeting her there!

Owners Corporation Law

# Breaking up is hard to do

When most of us enter into personal relationships, there is a fairly evenly-distributed balance of power and autonomy, at least to start with.

And when we do enter into these relationships, we expect them to last long-term. We also realise that when relationships end, there is the potential for this to be cataclysmic unless both parties are very careful and sometimes the ending can overshadow everything that preceded it. In the context of a building’s relationship with a professional manager or caretaker, the stakes can often be quite high. Most committees have come to rely upon professional management to undertake the daily operation and administration of their communities. For some committees, this reliance is reasonable and a balance is struck between the committee members’ responsibilities and that of their licensed manager. However, for some communities, the professional manager or caretaker rules the roost and controls all information and accounts.

As such, it is important for committees to become more proactive about how a relationship with a professional advisor might end and what can be done before that happens to insert some clarity into that process. Otherwise, the transition can be difficult and even damaging to the community. One of the first and most obvious steps a committee can take is to ensure that its management agreement is properly reviewed by a specialist lawyer prior to signing. If the committee would like the ability to terminate, with or without cause, at any time throughout the term of the contract, then the contract must provide the owners’ corporation (OC) with that right. If the committee would like to have the ability to control the handling of its funds and records, then that must be spelled out as well. The time to discuss what you want the relationship to be and how its ending should be handled, naturally, is before you sign the agreement. Equally important, the committee must retain a copy of the executed management contract. Many committees are dismayed to learn that they have not retained possession of a copy of their management agreement,

which can be problematic if problems surface and they must ask the management company to provide that agreement to them. Most large management companies these days provide an impressive range of services which can include all aspects of the financial operations for an OC, in addition to the infrastructure maintenance, insurance procurement, collection of delinquent accounts and interaction with vendors and professionals. Most large management companies also offer technology which can streamline operations and make them more effective by taking advantage of available technology. However, when it comes to receiving copies of all those digitised records at the end of a relationship, some companies are better than others at achieving a graceful departure and some refuse to deliver the records altogether and assert that those records belong to the management company, not the owners’ corporation for whom the records were created. The Owners Corporation Act in Victoria requires management companies to turn over the OC’s records at the end of the relationship, even if a monetary dispute exists. It might be tempting to use the leverage of those records and the crippling effect

their absence will create for the community and the new manager or company coming on board, but it is in the manager’s or management company’s best interests to resist that urge. As with most things in the owners’ corporation arena, what goes around comes around and new committees may even bring back the management company which their predecessors ousted – that is, unless a less than gracious departure left a sour impression. As for the committee’s responsibilities in this process, it is analogous to a marriage. A fine-tuned prenuptial agreement can prevent a lot of unnecessary pain down the road. Committees need to ensure that a management company transition does not place the OC’s operations in jeopardy. While a perfect management company fit can last for decades and be mutually beneficial for both parties, it is important for committees to at least consider the possible end of the relationship at the time they are entering into each new contract.



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

## SKYPAD Living

# The vertical war on food waste

The month of May played host to International Compost Awareness Week – and if we lived in San Francisco, this would mean a great deal more to us as vertical dwellers.

According to Dr Vivienne Waller from the Centre for Urban Transition, Swinburne University, this is because: “In San Francisco, two thirds of the residents live in apartment buildings and it is illegal for anyone to put food waste into a rubbish bin.”

This means that every San Francisco apartment building must have space for the storage of food scraps and for their collection for off-site composting.

While not (yet) illegal here, there is growing interest in how we as vertical dwellers can deal with our ever growing food waste.

The accepted sustainability mantra is to first reduce, then reuse, and lastly, recycle.

As regards initially reducing our food waste, there are a few technology-based options emerging, such as smart fridges which prompt us to use our food before it expires. But for those of us who do not wish to be nagged by our appliances, there is a raft of apps that can help us be more creative when utilising what we have in our fridges. These include the likes of Mealtime or Supercook where you enter what ingredients you have and are provided with suggested recipes. Taking some liberties with the “reuse” category, the sharing economy offers a few



options for those liking a more social way of using their excess. Referred to as “meal sharing”, there are several different models. Some are based on reciprocity (you cook, then I cook), others ask for a financial contribution towards the cost of the meal and others, such as Neighbour Flavour, are a commercial enterprise, which “enables us to buy home cooking from those around us”. Finally we return to recycling, turning food waste into something else. While several businesses have gained publicity from how they are reusing their waste (including Moducware™, a fully compostable tableware designed by RMIT’s Green Innovator, Ruby Chan), currently the main option open to vertical dwellers is composting – turning food scraps into “black gold”. The good news on this front is that vertical dwellers have the options of in-apartment composting and building-based composting.



Regarding in-apartment composting, last year Whirlpool promoted the launch of its Zera Food Recycler (though concerns were raised about its cost, time to compost and the ongoing need for additives). Another option is Smart Cara, which appears to address these challenges. So now we just need a personal account from an early, vertical dwelling, adopter (any volunteers?). The option of building-based composting is growing in popularity and there are different approaches to this. As noted by Dr Waller, vertical dwellers in Australia can choose to have a commercial composting company collect their food waste or they can choose to compost their food scraps on-site. This can be done using either worm farms or high-speed, in-vessel composters (which can convert food waste into an immature compost product in as little as 24 hours). But technology is only part of the approach.

To make this initiative work requires end-to-end design. For example, one Melbourne-based apartment building has chosen a high-speed in-vessel composter and placed this in its basement. In this apartment block, there is a food scrap bucket on each floor for residents to place all of their food scraps, including meat and dairy. The building manager regularly empties these buckets into the composter and the compost output is collected, composted further and blended for sale.

This approach reflects the culture of the building as it relies on the commitment of residents, their acceptance of responsibilities and a pragmatic way of using all this “black gold” (we have only so many balcony plants!).

This is why more insight is needed into apartment composting – and fortunately this is a challenge accepted by Swinburne University, which is comparing methods of on-site composting with off-site composting in terms of greenhouse gas reduction, people’s engagement with the process and the quality of the product.

If you would like links to the research or organisations mentioned, please visit and like SkyPad Living on Facebook.



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

SKYPAD  
LIVING

## Chamber Update

# Fireworks are back with a burn!

The second of the City of Melbourne’s winter activations for Docklands occurs on June 30, July 1 and July 2 and will be styled as a winter solstice celebration.

It will include ritualistic burnings of three huge effigies on the water combined with intense activation of the areas surrounding the water as well as fireworks to augment the atmosphere.

Chamber members and Docklands stakeholders are welcome to attend a meeting with the providers and representatives from the city on June 7 to learn the full details.

Visit our Facebook page to stay up to date – [www.fb.me/MelbDock](https://www.facebook.com/MelbDock) or email our executive officer for an invite to the meeting – [admin@docklandsc.com.au](mailto:admin@docklandsc.com.au)

## AFL (Stadium, Arena, Dome?)

Are you curious about what the AFL wants to do now that it owns the stadium? In

particular, how does it envisage connecting with Harbour Esplanade? And how do those ambitions intersect with the Harbour Esplanade Master Plan?

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce has lined up the league to speak, so lock in Friday, June 16 and come along and hear it first-hand over a fantastic meal in the company of fellow Docklands businesses. The lunch is in the Laureate Room overlooking the arena and with views of Victoria Harbour. As usual, it starts at 12 noon (to be seated at 12.30) and finishes at 2pm.

Book your place via [lunch@docklandsnews.com.au](mailto:lunch@docklandsnews.com.au) or ring the office on **8689 7979**. As always, the cost is \$60 and must be paid in advance (by June 9 please.)

## Does Facebook really work for businesses?

Facebook is more than just another social media forum. It is here to stay and is an exceptional way to promote what is happening in your business, provided you are a member of the Docklands chamber. Let me give you just two examples of two of our local members.

A local short-stay accommodation operator

emailed details of an award it received for service excellence and this was posted on the Docklands chamber’s Facebook page together with a picture of one of its apartments. Within five days it received 5700 likes and 450 click-throughs to its website. Another example was a local real estate agent who sent in an extraordinary view from one of his properties for sale and received over 11,000 likes and more than 1000 click-throughs to the company website. We cannot promise those types of results each time, but the point is that the public exposure provided to those members was at no charge or fee. That public exposure was for simply being a member of the Docklands chamber.

The chamber has established a separate role for a media director. We understand the value of an effective website and the power of well administered Facebook page. With the speed of change in the marketplace, you cannot afford to be connected with a group of people who can help you succeed.

## Let us help you succeed! – join the chamber!

Go online, [www.docklandsc.com.au](http://www.docklandsc.com.au) become a chamber member today. Get

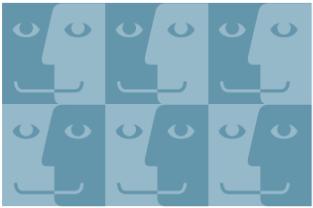
access to our social media and improve your business exposure. Make your mark within the growing the Docklands community? Connect your business with like minds who are succeeding and actively developing the precinct.

If you know someone who should be recognised, or you have idea you want to share or simply want to join the chamber, then email: [admin@docklandsc.com.au](mailto:admin@docklandsc.com.au) or visit our web site [www.docklandsc.com.au](http://www.docklandsc.com.au)



**Paul Salter**  
Executive Committee member  
[www.docklandsc.com.au](http://www.docklandsc.com.au)





FACES OF  
DOCKLANDS

Question: How can we help save the environment?



JOHANN SEDRAK, 26, CHEF, FRANCE

“We need to grow forests instead of building more high-rise apartments. We need to employ more people to work in the forests to maintain and preserve them.”



TRACIE SHEPHERD, 54, TEACHER, PERTH

“Recycling of plastic bags and instead using cloth bags. Don’t use plastic bottles if you can help it. Don’t use what you don’t need. Don’t waste food and only buy what you need.”



IVAN O'SHANAHAN VALENTINE, 28, TEACHER, ASCOT VALE

“I think cycling is a great way to help the environment. I don’t have a car and I try to avoid it. The transport system in Melbourne is expensive so I choose to ride instead of drive.”



GINA PALACIOS, 28, FINANCE OFFICER, SOUTH MORANG

“Try and walk as much as possible to avoid using transport. Avoid using plastics for example, I like to use my own bottle of water instead of buying plastic bottles.”



DOUG KEANE, 71, PHOTOGRAPHER, WARRIGUL

“Relentlessly signing petitions to save the environment. I disagree with the farming practices in the country so often express my anger against them.”



ALEXANDRA GEISSLER, 23, STUDENT, HEIDELBERG

“Making sure you turn the lights off if you are not in the room. Keeping windows closed when you turn the heating on. In summer, keep the doors closed when you have the air-conditioning on. Try to avoid plastic bags by always having a bag that you use when you go shopping.”

Health and Wellbeing

Weight training is for every body

Most people these days understand that weight training with equipment or your own body weight should be a regular part of any weekly exercise routine.

This is well backed up by the gender mix we see in a fitness centre where both men and women train together on the gym floor and in the group training environments. We don’t often hear myths and misconceptions about weight training like “weights is just for guys” or “I don’t train with weights because I don’t want to get big”. But just in case, here are 12 great reasons you should train with weights one or two times every week:

- Increase your lean body mass;
- Reduction in body fat;
- Build stronger bones and joints;
- Boost and increase your metabolism;
- Improve your sleep and sleep patterns;
- Completing daily physical tasks and routines will be easier;
- Improved your posture, balance and

- reduce back pain;
- Improve your confidence and mental health – improved sense of wellbeing;
- Better performance in your chosen sports;
- Stronger heart and lungs;
- Avoid sedentary diseases like obesity and diabetes; and
- You will be physically stronger and more able.

Help save a life – first aid and CPR

If you are employed in the health and wellness industry, current first aid and CPR qualifications are mandatory for all workers. CPR is renewed annually and workplace, senior or level two first aid is renewed every three years. Most quality health and fitness centres are well equipped with trained staff and a defibrillator on hand in case of any serious incidents, so you’re relatively safe in our hands. That’s at least for the four or five workouts you do each week. But that’s only four or five hours of the 168 hours in a week - what about the other 164? You could be the potential first responder for everyone you come into contact with – your family, friends, clients and colleagues. Are you ready and able to help them if someone suddenly suffers cardiac arrest? Are they

ready to save your life if the scenario is reversed? Does your workplace have a defibrillator in an easily accessible location? Are you confident in using a defib? These are all good questions you must ask yourself, your closest friends and your family members if you truly care for them. Don’t delay – get first aid and CPR certified today! It can also be a great team building activity!

Should I run or walk ... or both?

Walking and running are both great ways to exercise your cardiovascular system. Other benefits include improved endurance, stronger and improved muscle tone in your legs, gluts and core. Running and walking can also have great social and general wellbeing benefits. They can be more fun when you join clubs and groups where you can motivate each other to participate in weekly exercise routines. But which one is better or more suitable for you? Well, that depends – my advice is while you can still run you should run. This is primarily because a day will come when you don’t have the choice or luxury to throw some trainers on and just go for a run. The Department of Health recommends that adults accumulate 150 minutes of vigorous or 300 minutes of moderate activity per week. This works out to be 30-60 minutes

per day every day. Generally speaking, walking would be considered a moderate intensity activity, and running would most often be vigorous. Results for improved fitness will come sooner if you can increase and maintain exercise intensity over time. If you are just starting out, your aim should be to build up your strength and stamina so your body can eventually handle higher levels of work. Don’t start out too fast. You may end up back where you started, and injured or very sore! As the saying goes, “learn to walk before you run”. One of the great unknowns in favour of running versus walking is the latent effect of higher intensity exercise. Not only will you burn (slightly) more calories while running versus walking, your real benefit actually comes after you stop. Your body and its increased metabolic functioning will consume 30-40 per cent more calories for two to four hours after your workout if you run rather than walk! That should be a great motivator to get out tomorrow for a run!



Andrew Ward  
Andrew Ward from Push! Fitness.  
[www.push-fitness.com.au](http://www.push-fitness.com.au)

Docklander

# A permanent holiday in Docklands

By Sunny Liu

Carina Parisella has been working in Docklands for the past 15 years and she said her best decision was giving up her five-bedroom suburban house and moving to Docklands.

When Ms Parisella first started working at the NAB headquarters in Docklands 15 years ago, she complained about having to commute to the stark precinct where she could not find a good restaurant or cafe. But she soon fell in love with the waterfront suburb, with the harbour views, parks and a unique combination of the hustle and bustle and tranquillity.

“When you don’t know what’s out there, your natural instinct is to be critical of something. Straight away I was thinking Docklands was so windy. There was nowhere to eat or to get good coffee,” she said.

“But in the last few years, things have completely transformed in Docklands. Docklands has really come alive with so many events and facilities.”

After a decade of commuting daily to Docklands from northern suburb Epping, two years ago Ms Parisella decided to move to Docklands with her husband and son and has never looked back.

“It took a lot of courage for us to make the decision to get rid of our big house and get rid of a lot of our possessions and move into a smaller apartment. But it was the best decision we’ve ever made,” she said.

“I no longer have a two-hour daily commute and I can just walk to and from work. I get to spend more time with my little boy and my family.”



Carina Parisella loves being on a “permanent holiday” in Docklands.

Ms Parisella said she was living her dream in Docklands and would never live anywhere else.

“Living in Docklands is like being on a permanent holiday. There is the peace and quiet of the residential living, which is just beautiful. Docklands has a much less stressful environment than the CBD,” she said.

Ms Parisella said the takeaway from her big move from a five-bedroom suburban house to a two-bedroom compact apartment was that people did not need a lot of space to enjoy their life.

“I can live more simply in my small apartment, where there is not enough space to store all the unnecessary junk. My life

is more minimalist now and I realised that people need a lot less to survive. We don’t even have a microwave now,” she said.

On the weekend, Ms Parisella often rides bike with her six-year-old son or goes down to the library to read a book or enjoys the playground.

“Our backyard is now a basketball court that we share with the other residents. We also have the gym and the swimming pool,” she said.

“We have everything we need and we have nothing to complain about.”

Shortly after she moved to the Watergate apartment building, Ms Parisella’s parents also moved to NewQuay.

“At first my parents were really scared that we were moving so far away from them. But

they soon also fell in love with Docklands and moved here and now we live very close together,” she said.

“Now there’s a lot more productivity in our lives and a lot more time spent with family. What’s there not to love?”

Being the senior manager of strategic engagement and innovation at ANZ, Ms Parisella’s work revolves around the local community.

“I love promoting Docklands through organising events and posting on social media,” she said. “I’m very passionate about creating a social impact and engaging with the community.”

What Women Want

# Shockwaves from spread sheet

It’s funny how things can hit you out of the blue.

Things you think you are so comfortable with can suddenly jolt through every fibre of your being. Things you think you had a handle on, can escape your control and flood your heart and soul with sadness and fear. It’s like a splash of ice cold water when you least expect it, sending shivers across your once warm skin and causing your chest to clench and heart to race.

It happened to me just the other day. A seemingly normal email bounced on in and I was quite happily reading the updates of where my son’s rugby under 14s would be playing for the coming weekend. It’s a wonderful club, very social, very caring and we all had a good giggle at appointing a “social director” to our team to organise get togethers. And with inspiring gusto, our social director had created and circulated a

“cheat sheet” with a column for kids then mums and dads details - little prompts to who’s who in our zoo.

And somehow this neatly, methodically-organised spread sheet with all the boxes filled in made the sole empty “Dad” box next to my son’s name break my heart.

This was obviously not news to me, that I had been single for 13 years. I had felt that I was very well aware of that fact. I had felt that I had embraced the joys of single parenting, I delighted that I didn’t have to share access of my beloved son.

I didn’t hesitate to work around the clock to provide, I never wished to be on some hot date over being snuggled with him watching movies and sharing our time together. I really thought I was not only fine with being a single mum, but that I had embraced it.

The shockwaves that the “empty box” caused was unexpected, but it suddenly did feel that there was a big empty space. And whilst I can accommodate a big empty space in my heart, it was looking at all that represented

for my son – that there was a big empty dad space for him in rugby, in his house, in his life – an empty space quite literally next to my son.

And my heart was filled with sorrow, filled with longing for a more complete picture for him. I suddenly felt panic that I wasn’t enough for him, that he deserved more than just a mum, that my dedication to embracing “single mum” and devoting my time to work and my child might have inadvertently stopped us both from meeting someone who could have filled that empty space.

And I felt that all I had left in the tank, was tears. And so I cried. I cried for what was lost, I cried for what could have been, I cried that a blank space could throw my reality at me like broken shards of glass.

And then, I did what all us single mums do. I pulled myself together, I scrubbed away the tears, I shut off the hurt inside to deal with at another time, and I turned and smiled at my son.

So this one’s for all the single mums – I know

how hard it can be. I know how wonderful it can be. I know how lonely it can be. You need to know you are loved, you are enough, and everything will be ok.

What a woman wants is for everything to be perfect, but what a woman needs to remember is that whilst reality isn’t perfect, there’s a whole lot of love that is.

A mother’s love is perfection, whichever way it’s shared. This month please remember that it takes a community to raise a child, and for that I will be forever grateful, for the incredible love and support that is found in ours.

With much love,  
Abby  
xx



Abby Crawford  
life@docklandsnews.com.au

WHAT'S ON  
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

**FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH,  
9.30AM-12PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**CHINESE BOOK CLUB  
MORNING TEA**

Meet other readers, have a chat and find some new Chinese books, magazines or DVDs to borrow. FREE

**SUNDAY JUNE 18  
FROM 5.30PM, 36 NEWQUAY  
PROMENADE, MEDICI**

**ETHIOPIAN NIGHT**

The Ethiopian culture comes to Docklands with the all-you-can-eat buffet and Ethio jazz band. \$50. Book on [medici.net.au](http://medici.net.au)

**EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY  
12.30PM – 1.30PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**LUNCHTIME STORY LOUNGE**

Story time for adults, with handpicked stories and poems read aloud in a relaxed setting. Slow down and enjoy the simple pleasure of listening. FREE

**EVERY SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

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

**EVERY SUNDAY 10AM-5PM  
NEWQUAY PROMENADE**

**DOCKLANDS  
SUNDAY MARKET**

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

**EVERY WEDNESDAY 6-7PM  
THE HUB, 80 HARBOUR ESPLANADE**

**BOLLYWOOD DANCE**

Dance to uplifting Bollywood music under the guidance of experienced instructors. \$5 for adults and \$45 for six children's lessons. Contact Antara on **0469 205 224**.

**EVERY TUESDAY 2PM – 4PM  
THE LOADING DOCK, 70 LORIMER ST**

**YARRA'S EDGE SOCIAL CLUB**

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

**EVERY WEEKDAY  
6.30AM, CORNER OF SOUTH WHARF DR  
AND POINT PARK CRES, YARRA'S EDGE**

**LIVE LIFE GET ACTIVE**

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

**SUNDAY JUNE 18  
5-8PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**WELCOME DINNER**

Bring a plate from your culture and meet your neighbours over dinner. Established and new residents are welcome.

**TUESDAYS 6.30PM  
GROOVE TRAIN  
HARBOUR TOWN SHOPPING CENTRE**

**DOCKLANDS ROTARY**

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

**EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 11AM-4PM  
DOCKLANDS YACHT CLUB**

**COMMUNITY SAILING DAY**

Come and try sailing with the community. No age limit and no fitness requirements. People with disabilities are welcome. \$20 for insurance.

**VARIOUS TIME IN JUNE,  
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**MAKERSPACE**

A series of technology workshops for both adults and children, including 3D printing, Raspberry Pi and gaming programming.

**SUNDAY JUNE 18  
11AM-1.30PM LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**KALINKA CONCERT**

A concert of ethnic music and dance that celebrates Australia's cultural diversity and unity. Features Polish, Indian and Serbian music and dance.

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

**DOCKLANDS  
TOASTMASTERS**

Boost your public speaking and leadership skills.

**JUNE 5 – JULY 23, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**BY A LADY: THE WORLD OF  
JANE AUSTEN**

Using innovative multi-media, the exhibition transports you back in time and features the history, culture, geography and lifestyle of the world that Jane Austen lived in.

**EVERY THURSDAY 6-7PM  
THE HUB, 80 HARBOUR ESPLANADE**

**ROCK UP NETBALL**

Play netball in a fun, social setting without the formal commitment. For \$10 a session you can practise drills and improve your skills before playing a relaxed match.

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 14 - FROM 7PM  
WOOLSHED, CENTRAL PIER**

**DOCKLANDS SOCIAL CLUB**

Join other locals, workers and residents for a monthly social gathering in a relaxed, informal setting. Come along for a drink or sit down for a meal. Everyone is welcome.

**WEDNESDAYS 5.45PM-7PM  
LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**OPEN DOOR SINGERS  
DOCKLANDS**

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

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

**CHILD-FRIENDLY YOGA CLASS**

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

**LIBRARY AT THE DOCK**

**MELBOURNE SUNRISE  
PROBUS CLUB**

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

**TRY DRAGON BOATING. SATURDAYS.  
ARRIVE 9:15AM FOR A 9:30AM START AT  
COMMUNITY HUB AT THE DOCK**

**CYSM SEA DRAGONS**

Three frees sessions. Contact Vicky at [cysm.seadragons@gmail.com](mailto:cysm.seadragons@gmail.com) . See [www.cysm.org/dragonboat](http://www.cysm.org/dragonboat)

**WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM AND  
SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM  
SHED 2, NORTH WHARF RD**

**DRAGON MASTERS  
DRAGON BOATING**

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

**LIBRARY AT THE DOCK - WEEKLY PROGRAMS**

**EVENING TABLE TENNIS**

Every Thursday 7-9pm

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



**PRESCHOOL STORYTIME**

Fridays at 10.30am

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

**STOMPERS**

Mondays at 10.30am

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

**SONGBIRDS**

Wednesdays at 10.30am

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

**CREATIVE KIDS AFTER SCHOOL CLUB**

Wednesdays 4.30pm to 5.30 pm.

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

Please support our advertisers because without them we would have no Docklands News

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

## ACCOMMODATION

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# DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

## Bringing the light into winter

By Nadia Dimattina

**Docklands’ new icon 888 Collins St will light up for five nights to celebrate Winter Solstice.**

From June 20-25, the Light House will be illuminated with festive colours for 10 minutes each hour.

Creative director for Ramus Illumination, Bruce Ramus, said his display would take people on a journey.

“It takes us on a season’s journey from the autumn into the winter, into the darkness of winter. The winter solstice marks the darkest point so you can get a sense of how the season has shifted to this darkest point and then emerging into spring,” he said.

Mr Ramus believes the Winter Solstice light display will reflect what is important to the Docklands community.

“Personally, I think that what is important [in Docklands] is a sense of light. One of the things about the Docklands, is that it has grown up in quite a hurry and the corridors of light are so important to the quality of the energy in the Docklands and so one of the things that this building brings is that energy,” he said.

Mr Ramus describes the display as “relatively abstract” in the way it will be presented but it will give the “the Docklands a little sense of sparkle and wonder”.

On every other night of the week, the 888 Collins St site illuminates with a real-time



weather display.

“It interprets the weather through light because we have a weather station on the roof of the building and so we gather the data from the weather site and we drive the lights using that data,” Mr Ramus said.

The Winter Solstice display is similar to the regular weather display as they are both environmentally friendly, with the entire building being illuminated from the energy produced by solar panels installed on the building.

“We want this to be sustainable not only from an energy use perspective but socially sustainable,” Mr Ramus said.

Mr Ramus advises locals to go and see his light show display, as it is a rare illumination.

“I think it is a unique space in Melbourne and there is no other building in the world that does this,” he said.

The light show will run from 5pm to midnight and will be best viewed from Buluk Park.



Jane, Michelle and Andrea enjoy their Day of Indulgence in Docklands.

## Day of Indulgence

**Ten women with breast cancer were treated to a Day of Indulgence on two luxury cabin cruisers in Victoria Harbour on May 23.**

The Day of Indulgence was organised by Think Pink Foundation, a non-profit organisation that provides free pampering services for Victorian women and men battling breast cancer.

The 47-foot cruisers from Pleasure Cruising Club were decorated in pink to show support for the special guests, who had a relaxing day chatting, taking photos and having a nice lunch on board.

The Think Pink Foundation operates a living centre at 390 St Kilda Rd and offers

private consultations, a wig bank with more than 100 wigs, a beauty, make-up and hair salon, complimentary transport and an apartment for people travelling more than 100km for their treatments.

Ron Smith, Think Pink Foundation’s chairman, said the participants had a great day out on the Day of Indulgence.

“It’s just a pleasant, relaxing day in an environment that they have never experienced before,” Mr Smith said.

Mr Smith said the Think Pink Living Centre had become a meeting place for patients to share their experiences.

“We provide an environment for them to come and talk about their experiences and the challenges they are facing with people who understand them,” he said. “People can do art and Tai Chi at the centre and the make-up salon is particularly popular.”



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