

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Puzzles & Trivia P22



▲ Docklands Athletic Football Club (AFC) president Matthew Tate and Docklands Sports Club's Carina Parisella. Photo: Ajay Viswanath.

Soccer club moves to Docklands in coup for community sport

Competitive local soccer is on its way to Docklands, with junior and senior players encouraged to get involved.

WORDS BY David Schout
SPORT

A newly renamed soccer club, Docklands Athletic FC, has arrived in Docklands and is the new tenant at Ron Barassi Snr Park in a big announcement for local sport.

The club, until now based in Parkville and known as North Melbourne Athletic FC, negotiated a move to the picturesque Docklands playing fields and will largely absorb the existing Docklands Sports Club (DSC).

The move is seen as a win-win by both clubs. For years North Melbourne AFC has wished to establish a junior program to provide a pathway to the club's senior men's and women's teams, which play in Football Victoria competitions.

Conversely DSC, which formed in 2019 and boasts a core group of keen youngsters who take part in regular

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“Just an entrée”: AFL flags “density” for Marvel Stadium’s waterfront edge

The AFL’s general manager of property development says there’s a “massive opportunity” to help bring Harbour Esplanade to life through added density along the water-facing side of Marvel Stadium.

WORDS BY Sean Car
PLANNING

In a presentation to the Property Council of Australia on October 25 on the \$225 million redevelopment of Marvel Stadium, the AFL’s Matthew Chun said its current project was just “the first step on the way to the water”.

With both of the stadium’s major city-facing entrances now “virtually finished”, Mr Chun said the AFL was now working in partnership with Development Victoria (DV) to open the rest of the stadium precinct to the Docklands waterfront.

“This whole project is really just a bit of an entrée into how we’re going to redevelop this whole precinct. This is the first step on the way to the water, and then in partnership with Development Victoria we now want to open to the whole waterfront,” Mr Chun said.

“Harbour Esplanade at the moment is a really great place for people to ride up and down, but that’s about it. But if we can bring that to life with some density, we think that’s a massive opportunity.”

Mr Chun’s presentation on Marvel Stadium was part of the Property



Council of Australia’s Melbourne’s High Profile Projects event, which also featured presentations on Queen Victoria Market and Greenline, as well as the Melbourne Metro Tunnel project, from the City of Melbourne’s Roger Teale, and Hassell Studio’s Ingrid Bakker, respectively.

During a follow-up panel discussion with the other speakers, Mr Chun elaborated on the AFL’s ambitions for the waterfront, by stating that there were opportunities to “go high” at its current headquarters at AFL House, as well as at the Channel 7 building.

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Council frozen out by government on liquor changes

Calls for clarification on new late-night venue rules, and what it could mean for Docklands residents, are being ignored by the state government.

WORDS BY *David Schout*
COUNCIL AFFAIRS

A City of Melbourne request for the Victorian Government to tweak and clarify new liquor licence laws since it lifted a 1am “freeze” has fallen on deaf ears.

Despite one councillor saying swift clarification was what Docklands residents and businesses “deserved”, the government has to date ignored council concerns.

Since July, a 13-year freeze on new late-night venues has been lifted, with venues no longer requiring a special exemption to trade beyond 1am.

The prior ban, first introduced by the former Brumby government to tackle alcohol-related harm and crime in inner-Melbourne, was removed by former Premier Daniel Andrews as a way to “supercharge the creation of new venues” in the city.

However, since Mr Andrews first promised to remove the “freeze” a week out from the November 2022 state election, which his Labor Government would go on to comfortably win, councillors have expressed concerns about what the move could mean for locals.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said shortly after the election that complaints about late-night venues was in her “top three” items of correspondence, in what she called “a natural tension between residents and businesses”.

Deputy Lord Mayor Nicholas Reece said at the time he was wary of the government’s impending move.



“I do want to assert, in the clearest possible terms, that there are risks associated with lifting liquor licences to 3am in the city,” he said.

“The difference between 1am and 3am may only be two hours on the clock, but it can be a lifetime of difference when you’re having a night out on the town.”

In the 10 years to 2021, the residential population of Docklands and the CBD more than doubled from 28,011 to an estimated 59,765, which the council said reinforced the need to ensure liquor licensing changes did not adversely impact amenity.

In March, councillors urged management to write to the Planning Minister for clarity on why the freeze was lifted in the first place.

Notably they also requested that the government, as part of the impending changes, amend the planning scheme to require a permit of all new late-night venues in Docklands – as is required in the CBD – rather than being granted one “as of right”.

The council argued that there was no strong rationale behind this, which also hampered the ability to enforce the rules.

“The ‘as of right’ uses in most precincts in

the Docklands Zone limit the ability of council to apply the local planning policy,” the motion stated.

Seven months on, however, and the council has now confirmed that all requests had to date been ignored.

Greens councillor Rohan Leppert, who first proposed a council review into the matter shortly after the November 2022 state election, detailed the events to *Docklands News* and said it was “a little frustrating” that “modest” requests had been ignored.

“The state government is the agent of change here. They promised on the eve of the election that the late-night freeze would cease on June 30, 2023, and that’s what happened,” he said.

“Council anticipated this, and, in good faith, we reviewed all of the planning controls and policies that apply to licensed premises in the city and put forward a series of modest amendments before the freeze ended.”

“All those proposed amendments do is update some obsolete terms and remove ambiguity on how government balances the intensification of licensed premises with local amenity. Applicants and city residents deserve to have that clarity.”

“It’s a little frustrating that the state government has not acted on this, leaving the planning framework out of date for more than three months now. I would politely encourage the Minister and Department to get their skates on.”

The Planning Minister’s office did not respond to requests for comment from *Docklands News*.

The government has previously said lifting the freeze, which would also apply to fellow inner-city municipalities Port Phillip, Yarra and Stonnington, was to “support Melbourne’s night-time economy and helping create new live music venues”.

It is expected that the number of applications for late-night venues – those operating beyond 1am – will increase now that the freeze has lifted. ●

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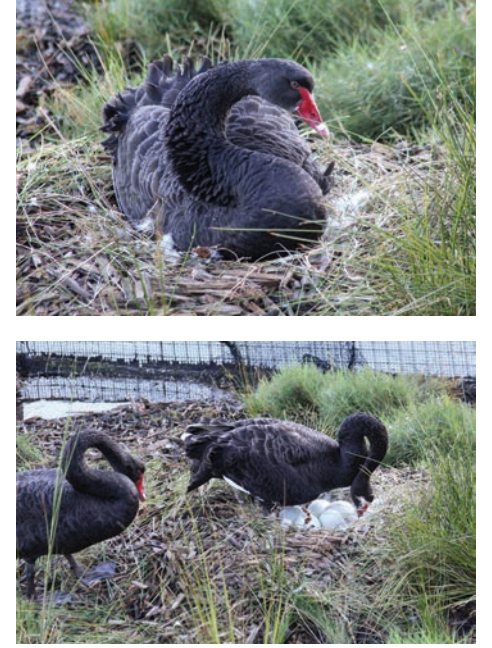
New life on floating wetlands

“

Docklanders continue to enjoy a front-row seat to observe native wildlife returning to the heart of Melbourne, with more swan nesting sites, cygnets, and unhatched eggs being discovered on new floating wetlands.

”

WORDS BY *Afraa Kori*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Lawrence Gerver*
ENVIRONMENT



Yarra Riverkeeper Charlotte Sterrett told *Docklands News* her group had been monitoring the wetlands at Yarra's Edge and Victoria Harbour as local swan numbers increased.

“Our electric boat was next to one of the floating wetlands, so we were aware of the swans quite quickly because we were there every week,” she said.

“The first time we saw the swans was when one came to the boat with its baby on its back; the baby jumped off its back and was swimming around with the mother.”

Local resident Lawrence Gerver, who supplied some of the featured images to *Docklands News*, also found a pair of black swans building a nest on the floating ecosystem near Library at the Dock.

“My heart leapt with excitement like a child,

and I quickly ran home and returned with my camera. I was intending to take photos of the two birds, not realising I was in for a surprise: there laid in the centre of the nest were two tennis ball-sized white eggs, which by the following day grew to five,” he said.

As a photographer for 40 years and videographer for 12 years, Mr Gerver said he had never captured unhatched eggs in a nest.

“I have not captured anything like these before. Yes, I have taken photos and made videos of black swans at the Albert Park Lake and the Royal Park wetland, but with five unhatched eggs in a nest is the first time and the feeling is uniquely precious and wonderful,” Mr Gerver said.

Ms Sterrett said the return of wildlife was good news for locals.

“We spoke to local residents who are very excited about the swans nesting near where they

live. They think it's fantastic. So, communities are very interested and watching what the swans are doing so it's brought more people to the area,” Ms Sterrett said.

Mr Gerver said excitement was building locally for the birth of the cygnets.

These are very anxious times, and I am sure deep down the hearts of the passers-by and the whole walking community wish to see these five cygnets born into this world, it is definitely worth the wait.”

The series of floating wetlands was launched in Docklands in December last year under a City of Melbourne trial project to support a healthy ecosystem on the Yarra River.

Five large wetlands were towed into the river consisting of hundreds of young, native Indigenous plants in what Lord Mayor Sally Capp said was a “another step forward for the Greenline Project and a beautiful way to return

native plants and animals to the heart of our city”.

The wetlands are located at Yarra's Edge near Webb Bridge, the Turning Basin at Enterprize Park, and Victoria Harbour Promenade after the state government provided a \$700,000 grant to the council.

Ms Sterrett said the wetlands had provided a safe habitat for wildlife, and helped to raise awareness of the health of the Yarra River.

“It's unique at the moment because prior to having the floating wetlands there wasn't anywhere for the swans to nest easily but really that shouldn't be the case,” she said.

“There should be places in the city where the swans should nest easily. And if we have more greenery in the city which is what we need, that would be a common occurrence.”

“More people are interested in how we restore the river's full health as a result.” ●

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A LOOK AT OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



DOCKLANDS

RESIDENTS CONNECT

AT THE 'GOSSIP TABLE'

Paul Vella, Shirley Cheng and Gold Leaf restaurant manager, Frankie Yu, play mahjong together.

With 600 million players worldwide, mahjong is one of the most popular table games. The game is often played at family gatherings and weddings since it originated in China more than 200 years ago.

For husband and wife, Shirley Cheng and Paul Vella, who host a fortnightly mahjong meet-up in Docklands, thanks to support from a City of Melbourne small grant, the game is about community connection.

"I grew up in Hong Kong and mahjong was always a big part of my life," Shirley said.

"Paul and I met over 12 years ago. My mum can't speak English that much and I said, Paul, you need to learn how to play mahjong to communicate with her. He learnt fast."

Eight years ago Paul wrote an app as he couldn't find one focussed on Hong Kong mahjong, which is the style of the game that Shirley's family play. The app has now had more than 1 million downloads and was the fourth most popular app in Hong Kong for a period.

"I joke that my husband is more Chinese than me - he will be the first to go to and last to leave a game of

mahjong. I don't like playing mahjong as much as he does, I prefer the teaching and coaching part of the game," Shirley said.

"There's a big cultural difference between us but we have mahjong in common. Shirley trained me how to play mahjong and I wanted to get better," Paul said.

"I find mahjong a really interesting game. If you've ever seen the film Crazy Rich Asians, the whole story is a summary of the game itself. Sometimes in mahjong you win by losing."

Once friends and family in Docklands found out about the app and its popularity, they encouraged the couple to start a social mahjong tournament.

"People always come to me and say I want to learn, I want to learn. We love mahjong and wanted to promote it for Docklands residents so we thought, why can't we?" Shirley said.

Owner of Gold Leaf restaurant in The District Docklands, Frankie Yu, offered the couple a private room and a good deal on food. Shirley and Paul also received a Connected Neighbourhoods Grant to support with hosting the events.

Every second Tuesday a group of regulars and newbies attend the events to learn how to play the popular game, mingle and chat to other locals.

"For Hong Kong mahjong you need four people to play - if you lack one person it's called a broken leg, or directly translated from Chinese to 'three missing one'. That's why we always have spare people. We have me, my mum and nephew as a floater," Shirley said.

"If a beginner comes along then we sit behind them or ask the table to play with an open hand. We have at least one of us on each table so beginners can understand scoring. People who get to a good level can be very competitive," Paul said.

"We also see it as a way to connect people together in the Docklands community. Like many people in Docklands, we live in an apartment which can be isolating and this gives us a way to form friendships," he said.

The couple agree Docklands is a great place to live.

"We love the convenience of Docklands. We love the view of the water we have - it is a good feng shui thing for Chinese people. It's a good lifestyle too," Shirley said.

Find out more about the group on Facebook [facebook.com/groups/docklandsmahjong](https://www.facebook.com/groups/docklandsmahjong) or visit Gold Leaf restaurant in The District on 7 and 21 November at 6.30pm for mahjong.

WHY WE LOVE DOCKLANDS

With an abundance of places to visit and community events on offer, there's always so much to see and do in Docklands.

- Did you know that 3.5 tonnes of rubbish are removed every month from the waterways in Docklands?
- Speaking of rubbish, we have a Melbourne clean team in Docklands every day at the moment, making sure the area is kept gleaming.
- Docklands Stakeholder Group met for the second time in September. Priorities for the group include safer neighbourhoods, community connection and Docklands as a distinct water precinct. The next meeting will be held in November.
- Toy Library at Library at The Dock has launched. The Community Toy Library has been incorporated into our local libraries network, which means you can borrow three items for three weeks for free with your City of Melbourne Library Card.
- Library at The Dock will also host Salamfest on 2 December, creating a space for diverse Muslim communities to support social change through arts and culture. Activities include films, interactive and performing arts, and discussions.
- Get in the Christmas spirit with The Dock Community Christmas on 2 December and enjoy community activities, craft, music and a visit from Santa.

Want to connect with your neighbourhood? Contact your Docklands neighbourhood partner, Fadi Qunqar, at participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/docklands

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Soccer club moves to Docklands in coup for community sport

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clinics, has been looking to expand and provide competitive fixtures at Ron Barassi Snr Park for their juniors to take part in.

The move allows both clubs to achieve this stated goal.

Docklands AFC already has eight qualified coaches and is keen to establish a strong community foothold in the area, which until now has not boasted a competitive sporting club.

“It’s super exciting,” president of the new Docklands AFC Matthew Tate said.

Mr Tate, a Docklands local himself, said the club had previously surveyed members about changing its name and location, which came back a resounding 86 votes to nil in support.

“They love it. They’ve been calling out for a number of years now for a change in facilities.

“The facilities we had at our old ground weren’t great at all.”

“People within the club that are keen to push it forward are really excited about the junior program. We’ve got women’s teams, and some of them are super excited to come down and coach the kids.”

He said the club had a choice to either start a junior program from scratch or look for an existing program to partner with, opting for the latter.

Outgoing DSC president Carina Parisella, one of the key drivers in establishing community sport in Docklands, was similarly positive about the announcement.

In a letter to members, DSC said the move would benefit all.

“Our goal from the beginning was to establish a sports and recreation hub for our beloved Docklands community – with our goal successfully achieved and a network of families and partners,” the letter read.

“It’s now time to mature the offering and opportunities for our neighbourhood and build a long-term pipeline of talent, and a legacy for Docklands ... it’s been a long priority of ours to ensure kids can play all the way from junior training clinics to competitive games.”

“Our dear friends from North Melbourne Athletic Football Club will be taking the reins of our football [soccer] program and running an end-to-end football program from juniors all the way through to senior competition at our Docklands home, Ron Barassi Snr Park.”

DSC formed in 2019 and, despite wading through difficult periods during COVID-19 as a fledgling club, has hosted a range of junior soccer, cricket, and Aussie Rules clinics during this time.

Under the guidance of Ms Parisella and a group of dedicated volunteers, the club brought together local families in often difficult periods.

“As I step away from my presidency role at



▲ Matthew Tate and Carina Parisella unveil Docklands Athletic FC last month.

Photo: Ajay Viswanath.

the Docklands Sports Club after four fulfilling years, I reflect with immense pride on what we’ve accomplished,” she told *Docklands News*.

“Through the trials of the COVID pandemic, our dedication to the club and our community never wavered.”

“Passing the baton to our friends at Docklands Athletic fills me with excitement.”

“I’m not going far; I’ll stay actively engaged, ensuring that our focus on children’s wellbeing and our commitment to diversity and inclusion in sports continue to thrive.”

The DSC name is not completely gone, however, with junior cricket programs at Ron Barassi Snr Park to continue under the name.

Mr Tate said Docklands AFC was confident it could submit two “Miniroos” teams (small-sided games for five- to 11-year-olds) for the 2024 season and an under- 12 side either then or in 2025.

Its five-year plan includes a goal to have, by the end of 2027, a competitive U16 team.

“It’s not going to happen overnight – it’s a five to 10-year project, but that’s what’s most



exciting about it.”

“Docklands has never had a proper competitive sporting team playing out of it, and now we’ve got seniors men’s and women teams here as well as the juniors. It’s great for the girls, too. About 25 to 30 per cent of the clinics have been attended by girls, so to have the senior women’s team, they can hang around and watch them play too.”

On-field volunteers won’t be an issue, either, because with the ambitious club’s eight coaches, and a ratio of one coach to 15 players, they can scale up past 100 juniors already.

In a social media post to members, the new club said: “We can confirm the rumours are true! Exciting times are upon us as we unveil a major transformation for our football team! We are proud to announce that we’re now Docklands AFC, waving goodbye to our North Melbourne legacy”.

Docklands AFC has hit the ground running, hosting a six-week clinic at Ron Barassi Snr Park, which started on October 29.

For more information email the club at the address below or visit its Facebook page for updates. ●

For more information:
docklandsafc@gmail.com



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Local businesses step up support for a café making a change

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Marcela Lehocka*
COMMUNITY

Meals with Impact, a social enterprise café born during the pandemic as an employment-based food relief program, has continued to captivate the hearts and minds of locals in Docklands.

The eatery, which is part of the Collins Square precinct, has seen an outpouring of support from generous businesses and workers, including the Collingwood Football Club, which has been amazed by the café effecting such positive change in the community.

Located at the corner of Batman Hill Drive and Collins St, Meals with Impact has become a beloved establishment not only because of its delicious food but also for the social good it has provided including creating 20 jobs for women of migrant and refugee backgrounds through its organisation.

Big companies that have either volunteered or used the café for catering or to host functions include KPMG, VicHealth, Monash University, CBUS Property, iSelect, Metro, NBN Co, Linfox Classic Car Collection, ANZ, the Bureau of Meteorology and more.

Among those to recently rally behind Meals with Impact is Opticomm, a national wholesale broadband provider that's wholly owned by Uniti Group.

"When the team first visited the café recently, they were genuinely touched at the difference the Meals with Impact team is making in providing pathways for employment on top of creating culturally appropriate meals for local communities in need," Uniti Group's chief customer and people officer Julia Walsh said.

Her team joined a volunteer day at the café on October 13, which she said was "an amazing way" to help in some small way, "knowing full well that we'll be back to the café time and time again as paying customers".

To date, Meals with Impact has served 12,500 meals, catered for corporate events, and provided a further 17,000 Maggie Meals through the Collingwood FC's Community Foundation to help those struggling with food insecurity.

The café's success and volunteer days have helped change Sara's life, an Iranian woman who started working with the Meals with Impact team in June.

"Before Meals with Impact, I was applying for jobs and going to interviews and not passing – there was so much frustration," she said.

"It was a big frustrating feeling, and I was feeling 'I am nothing'. There are so many challenges when you come to a new country, new language, new culture, everything is new."

"At Meals with Impact, I am confident that I can speak with customers and serve the dishes."

Co-founded by Nikki Blanch and Harris Ryan, Meals with Impact launched after being funded by the Victorian Government's Working for Victoria initiative during the pandemic, but due to its significant outcomes, its initial six-month lifespan has continued to be extended.

"While we're building connections with local migrant communities, the connections with local businesses are just as critical in fuelling our growth," Mr Ryan said.

"With continued, amazing support from businesses and people in the area, we're working on more than doubling the number of migrant women we employ over the next year, while shortly rolling out some initiatives like a ready-made meal range, an expanded catering menu and growing our food relief service."

The café is open Monday to Friday from 8am to 3pm for food and coffee, with the afternoon left open till 5pm for meetings and events. ●

For more information:
mealswithimpact.com.au



Calls to salvage our "Docklands Squid" mural

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
ARTS & CULTURE

Many locals may not even be aware that at very end of the North Wharf boat sheds lies a colourful underwater creature greeting those entering Victoria Harbour from the water.

If you've never entered Docklands by boat, you may never have realised that on the rugged corrugated surfaces of the shed facing the Bolte Bridge is a giant orange squid mural by Melbourne artist Mike Maka.

Maka has gained global notoriety for his work during a career spanning more than 15 years, with works in private and public collections both here and abroad. He has also exhibited extensively around the world.

His murals will be well known to many Melburnians as he has painted some famous works at many iconic locations throughout the city, including Melbourne Aquarium, the corner of Meyers Place and Bourke St, and ACDC Lane.

In 2017 Maka was commissioned by Development Victoria to paint the end of the boat shed at North Wharf in preparation for the Volvo Ocean Yacht Race as a way of greeting arrivals on their entrance to the harbour and to showcase Melbourne as a creative city.

Since then, the piece, dubbed the "Docklands Squid" by Maka, has quietly taken up residence alongside the Wooden Boat Centre which is home to Docklands' fleet of heritage vessels including the steam tug *Wattle*, the *Enterprise* and the *Alma Doepel*. As a means of homage to the area's maritime heritage, Maka included the *Enterprise* in the top-right-hand corner of his piece.

With the boat sheds destined for demolition to make way for developer Lendlease's series of apartment projects along the wharf, calls have emerged for the mural to be salvaged somehow.

Master of the steam tug *Wattle* Rob Anderson is among those who would like to see the mural spared from the wreckage, stating that it would "be a shame to lose" a mural by such a globally renowned artist as Mike Maka.

Speaking to *Docklands News* last month, Maka said while he'd always understood his Docklands Squid was destined to be torn down, it would be a great story if it could be preserved elsewhere.

"It was always going to get knocked down, so it's funny that if that one gets preserved in a special way it would be a great story for me and a quirky thing to happen in the art world I guess," he said.

"It was a bit of a bugger to paint those corrugated surfaces, so personally I don't think it's one of my best quality murals but it's a great location and it was a fun job. I would love to see it salvaged somehow."

Using a scissor lift to access the far reaches of the boat shed, Maka said it took him eight days to complete the Docklands Squid, with its evolution stemming from a narrative of "the ocean coming back and taking over".

"You just can't do as much detail on those rough corrugated surfaces. Doing one large thing is the best way to go and there are a lot of little dots on there as you can't really get a paint brush or a roller to do a straight line," he said.

"I then used big fades with a spray gun and then [painted] lines with a spray can and used a method there called pointillism, which is where you use a whole lot of dots and create the shape."

"The eyeball [of the squid] kind of creates the depth of character but you sort of see all of these dots making it up so your brain kind of makes up the information."

With the sheds not to expected to be removed for some years to come, a spokesperson for Development Victoria said that any works impacting the mural would be taken into consideration.

"There are no works planned at North Wharf in the short- or medium-term, so the mural will remain in place. In the event of any works in the future, we would consider the impact of works on the existing structure and surrounds including the mural," a spokesperson said.

Know a good location where our Docklands Squid might be rehomed?

Send your ideas to admin@hyperlocalnews.com.au ●

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Facebook Twitter Instagram



▲ Moon Dog co-founders Jake Uljans, Karl van Buuren and Josh Uljans.



Moon Dog to open 1500-capacity brewpub in Docklands

In what will come as welcomed news for lovers of craft beer and hospitality alike, Melbourne brewing dynamos, Moon Dog, will open a 1500-capacity “brewpub” next to Marvel Stadium in 2024.

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*
BUSINESS

Located at 685 Latrobe St, as part of the Home Docklands build-to-rent precinct, the venue will include a 100- to 200-capacity pub and

restaurant open to the public throughout the week, transforming into a vast brewery-sized venue for game days, major events, and functions.

Co-founder Karl van Buuren told *Docklands News* while the fit-out and finer details were still to be confirmed, this iteration of the growing Moon Dog empire would be like “nothing they’ve done before”.

“Getting a venue like this in Docklands will be a great win for the area,” Mr van Buuren said. “It will be a different to Preston and our upcoming venue in Footscray, because it will have a much higher capacity focused around Marvel Stadium event days, large corporate events, along with industry and Moon Dog special events.”

“It’s essentially two venues in one, when you consider its design. There is an upstairs mezzanine terrace area called The Terrace Bar that

will be open all the time for lunch and dinner, with all of our beers on tap and table service.”

“Then there will be our larger, ground floor venue that will be jungle themed, with sprawling boardwalks and water features, 80 taps on the bar, full kitchen and unique food offering.”

The news comes as the perfect antidote for an adjunct of Docklands which has been bereft of a venue to wet the whistle since the sudden forced closure of Central Pier favourite, The Woolshed, more than four years ago.

The Moon Dog team is hoping to increase capacity to 1600 patrons, if licensing allows them to do so.

According to Mr van Buuren, walking into Moon Dog will be a “wow” experience, “feeling like you’re stepping out of Docklands into a jungle.”

“Every time you come back, you’ll experience

something new,” he said.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Daniel Hibberd said it was “fantastic that we are seeing new businesses coming into the area and showing confidence in Docklands.”

“It’s a really great story to showcase ... a local business, brewing local beer. Venues of this type have the greatest potential to bring crowds to the area, and we see first-hand how other businesses benefit from it.” ●



Jack Hayes
BUSINESS EDITOR
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▲ The AFL's Matthew Chun (second from right) at the Property Council of Australia event on October 25.

“Just an entrée”: AFL flags “density” for Marvel Stadium’s waterfront edge

Continued from page 1.

“For those who have maybe been to a function there [Marvel Stadium’s waterfront edge], or even looking from the concourse, the views even from there are amazing,” Mr Chun said.

“We’ve got some surplus land there [AFL House] and in conjunction with Development Victoria [we’re in discussions] about potentially redeveloping the Channel 7 site and our offices, which again, was the old Development Victoria offices way back when Docklands was first developed.”

“So, there’s the ability to go high there and the ability to go high with Channel 7. So, we’re doing a lot of work on that at the moment – that’s the next stage and that really is where we’ll see a fundamental shift in Docklands because of what that development will bring.”

While Mr Chun didn’t specify what sort of use and scale was being considered for both of the sites, his comments provide further weight to long-held views that Harbour Esplanade’s future is very much tied up with the AFL’s plans for the stadium precinct.

DV is the responsible authority for Harbour Esplanade, and while a master plan for the area was completed in conjunction with the City of Melbourne back in 2016, no further plans have since been released.

Following the closure of Central Pier due to safety issues in 2019, DV led a community consultation process in 2022 into the pier’s future which included the adjoining precinct along Harbour Esplanade.

The AFL’s current redevelopment of Marvel Stadium was made possible thanks to a deal with the Victorian Government in 2016, which saw the government commit \$225 million to the project in exchange for keeping the Grand Final in Victoria until 2059.

Mr Chun said that \$225 million didn’t “go very far” when it came to redeveloping a stadium, and that current efforts around the most heavily patronised entrances to the stadium were about getting best value for money on a

“very tight budget”.

He said that one of the big drivers for the AFL and the state government was about finding a “space in Docklands that people can use and enjoy in a protected environment that has some energy about it”.

Namely, its Town Square precinct, located between gates one and three near Victoria Point, has been designed with the ambition to increase the stadium’s number of annual events held from 80 to between 200 and 250.

“We want this to be active every single day of the year,” Mr Chun said, adding that Town Square would become “the City Square, or the Fed Square for Docklands”.

“It’s [the stadium’s] become a bit of a blocker because of how physically imposing it is, and when there’s no-one playing there it is quite desolate. The whole idea of this redevelopment is to change that,” he said.

“The current look is very defensive. Stadiums are designed to keep people in and keep people out, but that’s changing.”

“That’s something we’ve been working with the City of Melbourne on, is how can we have more public events in that part of town. So, we’re looking at a Christmas event, New Year’s Eve is spectacular in that part of town – there’s a lot of fireworks that get set off around our precinct so we think we can engage with that.”

“Bringing back some community activities like the markets and those sorts of things, which hopefully when Central Pier gets redeveloped that could then lead to that. So, we could be an entrée with whatever happens with that redevelopment.” ●



Sean Car
PUBLISHER
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Docklands’ queues for voting in referendum “not good enough”

With no polling booths available in the central city to vote in the Voice to Parliament referendum on October 14, Docklands’ only polling centre at Library at the Dock experienced wait-times of up to two hours for citizens to cast their vote.

WORDS BY *Georgie Atkins*
ELECTIONS

Despite Melbourne being Australia’s most populous capital city, the CBD was the only city centre across the country where the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) was unable to establish polling centres for the Voice referendum poll.

“It is not acceptable that there was no polling booth in the CBD,” city planning deputy portfolio lead, Cr Rohan Leppert said. “This is the hub of the state, a lot of people come into the city to vote from lots of different electorates and they need a place to vote.”

A spokesperson from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) explained that voting in the city is “always difficult” and that they “can’t always get premises for any operation of this size and on short notice.”

“We wanted venues in Melbourne’s CBD, liaising with more than 30 different premises – none were available that were suitable,” the spokesperson said.

“Last election we used the Exhibition Centre in Melbourne’s CBD, but it wasn’t available to use this time as October is the peak period for events.”

Citizens were directed by the AEC to plan their vote at one of the 30 polling locations available across the federal electorate of Melbourne, as well as encouraging pre-polling and postal vote options.

Despite these alternatives, excessively long lines formed at Library at the Dock’s polling centre, with Docklands’ residents also contending with voters in the CBD and from the neighbouring electorate of Macnamara.

“It’s incumbent on the AEC to find a venue – I know it’s hard, but they have to do it,” Cr Leppert said.

An analysis of the 2022 federal election shows a similar trend, with residents reporting wait-times of up to 90 minutes at the Library at the Dock polling booth.

“If this is a problem that’s going to keep coming back, then the AEC and the council needs to address it,” Cr Leppert said. “I do think that we can review our policies to make sure that every effort is made to provide council venues



▲ Queues began back past Community Hub at the Dock.

for polling booths, but ultimately, council only controls a fraction of the potential venues in the central city.”

The AEC acknowledged the “inconvenience that people experienced” throughout the referendum period, while also noting that “there were 15 alternative venues available within a 4km radius of the Docklands polling place.”

“Australia has some of the best access of all electoral processes around the globe, citizen expectations in the digital age don’t always accord with a manual process like elections or referendums – it does require some planning to see where and when you’ll vote,” the AEC spokesperson said.

“We accept that people had to wait longer than what is desirable at a couple of polling places, we’re sorry that was the case.”

Cr Leppert hopes that a review into the referendum nationally will involve a submissions process, which “the City of Melbourne would definitely participate in” to mitigate the problem from council’s end.


“I’m keen to ensure that if this situation arises again in future that it can be addressed, because it must not happen again.” ●

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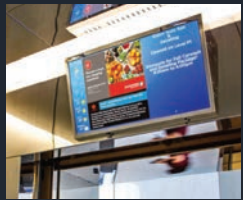
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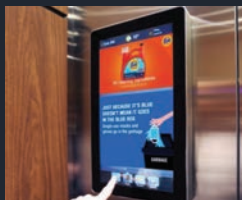
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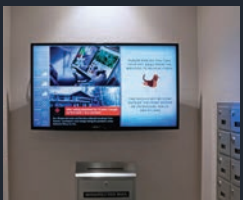
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Community News



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DOCKLANDS STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Together, we're creating a better future for Docklands



A year has swiftly passed since we gathered at the pivotal Docklands Summit, a yarn that sparked a commitment across our community to breathe new life into the heart of Melbourne's water gateway.



WORDS BY *Cr Jamal Hakim*

As we stand on the brink of the Docklands Stakeholder Group's third meeting, it's an opportunity to reflect on the journey we've embarked upon together.

Straight after the Summit, our focus was razor-sharp – we rolled up our sleeves and got on with delivering some short-term objectives.

Green initiatives sprang up, transforming empty spaces into communal and green areas including the Yanong Quai pocket park, additional greening under the palms at the corner of Harbour Esplanade and NewQuay Promenade, and the installation of 10 planter boxes along Harbour Esplanade.

These pockets of greening have not only beautified our surroundings but also reinforced our environmental stewardship and sense



of shared responsibility. In addition to these early beautification steps, a review of cleaning and maintenance contracts is under way to ensure local services are delivered optimally for Docklands. This has resulted in proactive action that will form part of everyday practice going forward.

A cornerstone achievement has been the establishment of the Docklands Stakeholder Group. Comprised of residents, business owners

and council representatives, this group is about ensuring that inclusivity is not merely rhetoric but a guiding principle of the transformation we are embarking on.

As they gear up for their third meeting, the group's dedication is unwavering, with three critical areas of action identified – making Docklands a safer neighbourhood, positioning Docklands as a distinct water precinct, and supporting greater community connection.

Continuing the wave of revitalisation, the City of Melbourne has unwaveringly prioritised Docklands among other areas that need additional TLC in its city activations. A testament to this was the exhilarating Now or Never festival in August. The streets pulsed with larger-than-life artistic expression, food, and the buzz of community, highlighting our waterways and our community.

But, let's pause and acknowledge a fundamental truth in our journey – this is a marathon, not a sprint.

Our accomplishments, though worth celebrating, signify the beginning of an enduring commitment. The medium- and long-term visions conceived at the Summit are gradually coming together. Collaboration and steady momentum fuel our progress, ensuring that each step we take is resilient, sustainable, and most importantly, community led.

This comprehensive approach is intrinsic to the framework set by the summit and the multi-agency partnership, ensuring Docklands doesn't just evolve for the present but thrives for future generations. It is this forward-thinking mindset that will guide Docklands from recovery to prosperity.

What does this mean for you, the heart and soul of Docklands?

It means your voice, energy, and ideas are

indispensable. This transformation transcends physical refurbishments – it's about fostering a communal spirit that underpins our actions. Your involvement is the lifeblood that drives change, ensuring we don't just build for our community – we build with our community.

As we move forward, we carry the lessons of unity from our initial Summit. We've seen firsthand the power of collective action. It's the conversations over coffee about urban greenery, the brainstorming at community centres, and the hands-on-action from members of our community that keep us moving forward.

The path ahead is woven with challenges, but it also brims with opportunity. With continued collaboration, there's no precipice too steep for us to scale. Docklands, the once-overlooked gem, is steadily securing its place as a beacon of cultural vibrancy, innovation, and communal solidarity.

And so, we stride forward with renewed purpose, ready to embrace each challenge with the same spirit of unity that has brought us this far. For, in this grand marathon, every step counts, every voice matters, and every victory, however small, belongs to us all. So, join us in making sure each step matters.

To find out more about the Docklands Stakeholder Group and actions from the Summit, join the conversations on the Docklands Neighbourhood Portal. ●

For more information:
participate.melbourne.vic.gov.au/docklands-neighbourhood-portal

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Two thirds of new Collins Wharf project already sold

PROPERTY

Victoria Harbour developer Lendlease's latest apartment project for the precinct dubbed "Regatta" is already two-thirds sold since its off-market launch in March this year.

The results are a positive indication as to the strong interest in the off-the-plan market in Docklands, with most of the early apartment purchases reportedly being made by first-home buyers and downsizers.

Located at 951 Collins St and designed by architect Warren and Mahoney, Regatta at Collins Wharf is a 29-storey development comprising a mix of 317 residences, including 290 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments and a collection of luxury four-bedroom residences.

Built atop the "finger wharf" between Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River, Lendlease's head of apartments Daniel Dugina said buyer interest has been buoyed by confidence in the delivery of the development.

"With two thirds of the homes at Regatta at Collins Wharf now sold, the significant demand demonstrates the return of confidence in the off-the-plan housing market with the development welcomed by first home buyers through to downsizers seeking a quality home within this desirable dual-waterfront neighbourhood with easy access to the CBD," he said.

"Regatta at Collins Wharf is the next stage of our ongoing investment in the area, with the precinct's location presenting an exciting opportunity for Melbourne's city centre to stretch further westwards and engage with the water, connecting its maritime past with the contemporary vibrancy of the city for residents, workers and visitors."

Early works have already commenced, with construction expected to start in early 2024 and anticipated for completion in 2026.

As part of the project, Lendlease said new parks and open spaces would also be created for the community.

In preparation for its build-to-rent development opposite Buluk Park, the developer recently cleared the site at the end of Collins and Bourke streets, which included temporary outdoor play and fitness equipment.

Lendlease has pointed the community to instead use the Docklands Sports Courts located at 68 Harbour Esplanade as an alternative option. These courts can be used as casual walk-ins as well bookings: activemelbourne.ymca.org.au/venues/docklands-sports-courts



Docklands puts on another cracking boat show

Well, how good was that?!

PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Hanna Komissarova*
EVENTS

Both Docklands and the spring weather turned it on for the return of the Melbourne Boat Show last month as more than 42,000 people flocked to the precinct for four days of the all-you-can-eat boating extravaganza.

Berthing along Harbour Esplanade and NewQuay from October 26 to 29, the 61st edition of the free annual event celebrated everything boating, hosting activities and attractions for the whole family with more than 100 impressive exhibitors on display.

Docklands' heritage fleet was also on display over at the North Wharf boat sheds, with local resident and City of Melbourne Cr Jamal Hakim paying a visit to the *Alma Doepel*, *Enterprize* and steam tug *Wattle's* teams on the day.

Boating Industry Association of Victoria Steve Walker deemed the event "a resounding success", adding: "Our members put on a great display of boats and boating lifestyle, and the new activations and features were really well received."



▲ Cr Jamal Hakim (right) with Enterprize volunteers at North Wharf on Sunday, October 30

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Marvel Stadium’s new “Town Square” to host Diwali

WORDS BY *Sean Car*
EVENTS

Docklands will host Melbourne’s largest ever Diwali festival on Saturday, November 11, in what will be the first major community event taking place at Marvel Stadium’s new Town Square precinct.

Diwali at Docklands, celebrating the Hindu festival of lights, will take over the redeveloped Town Square entrance between gates one and three at Marvel Stadium this month with a jam-packed line-up of entertainment and activities.

The festival is being organised by local not-for-profit organisation SarasCare with the support of the Dusk till Dawn Activation Grants program, which is part of the \$200 million Melbourne City Revitalisation Fund – a partnership between the City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government.

With the event being the first ever of its kind to take place within Marvel Stadium’s new Town Square entrance as part of its \$225 million redevelopment, festival organisers told *Docklands News* that more than 9000 people had already booked their free tickets at the time of publishing, with 1000 new tickets released.

Diwali at Docklands was formally announced on October 16 at a special launch event with Lord Mayor Sally Capp at Harbour Esplanade, where illuminated “Happy Diwali” signage has also been erected opposite Latrobe St.

CEO of Melbourne Diwali Anna Bhardwaj said, “Melbourne Diwali 2023 is more than just a celebration; it’s an embodiment of how cultures, ideas, and traditions can merge to create something truly spectacular.”

With Diwali one of a number of events

supported through the Dusk till Dawn grants program, the Lord Mayor said twilight events such as Diwali both illuminated the city, but also “electrifies our night-time economy”.

“These activations will see more than 80,000 people flock to the city to experience the best of Melbourne – taking advantage of our incredible retail and hospitality offerings by day and sticking around to soak up the nightlife.”

Victorian Minister for Tourism, Sport and Events Steve Dimopoulos added: “From Diwali celebrations in Docklands to Melbourne Fringe festivities at Queen Victoria Market, we are proud to back these events which join an action-packed line-up of creative activity.”

The festival will offer a wide range of foods, live entertainment, cultural experiences and giveaways, with the event also being broadcast live via social media.

Organisers are also calling on local businesses to sponsor the event, who will also have access to the “Diwali Business Lounge”, which Ms Bhardwaj said would provide “a hub for brainstorming, networking, and symbiotic collaborations”. The event is also being supported by more than 500 volunteers and performers.

A “Pre-Diwali Extravaganza” will also take place at The District Docklands on November 9 and 10, featuring an array of workshops, food, market stalls, dance, and fun – primarily curated for and by the local community and businesses. ●

For more information:
docklands.community

DOCKLANDS REPRESENTATIVE GROUP

Neighbourhood policing: local safety committee



On Friday, October 20, 2023, Victoria Police hosted the quarterly meeting of the Local Safety Committee for Melbourne West and Melbourne North.



WORDS BY *Acting Sergeant James Vass*
NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING COORDINATOR

This is a gathering of local stakeholders from these areas who meet to discuss the various safety issues we face. Discussed at length were some of the challenges we expect to deal with as we move into the next quarter, and what the police are doing to meet these challenges.

The Docklands precinct featured prominently in the discussions.

The 2022-2023 community sentiment survey results were presented, with public safety and road safety identified as being at the forefront of our community concerns. These results, together with statistical data, suggests that the priority for my office lies with improving public perceptions of safety – and this requires a clear understanding of what the problems are.

This is why these local safety meetings and other interactions are so important.

Issues raised included noise and unauthorised access to buildings, along with the persistent challenge of e-vehicle traffic, and the Bicycle Patrol Unit spoke to the various initiatives they have been undertaking within the Docklands areas.

One positive action was the recent “Ride2Work” initiative, which saw members from the bicycle patrol units engrave more than 50 bikes with unique identification numbers.

This will assist owners to identify and link ownerships of bikes in the event they are stolen. More than 300 people attended the event,



which was held along Harbour Esplanade, Docklands.

Foot patrols were also discussed. Police have been performing regular patrols at differing times throughout the week and during the weekend evenings. This will continue and become more frequent and better targeted as we work on our tasking around the areas where we can be most impactful.

Public engagement forums such as coffee with a cop were discussed and suggestions made for these sessions to be held at different times, including during the day, so that residents of all ages and abilities have an opportunity to participate. Further information on this will be made available in due course.

As we transition into the racing carnival and the festive season, it is important for me as the Neighbourhood Policing Coordinator to continue to actively engage with community and develop local relationships. This is crucial in my role and will assist me in properly utilising the resources we have available.

A large part of this process involves you, the residents and traders who live and work in Docklands. The better we understand the problems, the more efficient we can be in assisting in resolving them.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Policing framework is to work with communities to promote a new way of policing which increases our focus on issues that matter most. By working together, we can further analyse the issues to better define the problem and more effectively address it.

I look forward to continuing to engage with my community within the Docklands, and should you see me out there please don’t hesitate to stop and say hello. ●

CONNECT WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

The Docklands community Hub is a free online space to connect with fellow Docklands locals, stay in the know, post requests for help, share skills and local knowledge, ask for recommendations, discover local services, classes, retailers, events and more

DOCKLANDS NEWS



If you’re a local resident or business you can join up here

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SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

Petal Back Clothing has changed the game for wearers and carers

Dignity, comfort and ease are at the center of Linda Dugan's mission at Petal Back Clothing in Docklands, one of the most innovative adaptive clothing brands in the world.

If you've never heard of adaptive clothing, you're not alone.

Linda, a former swim and resort wear designer, first encountered the need for garments that could accommodate the elderly, disabled and those with limited mobility when her grandmother suffered a stroke and could no longer dress herself.

Using her design skills, Linda created a nightie that could be easily slipped on and off, without her grandmother having to hoist her arms in the air.

Linda has since expanded to an impressive range of pieces catering to a wide clientele including blouses, pants, singlets, polos and options for men as well.

For people in high care, even the slightest movement can be incredibly painful. Linda's designs, with their distinctive 'petal back' are reverse engineered from the swimskirt. Each garment is meticulously designed to minimise the need for movement and manual handling when those in care are being dressed by someone else.

changing of incontinence aids, yet never exposing underwear like a hospital gown would. You can't tell any of this from the front - it just looks like an ordinary garment," Linda said

.....
"This provides the wearer with a level of comfort, dignity and style that can't be found anywhere else. When loved ones go into care, the importance of having them maintain their style, personality and dignity can't be understated," she said.

Where other adaptive clothing providers would usually use velcro, zips or studs that can be painful to sleep on and difficult for carers to manoeuvre their loved ones into, Petal Back Clothing's innovative design truly stands out.

There is an unimaginable amount of care and consideration in every stitch. Linda has thought of everything from patterns designed to cover up food and tea spills, to how stronger, high-quality fabrics made to last are needed as garments must go through medical grade industrial laundering.

We recognised Petal Back Clothing as a Lord Mayor's Small Business Innovation Award finalist.

While the accolade is justly deserved, Linda maintains that the biggest reward is making a difference to someone's care, often in their final years.

"This woman came up to me at an event and told me that five years ago she purchased Petal Back garments for her younger brother with early onset dementia. She said the pieces made the biggest difference until the end of his life at age 49. To me that is the most amazing thing in the world, I love doing what I do," Linda said.

Find Petal Back Clothing at The District Docklands.



A career as a swimwear designer stood Linda Dugan in good stead as she launched her adaptive clothing range, Petal Back Clothing.



Linda Dugan and Lord Mayor Sally Capp at the awards ceremony.

"Double layers allow the back of garments to both open up and fold over each other to close completely, sliding up the arms first, and then over the head. It's soft and comfortable to lie on, and parts easily for convenient

ABOUT THE LORD MAYOR'S SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

Melbourne is full of fantastic small business success stories.

The business owners showcased on these pages are recipients of this year's Lord Mayor's Small Business Awards. The awards celebrate the people behind inner-city businesses that have stood the test of time.

Among the recipients are legends who have been in business in the city for 10+, 20+ and 40+ years. We also name a Small Business of the Year and Small Business Innovation Award.

To read our full profiles on these businesses and more, visit news.melbourne.vic.gov.au

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LE TAJ RESTAURANT

Curry. Some like it hot, some like it not. But one thing we can all agree on is that curry connoisseurs are spoilt for choice in Melbourne.

But if it's heat you seek, Le Taj Restaurant and Lounge in West Melbourne is home to the hottest curry in Melbourne.

It's a hefty claim but restaurateur Prabjeet (Pat) Oberoi said Le Taj's recipe for the bhut jolokia packs a heat level to test even the most seasoned spice lover.

Made using Naga Viper peppers or ghost chilies as they're also known, the bhut jolokia is "five times hotter than a vindaloo", Pat said.

"The idea for the dish came about when I thought of cooking

something super spicy which not many Indian restaurants were doing."

From breads to biryanis, crispy samosas to savoury pakoras, and vindaloos, tindaloos and every curry in between, Pat and his team combine authentic Indian spices and techniques to create a menu of traditional and contemporary North Indian meals.

Migrating from India to Melbourne in 2001, Pat knew he was destined for a long career in the hospitality industry, and it wasn't before long he opened Le Taj in 2006.

We've recognised Pat and Le Taj Restaurant with a Lord Mayor's Small Business Achievement Award.



AMERICAN DOUGHNUT KITCHEN

Those queues you often see at the Queen Victoria Market lead to one of Melbourne's best-loved treats – a sugar-coated, jam-filled delight of a doughnut produced by the same families for more than 70 years.

The American Doughnut Kitchen was recently recognised with an Achievement Award in the Lord Mayor's Small Business Awards. Julie Boening is the daughter of one of its founders and brings its history to life with her warm memories of time spent bagging up doughnuts as a child.

"My father would be absolutely amazed to think the business has thrived for so long. To be recognised by the award means a lot to me," she said.

It's almost impossible to imagine the market without the doughnut kitchen handing out bags of sweetness to locals and tourists alike.

"It's the smell that gets everybody in. The doughnuts are made fresh every day, they're made from dough so they have to prove overnight. I think the vintage van is the attraction too," Julie said.

"Lots of people come for the theatrics. Early in the morning people stand outside and watch the staff rolling the dough and cutting it out by hand. Once cooked, the doughnuts get turned into a tray. Jam is put in using a hand-pumped machine, then they're put in the sugar bowl to coat them nicely."



CARLTON YACHT CLUB

It's for very good reason Melbourne was named in the world's top five travel-worthy drinking destinations this year.

The key to this acclaim is Melbourne's cultural diversity and the waves of migration over the years from Italy and Greece to more recently from Asia which have influenced our city's bar scene.

Take Carlton Yacht Club Bar for example. It's behind a blink-and-you'll-miss-it door, in a sea of espresso bars and cucinas in the heart of Little Italy.

But it's owner Andrew Leonedas' Greek heritage that has perhaps unwittingly influenced the nautical theme.

"I came up with the name as it represents the relaxed environment I wanted to create and constructed cocktails and added decor to suit. Customers love the name and the irony that Carlton has no water," Andrew said.

Carlton Yacht Club Bar is now one of Lygon Street's longest-standing cocktail institutions, evoking a sense of carefreeness and fun one would associate with sailing the Aegean Sea.

We've recognised Andrew and Carlton Yacht Club Bar with a Lord Mayor's Small Business Achievement Award for more than 20 years in business.



MARY MARTIN BOOKSHOP

As a UNESCO City of Literature, books and reading are embedded in Melbourne's culture.

And independent bookshop Mary Martin has proved popular over the years with literary lovers, which is why it's been recognised as a Small Business of the Year finalist in this year's Lord Mayor's Small Business Awards.

Owner Jaye Chin-Dusting left behind a career in medical research to bring new life to Mary Martin, first opened in 1945. Today, Mary Martin has three stores - in Southgate, Port Melbourne and a newly-opened branch at Queen Victoria Market.

True to the spirit of the original Mary Martin bookshop, all are welcome to take their time perusing the shops' extensive collection.

"Mary Martin is a very personal space. It's not just about the books – it's about people coming in and feeling at home to browse to their heart's content. Particularly in our Southgate shop, we get lots of office workers coming in during their lunch break who just need a breather," Jaye said.

About 70 per cent of the books stocked are standardised across the three branches - but the rest are targeted towards that area's demographic.

"As one of the world's strongest reading communities and a City of Literature, Melbourne is a great place for a bookshop to do business."

More delays on bike lane projects, as Flinders St pushed back

A key bike lane project that will improve connection between Docklands and Fishermans Bend is likely not to meet its promised completion date.

WORDS BY *David Schout*
TRANSPORT

Inner-Melbourne bike lane projects continue to languish, after it emerged that consultation on the crucial Flinders St lanes has been delayed.

A promised June 2024 completion date for the works, dubbed “the biggest and most complicated road reconfiguration” this council term, now appears highly unlikely to be met.

One of the city’s most important bike lane projects, the City of Melbourne had promised to deliver four kilometres of separated bike lanes along Flinders St – starting in Docklands and finishing at Spring St – within the current financial year.

However, *Docklands News* understands key consultation work for the project, flagged to take place between July and September, had been pushed back.

The news is another delay to the city’s wider bike lane rollout.

In June it was revealed the City of Melbourne delivered just 700 metres of new protected bike lanes in the previous 12 months.

It has now conceded that the vow to install 4.4km of infrastructure by June 2024 – a pledge made in February 2020 after declaring

a “climate and biodiversity emergency” – would not be reached.

The council has delivered around half (20km) of that goal to date.

The City of Melbourne did not address a series of questions put to it by *Docklands News* regarding the Flinders St works.

“We’re taking the time needed to ensure all bike lane projects are implemented properly,” a spokesperson said.

“We must consider community feedback on designs and understand how major changes to transport infrastructure and further disruption in the city will impact the way people move around.”

The City of Melbourne is not solely responsible for delays to expanding the protected bike lane network.

After designs for each project are completed, a decision rests with the Victorian Government which at times has taken a number of months to sign off approvals.

However, the Flinders St project was currently in council hands, and a first quarter (July to September) pledge to undertake consultation on all 2023-24 cycle infrastructure projects had not been reached.

Cr Rohan Leppert said delays “need to be addressed”.

“Council won’t meet our target for 4.4km of separated bike lanes by June 2024. That’s not for lack of political will or budget, both of which are clearly established,” he explained.

“Most uncertainty stems from the state government approvals stage, though the council does control timing over consultation, design, tender and construction.”

“There is obviously a mismatch between what



council unanimously adopted in our Annual Plan and Budget and the reality of delivery, and that needs to be addressed.”

The Flinders St bike lane project not only represents one of the longest (four km) in the council’s entire rollout, but is on one of Melbourne’s busiest streets.

It will deliver improved connections between Docklands and Fishermans Bend, CBD, and Southbank, linking the Capital City Trail with recently constructed protected bike lanes on William, Queensbridge and Exhibition streets.

Cr Leppert has previously termed it the “biggest and most complicated road reconfiguration we will see in this term of council”.

However, with the next local government elections in less than 12 months, there is now a serious question of whether this term of councillors will see the project come to fruition.

In the past three years the delivery of cycling infrastructure in inner-Melbourne has been a case of diminishing returns, with 11.7km of lanes delivered in 2020-21, 4.9kms delivered in 2021-22 and just 700 metres in 2022-23.

Positively for cyclists, however, unspent funds allocated to bike lanes in 2022-23 would be carried over, meaning the allocation to install protected lanes would rise to more than \$7 million in 2023-24, rather than \$4 million initially designated in the budget. ●

New committee unveiled to boost daytime economy

WORDS BY *Brendan Rees*
BUSINESS

A newly formed committee aimed at “turbocharging” the city’s daytime economy has been established as the City of Melbourne looks towards new growth opportunities post-COVID.

The committee, which will be made up of Melbourne business owners, employers and entrepreneurs, will advise the council on a range of initiatives in what they believe will drive visitation and workers to the city on days when pedestrian movement is low.

At the time of publishing, councillors were set to consider a shortlist of nine members at their October 31 council meeting.

They included QV Melbourne’s centre general manager Arabella Richards; District Docklands CEO George Karabatsos; Australian Venue Co. CEO Paul Waterson; Hatch Quarter CEO Aiman Hamdouna; STREAT co-founder and CEO Rebecca Scott; and Ripe Cheese founder Hakim Halim.

Other committee members were National Australia Bank head of communications – enterprise agreement Jo van Zeeland; Mandala founding partner Jason Tabarias; and Mary Martin Bookshop owner Dr Jaye Chin-Dusting.

Lord Mayor Sally Capp said the committee’s unique views, and “on-the-ground understanding” of the city’s conditions would be an “incredible asset” to boosting daytime trade.

“We want to create more business, visitation and vibrancy across the city – and that’s what this diverse group of experts will set out to do,” she said. “For example, we know Mondays are our quietest day of the week. Our committee of experts will

use their knowledge to help us boost worker and visitor activity to establish a consistent seven-day-a-week city economy.”

Earlier this year, council data showed Friday and Saturday had led the CBD’s recovery since the pandemic with more money spent on retail and dining.

Mr Hamdouna, who co-founded Hatch Quarter, an innovation hub, as well as Mo Works, a digital agency to drive industry transformation (both of which are based in Docklands), said he was “deeply honoured” by the shortlisting and looked forward to enhancing Melbourne’s economic prospects.

“As a member of this esteemed committee, I am committed to leveraging Melbourne’s vibrant lifestyle, robust retail sector, and dynamic workforce to drive sustainable economic growth,” he said.

“Through Hatch Quarter, we have connected technology and innovation ventures into international markets and worked with international ventures to expand into Australia.”

“I intend to continue using global experience to elevate Melbourne’s position and connection with the global business and innovation community.” Mr Hamdouna described the city as a “hub of innovation and talent, with a thriving startup ecosystem, exceptional event infrastructure, and world-class educational institutions.”

“Melbourne’s diverse and inclusive culture is a unique asset, creating a thriving, inclusive, and harmonious business environment that, in turn, drives economic growth.”

The City of Melbourne will host a City Economy Summit on December 6 to inaugurate the committee and focus on gaining insights into the challenges and opportunities currently faced by Melbourne’s economy. ●

Melbourne skateboarding artist presents new exhibition in Docklands

ARTS & CULTURE

Ground-breaking multidisciplinary artist Brett Ashby, whose portrait work painted from a skateboard has captured international acclaim, will open his new exhibition *Bliss* in Docklands in November.

Since moving to Escala in NewQuay, Docklands as part of the Renew Shopfront Activation Program, Ashby has held more than 33 performance art events where he has painted subject portraits while riding his skateboard, supported by a live musician.

Operating under Brett Ashby Institute of Fine Art, a live art gallery titled *Inner Essence*, the trailblazing artist, musician, performer, and author is halfway through a 12-month residency at the site and has since presented a diverse offering of exhibitions and events.

Known for his live event portrait painting on a skateboard of internationally recognised musicians, Ashby will open the doors for the first time revealing some highly collectable pieces of contemporary art. Paintings will vary from London to Tokyo, icons to faces, animals to vehicles, featuring works from the past decade.

For the first time ever, Brett Ashby will be hosting an exhibition of his paintings in Melbourne after living abroad for many years prior to this residency in Docklands.

Ashby began exhibiting his work in the USA in 2009 where his photographic collage artworks resonated with art collectors at Art Basal in Miami, most notably his artwork of the 44th US President, Barack Obama.

A graduate of RMIT and MA Queens College Of Fine Art in London, his commissions include *Sculpture by The Sea* in Bondi, Art Town, The Olsen Melbourne, Art Series, Cube Art Fair, New York.

With a career spanning 15 years Ashby has forged a name with his unique performative and public art practice and his works are in collections around the world including in Texas, Berlin, Cape Town, London, Tokyo, Paris, and New York.

In October Peter Hitchener and Kate Laidlaw joined the long list of subjects to be painted by Ashby, which also includes Sam Newman, John Foreman, Zana Pali, Bessie Kay, Scott Major, Steve Alba, and singers Tania Doko, Phil Jamieson, Fred Leone, Dallas Frasca and Lisa Edwards.

Speaking ahead of the opening night of *Bliss* on November 23, Ashby expressed just how important this exhibition was to him.

“I’ve been told you manifest your thoughts, and, on this



occasion, I look forward to this joyous spring period of growth with you all,” Ashby said.

“I have been holding some very revealing paintings in my private collection for some time, during *Bliss* the exhibit I look forward to them being seen, for the first time.”

“I’m currently painting a piece titled, *\$200B, 1800x1800mm acrylic on canvas* while riding my skateboard. If I’m complete in time for *Bliss*, it will be front and centre, still on my easel.”

Bliss will officially open at 7pm on November 23 for a VIP and media night. For enquiries email media@brettashby.com.

The exhibition will run from November 24 to December 16. The gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday from 10am to 3pm at 377 Docklands Drive. ●

For more information:
brettashby.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Safe space for dogs

Hi team,

I am writing to you regarding the situation we find ourselves in with such a shameful Melbourne City Council constantly disadvantaging Docklands as beyond reproach – adding another layer between the council and the residents through an appointment of a so-called “neighbourhood partner” has been laughable!

I submitted the following through the City of Melbourne’s website directly:

“I am aghast at the lack of action (more than 12 months) from the council to improve Docklands parks particularly for dogs. Without a fenced area to exercise the large population of dogs in our suburb is deplorable.”

“I also think that the introduction of a ‘neighbourhood partner’ has been an abject failure – always uncontactable, doesn’t follow up and has delivered no improvements through engagement with residents.”

“We have no advocate for Docklands and poor outcomes for community safety which includes the wellbeing of animals. I wish the council would embrace a greater focus on delivery for the community above its focus on matters that have a political focus – that’s what the government is for. The council must be for the residents who pay the rates.”

“I have now witnessed the group of residents that gather with their dogs each day exercising their dogs in the swamp behind the park between Harbour Esplanade and Navigation Drive!”

“Seriously, it’s so poorly maintained by the

council, there will be snakes in there during summer! A third of residents have animals in Docklands, there is a large population of dogs, and still nowhere for them to exercise.”

“Even in St Kilda on the iconic foreshore (a tourist destination) they could construct a fence, but not in Docklands! We are instructed to take our dogs off-leash to Lorimer St adjacent to a busy road with trucks and a playground (against their own council rules!).”

“There are nominated off-leash times that are not always suitable to the working residents. The other area nominated for off-leash exercise, also does not align with times for employed residents and booked sporting activities, where sports are prioritised.”

“I am absolutely over it with this shambolic council, honestly, a panel of actual residents similar to a body corporate would do a better job.”

Hope you can help raise awareness.

Kind regards, Lucy

Disappointed in the council

It is absolutely disheartening to read about the inept Melbourne City Council (MCC) doing nothing about making Docklands a special place. They and Development Victoria show a total lack of vision for this beautiful waterway, and I am sick of the puff positives of Sally Capp. In truth, nothing is happening apart from stifling roadblocks.

Brisbane and Sydney are thriving while Melbourne becomes a messy, sad city.

Leaders need to be held to account for their incompetence.

Please don’t print the “we are doing this that and the other” stuff but demand accountability for this vital part of our city or the sacking of the MCC.

Di Andrews

Short stays ruining Docklands

I’ve lived in Docklands for more than six years. I enjoyed living here because it was relatively quiet city living, close to the CBD without the inner-city live style hustle and bustle.

The short-stay accommodation has destroyed the small slither of a community we have here. People who have lived in the area for a long time have moved out and been replaced by transient students, short-stay vacation seekers, and weekend partygoers.

Parties occur every weekend, some buildings are worse than others, mostly because of the price of the stay but that’s negated by participants, six people renting a two-bedroom apartment at \$300 a night is under \$50 each. For reference I’ve seen more than 12 people stay in a two-bedroom apartment on multiple occasions.

Other issues include increased anti-social activity, people whizzing around on scooters shouting in the street on their way to a night out somewhere. I took my dog out at 8pm a couple months ago and found someone smoking a crack pipe in the children’s park.

So, 7.5 per cent on \$300 a night is \$22.50. Let’s divide that by a conservative number of

three guests which is \$7.50 each. You can’t even buy a nice lunch for \$7.50; this makes absolutely no difference. A perfect example of a government employee knowing there’s an issue but has no idea about the issue.

Short-stay operators are running seven-figure, yes, seven-figure businesses here.

Quick maths: one operator here has 64 apartments. Assume 70 per cent occupancy rate at \$200 a night – that’s \$3.2 million a year. These are large scale commercial enterprises operating in a residential area. I would like it treated as such, i.e., planning permission and rezoning individual apartments as micro hotels which they wouldn’t get approval for thus they should all be shut down.

Now you might say, “what about people that want to rent their own apartment out for a few weeks during the tennies, for example?” Sure, but there needs to be a limit. I think three months is fair.

Owners should be allowed to do a short stay for three months of the year max. The rest of the time should be for long term renters. This will force the apartments to be either privately owned living in and on occasion shorted stayed or they will be just long-term renters.

The best way to view this is full time short-stay accommodation is a business. Businesses cannot just set up shop and start serving customers next to your house, but they can here.

It’s not right, it’s not decent and it doesn’t support a cohesive safe and enjoyable community to live in.

Jason ●

STATE MP

It wasn’t a YES, but the fight for First Nations justice continues

“

The referendum result wasn’t what we wanted.

”

When the result came in, I was feeling devastated. Especially when data showed that Indigenous communities overwhelmingly voted yes to the Voice to Parliament.

But I was heartened to see our community here in Melbourne had the highest YES vote in the country, with 77.1 per cent of the Melbourne electorate voting yes.

I want to send my love and solidarity to First Nations people, who have fought for justice and



self-determination for generations.

I also want to thank everyone in our community who joined this campaign. I was so proud to volunteer on polling day alongside so many engaged and compassionate locals in our community.

If (like me) you’re feeling a sense of loss, remember that there are many pathways forward in this fight.

The Greens and I will continue to work with First Nations people to urgently advance Truth and Treaty across the country.

The referendum clearly showed the need for truth-telling across this country. Misinformation and violent rhetoric spread fast and wide during the campaign, led by high profile conservative figures.

Our country needs to come together and learn about its past so we can heal and move forward together through Treaty or Treaties.

The Treaty process has already begun here in Victoria, but it also needs to happen at a

national level. My Greens colleagues, including your federal MP Adam Bandt, will be continuing to push for that in Federal Parliament. At a state level, we’ll be making sure the Treaty process lives up to what it needs to do.

A Treaty must be built on the acknowledgement of First Nations’ sovereignty. It also needs to include First Nations people and governments committing to responsibilities, promises and principles for how we work together going forward.

If you’d like to be involved in the push for Truth and Treaty, sign up at greens.org.au/truth-treaty. ●



Ellen Sandell

STATE MP FOR MELBOURNE

OFFICE@ELLENSANDELL.COM



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BUSINESS

A Docklands favourite now open on Sundays

For Docklanders Sunday is now the day to enjoy your favourite pub classics at Platform 28.

WORDS BY *Jack Hayes*

Formerly a railway goods shed, Platform 28 stays true to the history of the site, bringing a rustic historical charm that has won the heart of locals for the past 13 years.

Noticing a need to fill the gulf of options for a relaxed Sunday meal around Victoria Harbour, Platform 28 general manager, Dave Gurdler, decided his team “wanted to bridge that gap for the community,” and with it he has brought a rejuvenated seasonal menu featuring vibrant and refreshing meals and drinks.

“We’ve just reached 13 years in October, and what our customers have expected over that period has been great food, great service and a relaxed ambience,” Mr Gurdler said.

“We noticed there aren’t many places opened for lunch or dinner on a Sunday on our side of Docklands. Now, we are open every day of the week, to continue delivering that service we have become renowned for.”

“With spring here, and summer approaching, our beer garden is always a favourite to enjoy the outdoors but protected from the elements.”

“We have a huge range of tap beer, with Carlton Draught tank beer recently installed,

we have a great range of spritzes and cocktails, and our seasonal menu is just about to launch.”

Mr Gurdler said he expected locals to enjoy the new menu additions like pan seared salmon on a Japanese style salad or the pan seared bar-mundi on a Vietnamese-style slaw.

You’ll also find the usual range of pub classics like Black Angus beef burger with cheese, bacon, cos, tomato, gherkin, aioli, and American mustard sided with chips and tomato relish; free range chicken parmigiana topped with leg ham, Napoli sauce and mozzarella served with chips and house salad, and a selection of local pasture fed steaks.

“The past few months we have noticed an uptick in weekday trading from corporates and residents,” Mr Gurdler said. “With a good return from international visitors, along with our usual locals and corporates, we’ve bounced back and surpassing pre-COVID patronage.”

Platform 28 is open seven days a week, 12pm to late. ●

For more information:
platform28.com.au



Caution in cutting conveyancing corners

Anchor Conveyancing has been helping Docklands clients to safely navigate the legal difficulties of buying or selling a property for more than 10 years.



In this article we would like to give an insight into an often-overlooked aspect of a conveyancing transaction – the relevance and importance of property searches.

A conveyancing quote for a sale or purchase will comprise professional fees and an estimate of outlays.

It is tempting for consumers to save a few dollars by choosing the cheapest quote, but of all the choices in life to chase a bargain, it is not recommended doing so when buying or selling your most expensive asset.

Property searches are the important documents that describe the relevant information about condition of the property as of a particular date. Searches in the Contract of Sale are often compared to a “photograph” of a property condition as it exists at the day of sale.

Among other items, it shows the fees and charges, debts, legal action, zoning and recent status of permits. That photograph must be an accurate representation of the property.

When you are selling, S32 of the *Sale of Land Act 1962* specifies what items and information must be in the statement provided at the time of signing.

Where a seller knowingly or recklessly fails to provide the information or provides false information, the current fine is \$11,538.60 for an individual.

You will sometimes see unit sales

where a vendor refuses to provide owners’ corporation certificates in the statement at the time of signing, wrongly trying to special condition their way out.

Aside from potential fines, a seller faces the risk of a buyer having the right to end the contract at any time. Therefore, it is essential that your conveyancer is ordering the correct full range of searches.

When representing a buyer, it is vitally important that your conveyancer orders a new set of searches prior to settlement. You need to take a “photograph” of the property just before it settles and compare it to that at the time of sale to make sure things have not changed.

Among the myriad of risks, the buyer is at danger of inheriting property debt if not paid out at settlement. We’ve seen a debt for thousands lodged by an owners’ corporation for vendor damage to common property that could have been missed, council fines and orders – the list is endless.

At Anchor Conveyancing we offer free pre-purchase advice where we talk about this in detail. Buying or selling a property is one of life’s most expensive financial transactions, make it safe. ●

For more information:
info@anchorconveyancing.com.au

Celebrating the end of year in style at The District

When it comes to truly unique experiences it’s hard to argue any better place in postcode 3008, or Melbourne, than The District Docklands.

From the cool reprieve of O’Brien Icehouse or the thrill and excitement of Archie Brothers, to the newly opened Soul Garden Korean BBQ Buffet, summer at The District presents a smorgasbord of fun, food, and frivolity.

Here’s our list of must-visit experiences to close out the year:

Play

Archie Brothers Cirque Electric

At Archie Brothers, you’re spoiled for choice with endless thrills, plenty of games, delicious food, and incredible cocktails. Try your luck against Archie’s games and you could get your hands on the coveted collectables atop our jackpot.

Laser Tag starts at \$16 per adult, bowling \$33 per adult and arcades play \$30 for 30 minutes.

O’Brien Icehouse

There is something for everyone at O’Brien’s with a choice of skating with a lesson, curling, ice hockey, Skating + Artvo and more.

Adult tickets start at just \$31 and children \$15.

Brush by the Vines

If you are looking for a fun end-of-year celebration activity for your workplace, friendship group or family, The District studio can host up to 60 people and for a limited time only, spend \$1500 on your event and get \$100 on the bar tab.

Tickets are \$65 per person and include one complimentary drink on arrival.

Saboteurs

Fans of the hugely popular online game AmongUs will revel in Saboteurs, an immersive, interactive space-themed game.

Each game of Saboteurs is designed so that one to 15 players of all ages can play.

Saboteurs is great for all ages and prices start from as little as prices start at \$35 per person for 30 minutes of gameplay.

The FRIENDS Experience

Explore set recreations like Monica and Rachel’s apartment, the iconic FRIENDS™ fountain, the famous “PIVOT!” scene, the legendary Central Perk and so much more. Prices start at \$36 for children and \$45 for adults.



Eat

Urban Alley

You’ll have multiple areas where you can celebrate any event with Urban Alley Brewery Docklands.

Choose from their private function room, The Laneway, Deck area – outside, The Terrace – outside and undercover, inside the Brewpub or take over the whole Brewpub and have exclusive use.

Krabbys Crab Boil

Now taking bookings of up to eight people Krabbys Crab Boil is serving seafood with a twist. Get your bib and gloves on and indulge in delicious seafood and a variety of sides.

Stay

Marriott

Located right above The District Docklands lives the 5-star Marriott Hotel.

The Marriott offers a stunning infinity pool with beautiful city and water views on the 15th floor.

Hotel guests, residents and members of the public have access to enjoy the 280-degree view of the water and city over a drink or bite to eat at the Marriott pool lounge bar. Rooms start from \$290 and are available 7 days a week. ●

For more information:

thedistrictdocklands.com.au/events/end-of-year-celebrations

BUSINESS



Four Points by Sheraton Melbourne Docklands: “the locals’ choice hotel”

A hotel might not be the first place you think of when it comes to spending time at your “local,” but at Four Points by Sheraton Melbourne Docklands, Docklanders are doing exactly that.

WORDS BY Jack Hayes

Whether it be their locals-only discounts at Dock 18 Restaurant and Bar, experiences in partnership with Port Phillip Ferries, Marvel Stadium or The District Docklands, or just the opportunity to escape the heat in their level seven swimming pool, Docklanders are turning Four Points into the “locals’ choice hotel.”

General manager of Four Points by Sheraton Melbourne Docklands, Chris Johns, said the development of local partnerships has been crucial to the success, not just of the hotel, but the wider business community.

“We are working on partnerships within the suburb to create Docklands as its own destination within the Melbourne market,” Mr Johns said. “We are working with a range of businesses, including Port Phillip Ferries, Marvel Stadium, The District Docklands, O’Brien Icehouse and Docklands Studios, on how we can enhance experiences in Docklands and support one another.”

For all locals who can prove they are a resident of Docklands, Four Points offers a 20 per cent discount off their bill at Dock 18.

Alongside their daily “Happy Hour” deals, locals will find a range of weekday specials sure to scratch your dining itch, no matter what day it is. They are Monday Fish and Chips, Tuesday Pizza Night, Wednesday Parma Night, Thursday Steak Night, and Friday Hibachi Grill.

“Dock 18 is a popular spot among NewQuay residents, and as we are open for breakfast as well, we one of the few all-day dining options in the area,” Mr Johns said.

“You can have a city staycation and stay in the city, without actually being in the city. The advantage of being in a hotel in Docklands, you have views for kilometres, but if you stay in the CBD, you might be looking across a laneway at another building.”

“You experience a lot of tranquillity staying in Docklands, but you’re still in the free tram zone and in five to eight minutes, you could be in the heart of the city.”

On hot days, Mr Johns explained, the hotel sees large increase in “on the day bookings” from people within Docklands who want to use the large outdoor swimming pool.

With a west-facing pool boasting spectacular views and sunsets, it’s not hard to realise why.

Four Points by Sheraton Melbourne Docklands is located at 443 Docklands Dr.

To find out more about local offers or to book Four Points ever-popular Christmas Day buffet lunch, head to its website or call 8578 0000. ●

For more information:
dock18restaurantandbar.com
fourpointsmelbournedocklands.com

HEALTH & WELLBEING



Navigating stress through mindfulness, movement, and connection

In its vibrant tapestry, life weaves threads of stress into our everyday experiences, subtly altering the colours of our emotional and physical wellbeing.

mind and becomes a powerful ally in mitigating stress. Utilising techniques like diaphragmatic and alternate nostril breathing, we not only enhance physical health but also effectively pacify our mental state.

Dynamic living: activity against stress

Physical activity intertwines with our wellbeing, offering a lively, endorphin-infused counterpoint to stress. Whether through running, yoga, or dancing, movement transmutes the energy of stress into vitality and wellness.

Artistic release

Art provides a boundless space where emotions, particularly those interwoven with stress, can be expressed and explored.

Engaging in expressive arts, be it through painting, writing, or dancing, offers a vessel to articulate and sometimes liberate emotions.

The healing power of connection

Human connections, enmeshed with empathy and shared experiences, possess a profound ability to lighten our stressors. Cultivating these ties goes beyond mere socialisation – it’s about fostering a supportive network where authenticity and vulnerability are embraced.

Conclusion

Navigating through stress involves a multifaceted journey from understanding its essence to engaging in mitigation strategies like mindfulness, breathwork, physical activity, artistic expression, and nurturing social connections.

The goal is not to erase stress but to forge a balanced, symbiotic relationship with it, seamlessly integrating knowledge, practices, and communal ties to pave a mindful path toward overall wellbeing and harmonious living. ●

Understanding and navigating through stress – recognising its dual roles as both a silent underminer and a potential motivator – is crucial for steering our health and inner peace with mastery.

This journey invites us to explore varied landscapes, from the mindfulness of the present moment to the expressive relief of creativity, and find our unique, effective pathways to gracefully dance with stress.

Embark with us on a journey to explore, understand, and navigate the intricate pathways of stress, discovering empowerment and tranquility amid life’s inevitable challenges.

Decoding stress: our silent shadow

Not inherently harmful, stress becomes detrimental when it shifts from a fleeting state to a permanent fixture, silently impacting our wellbeing. Recognising the dichotomy between eustress, constructive stress, and distress, a corrosive variant, allows us to chart a course towards mindful stress management and serenity amid the chaos.

Mindfulness for stress reduction

Mindfulness, the practice of residing wholeheartedly in the present moment, extends beyond a stress management technique, serving as a lifestyle that nudges us towards intentional living. Engaging in mindfulness involves welcoming thoughts and emotions without judgment, seamlessly integrating this practice into daily activities, and inviting a deeper, more appreciative interaction with life’s experiences.

Breathwork for relieving stress

Breathing is a vital force connecting body and



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MAKING MOVES

Boosting business profits through sustainability



Docklands has long been a champion for sustainability, designed to reconnect the city with its water. Once wetlands, Docklands now epitomises green living beside the CBD, with free public transport, bike lanes and parks alongside waterfront views.



WORDS BY *Mo Hamdouna*
MOWORKS.COM.AU

However, championing sustainability doesn't end at the waterfront. As the world focuses increasingly on sustainable living, businesses are following suit. Though it may seem daunting, sustainability can boost profits and drive business growth for those willing to embrace it. Here are some ideas to get you started.

Take a look at your current operations

Investigate your current operations to identify areas where improvements can be made. Can you reduce waste or employ greener energy solutions?

Set your green goals

Whether you want to overhaul your business or make a few tweaks, identify your key focus areas, and define specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound (SMART) sustainability goals.

Integrate sustainability into your processes

Identify where you can incorporate these SMART goals into your business. It could be switching to an energy provider that offsets carbon emissions, sourcing sustainable materials, or optimising your website for sustainability.

Engage your employees

Involve your employees in activities and practices that have sustainable results. Encourage them to suggest ideas and engage with your goals. Whether it's brainstorming circular business practices or a team-building trash pick-up around our beautiful waterfront, every initiative makes an impact.

Do your research

Find new innovations and ideas, look at what others in your industry are doing and identify ways to implement or improve them. There are a variety of innovative solutions that are both environmentally and financially friendly.

Communicate your sustainable effort

Not only can boosting your sustainability efforts work towards creating a greater, greener future, but it can greatly impact your brand image. Communicating your efforts with your audience can attract eco-conscious consumers and retain or increase existing customer loyalty. Embracing eco-solutions in your business practices can often lead to cost savings through energy and waste generation reductions. It can also increase brand image and loyalty as consumers prioritise sustainable solutions when choosing services.

Ready to contribute to an even more sustainable Docklands? Get in touch with us to keep making moves and taking bold steps towards your business growth. ●

MELBOURNE MARITIME HERITAGE NETWORK



▲ Photos from the Children's Maritime Heritage Medley Program hosted by the Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network.

Photos: Hanna Komissarova.

Young people REALLY matter to MMHN!

Melbourne Maritime Heritage Network (MMHN) is intent upon growing maritime heritage "awareness" among young people; that is, creating maritime enthusiasts of the future! We have hurdles to overcome.

Melburnians have forgotten that we live in Australia's major Port City of our island nation. Today, our ports remain the basis of prosperity and they are now largely hidden from public gaze.

The maritime sector is still at the heart of our national economy and our defence. What can be done to bring this crucial knowledge into focus for the young – whose future it is after all.

First things first – let's start with the obvious

All of us, regardless of the topic, don't "know" what we don't know. MMHN perceived this to be true about maritime heritage. We noted that for children there was little information available to them.

So, MMHN commissioned and recently launched, the very first-ever historically accurate children's book (years 7 to 12) about Victoria's maritime history entitled *River to Bay*. The cost of this 40-page, beautifully illustrated, hardcover publication is \$25. Docklands parents can order by email info@mmhn.org.au or phone 0400 305 323.

Again, stating the obvious. Many of us fail to "see" what we are not actually looking for.

Although Docklands children (and all residents) live in a unique maritime location, it comes very much "alive" if we actually take a purposeful look around at their maritime environment. This is why MMHN established the **Annual Children Art Exhibition** at Docklands Primary School. An award ceremony takes place at Centre Stage at the Boat Show.

Finally, MMHN recently hosted a **Children's Maritime Heritage Medley Program**, a strategy directed at engaging young people, but which actually seemed to be of considerable interest to adults too!

At the Library at the Dock theatre, the medley three-hour program showcased six maritime related organisations. e.g., Heritage Victoria (Wrecks), Seaworks, Offshore & Specialist Ships, Steam Tug *Wattle*, the *Polly Woodside*, Waterways Branch (City of Melbourne), U3A Maritime Quiz and Mission to Seafarers Sea Shanty Singing.



▲ Former Victorian Premier Ted Ballieu, Jackie Watts and Deputy Lord Mayor Nick Reece launch River to Bay.



It was a program somewhat akin to "speed-dating" or toe-dipping in that each maritime organisation gave a 10-minute presentation on a fascinating maritime topic and, we hope, a tantalising range of information and activities.

There was plenty to excite and engage many in the community – as well as the children. ●



Jackie Watts
CHAIR OF MELBOURNE MARITIME HERITAGE NETWORK
INFO@MMHN.ORG.AU

Docklander

Young Docklands talent wins grand finale of prestigious cooking competition

“

At just 22, Docklands resident and commercial cookery student Jimmy Han is at the top of his game after claiming victory at the coveted Nestlé Golden Chef's Hat Award competition.

”

WORDS BY Georgie Atkins



Currently working at two-hatted restaurant and *The Age Good Food Guide's* 2023 Victorian Restaurant of the Year, ARU in Melbourne's CBD, Mr Han impressed judges with his “unforgettable” three-course dining experience.

The talented William Angliss Institute cooking student was crowned the Golden Chef of the Year in what is Australia's longest running and most credible competition for young chefs, with finalists from New Zealand also vying for the trophy this year.

“I've been lucky enough to work as an apprentice at a two Michelin-starred restaurant in Taiwan, this made me realise I wanted to elevate my skills as a chef,” Mr Han said.

“The dining culture in Melbourne is so diverse, which I love, and going into the grand finals of Golden Chef's, I felt excited to take my cooking to the next level and I was confident in my approach.”

As well as securing the Golden Chef title and being the only chef on the day to achieve triple golds for his menu, in a competition first, Mr Han also won two awards for Best Savoury and Best Dessert.

Mr Han's winning menu reflected the changing seasons through each dish in his thoughtful, storytelling approach that also focused on sustainability.

A torched corn salad with nashi pear, baby spinach and Greek yogurt represented “Green in Spring” for entrée, as well as “Orange in Autumn” for main with Murray Cod and chorizo, fennel wakame salad, sweet potato puree and tom yum butter sauce.

To finish, Mr Han delivered “White in Winter” for dessert, with vanilla black pepper

bavarois, sable lemon gel, white chocolate soil with shaved macadamia and raspberry jelly.

“It takes a lot of courage for young chefs to step up and be critiqued at such a high level,” head judge and Nestlé professional commercial development chef, Elke Travers said.

“All the finalists this year have been truly impressive, but Jimmy's dish execution went above and beyond. This win is definitely going to launch his career to new heights, and I can't wait to see what he accomplishes in the future.”



In winning the competition, which was held in Sydney in September, Mr Han was awarded a two-week culinary experience in Europe valued at \$10,000, which includes travelling with the Australian team competing at the IKA Culinary Olympics in Germany.



He has also received a custom set of bespoke KOI Knives. For the Best Savoury and Best Dessert awards, Mr Han also received two \$2500 tuition packages.

“I can't wait to see where this journey will take me next in terms of my culinary career,” Mr Han said.

The Nestlé Golden Chef's Hat Award competition has been giving young chefs the opportunity to kickstart their careers since 1965, supporting more than 7500 chefs.

“Being part of the Golden Chef's Hat Competition gives the next generation of chefs the opportunity to put themselves to the test, improve their cooking skills, and connect with like-minded chefs as well as the broader industry,” Ms Travers said. ●

CHAMBER UPDATE

Events season in Docklands

With summer well on the way it's been fantastic to see the sun shining down on Docklands, particularly when we have events galore right on our doorstep this month.

WORDS BY Daniel Hibberd

PRESIDENT - DOCKLANDS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Experiencing even more success than last year, the Melbourne Boat Show set its sails high and achieved nothing less than a spectacular turn out over the four days from October 26 to 29, bigger and better than ever. This was the perfect event to showcase our waterside precinct at its finest.

As the growing crowds enjoyed the sights in the sun it was fantastic to see local businesses providing show specials for everyone to enjoy as they soaked up the atmosphere.

We'd like to say a big thanks to the show organisers for bringing this to our backyard and look forward to seeing you again next year.

On events, Marvel Stadium has November covered with concerts by international K-Pop sensations TWICE, old school rockers Def Leppard and Mötley Crüe, not to mention that the 2023 FIM World Supercross Championship is back this year after a hugely successful pilot event that entertained 85,000 fans with elite motor racing and freestyle motocross stunts.

In Docklands we enjoy a melting pot of culture within our community and what better way of celebrating this than with Melbourne's biggest festival of lights as Docklands welcomes Diwali.

This in-person event promises a vibrant immersion into the Festival of Lights, featuring traditional music, dance, and mouth-watering Indian cuisine.

Attendees can explore cultural activities, henna tattoos, and a bustling marketplace offering authentic cuisine.

The festivities extend to exclusive spaces like the Melbourne Diwali Business Lounge sponsored by the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, which will blend tradition and modern business paradigms.

Whether a local or visitor, the event invites everyone to embrace the spirit of Diwali, fostering unity and cultural appreciation.

So, everyone get down to the upcoming festivities between November 9 and 11 hosted at The District Docklands and Marvel Stadium Square.

Keep an eye out for next month's edition for details on upcoming Christmas activations and networking opportunities. ●

THE NEW-LOOK 2023 DOCKLANDS DIRECTORY

For where to shop, eat, stay and play,
head to docklandsdirectory.com.au

To list your business or for advertising enquiries,
Contact: jack@hyperlocalnews.com.au



WE LIVE HERE

OWNERS' CORPORATION LAW

Greens pressure on short-stay levy

The Victorian Greens have written to the Treasurer Tim Pallas saying they will oppose Victoria's proposed short-stay levy unless they get substantial changes to the state government's new housing policy.

We Live Here regards the proposed levy, which could be as little as \$10 on some properties, as a negligible nano measure that is openly revenue-focused rather than regulatory.

The Greens are seeking rent controls, regulation of the short-stay industry including 90-day caps, and other social housing policy changes. The party has given the government three months to "negotiate in good faith" to avoid the housing Bill failing.

The government's Housing Statement says 29,000 entire homes are listed on short-stay platforms. The government's statement explains why they want a levy:

"These are places that cannot be used for longer-term accommodation or rented out on fixed term agreements – so it makes sense that they should provide some benefit toward the places that can."

Yes, there it is, documented in the government's own words – the short-stay levy is a cash cow.

The government needs those 29,000 houses to remain on Airbnb or Stayz.

Imagine for a moment that a small short-stay levy could influence a significant number of landlords to convert back to long-term rentals, which is risibly unlikely – the whole funding model for Homes Victoria would collapse.

Financially, one must admit the idea behind the levy is brilliant – a cash bonanza from a tiny little levy that everyone will forget about eventually. Simultaneously, without any other action to solve the short-stay chaos, it is politically inexcusable.

We Live Here hopes the Greens' pressure on the government will get results.

New leadership must mend the legacy

After eight years of inaction under Mr Andrews, Victorians have a new leader. Can we expect any legislative change?

The never-reviewed, never-amended "short-stay Bill" was embedded in the *Owners' Corporation Act 2006* despite enormous community opposition. Residents' complaints have been assiduously ignored for nearly a decade.

The short-stay party Bill was either a case of "drafted to fail" or "failed in the drafting" – in other words, insidious or incompetent.

Under Jacinta Allan's leadership the government has an opportunity to make some real change. Now is the time for the state government to redress the harm caused by political inertia of the past few years.

For example, a St Kilda resident recently lost their VCAT case against continual drunken abusive incidents at short stays. With the disgraceful behaviour alternating between apartments, it is virtually impossible to take successful action against a single lot.

Premier, let's learn from other places like New York – Victoria can do better.

Just for a start, we need day caps and self-determination for owners' corporations. And whatever is enacted, regulations must be fair, realistic and enforceable.

We Live Here looks forward to meeting with the new Premier and having meaningful dialogue – and outcomes.

Campaign donations

As a not-for-profit organisation, donations from individuals and buildings keep our campaigns going. To register or to donate, visit welfare.net



Barbara Francis & Rus Littleton
CAMPAIGN@WELIVEHERE.NET



VCAT determines that monies paid by an insurer to an OC for a lot owner's claim are held "on trust"

A VCAT decision released last month confirmed the position that any lot owner in a building may file a claim against the owners' corporation's (OC's) policy of insurance.

Furthermore, if the insurer accepts the claim, the money must be paid to the OC's account, but must not be withheld by the OC or be subjected to arbitrary pre-conditions before payment is made.

In the decision of *Powell v Owners' Corporation 537738Y*, Ms Powell brought a claim for flooding of her lot which the insurer eventually accepted after a protracted complaint to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA) and paid the OC the sum of \$240,000.

However, the OC refused to transfer the funds to Ms Powell, until she took steps to prove she was imminently about to repair her lot first.

The VCAT disagreed with the OC's conduct, and made orders that Ms Powell be paid straight away.

The OC is however, entitled to deduct the policy excess before transferring the funds to the relevant lot owner by virtue of the new Section

23A of the *Owners' Corporation Act 2006* amendments passed in 2021.

In some towers in metropolitan Melbourne, burst water pipe claims can carry a policy excess of \$10,000 and sometimes \$20,000 per claim.

Policies of insurance such as the one under which the Insurance Monies were paid out are arranged by an OC to cover both its common property and the property of the lot owners. Such policies are paid for by the lot owners and are for their benefit. In arranging them to cover the lot owners' properties, the OC acts as the agent of the lot owners. Since the OC is the contracting party, it is to the OC that the insurer should make payment after a successful claim by a lot owner.

Accordingly, the insurance monies were received and are held by the OC as the agent of the lot owner.

It is well-established that an agent, who holds funds paid to it for the benefit of a principal, holds those funds as a fiduciary and that the funds will be held in trust on behalf of the principal and paid out at the principal's request.



Tom Bacon
TOM BACON IS THE PRINCIPAL LAWYER OF STRATA TITLE LAWYERS.
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Digital noticeboards: revolutionising communication in Melbourne's Paragon Apartments

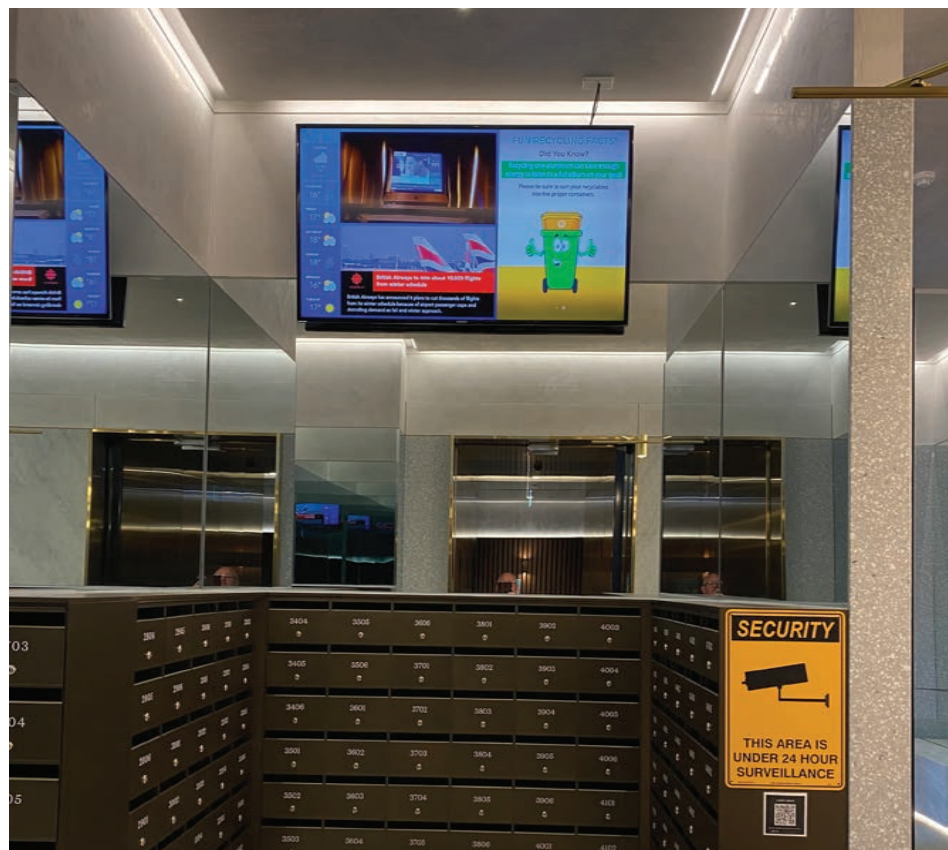
Melbourne's CBD is renowned for its iconic landmarks and bustling cityscape, but one development stands out as a symbol of modern luxury living and community engagement.

WORDS BY Alex L. Smith
BUSINESS

Paragon Apartments, a mixed-use, 48-level residential tower, has not only redefined urban living but has also embraced innovative technology to foster a more connected and informed community.

Built on a prominent corner of Melbourne's CBD, the Paragon Apartments project was a remarkable undertaking that combined modern luxury with a commitment to preserving the city's heritage. The redevelopment and preservation of the iconic façade of the former Melbourne Celtic Club have given this skyscraper a unique character, blending the old with the new.

The tower, with its striking architectural design, accommodates 227 residences, each offering a piece of the cityscape as a private sky garden. It's a breathtaking concept known as the "urban forest," where residents can escape the urban hustle and immerse themselves in a serene, green oasis in the sky.



Digital noticeboards: connecting communities

What truly sets Paragon Apartments apart is its dedication to keeping residents informed, engaged, and connected.

This commitment led to the owners' corporation (OC) engaging CommVision, a trailblazer in digital signage solutions. Its digital noticeboards and screens have become the cornerstone of communication within the Paragon community.

CEO and founder of CommVision Alex L. Smith emphasised the importance of technology in fostering a sense of belonging.

"Our mission is to enhance communication within communities. Paragon Apartments is a shining example of how technology can make modern living more vibrant," Mr Smith said.

Melbourne's leading OC management company, Engine Property Group, manages Paragon Tower and its business development manager Mr Merit Arpacı attests to the system's benefits.

"Our residents appreciate the convenience of instantly receiving essential updates. It makes our job easier and reflects positively on our approach in fostering transparency and enhancing engagement within communities," he said. "CommVision's solutions align seamlessly with our goals."

Building the future of modern living

The Paragon Apartments collaboration between residents, CommVision, and the OC manager exemplifies the role technology plays in creating informed and connected communities.

In an era where technology is shaping the way we live, Paragon Apartments leads the charge, embracing the power of digital communication to foster a more connected, informed community. The collaboration between Paragon Apartments, CommVision, and Engine is a testament to the positive impact technology can have on building management and the resident experience.

Free digital notice board and revenue sharing options are available. Terms and conditions apply.

About the author

Alex L. Smith is the CEO and founder of CommVision, a leading digital signage provider that specialises in enhancing communication in residential and mixed-use developments. With a strong commitment to community-focused solutions, Alex has played a pivotal role in bringing innovative technology to modern living spaces. Under his leadership, CommVision continues to make waves in the industry by prioritising residents' needs and fostering vibrant, connected communities.

For more information:
commvision.com.au

What's on: November 2023



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Celebrate the Hindu festival of lights at the redeveloped Town Square entrance between gates one and three at Marvel Stadium with a jam-packed line-up of entertainment and activities.

docklands.community



THURSDAY NOVEMBER 23, 7PM

BLISS, AN EXHIBITION.

'BLISS' an exhibition by Brett Ashby, VIP & MEDIA NIGHT

Dress code: Formal

RSVP media@brettashby.com

377 Docklands Drive

UNTIL NOVEMBER 27

LIBRARY CINEMA (FREE)

Last Monday of every month, 3pm to 5pm. August 28: Quartet.

Come along for contemporary, classic and documentary films on the big screen. Feel free to stay for snacks and a chat afterwards.

Library at The Dock



UNTIL DECEMBER 31

MAKERS MARKET AT THE DISTRICT

Last Sunday of every month, 11am to 4pm.

Enjoy live entertainment and creative, colourful market stalls showcasing art, craft, jewellery, fashion, homewares, gifts, and delicious homemade and homegrown produce.



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Monday and Tuesday

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makingwavesfoundation.com.au/volunteer



DECEMBER 4-22

CHRISTMAS ICE SKATING AT O'BRIEN ICEHOUSE

Get ready to escape the summer heat and dive into some festive fun at O'Brien Icehouse at The District Docklands.

obrienicehouse.com.au

10 YEARS ON

Looking back at Docklands News - 10 Years On

NOVEMBER 2013 | ISSUE 92



Fraser connection with dome



The crew at the Mission to Seafarers was in good company last month when former Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser stopped by for lunch.



Mr Fraser, who was Australia's 22nd Prime Minister, and his wife Tammy were invited to lunch after a friend of theirs visited the mission and mentioned the family's connection with the Norla Dome.

"When Mr Michael Taylor visited the building a few weeks earlier with an interest in the Norla Dome he was the key to the visit from our VIPs," MtSV CEO Andrea Fleming said.

"Knowing Malcom and the Fraser family connection with Norla, he then invited the Frasers for a curry lunch."

Norla was the home of Sir Simon Fraser and his wife Lady Fraser, who were Mr Fraser's grandparents.



▲ Tammy and Malcolm Fraser joined MtSV CEO Andrea Fleming and her team for lunch at the mission.

Regular fetes held at Norla raised funds for the construction of the mission.

In 1917, 700 pounds was raised for the construction of a gymnasium for seafarers, which was named the Norla Gymnasium in honour of Sir Simon Fraser and Lady Fraser. ●

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Quiz



1. What is the longest bridge in Melbourne?
2. Lupita Nyong'o (pictured) won a Screen Actors Guild award for her role in which 2013 film?
3. How many pieces of public art are there in Docklands?
4. A cygnet is a baby what?
5. Former British prime minister Winston Churchill won a Nobel prize in what?
6. Which two local businesses in Docklands have joined forces?
7. Xi Jinping is the president of which country?
8. Which planet was named after the Roman god of financial gain and commerce?
9. What sport is raising awareness for breast cancer survivors in Docklands?
10. What zodiac sign is between Aries and Gemini?
11. How many people did Melbourne's Now or Never festival bring to Docklands?
12. How many tram routes are there in Melbourne?

QUIZ SOLUTIONS

1. Bote Bridge 2. 12 Years a Slave 3. 68
4. Swan 5. Literature 6. Harbour Pharmacy and PetWell 7. China
8. Mercury 9. Dragon boat 10. Taurus
11. More than 35,000 12. 24

5x5

No. 030

Insert the missing letters to make 10 words – five reading across the grid and five reading down.

S		U		D
	U		N	
A		S		E
	T		E	
M		E		S

SOLUTIONS

SQUID, PUNNY, AISLE, STEER, MEETS

PUZZLES AND PAGINATION
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PAGEMASTERS.COM November, 2023

Sudoku

No. 029

Fill in the blank cells using the numbers from 1 to 9. Each number can only appear once in each row, column and 3x3 block

EASY

1				5				
3	5		1	6	2			7
					4	5		1
	6	1				3		2
4								9
2		8				7	1	
6		2	9					
7			2	1	8		9	6
				4				3

HARD

3		8			2	1		
			7					9
		1		5	3			4
7	4							
6				3				9
							3	7
	1		2	7		3		
	2				6			
		6	4			5		2

SOLUTIONS

EASY

8	7	2	5	4	9	6	1	3
9	6	4	7	1	2	5	3	8
8	5	1	3	7	6	2	4	9
5	1	7	9	3	8	6	2	4
6	9	8	3	5	2	1	7	4
2	6	1	2	8	7	6	9	5
3	4	2	7	9	7	9	2	6
7	3	3	4	5	2	9	8	7
4	2	4	6	2	8	3	6	1

HARD

2	7	5	1	6	7	9	3	8
4	1	6	9	8	3	2	7	5
9	8	3	5	2	2	1	4	6
7	3	9	4	2	2	8	6	5
6	5	7	3	1	7	3	1	9
1	2	8	6	9	5	3	4	7
8	1	2	8	9	1	9	1	2
4	6	7	1	8	2	9	9	4
5	2	1	9	2	1	6	7	3

Wordfind

Theme: Under the Sea

The leftover letters will spell out a secret message.

G	R	E	P	P	A	N	S	W	L	G
N	O	E	F	L	A	T	H	E	A	D
I	C	L	O	N	U	I	R	L	S	M
T	A	E	D	R	T	E	A	O	A	A
I	R	F	G	E	K	I	N	B	L	R
H	P	E	B	C	N	S	U	S	M	L
W	O	A	A	H	I	P	T	T	O	I
N	I	M	C	R	A	B	E	E	N	N
T	N	D	O	C	Y	A	R	R	U	M
S	W	O	R	D	F	I	S	H	C	G
I	D	N	U	M	A	R	R	A	B	H

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| BARRAMUNDI | MURRAY COD |
| CARP | SALMON |
| CRAB | SNAPPER |
| EEL | STURGEON |
| FLATHEAD | SWORDFISH |
| GOLDEN PERCH | TUNA |
| LOBSTER | WHITEBAIT |
| MACKEREL | WHITING |
| MARLIN | |

Secret message: Gone Fishing

Crossword

No. 029

ACROSS

- 1 Predictions (9)
- 6 Greek letter (5)
- 9 Quicker routes (9)
- 10 Mission (5)
- 11 Jot (4)
- 12 'Idiot box' (10)
- 14 Runway hub (7)
- 16 Facet (6)
- 18 Dark blue (6)
- 20 Manipulate (7)
- 23 Plant shelter (10)
- 24 Male elephant (4)
- 26 Jobs (5)
- 27 Contamination (9)
- 28 Finished (5)
- 29 Finds (9)

DOWN

- 1 Intriguing (11)
- 2 Cockerel (7)
- 3 Domestic animals (4)
- 4 Scholars (8)
- 5 Method (6)
- 6 Accept reluctantly (9)
- 7 Exact (7)
- 8 Fitting (3)
- 13 Holland, The - (11)
- 15 Arranged (9)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8
9										10				
11						12								13
14						15				16				
										17				
18		19								20			21	
								22						
23												24		
												25		
26										27				
28										29				

- 17 Comforts (8)
- 19 Attired (7)
- 21 Insulting (7)
- 22 Jumped on one foot (6)
- 25 European currency (4)
- 26 Dead heat (3)

SOLUTION

S	H	E	A	O	S	T	I	D	D	E	D	N	E	I
D	A	R	E	E	E	S	K	S	L	A	L			
N	O	I	L	T	L	O	P	I	S					
V	S	E	O	P	I	S								
T	L	H	E	S	N	O	H	N	E	E	H	D		
H	B	N	H	V	E	R	N							
I	V	E	R	J	O	D	I	G	N	I				
H	E	O	S	H	I									
I	D	E	S	V	I	H	O	D	H	I	V			
E	S	E	M	N	E	N								
N	O	I	S	I	A	B	E	L	E	V	I	O	I	
O	N	I	O	S	S	O								
I	S	E	R	O	S	I	N	O	C	I	O	H	O	S
P	H	O	A	I	V	O	V							
F	O	R	A	L	P	A								

Codeword

No. 029

5				20		24		5		16		12		10		2		2		13		3	
3				10				11		11				18			11					6	
10		18		7		11		17		3		12		7		11		13		7		3	
5				10																		20	
9		4		13		21		10				13		3		18		10		3		18	21
10								18				3				21						O	
20		11		22		10		21		11				8		10		11		18		20	3
						13				3		1		7									13
22		12		11		10		12		10		3		3		14		22		3		13	
10						21				6				22						11			10
15		4		3		4		3				19		10		13		13		21		O	22
4						11				20				23		11				10			5
3		15		4		11		21		O		12			9		O		O		5		3

SOLUTIONS

X	O	W	D	N	H	C	L	P	Y	K	O	B
10	15	12	22	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15

9-Letter

No. 029

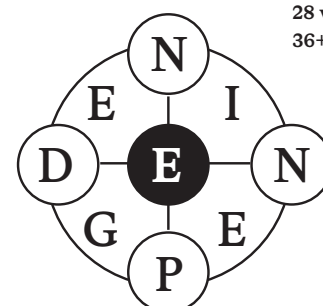
Today's Focus:

20 words: Good

28 words: Very good

36+ words: Excellent

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural words ending in "s".



SOLUTIONS

deep, deepen, DEEPENING, deign, den, dine, edge, ending, engine, epee, epigene, ged, gene, gent, genned, ginned, idee, indene, need, needng, neep, nide, nite, ped, peeing, peen, peened, peening, pend, pending, penne, penned, pide, pided, pine, pined, pinene, pinged, pinned

Reference:

Collins Concise English Dictionary

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