The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

# DOCKLANDS A NEWS

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## Happy birthday Melbourne

Crew from the schooner Enterprize were the focal point of Melbourne Day, which was celebrated in Docklands on Sunday, August 27.

Despite lousy weather, Docklands put on a great show, with entertainment provided by bands and the Open Door Singers Docklands For more photos from Juan Boada and David Amaya's story about the day, turn to page 12.

# **Council witness duds Docklands**

By Shane Scanlan

The City of Melbourne's traffic expert witness to the West Gate Tunnel inquiry on August 28 threw Docklands under a proverbial bus.

Stephen Hunt from Ratio Consultants supported the Western Distributor Authority's proposal to pour thousands of more vehicles into Wurundjeri Way, without modifying intersections at Flinders St, Batman's Hill Drive or the West Gate Freeway.

If the proposal proceeds, Docklanders exiting the suburb to the south can expect serious disruption.

The City of Melbourne itself opposes the widening of Wurundjeri Way and connecting it with Dynon Rd to form a city bypass.

"The project fails to appropriately consider the impacts of increased traffic along the widened section of Wurundjeri Way or model how traffic outflow at the southern end of Wurundjeri Way would occur," the city's submission says. "A long-term plan for the Flinders St intersection is not provided."

West Gate Tunnel's 10,000-page EES shows Wurundjeri Way is predicted to carry up to 16,000 extra vehicles per day if the project proceeds, while Harbour Esplanade's daily traffic number will rise to 16,000 by 2031 regardless of whether the project is built.

But Mr Hunt supported the Wurundjeri Way Extension, saying: "From a traffic capacity viewpoint, for the projected future volumes of the section south of Dudley St and the intended creation of a connective central city bypass, widening to six lanes is warranted and desirable."

Despite 20 per cent increases in traffic volumes, the West Gate Tunnel Environmental Effects Statement (EES) predicts an actual decrease in traffic to the south between Wurundjeri Way and the West Gate Freeway intersection – an illogical mathematical outcome, which went unchallenged by Mr Hunt.

Mr Hunt appears to assess the Wurundjeri Way Extension from a North or West Melbourne perspective.

"In my opinion, the extension of Wurundjeri Way to connect with Dynon Rd west of CityLink would provide an overall positive benefit to traffic movement within the North and West Melbourne areas," he said.

Even without the project, Mr Hunt thinks the extension would be a "worthwhile project in its own right".

He reassures the architects of the project that their thinking is sound: "In my opinion the extension of Wurundjeri Way to Dynon Rd, to provide a western city bypass, is likely to result in reductions in north south traffic through the city, regardless as to whether city connections are included in association with the project."

It is now up to the council and local stakeholders to advocate for Docklands.

In its written submission, developer Digital Harbour asks: "What are the projected increases for south-bound traffic volumes at the southern end of Wurundjeri Way where it intersects with Flinders St?"

Continued page 7.



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The deadline for the October edition is September 28.

Publisher: Shane Scanlan Journalist: Sunny Liu



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## DOCKLANDS A NEWS In pursuit of durian

Durian has a bad name but Docklands restaurateur Chan Uoy is doing his bit to boost the reputation of the fruit.

Chan says the polarizing fruit is actually the king of the fruits and deserves to be revered.

Docklanders may recall in 2012 when an office floor was evacuated because of the smell from a worker eating durian at work.

Mr Uoy acknowledges the acute smell, but says it has so many more redeeming features. He is hosting a special tasting night at Bopha Devi in Rakaia Way, NewQuay, on September 20.

"The durian is a mysterious fruit, a noble fruit and yet it is the most formidable fruit known to man," Chan said.

"Durian looks like a pendulous spiked cannonball weighing up to 5kg and farmers have to wear hardhats because, when it is ripe, it falls to the ground, often wounding or killing those seeking them."

"Every aspect of the durian is unusual. Its flowers are hermaphrodites, that is, each flower has a stamen and pistil, and they only open at night so cave bats can pollinate

"Each tree can bear 30 to 50 fruits. The tree can grow up to 60 metres tall and have a life of up to 150 years. The durian fruit is

**DOCKLANDS** 



Jamie and Simalay can't wait to experience the durian night.

actually a capsule and its thick fibrous husk protects a soft yellow flesh, creamy, sweet and pungent."

The 19th century British naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace described its flesh as "a rich custard highly flavoured with almond".

He went on to say: "The more you eat of it the less you feel inclined to stop. In fact, to eat durians is a new sensation worth a voyage to the East to experience."

The Japanese and Javanese believe that durian is an aphrodisiac.

Durian is highly valued in Asia, but it is banned from hotels, public transport and office buildings.

A variety of durian desserts will be on offer at the tasting night (\$8 per dessert), including a number of Cambodian favourites.

The tasting starts at 6pm and finishes at 9pm. Bookings are essential. Phone 9600 1887.

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## Doyle at the end of his tether on oBikes

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle has come "to the end of his tether" with the operator of the oBike scheme and is preparing to act.

Speaking to a group of local small business operators at the town hall on August 16, Cr Doyle outlined a series of possible remedies to the cluttering of public areas by the bicycles.

He accused oBike of avoiding meaningful discussions to arrive at an acceptable solution.

"I reckon they've played us on the break for two months," he said. "We entered these discussions with them in good faith. They've made promises, including the provision of data and that has not been forthcoming."

"As recently as yesterday, there was real, I would say, anger amongst councillors that they haven't tried to do the right thing."

Cr Doyle accused oBike of not caring where their bicycles ended up.

"When you pay your 70 bucks, they couldn't care less. And they'll just leave them anywhere and you can leave them anywhere," he said.

"We're at the end of our tether. We've worked with them for two months now."

"My suggestion to them was, you know, we have MOUs with Coles and Woolworths where they go around and pick up discarded trolleys. And we've said: 'we think you need that model to keep them neat, to keep them upright and in places where people want them'. At the moment, they look like they've been scattered by a giant hand."

"If they're not prepared to do that, then my next step is to go to a bylaw, which turns them into just another street trading permit – because they're using the public realm for private purposes."

"If we can't do that, then we do have rules around obstruction and clutter. And we'd be prepared to remove them."

"We've tried talking with them for two months. It's been pretty unproductive so far."



"But here's the thing that's scary though: There's something like six other operators who have the same model," he said.

oBike Australia marketing head Chethan Rangaswamy denied the company had not been genuine in its dealings with the council.

"We at oBike are in all honesty have been having upfront and open conversation with the City of Melbourne," Mr Rangaswamy told *CBD News*.

Mr Rangaswamy acknowledged the company had been "challenged" by some of the places its bikes had ended up.

"We have since added more resources to our

efforts to raise awareness. When you look at the usage numbers these incidents are solvable with more awareness," he said.

"We also have operations teams looking at bike usage data and re-deploying the bikes to the busy areas accordingly from lesser busy areas – daily!"

Mr Rangaswamy also said oBike had established a rapid action team to police "proper parking", ensuring that bikes did not take up public parking loops, were not parked on private property and always "parked in a safe and civic manner".

"We will be ending our pilot test end of August," Mr Rangaswamy said. "We will then look at the data holistically and compare it to other international cities and share it with the local councils to better come up with local solutions."

Mr Rangaswamy said more than 5000 apps had been downloaded in Melbourne. He said 90 per cent of the more than 1000 oBikes circulating in 17 suburbs had been ridden at

"We will move the bikes if they have not been used after one week," he said.

"We conduct extensive research in each location that we deploy our bikes in, taking into account the population, transportation habits and the bicycle infrastructure availability to decide on the numbers of bikes to place at each location."

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## Underspending on works and staff blowout

By Stephen Mayne

How does the City of Melbourne manage to consistently underspend its capital works budget by tens of millions of dollars every year?

That is the key question to emerge from the council's 2016-17 Financial Performance Report which was unanimously approved by councillors on August 15.

The Lord Mayor described the \$13.1 million underlying surplus as "an excellent result" but there was no commentary in the committee room or the 19-page report about why only \$91.6 million of the \$133.86 million capital works budget was spent.

When the 2016-17 draft budget was first unveiled on May 5, 2016, the capital works budget was set at \$108 million, but this then soared to \$133 million courtesy of a \$29 million underspend in 2015-16, \$26.4 million of which was carried forward to 2016-17.

There was a similar underspend and carry forward a year earlier in 2014-15, although underspending the target by \$42 million in 2016-17 is the biggest miss in council's history.

So what happened this time? Well, the public won't know the full project specific underspending until the fourth quarter

capital works report comes to the August 29 council meeting.

However, the council works report for the first nine months of the year from the May 30 council meeting is instructive. Back then, the cumulative underspend was only \$16.43 million (\$60.67 million against a year-to-date, nine-month budget figure of \$77.1 million). In other words, the City of Melbourne was budgeting to have a hefty \$56.76 million capital works spend in the June quarter, but only managed to spend \$31 million over those 92 days.

In terms of specific projects, the figures for the first nine months are instructive as the major underspends were in:

**Queen Victoria Market renewal program:** only \$3.7 million of the \$9.2 million budget was spent in the first nine months. Final underspend \$4 million.

**Rollout of new LED street lights**: zero of the \$5.6 million budget had been spent.

**Bicycle Improvement Program**: only \$1.33 million of \$2.67 million budget was spent in first nine months.

**Upgrade to Lady Huntingfield Children's Centre**: \$391,000 spent against budget of \$2.2 million.

**Flood mitigation renewal**: only \$957,500 spent against budget of \$2.65 million.

**Parking meter renewal**: only \$150,000 of \$1.3 million budget spent due to delays from Swedish supplier.

**Roadway renewal**: only \$2.67 million spent of \$5 million budget.

**Major streetscape improvements**: only \$1.9 million of \$4.35 million budget spent.

**Parks renewal**: only \$3.32 million of \$7 million budget spent.

**Green Your Laneways Pilot Project**: only \$236,962 spent of \$1.63 million budget.

**Climate change adaptation streetscape renewal**: only \$651,120 spent of \$1.5 million budget.

You get the picture – underspending across a range of projects that won't be delivered as promised in an election budget which was clearly too optimistic.

That said, the council's financial position remains strong and town hall is cashed up to invest heavily into QVM and other projects. There was an unexplained \$41.7 million book profit on an asset sale which is presumably related to the Metro Rail project and City Square but hasn't been disclosed.

Cash contributions from developers came in \$10.2 million ahead of budget at a record \$17.2 million as the development boom continues. This also fed through into higher than expected supplementary rates lifting overall rates revenue \$4.63 million ahead of budget to \$262.3 million.

The council has a staggering \$37.74 million cash in its open space reserve and will need more than just the \$35 million Southbank Boulevard project to spend this.

Another round of property revaluations lifted the overall statutory annual surplus to \$292 million as council's net worth soared to a healthy \$4.2 billion.

We won't see which parks and buildings have been re-valued until the 2016-17 annual report is released in October but top of the pops last year were Royal Park (up \$11m to \$298m), Fawkner Park (up \$4m to \$194 m), Fitzroy Gardens (up \$17m to \$185m) and Queen Victoria Market (up \$20m to \$123m).

On the revenue front, parking fees were a healthy \$3.8 million ahead of budget at \$49.9 million, even without an expected postelection fee rise.

However, parking fines finished \$3.6 million below budget at \$39 million due to higher levels of compliance and industrial action related to the fractious enterprise agreement negotiation with the unionised workforce.

The eventual wage settlement – plus a round of redundancies amongst divisional finance staff which will save \$800,000 a year – saw overall staff costs finish \$4.56 million ahead of budget at \$156.2 million. This followed on from a \$3.86 million staff spending blowout in 2015-16 when a \$139.4 million employee budget came in at \$143.3 million.

Overall, the council is over-spending on staff and under-spending on capital works.

Stephen Mayne was chair of the Finance and Governance Committee from 2012-16 and is an occasional Docklands News columnist.



# Low office vacancy rate

The Property Council's market report released in August shows Docklands has the lowest office vacancy rate in inner-city Melbourne.

As of July, Docklands' office vacancy rate was a mere 2.1 per cent, a significant improvement from the 3.3 per cent in January.

The Melbourne CBD's office vacancy rate remains steady at 6.5 per cent.

Some 101,156sqm of offices have been occupied in Docklands in the 12 months to July, making up 78.8 per cent of the total net absorption in the Melbourne CBD and surrounding suburbs.

Docklands' office leasing and sales activity is also the most prominent in inner-city Melbourne.

The leasing of 26,500sqm at 839 Collins St to ANZ was the largest area of office space leased in Melbourne this year.

In January, 7100sqm at 664 Collins St was leased to Exxon Mobil and 2800sqm at 737 Bourke St was leased to Symbion.

Pacific Hydro started occupying 2423sqm of office at 700 Collins St in February and National Heart Foundation took 2154sqm at 850 Collins St in June.

Docklands' low office vacancy rate and recent large-scale commercial leasing deals demonstrate the area's strong employment growth and economic strength.

Sally Capp, the Property Council's Victorian executive director, said a consistent stock of A-Grade commercial office spaces remained a top priority for the Melbourne.

"We have research underway into the drivers of the commercial property market and the policies necessary to provide a steady supply of high-quality commercial office space into the future," Ms Capp said.



Ashe Morgan is pouring millions of dollars into the revamped shopping centre.

## What's in a name?



They're the new kids on the block, but Ashe Morgan is to be congratulated for standing proudly behind the name "Docklands".

Last month Ashe Morgan renamed its Harbour Town Shopping Centre as The District Docklands.

Some other developers in our suburb avoid the name Docklands because they think it's bad for business.

Collins Square developer Walker Corporation even tried (unsuccessfully) to have its postcode changed from 3008 to 3000. It, like some others, pretends to have a Melbourne address.

There's no doubt that the Docklands "brand" took a battering in the first half of the last decade. Led by Lord Mayor Robert Doyle and cheered along by Neil Mitchell and any number of reporters from *The Age* (probably all redundant by now!), an urban myth emerged that Docklands was a failure.

Assisted by "dial-a-quote" academics

Michael Buxton and Kate Shaw, the narrative served no useful purpose other than to perpetuate prejudices based on snobbery, ignorance and jealousy.

If developers were being successful, the unstated reasoning went, then it must be bad and should be resisted and pilloried.

Sydney-sider Ashe Morgan couldn't believe the bargain it got when ING Real Estate sold its Waterfront City assets in 2014. It could see Docklands for not only what it was, but also what it is to become.

Now that Docklands is 60 per cent complete, the knockers have become less vocal. Note the surprise of visitors to our suburb who are prepared to hate it but actually love it.

The urban myth was always going to fade and die in time. The damage to our "brand" was only temporary and now things are on the up and up.

Since it acquired Waterfront City, Ashe Morgan has been ploughing serious dollars into the precinct – and it's not finished yet. This is a ringing endorsement of Docklands.

It would have been very easy to rename Harbour Town any number of names without referencing "Docklands". The fact that it has done so should be recognised and appreciated by all Docklanders.

It's a vote of confidence. On behalf of the locals, *Docklands News* extends a vote of thanks to Ashe Morgan. Your faith is appreciated and we're confident it will be well rewarded.

## **Grant for Hatch Quarter**

Last month, Hatch Quarter won a LaunchVic third-round grant for a project to support migrants and refugees start businesses.

Some \$1.4 million was awarded to five specialised organisations who share LaunchVic's vision to drive innovation by strengthening the startup industry.

Hatch Quarter's project will include the creation of a freely available multilingual "Startup Playbook" to help migrant entrepreneurs achieve success.

Hatch Quarter's Meetup group, International Entrepreneurs in Australia, will also be brought to its full potential thanks to LaunchVic's support.

Hatch Quarter director Aiman Hamdouna said: "As someone who moved to Australia more than 10 years ago, I feel honoured to be living in a country that recognises migrants and refugees as valuable assets to the startup industry."

Round three judge, and chair of Multicultural Business Ministerial Council, Rohini Kappadath, believes the Startup Playbook will solve the problems faced by newly-arrived migrants and multicultural communities who lack visibility into relevant networks.





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## **Docklands inspires visiting actor**

South Australia-based actor David Jobling spent a "working holiday" in Docklands during the Melbourne International Film Festival.

Mr Jobling volunteered his time for MIFF as his new film Rabbit was premiering at the Forum Theatre and Hoyts.

He said he had formed a "tradition" of staying in Docklands whenever he visited Melbourne.

"Docklands is so colourful and vibrant. I wouldn't choose to stay anywhere else in Melbourne," he said.

"I just love being somewhere you can look twice and still see something new. Docklands is like that."

Mr Jobling's new psychological thriller Rabbit is directed by up-and-coming Australian director Luke Shanahan with a remarkable cast consisting names like Adelaide Clemens (The Great Gatsby), Veerie Bætens (The Broken Circle Breakdown) and Alex Russell (Jungle).

Mr Jobling played Dr Bob, a creepy but significant character in Rabbit.

Having played in silent film *Dr Plonk* and the 1978 film Money Movers, Mr Jobling said he







David Jobling is inspired by our suburb, as his mid-winter photography from last month testifies.

was honoured to be part of MIFF 2017 where he could both see his new film premiered and contribute to the festival.

"When I'm travelling, I don't just want to spend money. I want to be in Docklands with a purpose and feel part of something," he said. "That's why I say I'm on a working holiday in Docklands."

Apart from being an actor, Mr Jobling is also a visual artist. During his stay in Docklands, he took many artistic photos of the area that he thought was "aesthetically inspirational".

"I'm constantly discovering new things in Docklands. This area is really setting the standard for 2025. It's an amazing compact, high-density place to live in," he said.

"From my serviced apartment balcony I can see the trains, sunset, the pines and the harbour. Docklands has got a depth of character."



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## What a journey for our suburb

Docklander Steve Myrteza took this photo 20 years ago when he first moved to Melbourne and, wow, hasn't Docklands come a long way!

Mr Myrteza recently moved to Docklands, having been a long-term CBD resident.

But his connection with our suburb goes back further than that – way back to before the Docklands journey began.

Back then, Docklands was an industrial wasteland. The Port of Melbourne had moved downstream and the place was in a state of decay, just waiting for someone to have a great idea about urban renewal.

#### He explained:

"I was working on Level 46 at 600 Bourke St and wanted to show my family the view from my desk," he said.

"You can see that what we now know as Docklands had yet to be constructed. The first structure I remember was Etihad Stadium."

"Having moved this year from the CBD to the Docklands I'm always a bit perplexed to see people refer to it as a 'failed experiment."

"I think in 20 years it has come a long way and is now the best kept secret of the city!"



Steve Myrteza took this picture out of his office window on April 5, 1997. Docklands has come a long way in 20 years.





## **Get your kicks** at Footy District

During the spring school holidays, kids will get to test their footy skills and meet AFL players at Harbour Town and Melbourne Star's Footy District.

Running from 12-4pm between September 23 and October 8, the AFL super game zone at the shopping centre will become the training ground with AFL goals, training inflatables, obstacle course, game activity

cube and colouring station.

Western Bulldogs' Bob Murphy, Richmond's Alex Rance and Collingwood's Alex Fasolo will be available for photos with their little fans.

A Nintendo and Playstation gaming zone will be open from October 2-8.

Children can travel on the wheel for free with each full-priced ticket purchased at Melbourne Star.

For more information, visit **habourtownmelbourne.com.au** 

## **City joins WeChat**

The City of Melbourne has officially joined Chinese social media platform WeChat.

The council's international engagement chair Cr Philip Le Liu said:

"Melbourne is the only local government in Australia to have access to WeChat's audience of almost 1 billion people."

"As someone who uses WeChat every day I know this is a great way to engage a community, with WeChat users spending 66 minutes a day on average browsing their feed."

"There are also more than 10 million corporate accounts, with the social media network fast becoming an accepted way to do business in China."

"WeChat is the perfect place for Melbourne to showcase its growing status as an international business hub with a booming start-up sector." The City of Melbourne's WeChat account will be trialled in a six-month pilot project, with new articles, photos and information posted every week.

Content will include business opportunities, Melbourne sector capabilities, major events, What's On and useful information for visitors

Cr Le Liu said the account would target international students who were keen to study in Melbourne and need help to navigate the city.

As WeChat restricts corporate accounts to registered Chinese entities, the account has been set up through the City of Melbourne's office in Tianjin.

The City of Melbourne is the only Australian local government to have an established business office in China. The office is a dedicated resource designed to facilitate trade, investment, civic and educational exchange between the two cities.

Melbourne and Tianjin formed a sister city relationship in 1980.



A screenshot of City of Melbourne's WeChat account.

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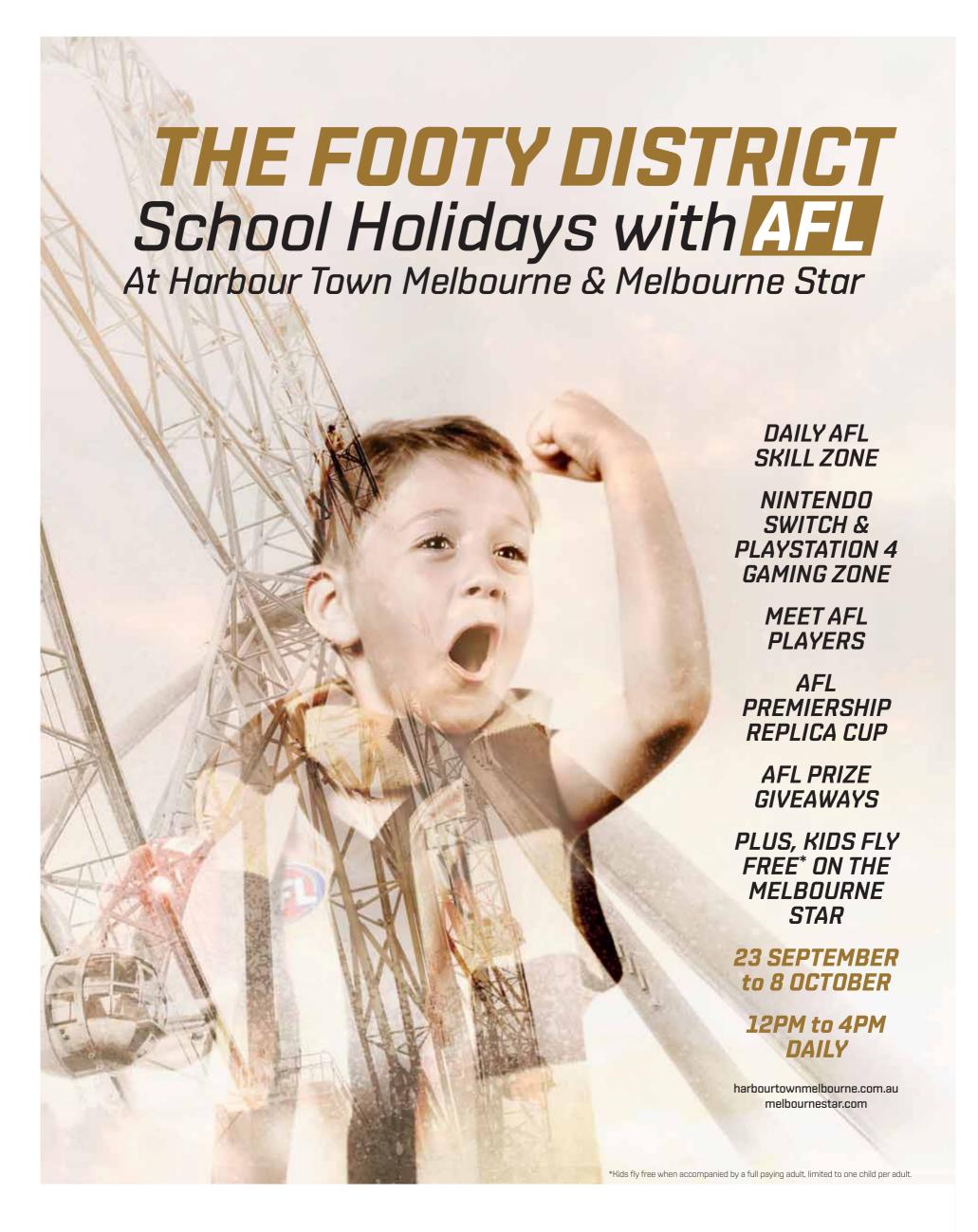
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# Big boost for start-up business

Scott Ko's recent new business idea is about to be turbocharged after last month winning the inaugural Hatch Quarter Startup Prize.

Scott's ColourSpace business will receive \$33,000 worth of in-kind support and services from Docklands-based business incubator Hatch Quarter, creative agency Mo Works and digital developer Blitzm Systems.

Mr Ko told *Docklands News* he expected his fledgling business to take off as a result.

"Everything we've done to date has really been to prove the concept," he said. "But now we've got such a great opportunity to take the next big step."

ColourSpace provides artwork for offices. Art is matched to businesses and rotated every three months on a subscription basis.

Participating artists are exposed to new markets for their works and office workers reap positive benefits, including reduced stress and increased productivity.

"In the bigger picture, we see the whole city becoming a huge art gallery," Mr Ko said. Hatch Quarter director Aiman Hamdouna said ColourSpace was chosen from a talented field of applicants because his presentation was so good.

"Scott delivered a great pitch and included all the information we needed to make our final decision. He seems to have the right skills and level of passion for his idea. We look forward to working with him," Mr Hamdouna said.

"We were utterly blown away by the quality of ideas that were put forth and definitely had our work cut out for us when it came time to narrow down our list of finalists," he

Mr Hamdouna said the ColourSpace concept ticked a lot of positive boxes and, as a former management consultant, Mr Ko was already equipped with many useful skills.

Mr Ko said he hoped that Hatch Quarter could help improve his business model and he was looking forward to improvements to his brand and social media engagement from Mo Works.

Although he acknowledged the potential for Blitzm Systems to automate his business's underlying platform, he said such an undertaking was probably beyond the scope of the prize.



Aiman Hamdouna and Scott Ko at Hatch Quarter in Docklands last month





Open Door Singers Docklands give it their best shot.



Peta Evans-Taylo

## 182 years of a multicultural city

By David Amaya

Live concerts, roving entertainment, food trucks and a performance about the arrival of Melbourne's first European inhabitants marked the celebration of its 182nd anniversary on August 27.

"Melbourne is one of the most successful multicultural cities." This phrase united the Melburnians who gathered in Docklands to celebrate.

Victoria Harbour Promenade became the centre of the celebration of the cultural wealth and history of Melbourne.

The schooner Enterprize represented the arrival of the first settlers who came with the dream of starting a new life. "The first inhabitants came with many expectations and uncertainty, but soon they realised that this was a very good land and everything would grow very well here," said David Penington, who plays the role of the Captain John Lancey.

"I am very proud of how varieties of people make a friendly and interesting community," he said.

Helen Ebsworthy is another Melburnian who enjoyed the celebration with her family and friends. She wore a costume from 1838 and remarked that Melbourne had become a multicultural hotspot.

"The Chinese immigration in the 19th century and the Greek and Italian immigration in the 50s are just a few examples of how this city is the home of different nationalities," she said.

During the event, people enjoyed concerts and a choir of about 40 people that sang some classics of rock and pop music.

One of the principal concerts was offered by Peta Evans-Taylor who highlighted the best of her city: "Something that I do love about Melbourne is that there is always something to do 24/7."

"It doesn't matter the time, the weather – you can always go somewhere and listen to a band, drink a coffee or meet someone from anywhere," she said.



Helen Ebsworthy



Wendy Stapleton performs at Victoria Harbour



## Mystery object identified

Observant Dock 5 resident Roger Hannaker was curious about a retractable structure which emerged on August 20 from the roof of the yet-to-becompleted Marina Tower.

"Pine Gap in Docklands. Is anyone listening out there?" he wrote to *Docklands News*.

Roger can be forgiven for being perplexed by the structure.

"It comes out of the roof," he reported. "The top of the structure is part of the roof. If you look closely, the post seems to be shiny and hydraulic."

Relax everyone, building owner Hiap Hoe has responded that the structure is the building maintenance unit – or MBU, as it is known in the trade.

On simple buildings, all you need is a couple of davits and away you go. But, with such odd angles to work with, the Marina Tower's BMUs (yes, there is another for the smaller tower which is yet to emerge) are engineering marvels in their own right.

When at rest, the unit forms part of the roof. When activated, its boom can tilt, extend and swivel to reach all sides of the building to allow window cleaners to do their stuff.





## 1000 new Docklanders by Christmas

By Chelsea Cucinotta

Some 1000 new Docklanders are expected to start moving into Hiap Hoe's Marina Tower in NewQuay by the end of the year.

With a tilting façade, the building combines two separate towers, and will accommodate 460 residential apartments in total. Adjacent to the tower is the 4 Points by Sheraton

The 43-level Marina Tower includes various communal facilities for residents. In the Marina Club, residents will have access to a library, conference room and business centre on the ground floor, while the mezzanine level will include a billiard room, private dining and kitchen facility for entertaining purposes, and will seat up to 20 people in its very own cinema.

Residents will also have access to a swimming pool operated by 4 Points by Sheraton, as well as a gym located on level seven of the building.

NewQuay Park, located south of Harbour Town, will bring more public space and greenery to the area.

The park, which will also connect to the Banksia high-rise due for completion in early 2018, will lead directly to the Marina Tower via a laneway.

Construction of the Marina Tower has been underway since March 2015, and has seen 340 workers and 52 sub-contracted companies on site.

Residents are expected to starting moving into the building by mid-to-late November this year.



The residents of this new apartment may just have Docklands' best view.



# Award for Aqui and Promenade

NewQuay residential buildings Aqui and Promenade have recently won Silver in the 2017 Melbourne Design Awards' architecture category.

Aqui and Promenade received the Award of Excellence for being on the highest level of environmental performance and for their innovative exterior and interior designs.

The Architecture – Residential –
Construction category of Melbourne
Design Awards celebrates the design
process, space and ambience that reflect
functional, technical, social and aesthetic
considerations.

The twin parallelogram-shaped Aqui and Promenade buildings, with a shared six-level podium, were completed in 2015.

The complex, developed by MAB Corporation and designed by Woods Bagot, comprises 436 one, two and three-bedroom apartments.

Aqui and Promenade's exterior design features sheer glass facades and the interiors echo the history of the docks.

The facilities in the buildings also include a 25-metre indoor swimming pool, a residents' library with private meeting room, a public arcade for pedestrian access and a podium rooftop garden with outdoor dining and barbecue areas that overlook the future NewQuay Central Park.

The Melbourne Design Awards recognise achievements in architecture, tech and app design, products and advertising.

The Quays apartment buildings and Monument Park in NewQuay have previously won Melbourne Design Awards.





# Marriott hotel gets tick of approval

Planning Minister Richard Wynne has approved Capital Alliance's 17-storey twinbuilding Marriot Hotel on Waterfront Way.

The \$200 million mixed-used project will comprise 200 hotel rooms at the five-star international hotel and 110 apartments next to Harbour Town.

A public infinity pool overlooking the CBD will be built on the rooftop. The residential apartments will share the hotel services.

Capital Alliance's managing director Mohan Du said the development would provide a luxurious experience to visitors and residents.

"This will deliver the first contemporary Marriott to Melbourne and its rooftop infinity pool will give the city an experience it has never seen before – akin to the renowned pool bars and lounges of New York City," he said.

"Marriott is the world's largest hospitality company and the opportunity it sees in Melbourne and Docklands is a huge compliment to our city. We are very excited to get started and deliver on our original vision"

"This project will be a true destination in Melbourne and something special that will add to the city's tourism potential," Mr Du

 $\label{lem:construction} Construction of the Marriott Hotel will start in mid-2018.$ 

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## **Architectural charm in Docklands**

By Sunny Liu

With a number of NewQuay's developments within its portfolio, local architecture company DKO has been making a significant contribution to Docklands' architectural character.

DKO Architecture relocated its office from the CBD to a former hospitality venue in NewQuay five years ago, but its involvement in this area dated back to the very beginning.

Back when Docklands was still regarded as an industrial wasteland, DKO saw the harbour-side suburb's potential in becoming

The company designed one of the first residential landmarks in Docklands, the 42-floor Victoria Point on the corner of Harbour Esplanade and Bourke St, in 2003.

Its other Docklands projects include the Marina Tower, Four Points by Sheraton, Marriot Hotel, Elm & Stone, Quest Apartment Hotel, NewQuay Central and the NewQuay West masterplans.

Directors Michael Drescher and Raymond Mah said DKO wanted to help create a 24hour activation in Docklands.



DKO directors Michael Drescher and Raymond Mah.

"Instead of designing just residential buildings, the mixed-used developments can attract visitors. With the three new hotels and public art installations in NewQuay, we will bring more tourists and more day-to-day activity to NewQuay and really activate this area," Mr Drescher said.

"We want that weekend business to be here everyday."

Mr Mah said mixed-use projects like Marriot Hotel provided a range of experiences for visitors and residents.

"Each hotel that we design comes with a variety of facilities, such as a restaurant, a cafe and conference rooms. So it just really adds to the whole offering and adds more colour to Docklands," he said.

DKO envisions that NewQuay will become both a tourist hotspot and a family-friendly

"With the design for the apartment, we have different options for different residents. There are a range of dwelling types catering for families and young professionals," Mr Mah said.

Mr Mah and Mr Drescher said DKO endeavoured to deliver differentiation to a densely populated area like Docklands.

"Each site should be treated as a unique opportunity with a different clientele and style. We want to move away from the sameness seen at some high-rise residential areas," he said.

Mr Mah and Mr Drescher said DKO reflected Docklands' distinctive character in the exterior and interior designs.

The Marina Tower, with two connected towers "splitting" on the upper levels, provides more solar access to the residents and the interior pays tribute to marine features and uses locally-sourced materials.

"It's also about balancing that with the rest of the architecture in this area. There's a bit of repetition of architecture in Docklands and we want to present different offerings," Mr Drescher said.

Since its arrival in Docklands, DKO Architecture has grown as fast as the developments here.

"We weren't sure how it was going to turn out at first, but having been here for five years and now having 70 architects working at our office, we all love it here. Docklands has ticked all the boxes," Mr Mah said.

"There's so much more potential for Docklands. I think the density is growing in Docklands and that again adds so much more colour to this precinct."

## **Business Objectives** & Strategic Marketing

Results matter in a small business (after all it's your bank account we're talking about!) and the way to achieve good results is to take time to think about setting objectives and developing your marketing strategies.

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- · They take appropriate action if objectives are not being achieved.

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mentality can be just as effective.

One advantage that small businesses have is their direct, close relationship with customers. This provides a deeper, personalised insight into the needs, wants and concerns of their clients, and bypasses the need for a giant market research department.

To assist you with developing appropriate business objectives and engaging the best marketing strategy, Enspira Financial is hosting a complimentary "Business Objectives & Strategic Marketing" workshop on Tuesday 26 September to inspire small business owners to take a fresh look at planning and think creatively about marketing strategy. Call 9081 0470 to book your place now.

## Free Workshop

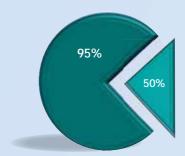
## **Business Objectives & Strategic Marketing**

Tuesday 26 September, 12-2pm 'The G', Ground Floor, Lifestyle Working Building, 838 Collins St, Docklands

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## **Sounding Histories marks mission birthday**

Historical research and art blend at the Mission to Seafarers this month will coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Docklands' architectural treasure.

The heritage-listed mission building was opened on September 11, 1917. To mark the date, a group of artists are presenting *Sounding Histories*.

Curator Anne Wilson from Deakin University explained that the artists were each engaging with the building in their own individual way.

The outcome, she said, was a site-responsive mixture of performance, video, archival, installation, sound, participation and text.

She said the mission had such a rich and diverse history that the artists were all able to connect and interpret a unique aspect of the space.

"The project aims to draw attention to its possibilities as a cultural centre and its significance as one of the few historic building/facilities in the Docklands area," she said.

Ms Wilson and Cameron Bishop are handling most of the research. Participating artists are rock band Painters and Dockers, Maree Clarke, Bishop and Reis, Catherine



Bell, Michael Needham, Michael Greaves and The Rogue Academy.

Musician Paul Stewart and his band Painters and Dockers will perform on the opening night of the exhibition, September 11. Tickets can be purchased (by donation) at **eventbrite.com.au** 

The exhibition extends between 10am and 7pm every day until September 27. The Mission to Seafarers is at 717 Flinders St.

Anne Wilson and Paul Stewart at the Mission to Seafarers on Flinders St, Docklands.

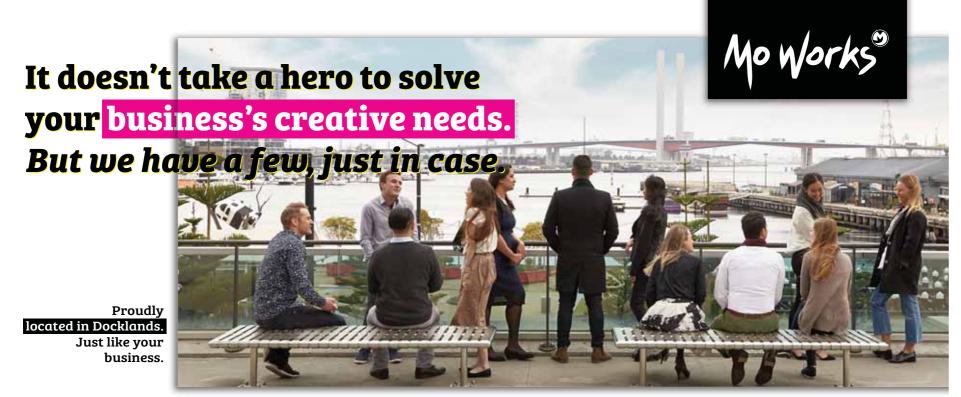


## Work starts on Yarra's Edge sheds

Work is underway removing lead-based paint from old sheds at the western end of Yarra's Edge.

The sheds are to be temporarily re-purposed as recreational facilities. Longer term uses are yet to be determined.

Watch this space.



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## An entertainment wonderland

Docklanders will be spoiled for entertainment options when the Wonderland Spiegeltent "pops up" this month next to Channel Seven.

The tent is being erected on the vacant block on the corner of LaTrobe St and Harbour Esplanade and promises glittering shows and festival events every weekend between now and Christmas.

The beautiful, nostalgic tent will also be accompanied by bars and food trucks.

Spiegeltent owner Melissa Head told Docklands News about some of the attractions on offer.

"The program is still being finalised, but we'll pretty much have a different show here every weekend," she said.

Among the offerings are:

- Melbourne Fringe Festival;
- The Australian Burlesque Festival;
- Docklands Blues Music Festival;
- A full program of astounding circus Cabaret;



- Children's shows; and
- World-class comedy including Dave Hughes, Peter Helliar, AKMAL and, direct from the UK, Mr Methane.

Ms Head said corporations had already booked the circus cabaret show ROUGE as their unique 2017 Christmas event.

"We've got so many options, I'm sure we'll have locals lining up many times in the coming months," she said.

The full program and bookings are available at www.wonderlandspiegeltent.com.au



Triple R presenter Cameron Smith, YGAP's Kylie Wallace, Kinfolk's Jarrod Briffa and HoMie's Nick Pearce.

## Winter Glow wraps up

The last of the Docklands Winter Glow talk series on August 22 saw social enterprises discuss the burgeoning non-profit industry in Melbourne.

The panel featured Jarrod Briffa of Kinfolk, which operates hospitality businesses, Kylie Wallace of YGAP, that is running its Polished Man Campaign to raise funds for children, and Nick Pearce

of HoMie, a Fitzroy-based clothing store that helps homeless people.

Anchored by Triple R presenter Cameron Smith, the free talk at Library at The Dock explored Melbourne's facilitative environment for social enterprises, the future of not-for-profits in Australia and how the organisations can engage with and gain trust from the community.

The City of Melbourne's inaugural Docklands Winter Glow festival has successfully attracted visitors with its progressive dinners, workshops, talks and 3D art installations.

Statistics and outcome of the month-long festival are expected to be released soon.



## Sounding Histories Exhibition

A Deakin University and Mission to Seafarers Victoria research initiative and public art event.

View the site responsive artworks placed around the Mission that capture the resounding heritage of the site and purpose of the place will be explored after 160 years of service to seafarers.

> Maree Clarke Bishop & Reis Catherine Bell Michael Needham Michael Greaves The Rogue Academy Curated by Anne Scott Wilson & Cameron Bishop

Open September 12 to 27, 10am to 7pm Mission to Seafarers - Victoria 717 Flinders Street, Docklands Entry is by gold coin donation.



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## **Book your lunch spot**

## Book today for the September 22 Docklands Networking Lunch.

The lunch returns to Berth restaurant in NewQuay in September, the location of the first of the quarterly lunches back in 2009.

Representatives from the formerly named Harbour Town Shopping Centre will explain its recent name change and reveal a raft of new retailers.

Come along and hear first-hand how exciting this is for all Docklanders!

As has been the case for the past eight years, the quarterly lunch costs \$60 and comprises three courses and beverages (beers and house wines). Bookings must be made and paid for in advance. The lunch starts at 12 noon (for a 12.30 start).

To book your spot, ring *Docklands News* on **8689 7979** or email **lunch@ docklandsnews.com.au** 

#### Menu

#### **Entree:**

Mezze board house-made dips, garlic



brioche, house marinated olives and pickles served on arrival.

#### Mains:

Harissa spiced chicken with crushed potatoes, aioli, beetroot, carrot, pomegranate and parsley salad; OR

Gnocchi ragu in a rich beef sauce with red wine and fresh thyme.

Green salad served with main course.

#### Dessert:

Berth's dessert board: an assortment of homemade desserts.

## **Social Club in Yarra's Edge**

The next Docklands Social Club dinner is being held at Hooks restaurant in Yarra's Edge on Tuesday, September 12.

As usual, the event starts at 7pm, with an intention to sit down for a meal at 7.30.

The "club" is an informal gathering of locals who are interested in meeting other locals over a meal, a drink and conversation.

Everyone is welcome. Diners pay their own way with the venue.

Last month about 20 people met on August 9 at Groove Train, Victoria Harbour.



The August Social Club at Groove Train.



# Open space gets a makeover

Open space between Harbour Esplanade, Collins St and Waterview Walk has been revamped to include an exercise station, a ping pong table, landscaping and upgraded footpaths.

Undertaken by Development Victoria, the work aims to encourage more visitors, workers and residents to use the area.

Development Victoria's general manager precincts, Simon Wilson, said plans for the new area were developed following feedback from the community and the City of Melbourne.

"One of our key goals in Docklands is to deliver more open space for people to enjoy and this project achieves that," he said

"The upgrade complements the existing recreation spaces and sports courts, which are well used by residents and people working in the area."

"A key feature of the design is the use of

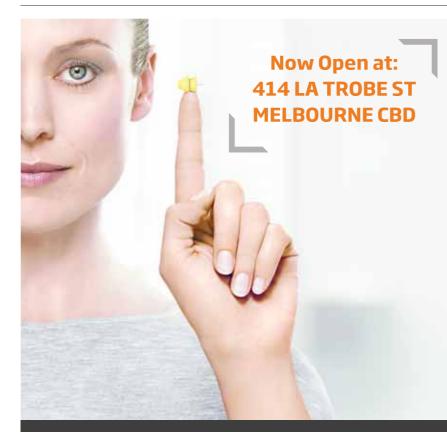


timber recycled from the old Docklands' wharves."

The space will have access to the Victorian Government's free WIFI network, along with charging stations in seating areas.

As part of the project, new footpaths connect Waterview Walk and Harbour Esplanade, creating a consistent feel throughout the space from MPavilion2015 to the sports courts and the Hub@Docklands. New lawns looking over the sports courts provide areas for spectators to gather.

MPavilion2015 has also had a mini facelift following the retreatment of the decking hoards





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## New police HQ underway

By Kate Mani

Construction has begun on the new, state-of-the-art Victoria Police headquarters at 311 Spencer St, with the building set to be complete by 2019.

The new headquarters will help define Melbourne's city police district, neighbouring the existing City West Police Complex at 313 Spencer St.

Police Minister Lisa Neville believes the building's location will increase the effectiveness of Melbourne's policing and that its design will ensure greater protection for police officers.

"The new centre will transform the Spencer St precinct into a landmark police hub that will enable Victoria Police to work even more collaboratively and productively," she said.

"When completed, this building will provide unparalleled safety and security for our hard-working police officers and staff."

Under the development of Cbus Property and Singaporean company Keppel REIT, the 39-storey building will have blast and ram raid-proof technologies and will house 2500 employees.



Architectural render of Docklands' new police headquarters in Spencer St.



## **Kiosk tender** falls through

The kiosk on the corner of Harbour Esplanade and Bourke St remains unoccupied after the City of Melbourne's tender for a food and beverage operator fell through.

The City of Melbourne said it had a food and beverage operator lined up to occupy the kiosk in February but the owner decided not to move in.

The council said it would tender for an interested business to take over the space and expect to advertise the tender soon.

The kiosk is equipped with water, gas and electricity connections.

## **Communication is Key**



by Gregor Evans Director, The Knight

Effective communication is the cornerstone of good management, without it you are doomed to fail.

Relationships are built and maintained by positive encounters with others. In the absence of effective communication skills it is difficult to properly develop productive relationships.

The Knight has a track record of providing an Owners Corporation Management service built on strong communciation and transparency which is evident in its continued effective management of The Domain located at 1 Albert Road, Melbourne for over 20 years.

The Knight will continue to provide rel-

evant and transparent advice to its new clients in Docklands: Flinders Wharf and Tower 1 at Yarra's Edge.

The Knight recently held a successful Information Evening at the Woolshed in Docklands to inform and educate attendees on the hot topics of Short Stav Accommodation and Building Defects.

This forms part of The Knight's overall strategy to better educate and communicate with Lot Owners and to contribute to the growth of the Owners Corporation Management industry as a whole.

To discuss how The Knight can support you and your community, please get in touch, we'll be happy to assist.

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## PAPARI BARMAN, 30

**LOCATION:** NewQuay Promenade

#### DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

**WEARING:** My black boots and off-white trousers are from Target. My top was a gift, my black overcoat is from Myer and my sunglasses are Ray Bans.

#### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE

**PIECE OF CLOTHING:** That would definitely be my overcoat and my sunglasses as well.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

**DOCKLANDS:** I am just roaming around here with my brother who came from India to visit me.

#### HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE

**YOUR STYLE:** It really depends if it is summer or winter. My style is quite simple but from time-to-time I like to look good.

#### **WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:** I

think it depends on the colours you wear and your skin colour as well. It is all about how you match it with your skin colour. If you wear really good clothes and colours but your skin colour doesn't match with that, you should change. But I think your shoes are even more important for your outfit. Whatever you choose to wear, they should always match with your shoes.

## **YIGIT SEVER, 22**

**LOCATION:** NewQuay Promenade

#### DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

**WEARING:** My shoes are from Converse. My chinos are from Roger David. I'm not too sure where my jumper is from, my glasses are from Ray Ban and my jacket is from Turkey.

## WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE

**OF CLOTHING:** It would probably be my jacket. It keeps me nice and warm. I can also wear it casually and formally.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

**DOCKLANDS:** I just came here to chill, grab a coffee and a bite to eat.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE

**YOUR STYLE:** I am pretty casual but today I thought I would dress up quite a bit. I prefer comfort over looking good to a degree but it depends where I am going. If I'm going out I will dress nice but, if not, then I'll just wear something casual.

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT:

Wear something that makes you feel comfortable and looks good on you. You should always look presentable. But other than that, just dress how you like and wear whatever makes you happy.

## **GABY WIBISONO, 26**

**LOCATION:** NewQuay Promenade

## DESCRIBE WHAT YOU ARE

**WEARING:** I'm just wearing an army coloured long sleeves from Uniclo and my overcoat is from Steven Allen. I'm not sure about my jeans but I bought my suede boots while I was travelling in Paris.

#### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE

**OF CLOTHING:** It would have to be my overcoat because it's my go to and it suits Melbourne's weather very well. I also look casual as well as business smart.

## WHAT BRINGS YOU TO

**DOCKLANDS:** I'm currently doing an internship at a nearby company.

## HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR

**STYLE:** I would say that my style is minimalistic.

## WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT: A

good outfit is something that you wear that makes you feel authentic and comfortable. It should be something you can put on without blindly following any trend, so that you feel that you are still you.



Jack Woods' HMAS SYDNEY

# Award showcases maritime art

The Mission to Seafarers
Victoria is again hosting the
ANL Maritime Arts Award
and Exhibition in October.

The ANL Maritime Arts Award is an annual celebratory initiative that recognises excellence in maritime and seafaring art.

Artists from Australia and overseas have submitted their work for a chance to share the collective \$29,000 prize money.

Entries have closed and 80 pieces will be shortlisted for the final assessment on October 2.

The winner of the top award will receive a \$15,000 prize and other prizes range from \$2000 to \$5000.

Consistent with the previous year's theme, the 2017 theme is "the relationship between humanity and the sea".

The ANL Maritime Awards and Exhibition has been running since 2002 and has already showcased more than 900 artworks.

The selected artworks, including photographs, paintings and other contemporary or traditional art forms, will be exhibited at the Mission to Seafarers building at 717 Flinders St, Docklands from October 6-27.

For more information visit **missiontoseafarers.com.a**u/anl-art-prize



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## The joy and freedom of being a Docklander

Professor Brian Oldfield first became a Docklands resident when he brought his yacht to Victoria Harbour and lived on it for eight months.

It was during a period of a personal transition and a change in lifestyle in 2010 when he decided to sail to Docklands and stay on the boat.

During the period in Victoria Harbour he had a chance to reflect, spend time by himself but also soak up the sense of community that existed in the marina at the time.

But before sailing and staying in Docklands, he lived in a more typical family home in Kew and never imagined what life in this harbour-side suburb would entail.

"Before I came here I had no idea of what life would be like in Docklands," he said. "It was a foreign environment to me."

But soon he started appreciating the unique lifestyle and blended into the local community.

"I really enjoyed my time on the boat. It was a small but close knit community who stayed on their boats there. There was a lot of comradery but also an opportunity for solitude on the water at the edge of the bustling Docklands precinct," he said.

After the eight months, Prof Oldfield decided to make his stay in Docklands more permanent and bought a Yarra's Edge apartment.

"I decided to get my land legs and get an apartment here. Yarra's Edge is very



residential and yet very close to city life," he

Although he is now living off the water with his partner Heather and his boat has been moved to St Kilda, Prof Oldfield said he remained very connected to the boat and the water.

"Even though it's no longer in Victoria Harbour, the boat is very central to me," he said.

"It's a traditional style 50 foot ketch designed by the famous US boat designer John Alden so it requires a lot of attention and effort. But I love it." "The ocean has always attracted to me. I plan to sail the boat to Whitsundays and beyond some day in the future."

When he is not sailing or spending time with Heather and his family, Prof Oldfield is working.

He is a physiology professor at Monash University, a neuroscientist and a National Health and Medical Research Council fellow.

He has his own research group at Monash where his research focus had been on the relationship between the brain and appetite, which impact directly on obesity and ways to treat it.

He is the president of the Australia and New Zealand Obesity Society, a scientific organisation of health care professionals who facilitate obesity research, prevention, treatment, and public health initiatives.

Prof Oldfield said he had always tried his best to maintain a work and life balance, and living in Docklands had helped with this delicate balance.

"It can be difficult to have that balance. I have competing interests. I love my work but, like other people, have to balance that against family time and there's always that commitment to the boat. So, I make extra effort to maintain that balance," he said. He likes to start early so he can spend more time with loved ones, including his boat Nilubon.

"It's about finding time to be productive at work and at home," he said. "And being this close to everything in Docklands has really helped me to save that time, especially in commuting."

He also said he would not want to live anywhere but Docklands at the moment.

"There's a certain level of comfort in living here. It's a very easy lifestyle and it's a luxury to have a home in Docklands, so close to the city but, with a frontage to the water, no sense of being landlocked, it suits me," he said



## Yarra's Edge gets new park

A new 2000sqm public park, Wharf's Landing, has been completed at the Wharf's Entrance precinct in Yarra's Edge west.

The new park features an expansive lawn over the sloping roof of the new fitness centre Wharf's Club.

Wharf's Club is a luxurious health and wellbeing facility with a pool, gym and steam room, open to residents at buildings Forge and Voyager and some public members.

Built by Yarra's Edge developer Mirvac, the park and fitness centre will provide a meeting place for nearby residents.

The first Wharf's Entrance residential building Forge has recently been completed, with the second tower Voyager arriving soon.

Mirvac's general manager of residential

Victoria, Elysa Anderson, said the park and wellbeing facility could help create a close-knit community.

"At Mirvac, we began planning the Yarra's Edge precinct close to 20 years ago with a vision to offer a tranquil lifestyle for our residents with access to the best of what Melbourne's city has to offer within walking distance," she said.

"Today we have created a community of 3000 people who enjoy a unique living environment of an unparalleled waterfront location, combined with several amenities including a gallery, cafe and supermarket within walking distance," Ms Anderson said.



## Media campaign reaches 1 million Victorians

We Live Here has been working with media professionals to reach out to Victorians affected by the short-stay industry and we have been overwhelmed with support.

Our campaign has reached over 1 million readers and viewers in the past two months.

The campaign impetus came from the success of our lobbying efforts to block the State Government's Owners Corporation Amendment (Short-Stay Accommodation) Bill, 2016. The bipartisan parliamentary inquiry unanimously decided to send the Bill back to the lower house to be completely redrafted. The government has until December 8 to respond to the report.

We Live Here is now focusing on the next stage of the campaign to promote the message that the entire short-stay industry must be regulated as a matter of urgency.

The rapid, unregulated rise of the industry has seen significant detrimental impacts for residents, not only around maintenance costs, but also safety and security and loss of amenity for long-term residents. These issues must be addressed by proper regulation.

We need to find a solution that addresses the large-scale, commercial exploitation of accommodation sharing platforms. Sharing platforms were designed for individuals and families to share their home but they have been taken over by commercial operators with scant regard for apartment communities.

During our two-month media campaign six media releases were distributed, backed by key research and background information on local issues. Thirty known pieces of media coverage were generated over a wide range of geographic areas, industries and age groups. This equates to approximately one story every two days over the two-month period.

The media coverage included:

- SBS World News (report), ABC Goulburn Murray (interview), 3AW (Ross and John Breakfast Program); and
- News publications (including online) from all over Victoria, into NSW and Queensland, also *Modern Asian* newspaper and *Modern Asian* online. Now we have to engage with the Andrews Government to see there is proper regulation of the short-stay industry for the benefit of
- Planning law overhaul;

include:

 Restoration of proper powers to owners' corporations;

the whole community. This will necessarily

- Licensing of premises used for commercial short-stay operations; and
- Let's learn from global solutions.
  Globally, major cities are tackling
  the issue of short-stays. Municipal and
  state governments around the world are
  developing increasingly mature solutions
  that protect communities. The state
  government needs to sit up and take notice
  of these international solutions.

Some recent reports from overseas in the last three months show how cities have tackled the problem of large-scale commercial exploitation of sharing platforms.

#### **Berlin**

Holiday apartment platforms like Airbnb are being over-run by firms with massive turnovers, new research in Germany suggests. More and more cities are bringing

in legislation to counter the problem. Berlin government believes it has the problem in check – having introduced a law in 2014 that forbids the commercial use of residential space for vacations.

"We consider that law is in line with the constitution and we will continue to stick by it," said Katrin Dietl, spokeswoman for the Berlin housing ministry.

Public officials are tasked with policing Berlin's ban, with the power to impose fines for violations and, according to Dietl, the ban has been successful with some 2500 former vacation apartments being returned into the regular rental market by the end of last year. (From *Deutsche Welle*, August 4, 2017 – http://m.dw.com/en/airbnb-dominated-by-professional-landlords/a-39972379)

#### **Vancouver**

Vancouver plans to licence and tax Airbnb rentals. It proposes a ban on short-term rentals in secondary homes which would, in effect, cut out large, commercial hosts. (From *Vancouver Sun*, July 5, 2017 – http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/vancouver-mayor-plans-to-license-and-tax-airbnb-rentals)

#### **Paris**

Paris authorities are aiming to introduce a new law that will force those who rent apartments on Airbnb to register the property with the City Hall first. (From *The Local* July 3, 2017 – https://www.thelocal.fr/20170703/paris-set-to-introduce-new-law-to-crack-down-on-long-term-airbnb-rentals)

## New York

In October 2016, the New York legislature signed into law a bill that prohibits apartment advertisements for purposes

other than permanent residence. The bill carries with it a civil penalty of up to \$7500.

Although it was always illegal in New York City to occupy a class A multiple dwelling unit (for example, an apartment building for permanent residents) for less than 30 days, the new multiple dwelling legislation clarified that rule and made it illegal to advertise these units on online homesharing platforms.

The justification for the law, according to the New York City legislature, was a concern for safety and compliance with fire and building codes.

In a public hearing on December 19, 2016, the Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement made clear that a key aim of the new law was to target large-scale illegal hoteliers who contribute to increased rent, narrowed housing markets, and neighbourhood gentrification. (From *The Regulatory Review*, May 24, 2017. – https://www.theregreview.org/2017/05/24/artunian-short-termrentals/)

#### **Campaign donations**

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register as a supporter of We Live Here or to make a donation please visit our website at **welivehere.net**.

You can also reach us at **campaign@** welivehere.net.au. We Live Here members can make a presentation to your owners' corporation committee upon request.

We welcome your comments and feedback, and invite suggestions for topics you would like us to address in this column.



www.welivehere.net emails to campaign@ welivehere.net

Owners' Corporation Law

## Check the balcony and terrace rules first

In a recent VCAT decision, a lot owner in a Docklands building has been ordered to remove shade sails and a permanentlyaffixed clothesline from his terrace, in breach of the rules of the owners' corporation (OC).

The shade sails were installed by the owner shortly after purchasing the lot. The owner claimed that the sails were to prevent cigarette butts, debris and glass from units above him striking the terrace and potentially causing injury and damage.

VCAT found, however, that the rules of the owners' corporation were clear that permission was required from all relevant authorities such as the council and from the OC before the works to install the structures could proceed.

The OC and VCAT were concerned with the fact that other owners in the building that looked out on the shade sails might suffer an adverse amenity effect. Furthermore, the precedent effect was taken into account in that other owners might be emboldened to install their own structures should they be allowed to remain in place.

Accordingly, VCAT ordered the removal of the shade sails and clothesline forthwith.

The case raises an interesting question about a lot owner's right to take proactive action to protect their lot (and seemingly themselves and their guests) from rubbish and debris falling from above. Ultimately, while there might be legitimate concerns about safety, the OC rules nevertheless prevail.

The lot owner made enquiries about his rights to install these structures prior to purchase with the OC manager and was told that he would not be able to proceed with the structures without a special resolution.

Ultimately the lot owner took his own view that the legislation and the rules did

not apply to his situation and installed the additions regardless.

Indeed, all lot owners and owners' corporations in Victoria should learn from this case, especially given the cost involved between these two parties from a threeday hearing with lawyers on both sides and with multiple witnesses being called to give evidence and be subject to cross examination.

VCAT found that the lot owner's failure to take specialist independent legal advice prior to purchase counted against his position.

In addition, I would add that specialist building surveyor advice should also be provided as the interface between common property. Lot boundaries are difficult to determine and, indeed, the principles of interpretation for finding common property boundaries are uncertain and, frankly, are a dog's breakfast. Other states and territories have clear and unambiguous statutory definitions of lot and common property boundaries. Legislators in Victoria – take

note and take action.

Owners and potential purchasers need to be aware when deciding to live in ground floor or podium level apartments that there are massive risks from flying debris and rubbish from above. Unless there is a very widespread support from all owners to make changes to the common property (assuming that the architect of the building and the local council approve of the changes) then it is unlikely that much can be done for an owner or resident in this situation.

This VCAT decision confirms that invoking a self-help remedy to mitigate the risk of damage can also land you in hot water.

Remember – always check, check and check again.



#### Tom Bacon

Tom Bacon is the principal lawyer of Strata Title Lawyers.

Tom@stratatitlelawyers.com.au

## Urban forests in a concrete jungle

For a seventh consecutive year Melbourne has been named the world's most liveable city by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) - but how liveable are our fast growing high density precincts?

Skipping over the vexed issue of what precisely the EUI measures when assessing "liveability", it is interesting that its assessment is based on what is "most and least challenging" – meaning that the EUI finds Melbourne to be the least challenging city in which to live, rather than the "best" place per se.

In contrast, one of the traditional hallmarks of a great city was its greenery – tree-lined streets and accessible parkland. Recently this green-city perspective has been captured by Jill Jonnes in her book Urban Forests wherein she relates stories about the founding mothers and fathers of American

urban forestry. From the time of Jefferson to the present day, she writes of presidents, plant explorers, visionaries, citizen activists and scientists, whose arboreal passions have shaped and ornamented their nation's cities.

Moving to modern day Melbourne, trees are again being recognised as positive attributes of a great city. A key difference now is that they are viewed increasingly pragmatically. Described in terms of "green infrastructure", their utilitarian benefits are believed manifold – with mature trees cleaning air, reducing flood risk, lowering the impact of vehicular noise, as well as (more subjectively) decreasing stress and boosting happiness. Furthermore, together these aspects are believed to positively impact property values – a case of money growing off trees!

However, arguably the greatest contribution of green infrastructure for Melburnians is in terms of heat reduction. By actively cooling the urban landscape, green infrastructure aids in reducing energy usage and carbon dioxide emissions, while also decreasing the risk of heat stress or heatstroke. As colourfully described by Melbourne University researchers, "extreme

heat is a slow-motion disaster", and they advocate for changing how we respond to heat from viewing it as a specific emergency to seeing it as an ongoing stress.

So where does this leave our high-density precincts, which typically still feature expanses of heat retaining concrete and sparse or waning vegetation?

Enter the Urban Forest Fund – this is a new program hosted by the City of Melbourne, which aims to accelerate greening across the city. The Urban Forest Fund offers matched financial support to new greening projects, such as green spaces, tree planting, vertical greening or green roofs.

But wait, there's more!

RMIT, in partnership with Lendlease, is conducting a project that explores the ongoing development of Victoria Harbour and the wider Docklands precinct.

Called the "The Exchange: Prototyping Community Engagement in Victoria Harbour", it is a 12-month project located in the Knowledge Market near the Docklands Library.

Led by RMIT academics, Dr Charles Anderson and Dr Michaela Prescott, this project includes workshops, forums, exhibitions and community events through which it will examine the liveability of our 21st century urban environment. And it will do so under the themes of:

- Carbon neutral futures;
- Social diversity;
- Digitally enabled infrastructures; and
- Urban memory and imagination.
  According to Dr Anderson, the project aims to be a conduit for exchanging information on the long-term liveability of our cities. So, if you are interested in what might make our high-density precincts "more liveable", keep an eye on the happenings at the Knowledge Market!

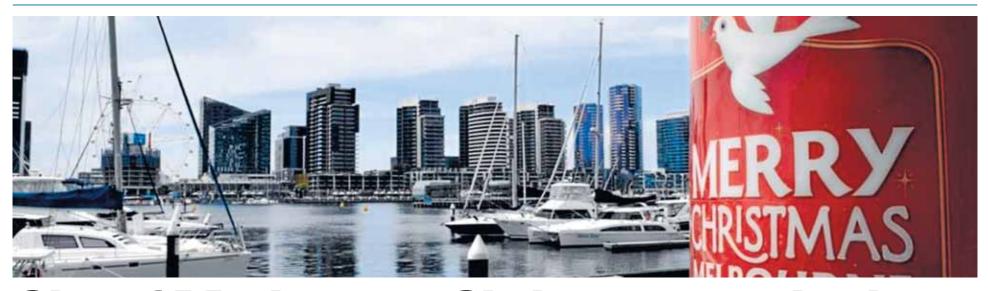
If you would like links to the research or organisations mentioned, please visit and like SkyPad Living on Facebook.



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

SKYP A D LIVING

## Chamber Update



## City of Melbourne Christmas marketing

Melbourne is the Christmas capital of Australia and who doesn't love the decorations and yuletide appeal of Docklands from late November through to December 25?

100 per cent – yes! That's right, 100 per cent of businesses who participated in the City of Melbourne marketing campaign in 2016 said that they would do so again.

The marketing campaign aims to draw visitors to enjoy the unique festive experience our precinct offers and ultimately bring more business to you.

Applications to be part of the 2017 Christmas campaign opened on August 25 and close on September 7. You can also view the fact sheet and full details on our blog: www.docklandscc.com.au/blog/

## **Important dates:**

- Expressions of interest open: August 25 to September 7;
- Christmas marketing campaign: November 13 to December 25; and
- Christmas Festival: November 24 to December 25.
- By becoming a chamber member you expose yourself to over \$1000 worth of incentives!

Networking works and becoming a Docklands Chamber of Commerce member should be your first step in doing business in the precinct but we make the decision effortless. Benefits total over \$1000 for just a micro membership (\$100) and include:

■ Two tickets to all of our network events, dinners and special occasions. We have between six and eight of these each year and feature our member businesses. The last event was completely reserved in two

- days and included a champagne cruise, Docklands-themed cocktails and a four course networking dinner;
- A business listing on our website www. docklandscc.com.au - which ranks on the front page of Google for basically all search terms related to Docklands;
- A minimum spend on social media advertising equal to your membership investment primarily through our Facebook profile with 114k followers;
- First-in / first-served sponsored tickets to external events;
- Approved posting and advertising through our newsletter;
- Access to our invite-only Docklands stakeholder forums where the movers and shakers of Melbourne share the latest information about upcoming events and activations; and
- Member-first promotion.

Our members include the largest business in the Docklands precinct such as the AFL, Harbour Town and The Atlantic Group but we also have a multitude of sole traders.

Our three purposes are to promote Docklands, promote our member businesses and advocate on behalf of the precinct.

We think we do it really well but we'd invite you to ask any questions you might have.

Our executive committee, executive officer and media director are all available to be reached at any time.

If you'd like to know more then please visit our website – **www.docklandscc.com.au** 



Shane Wylie

Media Director

www.docklandscc.com.au





# FACES OF US

## **Question:** What do you think of Melbourne's unpredictable weather?



It really annoys me because I cannot stand the cold. If it rains here the temperature just drops and I never know whether to bring an umbrella. It also makes it very hard to decide what to wear in the morning.



Melbourne is always like that, so I am used to it.

Melbourne is always like that, so I am used to it. It's unpredictable weather but it is understood that that's how it's going to be. Sometimes it rains and sometimes it changes to being cold. There's nothing really new about it.



Melbourne's weather just makes this place very unique. Yesterday I was soaking wet coming into the city, but once I arrived it had stopped raining. I was so angry at the time but now it's something to laugh about. You cannot really prepare for Melbourne weather, you've just got to go with it and get used to it.



I think the weather is really interesting. You've always got to be prepared for changing weather. I don't always carry an umbrella with me but I really should. You should always wear a lot of layers too.



I really like it. I think it is really different having four seasons in one day. I prefer the weather in Melbourne, I know a lot of other people don't but I like the cold weather. Melbourne has the perfect weather for me.



It's really cold sometimes, you should always bring a jacket, but today is a beautiful day. Sometimes the weather can be awful and I cannot get out of bed but other times Melbourne has lovely weather.

#### Pet's Corner



## Fun outing for fluffy dog

Casper the Samoyed had a fun day out in NewQuay with his temporary carer Sam Steer.

Casper's owner is the construction manager at NewQuay's boardwalk removal project and is also Sam's boss.

Sam said it was Casper's first time in Docklands and he made himself very busy watching birds and pedestrians.

Though Sam had not known Casper for long and was not sure of the fluffy dog's

age or breed, he knew one thing for sure – Casper was very active.

Casper knew how to make his fitness demands heard.

"He barks when he is not being walked," Sam said.

Sam said he would never let Casper off leash, because "he would never come back".

The young Samoyed was apparently very excited to be at the harbour and he would jump into the water if he had the chance.

Casper was also one of the most photogenic dogs ever featured in *Docklands News*, looking straight into the camera in every single photo taken of him.



What Women Want

## Sometimes life just happens

Sometimes life just happens. Life just happens, in spite of what you thought was going to happen or what you were thinking you were trying to achieve.

And when life "just happens", it usually means that it has sent you on an unexpectedly different path from that which you thought you were pursuing. Trust me, life has been "just happening" for a while.

Some people say what's happening is just what is meant to be. Others raise their hands in fury that it didn't go the way they wanted, whilst yet others set out on a mission to blame everyone else for what's happened. Then there are the lowest denominator. those who seek revenge in the wake of not getting what they thought they should.

The thing is, people get caught up in thinking they have control of life, when in fact life is made up of all different people and energies and the universe has a way of matching up what's right and wrong eventually, everything settles into place and it's really just a matter of celebrating when it does or coming to peace that there is a better match for you when it doesn't.

It's true with all relationships - we might have a checklist of "must haves" for any relationship - moral codes of conduct, ethical standards, qualities we cannot go forward without.

Yet it is only when you're actually involved, when you get further down the path with people that you can truly evaluate if these qualities are there. Often those that loudly

profess to possess these qualities in actual fact display little of them when the pressure is on. And, interestingly, sometimes those you least expect display the most amazing courage, empathy and support in the face of the tough decisions.

This is one of the amazing things in life, that we can grow and learn and adapt our path in measure with our understanding of things as they happen .... We are constantly learning.

I have been on an incredibly difficult path, pushed and pulled in different directions, a confusion of mismatched energy that left me stressed, sleepless and very unsettled.

But the universe has a way of balancing energy out - you simply cannot continue being partnered with the wrong energy as simply as magnets misaligning if there is a force that pushes the distance further and

And just as simply, when you do find the right path and partner with the right energy, everything just falls into place. The stress is gone, the path is clear and the energy carries you forward smoothly.

I consider myself to be very lucky to have formed an incredible relationship with someone with whom I've travelled a difficult path - and it was actually the navigation of that difficult path that brought us together,

as we realised our goals, our values and our mission aligned so well that it was natural to forge a partnership and continue forward.

And that's what life is about, finding the right person to face the battles and joys with, knowing that you can trust someone to have your back and create the opportunities and life that you may have always wanted.

What a woman wants is for the path to never be difficult, but what a woman needs to know is that sometimes difficult paths lead to incredible destinations.

Do not fear change in life, do not fear altering your path to find the right direction and the right energy in all you do. You only get one chance at this life, don't waste it being tied to the wrong people.

With much love,

Abby x



**Abby Crawford** life@docklandsnews.com.au

Health and Wellbeing

## Sleep and your wellbeing

Lack of good quality sleep has been linked to poor dietary choices.

Research has shown people who do not get enough sleep have an increased tendency to choose foods high in fats and sugars. They are also more likely to have a high intake and reliance on caffeine.

These nutritional choices add to the cycle of increased fatigue and poor sleep quality, which, in turn, add to a compromised immune system and a reduction in wellbeing and overall health.

Research has also shown poor quality sleep accelerates the skins ageing process from free radical damage.

Waking up tired is common. But it is not normal.

Sleep's purpose is repair and restoration. When this is compromised, daily tasks can become difficult. With great sleep, memory, cognition, immune and digestive function work better.

The benefits of restorative sleep include improved mood, physical and emotional resilience, and better hormonal function.

Therefore, great sleep will ensure you're feeling your best and will lead to better longterm choices for your overall wellbeing and quality of life.

Duration of sleep varies depending on life stages, and is based on gender, age and physical demands. Research suggests for the average adult seven to eight and a half hours of good quality sleep is ideal. During this time of rest and restoration, cellular repair

Unfortunately, in today's world there are many external demands and stresses which stop us from switching off to get a good night's sleep. If you are going to bed after 10pm, getting less than seven hours sleep, or waking up during the night, your sleep is being compromised.

There are certain aspects to life, which are unavoidable in getting a full eight and a half hours of great sleep.

This includes having small children who are dependent on you. If this is the stage of life you are in, accept this is for now, be gentle on yourself and rest wherever the day allows you to.

Times of grief and high stress also wreak havoc on your sleep cycles, so being gentle with yourself, and seek support from health practitioners to assist you.

If you are feeling at your optimum and mentally focused, you are more inclined to make better health choices surrounding your nutrition and physical health.

The following lifestyle choices, may assist you to a better night's sleep:

- Practicing mindful eating;
- Eating a well-balanced diet;
- Optimum hydration;
- Meditation;
- A bedtime routine;
- A morning routine;
- Physical exercise;
- Decreased caffeine consumption; and
- Eliminating stressors in your life. Switching off all backlit devices and stimulating devices such as the TV an hour prior to bedtime

Increasing your quality of Zs at night is often multifactorial and seeing a health practitioner with a holistic approach, may benefit you and your long-term health.



**Guest Columnist - Erin Burns** Erin Burns from Push! Fitness is a Registered Nutritionist and has been in the health industry for over 10 years.



## **Desert island** books with Yassmin **Abdel-Magied**

What books would Yassmin Abdel-Magied take to a desert island?

The Sudanese-born Muslim Australian author, activist and broadcaster gave her list of top five books that she would take with her at the Desert Island Books event held at Library at The Dock on August 26.

Her five books are: Hunger by Roxane Gay, the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling, The Name of The Wind by Patrick Rothfuss, Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue, and The Quran.

African-Australian journalist Santilla Chingaipe hosted the discussion, where Ms Abdel-Magied also talked about the production of her memoir Yassmin's Story, written at the age of 23, her upbringing, and her personal connection to each of the five books.

Ms Abdel-Magied also mentioned several other books that have helped shape her worldview, including Captalism, Socialism and Democracy, The Geography of Thoughts, Against Elections, Orientalism and The Song of the Lioness.

She had been a host on ABC's radio program Australia Wide and used to work at an oil rig as a mechanical engineer.

Desert Island Books with Yassmin Abdel-Magied was a sell-out free public event held by Melbourne Library Services.

Previous years' Desert Island Books guests included personalities such as Melbourne photographer Matt Irwin, actor Alan Brough and radio presenter Myf Warhurst.

# WHAT'S ON COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

12.30-1.30PM, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

DOCK ECO: LUNCHBOX

Award-winning visual ecologist Aviva Reed will guide people to explore ecological ideas through art. Apply ecological knowledge into daily life and create an illustration of the idea to take home. FREE.

EVERY SUNDAY, 10AM-5PM NEWQUAY PROMENADE

## DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET

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

0412 910 496

2ND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 6-7PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

"ANY BOOK" BOOK CLUB

This book club does not have a set reading. Instead, it can chat about any book. Share your love of reading and be inspired by other bookworms about what to read next. FREE.

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 10-11AM, BULUK PARK

LAUGHTER CLUB

Laughter can help improve physical and psychological wellbeing, so get together for a therapeutical laugh. FREE.

2ND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH, 2-4PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

ADHD SUPPORT GROUP

**EVERY SATURDAY, 9.30AM,** 

gmail.com.

**COMMUNITY HUB AT THE DOCK** 

CYSM SFA DRAGONS

www.cysm.org/dragonboat

WEDNESDAYS AT 5.30PM,

**SHED 2, NORTH WHARF RD** 

**DRAGON MASTERS** 

**SATURDAYS AT 8.30AM** 

Three free dragon boating sessions.

Contact Vicky at cysm.seadragons@

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

FROM 7PM, WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 12, THE HOOKS RESTAURANT

**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.

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 & THURSDAY, 6-7PM, THE HUB, 80 HARBOUR ESPLANADE

**ZUMBA@DOCKLANDS** 

Zumba is a fun, social dance party. Suitable for all age groups and people of any fitness level and dance skills. \$10. 0426031877 grishmabuch82@gmail.com

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.

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

12-8PM, SEPTEMBER 11,ETIHAD STADIUM RELAY FOR LIFE

An opportunity to celebrate and remember loved ones and fundraise for Cancer Council Victoria. Relay around the track, enjoy live music, entertainment and special ceremonies. Book on 1300 65 65 85.

2-4PM, EVERY TUESDAY, SASSONE, 70 LORIMER ST

YARRA'S EDGE SOCIAL CLUB

Come along to connect with your neighbours, and/or join one of our mini-clubs. Casual & friendly.

www.facebook/YarrasEdgeSocialClub

EVERY OTHER SUNDAY 11AM-4PM DOCKLANDS YACHT CLUB

COMMUNITY SAILING DAY

Come and try sailing with the community. No age limit and no fitness requirements. People with disabilities are welcome. \$20. docklands.yachting.org.au

2ND FRIDAY OF THE MONTH, 4-5.15PM, LIBRARY AT THE DOCK

**JAZZ BREW CAFE** 

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

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

LIVE LIFE GET ACTIVE

Free outdoor fitness classes, including X-training, boxing and yoga. Register at **livelifegetactive.com** 

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

CODE CLUB

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

EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY 12.30 – 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

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

Probus Clubs for men and women over 50. Meet new friends, share interests and enjoy activities. Contact **mspc.docklands@ gmail.com** 

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.

TAI CHI AT THE DOCK

Every Thursday 7.30-8.30am

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

Beginners welcome. FREE.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

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

**STOMPERS** 

Mondays at 10.30am
Encourage your child to have a lifelong 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.

DRAGON BOATING
Contact Jeff Saunders on **0417 219 888** or **Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au** 

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## **BUSINESS DIRECTORY**

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

## Your Home Away From Home

Check Availability and Book Directly Online

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- > #1 on TripAdvisor since 2014
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- ➤ Located in Watergate Apartments

## Apartments > We Live Here

#### ACCOUNTING

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# DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

# Local teams in the mix for glory

Docklands' two ice hockey teams are in the mix for the Goodall Cup when the finals start on September 2.

All the finals are being played here in Docklands on Saturday, September 2 and Sunday, September 3.

The Australian Ice Hockey League (AIHL) finals consist of the top four teams at the end of the regular home and away season playing for the Goodall Cup during three games – in a single elimination tournament.

Melbourne Ice won the minor premiership after finishing on top of the ladder. The Mustangs came home with a great second half of the season. On the bottom of the ladder mid-way through the season, they have come from nowhere to make the finals in fourth place but are the in-form team.

A home-town derby grudge match awaits fans on September 2 at 3pm in the first semifinal. The second semi-final sees Canberra Brave take on Perth Thunder later at 6pm.

O'Brien Group Arena is expecting all games to be sold out.

The AIHL is also providing fans anywhere in the world the ability to tune in via a pay-perview offering at **www.experience.theaihl.** 

# New basketball team receives warm welcome

With the spring season of Active Melbourne City Sport (AMCS) just kicking off, the basketball competition has welcomed two teams from Penguin Random House.

Penguin Random House (PRH) heard about AMCS through a colleague's partner who already participated in the competition.

Also, being close to the Harbour Esplanade courts, members from Penguin Random House have managed to catch a game or two on lunch breaks.

The team members had been interested in joining the competition in Docklands for the past few years and discussions finally came into fruition in 2017.

When it came to choosing a sport to play in Docklands, the team voted and decided to go for basketball. The group doesn't have any favourite sports team or players but "strive to play like Michael Jordan and dunk like Shaquille O'Neal. It's still a work in progress."

Team manager Sophie Teague said: "We were really lucky to be registered as we had only just missed the registration deadline. AMCS was extremely helpful and efficient in registering our two teams and supplying us with the game fixtures."

When asked who the captain of the teams was, Ms Teague said they "share the workload of captain responsibilities".



Look out everyone. Here comes Penguin Random House.

"Our team is a mixed bag of Penguin Random House staff who are keen to get outside and break a sweat on their lunch breaks – all while clearing our heads and having a laugh."

"Playing basketball takes approximately one hour (at most!) out of our lunch breaks on a Wednesday. It's well worth it for all the benefits and increases our productivity well into the afternoon."

When not playing basketball, the PRH staff

tends to go for walks, take yoga classes and even squeeze in a quick 30-minute run on their lunch breaks, according to Ms Teague. "We also enjoy sitting at the lunch table and having a chat to our colleagues from other parts of the business," she said.

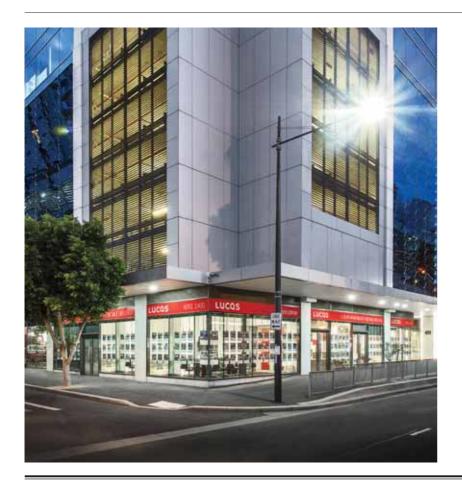
Other sporting activities outside of work that the team members participate in are women's AFL, netball, jiu jitsu and soccer.

Penguin Random House is one of 50 companies that compete every week at the Docklands Sports Courts.

The benefits of breaking up the work day and getting some exercise are well known and shown with Penguin Random House's two teams as well as the other teams that play during their lunch times.

Active Melbourne City Sports offers soccer, basketball, netball, barefoot bowls, touch football and dodgeball competitions, all held at the Docklands Sports Courts and Flagstaff Gardens venues each week during lunchtime.

The spring season has already commenced so head down at lunchtime to check out the competition and people having fun. Register your interests in the Autumn 2018 Season now at amcs.melbourne.vic.gov.au



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