

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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A Docklands Christmas

Docklands resident Brooke Anderson is bringing her new puppy Oscar to live in Docklands when her family returns soon to NewQuay.

The Andersons have been repairing and renovating their apartment but will be returning in time for Christmas – and Oscar is coming with them. See Pets Corner on page 27 for more.

Local facilities: All talk, no action

By Alison Kinkade

VicUrban is backing away from previous commitments to community infrastructure in Docklands.

Six years ago VicUrban was proud to say that it required all developers to contribute 5 per cent of their built space to community infrastructure (also called human services).

But today, with practically nothing to show on the ground, VicUrban says it is wrong to talk in terms of percentages.

According to acting general manager for Docklands, Simon Wilson: "The Second Decade of Docklands is about more than just buildings. It's about people."

According to its 2004 timeline, VicUrban and the City of Melbourne should have already delivered a community hub, an aged-care facility, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities and a primary school.

Instead, it has gone back into "consultation mode" and is again asking Docklanders what they want.

Asked specifically about the 5 per cent contribution, VicUrban said it was seeking ideas and opinions: "Upon completion it is expected that the level of community infrastructure within Docklands will reflect the needs of the Docklands community."

VicUrban says that 1,144,983 sqm or 44 per cent of Docklands was completed or under construction as of last December. However it also admits that only 12,000 sqm – or 1 per cent – has so far been dedicated to community infrastructure.

And even then, VicUrban's definition of what constitutes a community facility is questionable. It nominates three projects – the Harbour Family and Children's Centre in Victoria Harbour; the National Ice Sports Centre at Waterfront City; and Melbourne City Sports offices on the stadium concourse.

Some 129,853.3 sqm will need to be allocated to facilities if the 5 per cent figure is to be met when Docklands is finished.

With the exception of Lend Lease, Docklands' developers are also ducking for cover when questioned on their commitment to community facilities, with many citing commercial confidentiality as their reason for not responding.

ING Real Estate offered a flat "no comment". MAB said it would have more to say in the new year while Mirvac and PanUrban failed to return numerous calls and emails from *Docklands News*. Digital Harbour says if it houses a primary school, then that would more than satisfy its obligations.

Lend Lease said in its master plan, it was committed to delivering a civic building at Dock Square, an amphitheatre, a community boating hub, parks and promenades, as well as potentially a tall ship museum and a 50-metre heated outdoor public pool.

Docklands Community Association president Roger Gardner said he also understood there was a 5 per cent requirement. He said what has been developed so far was completely inadequate.

"It is unacceptable that we do not even have a community hall and that we have to pay restaurants to conduct community meetings," Mr Gardner said.

"We are still waiting on a library which is said to be coming, but who knows when, and we also need recreational facilities," he said.



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Deadline for the February 2011 edition
is Wednesday, January 26, 2011.

Thanks for 2010

Thanks everybody for making 2010 a great year for Docklands News.

Thanks to you, our readers for being so interested in Docklands and for snapping up our 14,000 copies when they hit the street.

Thanks also to our advertisers. Obviously, there would be no paper without them, so please continue to support their businesses.

A special thanks to Peter Crowley who, during his year as advertising manager, kept the income flowing and the wolf from our door. Peter has moved on to a new job but has left a lasting legacy of goodwill.

His successor Sean Rogasch is new to sales. But, like Peter, he clearly has the attributes which will make him a great ambassador.

Thanks also to young journalist Alison Kinkade for giving us the first 12 months of what will no doubt be a long and successful career. Alison has grown and matured in the role – as evidenced by her story on page 1.

Thanks to all our contributors and to Karl and Adelheid for our distribution.

Thanks also to Kris and Ned for admin and design support. To Guil, Blake and Linh, thanks also for your contributions in 2010.

Shane Scanlan, Managing editor

VicUrban’s D2 – The big lie



I am looking at VicUrban’s Docklands Second Decade website and I am getting angry.

Why do these people have to make it up? What’s wrong with being genuine?

It’s October 29, the day after they have released a so-called “shared vision” document, and I am regretting that I have to wait a month for the December edition of the paper to express my views.

I suspect that the state election is a factor. They’ve probably been leaned on. And aimed at people (read non-local media) who don’t really know what is happening down here, it’s relatively easy to generate a cheap headline.

VicUrban (with its partner in crime, the City of Melbourne) has gone to a lot of trouble consulting about the “second decade”. In fact, they claim to have spoken to nearly 4000 people and, for the sake of the argument, let’s say they did (although the facts surrounding this have been previously reported in *Docklands News*).

So why didn’t VicUrban listen to the 4000? And why are they lying when they claim that the five BIG ideas they have ended up with were generated via this process?

The ideas are Central Pier; Harbour Esplanade; harbour link; the library; and western park. Let’s look at them ...

Central Pier: They had to do something. The current suggestions are a convenient excuse to tell Hatem Saleh’s Atlantic Group that it can no longer charge for car parking on Crown Land;

Harbour Esplanade: They can’t seriously claim this re-development as a new idea. It’s been years in the planning;

Harbour Link: This idea was first publicly aired when Lend Lease revealed its draft master plan for Victoria Harbour on July 15 and has obviously been talked about for some time “inside the tent” before that. It was actually shown by former VicUrban general manager David Young during his Powerpoint introduction to the so-called D2 “consultations”. *Docklands News* asked VicUrban for a copy of its presentation at the time but, when it was sent through, the reference to the bridge and western park were not included. VicUrban explained: “This does not include the slides on the ideas as these have no status and were purely used for workshop discussion.”

How curious that both these “ideas” have now been attributed to the “consulted” public. On the second decade website (www.docklandsseconddecade.com) they even include an alleged quotation from one of the 4000 consulted citizens: “I’d like a pedestrian bridge that connects Docklands, creating one big loop around the harbour.”

The library: Can they be serious? This was announced and budgeted long before this “consultation” was started; and

Western park: This is similar to the above harbour link “idea” in that it came from within – not the public. It also has been talked about by the insiders for years. In fact, last October the Lord Mayor suggested that this facility become a training ground for the Melbourne Football Club. And what do you know? Melbourne has now expressed its interests on the back of the “consultation”. To suggest that a member of the public came up with the concept during the consultation is simply a lie.

In a cynical insult, the D2 website has a heading “Get involved” under the five “ideas” and has links to: Register your interest; Have your say online; and Consultation events.

The prevailing theme on these new “ideas” is that each has three options. It’s the options,

not the ideas themselves, that VicUrban now wants to discuss. How convenient. You are going to die ... would you like to be: Electrocuted; Shot; or Hanged?

Would you like your western park: Ecological; Recreational; or Sporty?

Would you like your harbour link: Structural; Floating; or Pivoting?

The fact that VicUrban feels the need to deceive the public is alarming. But it suggests an organisation which has lost its way – which is bereft of a reason for being.

Watch out for other VicUrban ideas coming soon, masked in the sweet-smelling aroma of a D2 consultation. For instance, VicUrban is currently looking at introducing retail into phase two of its Harbour Esplanade redevelopment. If we end up not being able to see the water because of a row of shops, don’t be surprised if the justification is “D2”.

The whole idea of a “consultation” is noble. After all, we are perhaps the only community in Victoria which is legislatively disenfranchised. We have no say and that’s the way it is.

Docklanders are weary from years of being asked what they want. They are tired of answering that they want the same community facilities that other communities have.

They want a place to meet, they want a tennis court, they want parks, they want places to shelter from the wind. An oval would be great, and how about a school?

The problem with Docklands is that we have four levels of government. We have the usual federal, state and local spheres. But we also have VicUrban which is not publicly accountable, which is motivated by generating money for the state and which is holding this community back.

Their work is done here. They should go away – move on – and allow us to get on with things instead of pretending that they still have a role and a purpose.

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North Wharf to stay low key

By Shane Scanlan

The State Government has selected a sympathetic “local” bid to redevelop North Wharf.

Under the successful bid by a consortium comprising Asset 1 and the World Trade Centre (WTC), Seafarers Park will be retained in full and enhanced.

A real estate agent’s prospectus calling for registrations of interest sparked outrage in April when it said the Government was willing to rezone the park from “public park and recreation” to “capital city zone 1” to allow development.

Local MP Bronwyn Pike subsequently assured Flinders Wharf residents that this was not the case, and denied intervening in the process.

The historically-protected Shed 5 and crane will be restored as part of the successful bid and a modest commercial building of 10 to 12 storeys will be built on the land between the shed and Wurundjeri Way.

WTC director Phil Hill said an “ultra-luxe” hotel would also be part of the development.

He said the 40-room hotel would be incorporated into the shed and could sit above the river. Mr Hill said the hotel would set new standards for luxury in Melbourne.

The rest of Shed 5 would most likely have an “epicurean” function, he said.

WTC has separately entered into an agreement with the Mission to Seafarers to establish a building restoration foundation for the heritage-listed charity in Flinders St.

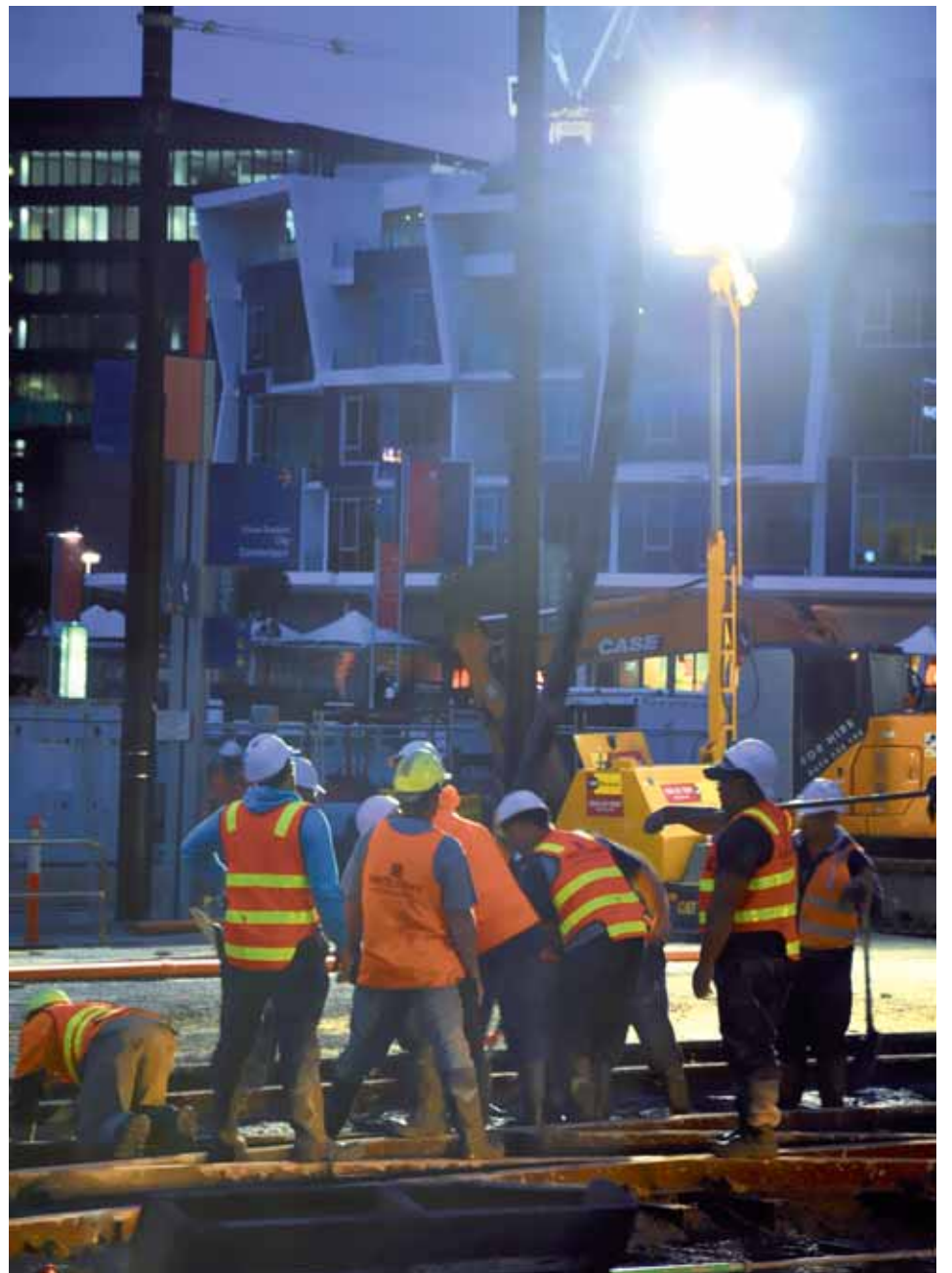
Mr Hill’s consortium signed a memorandum of understanding with the State Government in October. But there is a fair way to go before actual plans are revealed.

Mr Hill said the agreement reached with the Government was “high level” and research and design would continue until early 2011 when a proposal would be ready for public comment. He declined to say what he offered to pay for the long-term leasehold.

He said it was unlikely that work would start within the next two years and it was likely to be a further two years before completion.

It is understood that the WTC bid beat more robust proposals for residential towers.

“Ours is a mixed use, medium-density bid which we believe is the right blend of uses for the site,” Mr Hill said.



Work continues at a frantic pace throughout the night as workers rush to connect tram services.

Harbour Esplanade closure pain passes

Docklands endured a week of disruption and isolation in November but has emerged with stronger tram services and significantly more potential public space.

Harbour Esplanade reopened to trams and traffic, as scheduled, from the first tram on Saturday, November 20, following a seven-day tram and road shut-down to complete track works and to transfer the tram services to the centre of the road.

Teams of workers toiled non-stop to meet the deadline, transforming Docklands into a hive of activity.

VicUrban has thanked all those affected by the closures for their patience and support.

Tram services are now running in the new configuration and four new tram platform stops have been installed between Bourke St and Docklands Drive. The additional length of the platforms will increase capacity at peak times and during special events at the stadium.

The tram realignment and a reduction of traffic to a single lane in each direction also frees up additional recreational space. VicUrban and the City of Melbourne say they are investigating options for temporary uses on parts of this space along the promenade.

The redevelopment will see this public space transformed into a new harbour-side destination, with the first stage scheduled for completion before next July.

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Cycling suits mental health

On November 19 about 250 people gathered in Docklands for the first Suit Up and Ride event and raised more than \$50,000 for youth mental health.

The Orygen Youth Health event attracted more than 40 teams from corporations and organisations, which took to Melbourne Bikeshare bikes and battled it out along the Waterfront City and NewQuay boulevard.

The event saw teams race along a 2km circuit in their work attire and raised money to fund the Headsmart program which educates

young people in schools across Victoria about the signs of depression.

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank took out the event with the fastest overall time, followed by Credit Suisse.

Australian of the Year Professor Patrick McGorry, former world cycling champion Cadel Evans, Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police Simon Overland, Australian pro-tour cyclists Matt Goss and Wes Sulzberger, Olympian Shane Kelly and sportsmen Brad Hodge and Robbie Kearns also joined in on the fun with a celebrity race.

A group of local fire fighters who recently travelled across the USA to raise money for the 9/11 fire fighters also entered (pictured).

Bad bridge ideas keep coming

Docklands' boating community has slammed the idea of a pedestrian bridge across the mouth of Victoria Harbour.

The boaties say that anything that will restrict boat traffic will destroy the very nature of Docklands as a water-based precinct.

The idea is being proposed by VicUrban and the City of Melbourne, who are claiming that it emerged from a recent round of public consultations. VicUrban and the council is asking for opinions on which type of bridge the community would prefer – not whether the bridge is, in fact, a good idea.

The vice-president of the Melbourne Passenger Boating Association, Keith Rankin, said the only bridge that would be acceptable would be one as high as the nearby Bolte Bridge.

"It doesn't matter if it's opening, floating,

pushing, shoving, fixed or whatever, we are vehemently opposed," Mr Rankin said.

"And it's not just a matter of inconvenience to us," he said. "If it's an opening bridge, they have a habit of breaking down. And if it's manned, who is going to man it and what is it going to cost?"

"A shuttle would work just as well. Or if the idea is to transport tourists around, then a rubber-tired electric train would work well here," Mr Rankin said.

"Many people come up with ideas which appear to have merit at first glance. But many of these ideas fail to take into account the negative impacts that they are imposing."

Lady Cutler skipper Jeff Gordon also supports a ferry service. "It could also take in Central Pier," he said. "They do it in Brisbane and they could do it here too."

Docklands is united in its opposition to a low rail bridge proposed by the Port of Melbourne Corporation. The boat operators say this new idea is just as threatening.

Pike is returned as MP

Local member Bronwyn Pike was returned to Parliament in the November 27 state election.

On two-party preferred figures, Ms Pike won easily in the end with 57.93 per cent compared with 42.07 per cent for Greens candidate Brian Walters. The Liberal Party's decision to preference the Greens last was the deciding factor.

Docklands voted Liberal and was one of only three booths in the district to do so. In East Melbourne, Docklands and Melbourne, the Liberals attracted the most primary votes.

Of 940 votes cast in Docklands, 420 went to Liberal candidate Luke Martin, 255 to Ms Pike and 184 to Mr Walters. Interestingly, the Sex Party polled proportionately better in Docklands than anywhere else in the electoral district, picking up 40 votes.

In last month's *Docklands News* online survey, no single issue emerged.

The issues of serviced apartments as well as the Port of Melbourne's proposed low rail bridge received equal top billing – each with 40 per cent of the vote.

Two other issues received 10 per cent of the vote respectively – traffic gridlock and lack of community infrastructure. Only 10 votes were cast in the survey.

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The Demons show their hand

By Shane Scanlan

Melbourne Football Club has formally expressed its interest in using a proposed Docklands western park as a training facility.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle first suggested the idea more than a year ago, but it has taken until now for the club to publicly show an interest.

The State Government and the City of Melbourne's positioning of its second decade of Docklands consultation has created a context for the Demons' bid.

A western park is one of five Docklands projects being pursued by VicUrban and the council. Three options have been proposed for the site under the Bolte Bridge: an ecological park, a recreational park, and a sports park. The Demons' interest fits neatly into the third option.

The Government is helping the football club prepare its concepts plans, but the club says costs and project timing are yet to be discussed.



A draft proposal from the Melbourne Football Club. The club says details such as boundary issues and access are only indicative.

The club has advised that it is "working on a feasibility study for the establishment of an integrated sporting and community centre" on the site.

Melbourne has joined with Netball Victoria in its bid and proposes that both organisations become principal tenants of the two-hectare park.

It says it wants to work with the Docklands community and club president Jim Stynes is enthusiastic about the prospect of moving to Docklands.

"Melbourne is committed to building a community base for the residents, workers and visitors to the Docklands. It is our aim for the facility to become a landmark, a unique destination in its own right within the precinct," Mr Stynes said.

"To that end, it is our intention to embark on a community consultation process as we further develop the proposal."

"This facility would provide a fully integrated new home for the 'old' Melbourne moving into the 'new' Melbourne, providing facilities for all levels of the two sports - netball and football - from community, grass-roots levels to elite."

"For the first time in over 40 years, all the club's activities from administration, training to community would be together, and most significantly, in our heartland - the City of Melbourne."

The club has arranged to meet and discuss its plans with the Docklands Community Association, which is yet to form a view.

Association president Roger Gardner said the DCA would canvass its members on all three options before forming an opinion.

Mr Gardner said, however, that initial scrutiny of high-level schematics indicated that once a football ground went into the space, there was very little room left.



Anita joins mums' club

After organising many toddler play-groups at the Docklands' Hub, Anita Paganoni has joined the mothers' club.

The community hubs officer gave birth to Charlotte at Monash Medical Centre on October 12. Charlotte was six weeks premature which meant Anita had only one day of her 12 months maternity leave before becoming a mum.

Anita finished work on Friday, October 8 and

had the weekend to start preparing things at home. But her waters broke at 2.30 am the following Tuesday morning.

"We rang the hospital and they said to come in," Anita said. "The hooked up a foetal monitor for a few hours but it wasn't long until they said the baby was coming."

Charlotte Edith Paganoni Shannon was born by Caesarean at 10.49am. She was 2.8kg and spent time in special care before coming home.

Charlotte is Anita and her partner Brett's first child and, according to her parent, is a good girl ... so far!



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Christmas spirit is alive

Victoria Point building managers Keith and Kay Jeffrey have instilled some Christmas spirit into Docklands with a gift collection for charity.

Keith and Kay were inspired by the fact that the MRA Toy Run finishes in Docklands on December 12. All gifts collected go to the Salvation Army.

The Jeffreys have established a special collection point in the foyer of the Victoria Point apartment tower.

“We just thought we would make it easy for people to donate,” Kay said. “Often people want to give but either don’t know how, or don’t get around to it because they are too busy.”

“The response has been great. People have started giving already and many more have promised gifts for underprivileged children,” Kay said. “It say merry Christmas to people less fortunate than ourselves from the residents of Victoria Point.”

The Jeffreys said they were attempting to bring a sense of community to the building.

“We want people to realise that we are all part of a wider community,” Kay said.

Keith and Kay man their sleigh in the Victoria Point foyer.



More affordable housing

Docklands is to get a third affordable housing project, with the State and Federal Governments announcing 522 apartments at Harbour Town.

The apartments are to be built in four separate towers in “gaps” on the edge of the shopping centre in both Pearl River Rd and Waterfront Way.

The 522 studio, one- and two-bedroom, affordable rental homes are being delivered through the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS).

The Docklands project was announced on November 2 by both Federal Minister Tony Burke and the State Minister for Housing, Richard Wynne.

ING refused to comment when questioned by the *Docklands News*.

The Merchant was opened in Victoria Harbour last December with 57 “affordable” apartments. Docklands’ second project is MAB’s The Mariner, on the corner of Docklands Drive and Pearl River Rd, where the State and Federal Governments are providing most of the funding for 85 rentals.

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Target 3008: Waste not, want not

The foundations for Urban Reforestation's Target 3008 project in Docklands are well underway!

Supported by the Victorian Government Sustainability Fund, Target 3008 aims to put organic waste to use while engaging the community.

The project encourages composting and the growing of plants and produce in Docklands. Composting can easily be done using a Bokashi bucket, which can be bought from Urban Reforestation. This is an easy, clean and smell-free way of composting within limited available space – ideal for apartments! This process will lead to reducing the amount of organic waste sent to landfill.

Waste audits are already well underway in Docklands' apartment buildings. The audits entail sorting waste into categories such as organic, plastics, metals etc, and then weighing and measuring each type.

Some surprises were found in the Dock 5 apartment building waste. The audit team encountered a lot of meat waste and, alarmingly, a bag of potting mix. However, on the whole, Urban Reforestation said it was impressed by the level of organisation of the building and the involvement of the residents in the project to date.

On the same day as these audits were occurring, Urban Reforestation's community garden was installing a series of new planter boxes. Once sorted, waste from the building was emptied into the new planter boxes that were being filled with hay, compost and soil. At this point, the organic waste stopped being a "waste", and started being useful again.

If you want to know how you can get on board with Urban Reforestation and the project Target 3008, you can find more information at www.urbanreforestation.com or email Clare Brereton at clare.brereton@urbanreforestation.com.



Comment on this story online:
www.docklandsnews.com.au



Urban Reforestation director Emily Ballantyne-Brodie (left) and Monash University student Clare Brereton get amongst Dock 5's rubbish.



Sustainability Fund
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TARGET 3008

Urban Reforestation (UR) is growing in the Docklands! And we want to help you to as well! Stand out from the crowd with a balcony garden built and installed by UR. Creative and reasonably priced, our garden packages are unlike any other Australian product on the market! Balcony garden establishment is the main aim of Target 3008, supported by Sustainability Victoria, and we would love to help you get started! Feel free to stop by the UR community garden for some advice. And while you're there, tell us the environmental actions you are taking. Bring the voucher below to the eco-store on Shop 7 Merchant St, Docklands and pick up your own bokashi compost bucket or worm farm! For more information contact: clare.brereton@urbanreforestation.com

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Private sale \$680,000

Inspect By appointment

Situated in the Victoria harbour precinct of Docklands and located directly in front of beautiful parklands and the CBD as the backdrop. The expansive open plan living area has both a formal dining area and a modern kitchen with stone bench tops and stainless steel appliances. Featuring large main bedroom with built in robes and en-suite and a large second bedroom with adjoining bathroom including deep relaxing bath and European style laundry. The apartment also includes reverse cycle air conditioning and an undercover car space.



Docklands 517 / 757 Bourke Street

THIS LOCATION FOR YOU

1 bed 1 bath 1 car

Private sale \$455,000

Inspect By appointment

How could you resist this stunning one bedroom apartment in the building called Siteone. During the day this wonderful apartment is bathed in natural sunlight to enjoy from your large balcony. The apartment has views towards Etihad Stadium and the CBD. It has a full sized open living area will suit the entertainer in you and if you love to cook, the gourmet kitchen includes a symphony of quality appliances and stone bench top finishes.



Docklands 501 / 60 Siddeley Street

DIRECT WATER FRONTAGE

3 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$810,000

Inspect By appointment

How could you resist this stunning three bedroom apartment with a large balcony on the water's edge. The open style living area will suit the entertainer in you and if you love to cook, the gourmet kitchen includes a symphony of quality appliances including marble bench tops and dishwasher. The generous sized main that includes a walk in robe and ensuite and the second bedroom offers built in robes with direct water views.



Docklands 1402 / 8 McCrae Street

UNINTERRUPTED WATER VIEWS

2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$520,000

Inspect By appointment

This high demand and splendid 2 Bedroom 1 Bathroom 1 Car Space apartment is now available. The apartment consists of views towards Yarra River and Port Philip Bay. Included are two sizeable bedrooms, fitted with good quality window furnishing, stylish contemporary bathroom, stainless steel appliances, European laundry facility, heating/cooling unit and drawer dishwasher.



Docklands 524 / 750 Bourke Street

FULLY FURNISHED INVESTMENT

1 Bed 1 Bath

Private Sale \$340,000

Inspect By appointment

This beautifully presented fully furnished one bedroom apartment located on the 5th level of Docklands Quest on Bourke complex is a must see. The apartment has a large balcony off the main living area that is ideal for the entertainer. The apartment is currently leased back to the secure tenant of Quest Service apartment group. What an ideal investment opportunity!



Docklands 11E03 / 675 LaTrobe Street

LACROSSE LIVING IS HERE

2 bed 1 bath

Private sale \$470,000

Inspect By appointment

This latest development, in the heart of the Docklands will be the most desirable new neighbourhood in Melbourne. Approximately 200 metres from the waters of Victoria Harbour. the X-shaped plaza will interface with La Trobe Street and the Stadium concourse, giving easy access to Southern Cross Station.



Docklands 1004 / 60 Siddeley Street

LARGE THREE BEDROOM

3 bed 2 bath 1 car

Private sale \$800,000

Inspect By appointment

How could you resist this stunning three bedroom apartment with a balcony facing north. The open style living area will suit the entertainer in you and if you love to cook, the gourmet kitchen includes a symphony of quality appliances including marble bench tops and dishwasher.



Docklands 55 / 55 Victoria Harbour Promenade

PODIUM APARTMENT DIRECTLY ON WATER

2 bed 2 bath 1 car

Private sale \$815,000

Inspect By appointment

This spectacular and luxurious 2 bedroom apartment is now available for sale. Located on the 5th level, this apartment includes Modern kitchen fittings, generous stainless steel appliances including cook-top, oven, range-hood and dishwasher.



Docklands 1606 / 2 NewQuay Promenade

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Private sale \$500,000

Inspect By appointment

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Docklands Lot 20 Yarra's Edge River Precinct

RIVER PRECINCT HAS TO BE SEEN

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Inspect By appointment

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Welcome for anti-whalers

By Alison Kinkade

The Sea Shepherd's anti-whaling vessel, Bob Barker, and its crew spent some time in Docklands during November as the anti-whaling activists prepared for their next battle in the Southern Ocean.

The 52-metre vessel, named after American television personality Bob Barker, who made a \$5 million contribution to the organisation, was on display to the public in Docklands for a few weeks to raise awareness.

Ship manager Andrea Gordon said the vessel held two open days over a weekend and some tours during the weekdays.

"It's really important to get the message out there about what we do because whaling is everyone's problem," Ms Gordon said.

State Parliamentarian Nathan Murphy was instrumental in bringing the Bob Barker to Docklands and Melbourne City Council provided berthing free of charge.

Ms Gordon said the crew loved coming to Melbourne, which it found very supportive.

With the vessel's crew ranging in age from 19-60, their stint in Melbourne also allowed for local crew members to catch-up with family and friends.



Eco-warrior Andrea Gordon aboard the Bob Barker in Docklands last month.

Ms Gordon said that some crew, including the captain, had young families and she believed it was a strong motivation for crew members to join the fight

"I think they're doing it for their kids because they realise that if they don't do something, then there won't be any (whales) left."

Ms Gordon said the current population of whales was the bare minimum number required to replenish the whale population worldwide and that was why they couldn't let the population deplete any further.

A former public defender from New York City, Ms Gordon said there was a striking similarity between her job as a lawyer and her current fight against whaling ships.

"In both situations you're dealing with the law. In this situation we are enforcing the moratorium on commercial whaling that was enacted by the International Whaling Commission in 1986."

The Bob Barker has now joined two other Sea Shepherd vessels in the Southern Ocean for the three-month whaling season.

Fireworks as usual

Following debate earlier in the year over whether Docklands would host a 9:15pm family fireworks session on New Year's Eve, Melbourne City Council has confirmed the details of this year's program.

Chair of the Future Melbourne (Connected City) Committee and co-chair of the Docklands Co-ordination Committee, Cr Kevin Louey, said the 9.15pm fireworks show would run for eight minutes and the midnight fireworks spectacular would run for 10 minutes.

"The 9.15pm family fireworks will be launched from a barge in Victoria Harbour and a midnight spectacular fireworks show will be launched from both the barge in Victoria Harbour and the rooftops of buildings from the CBD to Docklands to welcome the New Year," Cr Louey said.

Funding for Docklands fireworks comes from the council's Docklands marketing budget.



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Still no licensing decisions

The Liquor Licensing Commision says it is close to decisions on two contested applications in Docklands.

And a third Docklands application will be referred to an independent panel following resident objections.

A licensing spokesperson said: "The panel reports for Uber Lounge and Woolshed Pub have been submitted to the Director of Liquor Licensing. A decision will be made in the near future."

"On 28 August 2010, an application was received for an on-premises liquor licence for a venue to trade as Docked. They have requested to trade until 11pm."

"The director has received objections concerning this application and will refer eligible objections to an independent panel."

Docked is located on the stadium concourse on the northern side of the Victoria Point building overlooking Harbour Esplanade.

Owner, NewQuay personal trainer, Dom Anthony wants to create a relaxed tapas bar feel. He said residents had nothing to fear from the bar which he said would be a welcome addition to the Docklands scene.



Come and chill for the kids

Docklands student Catalina Gonzalez wants the suburb to get behind her and support charitable work being undertaken to help children affected by war and terrorism.

The 30-year-old Carrick tourism student has helped organise "Chill out for Charity", a six-hour event in the city from 4 pm on Sunday, December 5.

Catalina became involved in the charity Renew the Spirit Foundation last year through her interests in dance. Since then, she's fully committed to improving the lives of traumatised children in Cambodia, Nepal and in her native Colombia.

"Renew the Spirit uses arts therapy as a technique and I'm a dancer. So it all relates nicely," she said.

Catalina lives in the CBD, but attends the Carrick Institute of Education in Docklands. She works in a luxury hotel and always recommends Docklands to visitors.

Chill out for Charity is being held at The Order of Melbourne, 275 Swanston St and costs \$5 at the door. It features 10 performers, Fair-trade stalls and a body-painting demonstration.

For further information, see www.renewthespirit.org.au

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Because manufacturing medications involves vast costs, large companies may be unable to justify manufacturing products that are not "big sellers". As a result, many medications disappear from our pharmacy shelves each year.

Compoundia is changing this trend by tailor-making formulas for patients. "We're not doing anything new" says owner Bert Frigo "...compounding is the heart of traditional pharmacy practice, we're just using new technology to prepare higher quality products".

So if you've found yourself caught with a discontinued a product, contact the professional staff at Compoundia. Even without the formula, they may be able to research a recipe for the product, or make an equivalent. It's just one more way that Compoundia makes the difference.

For further information, or to ask whether we can compound a discontinued medication, contact Compoundia on 9670 2882.

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Residents fight on

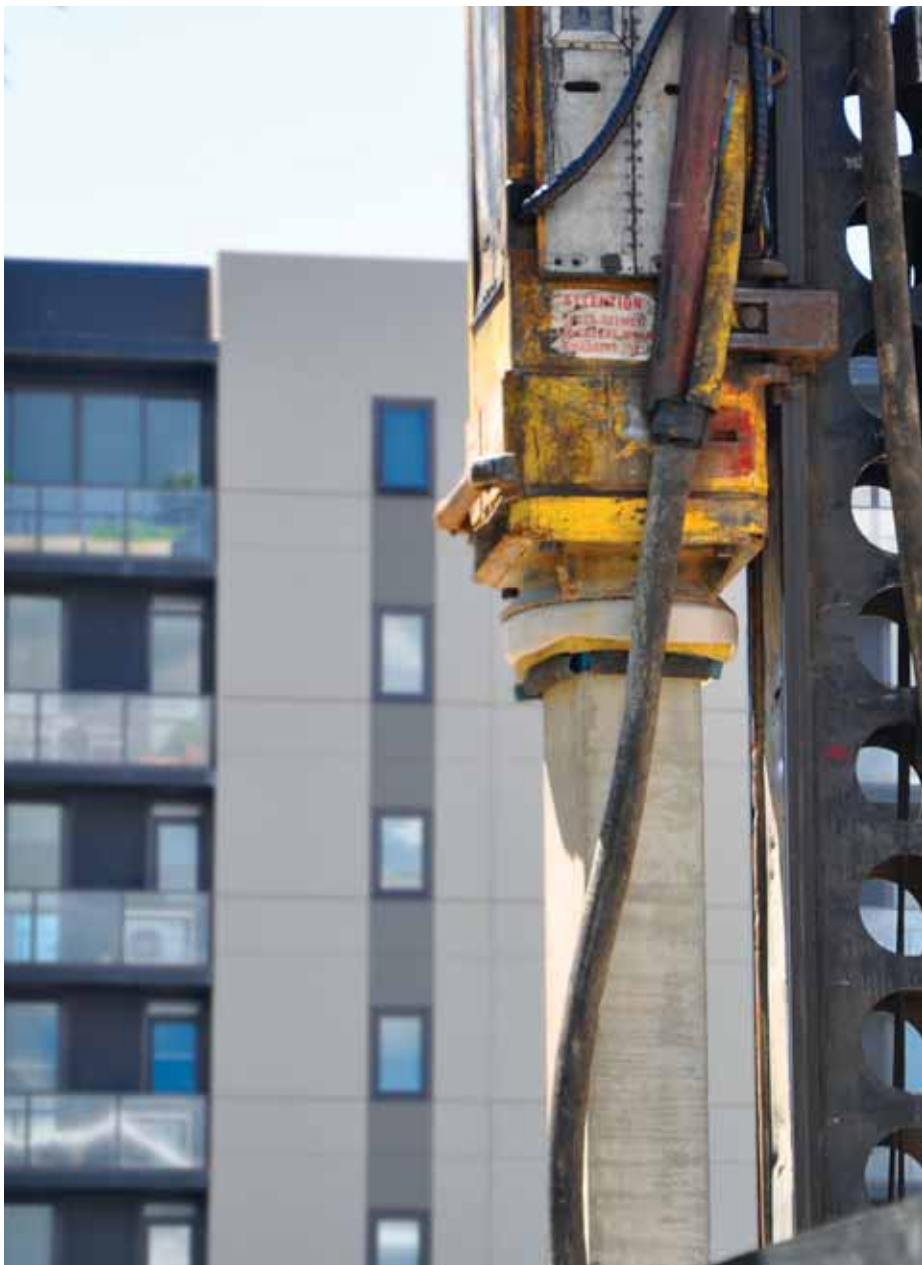
Montage and Mosaic residents say they have not given up their campaign against the Serrata development, despite the project now being underway.

Spokesperson Frank Ruggiero says the residents are now concentrating their efforts on preserving the remaining land bounded by Bourke St and Geographe St. He said residents were also still considering a damages suit against Lend Lease for what they say were misleading claims about what was to be built on the Serrata site.

“The residents’ campaign has not concluded even though construction has commenced,” Mr Ruggiero said. “Part of our strategy was to preserve the remaining land adjacent to the Serrata site.”

“Residents have obtained legal advice that supports and recommends legal action for misleading and deceptive conduct and are currently considering that advice.”

“Regardless of what action the residents elect to adopt, the campaign to preserve the park will continue and we hope that common sense and goodwill by Lend Lease will prevail. It is not too late for Lend Lease to preserve the remaining land given that it does not have permits for any construction.”



Take the family to London!

In January and February 2011, one lucky family could win an awesome trip to the Docklands in London as part of Melbourne Docklands’ “Docklands to Docklands” Summer competition.

There will also be heaps of other fantastic prizes and giveaways so keep your eyes peeled for more information.

Visit www.docklands.com to find out how to enter.

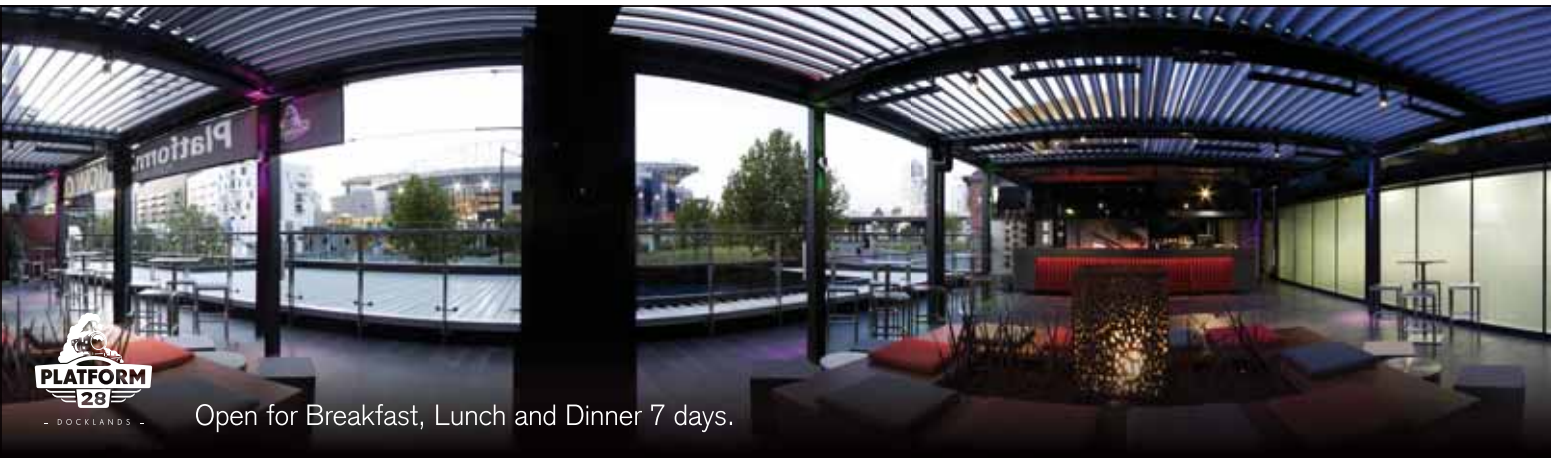
With something for everyone, enjoy your Summer at Docklands. A little bit of somewhere else, right here in the city.

Boat show returns

The Melbourne International Boat and Lifestyle Festival returns to NewQuay on February 4-6, 2011.

Organisers say there will be many new and exciting products, services and attractions including the Bream Fishing Classic – a catch, release and weigh-in competition – a new stage dedicated to all things fishing, the Yamaha Supertank Fishing Show, delectable food and wine and regular entertainment on the main stage.

Ticket prices are \$12 for an adult (\$8 concession) and \$2 for child. Prices are cheaper online at www.biavic.com.au/miblf.



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Pranksters patrol Docklands

The highest-rating kids' TV show on ABC3, 'Prank Patrol', visited Waterfront City's Yum Cha Dragon restaurant on November 25 to film a segment for an upcoming episode.

The episode, which is set to air early next year will feature Ruyton Girls School student Dana who will pull a prank on her friend and fellow classmate Jasmine.

Yum Cha Dragon was chosen for the filming of the first scene of the episode in which the *Prank Patrol* presenter, Scott Tweedie, notifies Dana that she has been chosen to come on the show and prank her friend.

The Yum Cha Dragon scene will show Scott pretending to be a trolley waiter who places a basket full of the special of the day, chicken feet, on Dana's table. Scott then chows down on some of the feet to the shock of Dana before declaring her the guest prankster.

Fourteen-year-old Dana said she was excited about being able to prank her friend.

"Jasmine hates anything disgusting so I'm going to tell her that we are going to help out in a family friend's shoe shop and then she will encounter all different types of disgusting feet," Dana said.

The show, now in its second season, allows pre-teens and teens to conduct pranks on



Scott Tweedie lifts the lid on his Yum Cha Dragon prank.

unsuspecting friends or family members with the help of *Prank Patrol* to plan, construct and execute the practical joke.

Scott said his favourite prank ever conducted on the show was a prank that was recently pulled on a babysitter.

"An 11-year-old set up her babysitter and we made the babysitter believe that all kinds of weird things were happening in the house and that the children she was babysitting were possessed," Scott said.

The show airs weekdays on ABC3 at 6.25pm.

Program needs a name

Destination Docklands and Docklands Chamber of Commerce are teaming up to bring Docklands businesses, workers and residents an exciting new loyalty program in early 2011.

Yet to be given a name, the loyalty program will be exclusive to all those that work and live in the Docklands – more than 25,000 people!

Free for cardholders, they will get special access to a web page listing offers from participating businesses. These offers will change monthly, rotate randomly and the best offers will be emailed out to members every month.

Participating businesses will be able to target a captive audience with monthly offers, provide specials and other added incentives, attract new customers, maintain a solid customer base, improve customer loyalty and strengthen customer relationships.

Readers are invited to submit their ideas for naming the new loyalty program to michelle.kemp@destinationdocklands.com.au by Thursday, December 23, 2010.

The reader who submits the chosen name will win a fantastic dinner for two at Platform 28.

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Serving both God and the Demons

By Alison Kinkade

Football may long have been called the religion of Victorians and the MCG and Etihad Stadium, a place of worship ... but you probably wouldn't know that in amongst it all there are some very dedicated chaplains and one of them is working amongst us here in Docklands.

Meet Etihad Stadium-based chaplain Cameron Butler who, since 2003, has been serving the sporting community as the CEO of Sports Chaplaincy Australia and is also the chaplain for the Melbourne Football Club.

Cameron joined Sports Chaplaincy Australia, the leading organisation for providing chaplains to high-performance, development and local sports organisations, in the 1990s and has never looked back.

After becoming ordained in 1990 and taking up the role of a local church pastor, Cameron started to look for a change in the mid 1990s. But it wasn't till 1997 that he took up his role at the Demons after receiving a phone call about sports chaplaincy.



"It was a great offer which meant I could fulfil my two loves in life – serving God and sport. It's just ironic that I'm the chaplain to the Demons," Cameron said.

Working in IT and volunteering as a sports chaplain for about 8 hours a week, the father of four quickly grew to realise how in-demand sports chaplains were.

When I started, there was a little bit of resistance from players because a chaplain was a new thing and some had the attitude of why would they need a chaplain – and it also made me ask myself why was I there. But it didn't take long for them to start knocking at my door," Cameron said.

Looking back at the first time that he was introduced to the club in 1997, Cameron smiles and laughs about how far he and the club have come.

"On my first day when I was introduced to the players the majority were quite welcoming and, on their way out, they all shook my hand except for one player who grunted and walked away," he said.

Cameron recalled how that player went on to live out his football career for the next six years never speaking more than a few words to him, then after running into him years later and striking up a conversation, the two became friends and Cameron ended up performing his wedding.

Though little publicity is given to sports chaplaincy, Cameron says it is so important to recognise that elite sportspeople are the same as everyone else and have tragedies in their life as well.

"Elite sportspeople often live out their life through sport and in the media and they tend to be very private people, so there

needs to be someone that they can go to in private and talk to about anything whether it be a death, injury, a sick family member or friend, or anything like that," he said.

Cameron said he often found football players tended to need some guidance about two to three years into their career because they tended to get some big identity issues.

"A big problem that many players reach a few years into their career is knowing who they are because they begin to realise that people want to know them for what they do, not who they are and that tends to make many of them become hard and insular," he said.

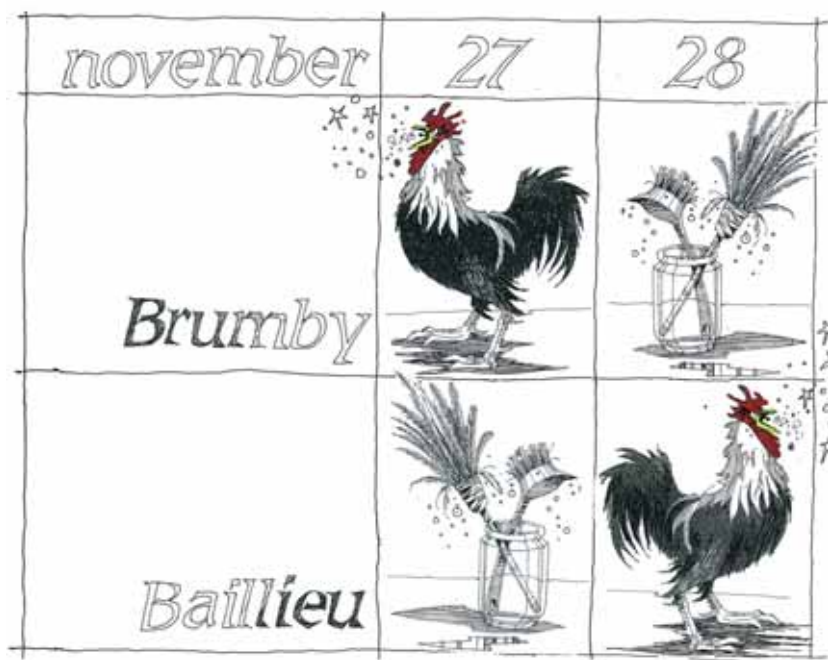
Though only 10-15 per cent of the 200 sports chaplains in Australia are involved in local sporting organisations, Cameron believes the figure should be closer to 90-95 per cent.

"Sporting clubs are often the heart of a community and they are consistently dealing with substance abuse, car crashes, suicides and deaths and they need a chaplain. It only has to be a dad who may work full-time but can offer his assistance," he said.

Cameron said that all sports chaplains were volunteers and held down full-time jobs and he wanted to encourage others to join Sports Chaplaincy Australia.

"We've made the process of becoming a sports chaplain easier because we need the people to get involved," he said.

For more information visit www.sportschaplaincy.com.au



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THE HARBOUR FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S CENTRE

I would like to introduce myself. My name is Michelle Gujer and I am the newly appointed Manager at The Harbour Family and Children's Centre at Docklands. I attended the opening of the centre, approximately 18 months ago and I remember stating to my colleagues at the time that I would really love the opportunity to work at this centre - little did I know that I would really get to live this opportunity. I feel extremely privileged to be appointed to this role, it is like a dream come true.

My career with children commenced over 26 years ago as a volunteer in a School Holiday Program for Primary school aged children. I have since spent 20 of those years in the management of both Long Day Care and Kindergarten programs. My career has also included post graduate employment in a Maternity Hospital (Special Care Unit and Post Natal Wards), as a TAFE lecturer in Child Care Studies, management roles in Out of School Hours, Vacation Care and Occasional Care programs. I was a representative on an advisory group to improve the outcomes for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

I have a deep understanding of the importance of the early years which

enriches children's learning and development and acknowledge families as being children's first educators. I actively encourage strong partnerships and involvement with all immediate and extended family members.

On a personal level I live on a farm with my partner and our 3 children and hope to share a little farm life with the children at the centre.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to wish you a very Merry Christmas.

I'm looking forward to being able to contribute to my new community and share together with you all this new 'Learning Journey'.

For information on enrolments and parent tours please phone 03 8624 1000

For information on Gowrie Victoria please go to www.gowrievictoria.org.au

Third time's not really lucky

On Sunday, November 14 Victoria Harbour suffered its third oil slick in less than 12 months, but authorities say there is nothing to be concerned about.

A Department of Transport spokesperson said the marine pollution team at the Department of Transport were called to inspect a possible pollution incident at Victoria Harbour.

"An investigation by the marine pollution team determined that debris and other waste from roads and gutters had gathered in the harbour as a result of recent heavy rain, which is a common occurrence in such weather conditions," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said that, as a result of the investigation, a small amount of aged diesel fuel was discovered, mixed in with the other waste.

"The marine pollution team took appropriate action to clean up the pollution. The investigation and clean-up took less than two hours," the spokesperson said.



Comment on this story online:
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Weir to star in ice spectacular

Strap your skates on and bring your best "ho ho ho" to the Medibank Icehouse at Waterfront City this December!

Visiting Melbourne for the first time, Olympian and three-time US figure skating champion, Johnny Weir, will join an all-star cast in a spectacular set to transform the Icehouse into a magical north pole.

Weir will headline a cast of international figure skaters starring in *Harbour Town Christmas on Ice*, a stunning on-ice production heralding the start of a month-long festival of Christmas entertainment at the Icehouse.

Throughout December, the Icehouse will transform into the North Pole of Melbourne, showcasing Santa's Village, the spectacular

Harbour Town Christmas on Ice Show and a glittering skating experience reminiscent of a northern hemisphere Christmas.

With matinee and evening performances from Thursday, December 2 until Christmas eve, *Harbour Town Christmas on Ice* will be a dazzling icescapade.

Featuring the superstar talents of Johnny Weir, for a limited four-performance season (December 2-4), and specialist set and lighting design by Show Works Australia (Jersey Boys, Wicked, The Nutcracker) and Traffilight (Sydney Opera House, Melbourne Arts Centre), *Harbour Town Christmas on Ice* promises to be Melbourne's most stunning Christmas production.

The Icehouse's transformation into a *North Pole Christmas* will run from Wednesday, December 1 to Christmas eve.

Please refer to www.icehouse.com.au for detailed session times and ticket pricing.

DOCKLANDS + NEWS NETWORKING LUNCH

Book for lunch

Some places are still available for the December Docklands News Networking Lunch.

The Friday, December 10 lunch is on at Platform 28 on the corner of Bourke St and Village St, Docklands, from midday (for 12.30).

It is the last opportunity for the Docklands business community to catch up this year and the event is always popular.

This month we are going to hear briefly from Destination Docklands about a new loyalty card initiative it is undertaking with the Docklands Chamber of Commerce.

The lunch costs \$60 and must be booked and paid for by Monday, December 6. Bookings can be made through Alison Kinkade (alison@docklandsnews.com.au).

The lunch includes three courses and beverages.

Numerologic

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Predictions:

1. Melbourne cup 2009 winner predicted last year as shocking no.21 and a place for Maluckyday no. 24 for 2010.
2. Collingwood to win AFL 2010 predicted.
3. Spain to win the 2010 Soccer World Cup.
4. Julia Gillard to win elections 2010.
5. Australia to bag most medals at CWG 2010.

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New battle for chief Yarra's Edge guardian

By Alison Kinkade

Having won the fight to have the pedestrian and cycle linkage under the Charles Grime Bridge permanently reinstated in August, Yarra's Edge resident Cobien Watts now has another fight on her hands.

Ms Watts (pictured below) says she is furious that she and other Yarra's Edge residents may have to wait until May next year until they finally see the replacement of trees which were pulled out early this year.

"About nine months ago they pulled out all but four of the trees as they had been contaminated by the salinity of water which

had seeped into the soil, and since then none have been replaced," Ms Watt's said.

A spokesperson for the City of Melbourne has said that the replacement trees would not be planted until winter 2011 to ensure that they are given the best chance of survival, but Ms Watts believes the delay may be due to budget.

"It's just hearsay, but I have heard that there may be conflict between the City of Melbourne and VicUrban as to who will pay for the works, which I have heard are likely to cost upwards of \$190,000," Ms Watts said.

A spokesperson for the City of Melbourne said that the council was in discussions with VicUrban to arrange where the works would be funded from, and that it was likely to cost up to \$300,000.

Acting general manager responsible for Docklands Simon Wilson said the City of Melbourne, as municipal authority for Docklands, was responsible for the management of trees within Yarra's Edge, but that VicUrban was investigating the future plans for the trees with the council.

"The arborist team at the City of Melbourne has advised that the optimum planting season for these trees is in the colder months, which enables the trees to be established prior to the onset of harsh summer conditions," Mr Wilson said.

Angry that the replanting of trees has taken longer than she and other residents expected, Ms Watts has suggested that the council put in place a temporary solution.

"I have suggested to council that they place some trees in large tubs around Yarra's Edge to beautify and soften the area and then they can be replanted later so that there's no waste," she said.

Ms Watts said that her suggestion of a temporary solution has been unanswered and that people need to start doing their jobs properly.

"It is inexcusable that we invest lots of money into living here and that we pay exorbitant council rates and they cannot return the area, in reasonable time, to how it was when we purchased our property," she said.



Steve and Zara drink to the health of their grand old lady Granuaile.

Grand old lady visits Docklands

By Alison Kinkade

If you take a walk down to South Wharf over the next few months you will see a grand old piece of history.

But this piece of history isn't on display in the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, but rather on the water.

The 105-year-old yacht Granuaile is currently docked in the river while it undergoes maintenance on its 50-foot structure.

Built in Dublin in 1905 by James E Doyle, a second-generation boat builder and naval architect (whose designs went on to influence all naval architecture in early modern America), the old girl has an extensive and interesting history.

Regularly raced from New York to London last century, it is believed that she once held the record for the most consecutive trans-Atlantic races contested.

First named Granuaile in 1905, she has carried four different names at different stages before her current owners decided to honour her history and change it back.

The Bermudan cutter, with teak on teak frames, ventured to Australia in 1968 and competed in many more races, including the Sydney to Hobart, before becoming a charter boat.

Purchased two years ago by seasoned yachtsman and principal owner Steve English, who heads a three-person syndicate, the gorgeous girl has since been enjoying some TLC from Steve and his wife Zara as they have undergone restoring her.

"She's just beautiful and has a great pedigree, so structurally she's brilliant and just needed a bit of work on the cosmetics side of things," Steve said.

Spending four months of the year in Melbourne, two months travelling and another four months in Broome, the historical yacht is still well travelled and now, after two years of restoration, she is going to be put out to charter once more.

"She hasn't been chartered since 1996 so people with a love of old wooden boats will get a chance to come on board and will really love her," Steve said.

Steve and Zara will begin to charter her this month and will continue through until the end of January before taking her to Hobart for a wooden boat festival.



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Hit musical for Docklands

Having had more than 500 performances on Broadway and nominations for three Tony Awards, the musical 'Xanadu' is coming to Melbourne and Docklands has the honour of hosting the show.

With many Billboard top 20 hits and a "sell-out" US tour, the musical based on the 1980 cult-classic movie of the same title, which starred Olivia Newton-John, will run in Docklands for a strict 10-week season.

The show, which will hold a charity preview on March 2 for the Olivia Newton-John Cancer and Research Centre before its opening night on March 3, will be based in a never-before-seen-in-Australia custom-built performance marquee, "Grand Chapiteaux".

Designed and constructed along the lines of Cirque du Soleil's portable venues, the \$2 million-plus venue will have 2000 raked seats and full climate control.

After completing its season in Docklands, the musical will then travel to Sydney, followed by Brisbane and then onto all other capital cities and it is expected that it will present over 360 performances in 45 weeks.

For more information see www.xanaduthemusical.com.au



New YMCA gym opened

Outgoing Victoria YMCA chairman Graham Kent launched the YMCA's fabulous new facility under the ANZ Centre on November 17.

In our photo, Mr Kent is flanked by Nadine

Kemp who has managed the Y's Victoria Point facility for several years and oversaw the expansion into the new Collins St, Victoria Harbour facility.

Nadine has established herself as a loved and respected member of the Docklands community and it is with regret that we say goodbye to her as she moves closer to home and takes up a new management role in Diamond Valley.

Plaudits for local architecture

On October 28, both the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) and Docklands' ANZ Centre were recognised in Canberra at the National Architecture Awards.

From more than 900 projects that contested the Australian Institute of Architects' state and territory awards, MCEC took home the National Award for Public Architecture and the ANZ Centre won the Emil Sodersten Award for Interior Architecture.

Having taken out the Victorian Architecture Medal in June, MCEC, its joint venture architect Woods Bagot and NH Architecture were proud of the national recognition.

MCEC's chief executive Leigh Harry said it was a great honour and another great outcome for everyone involved in the design and development of the MCEC.

The ANZ Centre and Hassell architects also took out the World Architecture Festival's Interiors and Fitout of the Year award on November 5 in Barcelona.

Both the MCEC and the ANZ Centre, along with the Goods Shed North, also went on to win awards at the Interior Design Excellence Awards (IDEA) on November 11 in Sydney.



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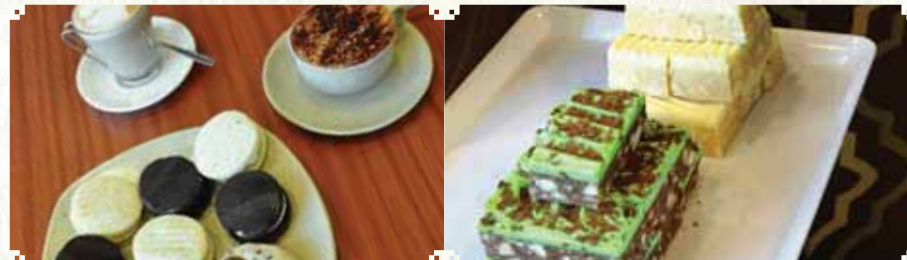
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CUISINE UNDERCOVER

INDEPENDENT REVIEWS FROM DOCKLANDS' PHANTOM DINER

Platform 28

Poor old Justin Madden can come across as a bit of a bumbling fool at times – all long legs, lankiness and leaked documents. But I reckon he's got balls.

It's not like those well-heeled wowsers of Docklands don't know how to put up a fight. They have all the nice things they need, and now their job is to stop others from having them. Perhaps they fear the better Docklands becomes, the more riff-raff it will attract. Best keep it a half-finished concrete jungle, where everything has to close at five – that way they can enjoy their water views, with their own ilk, in silence.

Platform 28, the new bar/nightclub breathing a bit of life into the otherwise bureaucracy-laden Goods Shed nearly fell foul of this mob, as did another great venue that's made use of an historic space – The Woolshed on Central Pier. But, let me tell you, it is WONDERFUL walking into a venue

with genuine character and real history in Docklands – just as it is in Melbourne proper when stumbling across venues like MOO (the old Money Order Office) or The Trust. It's what Melbourne's known for and often what Docklands is criticised for lacking, in amongst all its big shiny new spaces.

Anyway – the election is over and so is this rant. How about the food, drinks and atmosphere? Look, the venue is fabulous, and frankly, why should bureaucrats be the only one with access to this wonderfully restored building? Exposed beams, brick and pylons, and it's a nice touch to still be able to see the painted "28" on a brick wall.

The menu is very well put together. While I may be always calling for more pubs and associated grub in Docklands, there are a few now doing an exceptional job, so Platform 28's menu couldn't risk being too standard. I think it strikes the right balance between originality and safety – there's enough for the foodies without alienating the footy crowd.

I went with the Dukkah-encrusted barramundi fillet on roquette with olives and a chilli and coriander crème fraiche. The generous and juicy fillet was perfectly

coated, providing a crisp and flavoursome crunch which complemented, and not overpowered, the fish. I'm not sure the equally generous serving of plump green olives was entirely necessary, but the crème fraiche was divine.

I would have liked to have tried more, with a delicious selection of starters including Greek lamb meatballs, pork, leek and sage chipolatas and salt and schezuan pepper squid (See? Solid, yet original), but it was a quick visit. The sticky-date pudding and lemon tarts also sadly had to go untasted.

The wine of course, did not, and on a warmish day the Leo Buring Riesling provided the right amount of fresh bite. There's an impressive selection of beers on tap and bottled. The wine list has strong performers – not outstanding, but all quality average-priced wines – largely from SA.

And on a sunny day, lots of happy business-people taking advantage of the sheltered alfresco area – enjoying Docklands – and Melbourne – as it was meant to be enjoyed.

Overall rating ★★★★★



A wheel observation

Don't be surprised to see reconstruction start soon on the Southern Star Observation Wheel.

Three cranes are in place and parts are being assembled in the nearby holding yard opposite Costco at Waterfront City.

ING Real Estate, which owns the failed tourism attraction, isn't saying anything. It's been burned in the past by announcing dates, only to suffer delays and loss of reputation.

But the signs are all good for a revival of hopes and spirits for the resilient and loyal Docklands traders at Harbour Town who have been toughing it out without their star attraction for two years.



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

I don't know about you, but somehow Christmas always comes as a surprise to me.

I mean, I look forward to it for ages, for the relaxation, the giving (and hopefully receiving) of presents, the festive spirit, the free-flowing champagne ... I imagine it all.

The house is spring-cleaned by then and is a welcoming, peaceful and stunningly decorated haven where my guests walk through the door into a Mecca of goodwill. Peace surrounds, accompanied by delightful nibbles, tasteful Christmas carols (stop laughing) and beautifully and creatively wrapped gifts under the tree, the very picture of a wholesome loving family on vacation.

And then, it's just here. It's chaos, there's no time to give careful consideration to exciting and stimulating gifts that are an ethical investment supporting a third world country AND leave no carbon footprint for the kids.

There's little chance of perusing the country's finest tailors and tinkers to order that perfect customised gift for the loving partner who you really want to thank for putting up with you for another year and, as for sourcing

the stunning Christmas wrapping theme you had going in your head, well forget it. It's red and white snowflake paper again.

The fact that you still have that left-over roll from Christmas last year behind the chest of drawers is just one of the pluses of not having done your spring clean in time. The other plus is, well, you didn't spring clean.

This year, I'm going to r e l a x. I'm not going to worry that the house still has unpacked boxes from the last move – they make great impromptu seating options for extra guests.

I'm not going to worry that the Christmas tree is the branch that blew out of the gumtree last storm – I'm telling myself it's a creative take on the traditional pine.

I'm not going to worry that I'm using last year's wrapping paper again – it's the gift inside that counts. And I'm not going to worry that the gift for my partner isn't that rare hand-made item he never knew he wanted until he saw it perfectly wrapped from me – I'm just going to look forward to kissing his lips and telling him I love him. Too bad if he doesn't want socks and cashews.

And I'm not going to worry that the gift for my child is some plastic toy that probably won't last past Boxing Day and doesn't

support a third world country – I'm going to hold him in my arms and squeeze those chubby cheeks and just be grateful we don't live in a third world country.

Today I'm going to make a cash donation to charity, and feel fine about shopping at Kmart.

The thing about Christmas is, it isn't about the wrapping and the trimming and the presents. It's about love and gratitude.

Don't get me wrong, having the perfect dress to wear to sit at the perfect Christmas table and feast, with all the perfect gifts and perfect guests would be wonderful, and each year I will aspire to it.

All I'm saying is that Christmas spirit is about who you are, not how your house looks, and peace comes from within and moves through you to touch others. It's not delivered by the perfect Bing Crosby Christmas CD.

Dear readers, have a wonderful Christmas, a safe and happy new year, and know how grateful I have been to have your readership for two years and how much I love writing to you. Thank you, and Merry Christmas

Abby xx



Great name

Docklands News and Yachtshare congratulate Tanya Stern on winning a competition to name the latest Yachtshare catamaran.

Tanya, of Queensland, won a dinner for two at Melbourne's famous Lobster Cave restaurant after her name, "Wind Cheetah", was picked for the catamaran.

Tanya decided to enter the competition after reading about it in the October edition of *Docklands News*.

Yachtshare offered a \$5000 discount on a share in the truly luxurious vessel or an all-you-can-eat dinner for two (including wine) at the Lobster Cave restaurant.

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I LOVE THE NIGHT LIFE

Go with the flow at the Mission

Docklanders have the soothing sounds of old-school jazz in our only old-school venue for the next three Friday nights.

John Scurry returns to the Mission to Seafarers at 717 Flinders St with a program called “Jazz on a Summer’s Eve”.

John and company did a series of shows last summer in the open-air courtyard of the heritage-listed, Spanish mission-style complex.

The Docklanders who took advantage of the opportunity were greatly rewarded with fine musicianship, laid-back rhythms and wonderful ambience.

The \$10 entry fee and drinks from the bar also means that you can expect to come home with plenty of folding stuff in your wallet.

This season John is calling his outfit “reverse swing” – perhaps in reference to the current Ashes tests.

Here’s an extract from our review from last February: “The band is playing again and

there are about 50 people enjoying the jazz. The ambience of the evening is wonderful.” “The band is playing at just the correct volume so you can have a conversation and hear what each other is saying. Before we know it the band announces their last song. We all agree the evening has gone too quickly.”

The band starts at 5pm and plays until 8pm.

Once you find yourself on north wharf relatively early on a balmy Friday night, why not launch into an exploration up river? Have you explored the new venues at the World Trade Centre?

Or cross over Seafarers Bridge and explore Southbank or beyond.

In other nightlife news, Dance 101 has moved its 5pm Sunday afternoon free salsa dancing to Curves Bar and Restaurant.



Letters to the Editor



Dear editor

I thought you may be interested in this picture – in view of the parking woes mentioned in your last issue!

In this case-scenario, the business-man from the black car just locked up his car and left it overhanging the edge of the road (as pictured) and walked away, but doubled back and hid in a nearby building watching to see if the other male driver sitting in the white car would leave.

Eventually he did of course, and then he

rushed back and re-positioned his car just as a parking inspector turned up!

Regardless of who was right or wrong both should have been booked for bad driving practices as they were both obstructing the flow of traffic in both directions!

What a pity the inspector didn’t turn up earlier!

N.B. Since all the commercial people have moved into Bourke St, parking is getting tight and the ticket inspectors are having a field day!

Margaret



Dear editor

Thanks for your excellent article regarding the parking issue in Docklands.

I’m living in 838 Bourke St and am facing serious parking problems as well.

I’m working around the CBD and out of the suburb every day and I don’t have too much difficulty finding a park around 6pm.

Unfortunately, if I finish work later I always need to spend an extra 30 minutes (or more) finding a car park. And if all I can find is a two-hour zone, I have to move my car throughout the night.

Parking officers work throughout the night. My most recent notice was from 12.45am. I may need to work as hard as that officer to pay my fines.

Do you think the council could reconsider its parking policies in Docklands – in particular, after 6pm?

Carissa Lin

Send your letters to
news@docklandsnews.com.au

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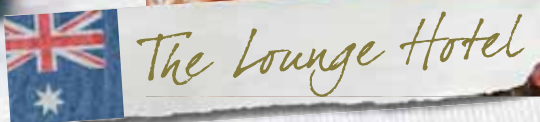
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DOCKLANDS LOVE

Groom: Leicester O'Loughlin, 36
Bride: Socheatar Sara, 30
Married: Saturday, November 13
Reception: The O'Loughlin property in Laanecoorie

This month's edition of Docklands Love has a twist ... It's not set in Docklands because we wanted to feature one of Docklands' well-known faces, Socheatar Sara.

Socheatar is the event co-ordinator of Victoria Harbour's Watermark.

How did you meet?

We met in early 2003 when we were both chefs at the Albert Park Hotel. I was an apprentice chef and Leicester was a casual helping out as he'd just got back from overseas.

We had a few staff drinks together at Monday night's "\$1 pots" at the Prince of Wales and hit it off over our love of beer.

The proposal?

Leicester proposed in 2004 whilst watching the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy in bed. It was very spontaneous - he didn't have a ring, but that didn't matter. It was much more romantic than it sounds.

Most memorable part of the wedding?

Bride: Seeing my husband and a friend walk back to the house each with a beer in one hand whilst carrying a lamb back for the spit roast for dinner.

Groom: Carving the lamb and watching one of my uncles claim a leg and another uncle claim the neck. And finally marrying Socheatar.

How was the reception?

The "reception" was supposed to be a picnic lunch, but due to the wet weather (57mm of rain that day) it became a barbecue with everyone on the porch around the house and under marquees.

Quite informal - Leicester did a lot of the cooking on the day, but luckily we had also invited seven chefs who were also roped in to help.

We wanted a casual country wedding. We are both fairly relaxed, laid-back people and wanted the wedding to reflect that.

How did you choose your location?

We had always planned to have our wedding outside of Melbourne. But had we changed our minds, I would have had it at Watermark as it has such a wonderful view, great outdoor space and friendly staff - but I am biased.

Honeymoon?

We still have a big Cambodian wedding to come in January and probably won't get to take a honeymoon until July 2011. No set plans for it yet, but somewhere warm would be nice.



MARINA NOTES

BY ALLAN CAYZER, MANAGER MARINA YE

A classic arrives at Marina YE



The classic motor vessel Lara berthed at Marina YE is indeed a much travelled vessel. Built in Seattle USA in 1948, the Ed Monk-designed, twin-engined Lara is a classic 42 foot Grandy Bridgedeck Cruiser.

The Grandy Boat Company of Seattle, established in 1903, was renowned for building vessels of Lara's type. It is said that Grandy Boat Company customers were impressed by the quality, seaworthiness and speed of Grandy boats.

Lara's owner Livio Andolfatto purchased Lara in Seattle and

sailed her to Vancouver where she was loaded onto a cargo vessel and shipped to Australia.

Livio's recollection of that journey from Seattle to Vancouver in wintertime is an amazing story. Despite encountering numerous engine problems, the storms with 30 knot winds that whipped up two-metre seas, the leaks that developed as a result of those storms and the logs in their hundreds, more like telephone poles, that no-one told them about, Livio and Lara made it to Vancouver and ultimately to Australia.

Lara is in magnificent condition and now sits gracefully with the composure of a middle-aged woman at Marina YE.

Livio says she is like other girls - spend a bit of time and lots of money on her and she purrs.

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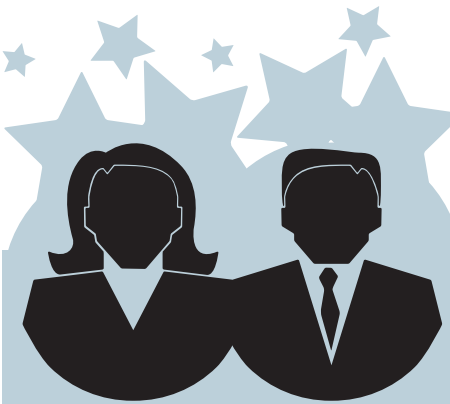
WITH ANGELINA MAY

How compatible are you and your partner?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your partners' birthdate and time to heaven@docklandsnews.com.au

Is it love or lust?

What do you bring to the relationship and what gifts does your partner bring to you? What brings you together? What magnetic force keeps you there?



| | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| James | Abby |
| 18/4/1959 | 27/12/1960 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| North Node in Libra | North Node in Virgo |
| North Node in Abby's 9th House | North Node in James' 5th House |

James:

Aries men of 1959 are frequently attracted to warm, affectionate, uncomplicated women who provide a comfortable home. Someone who can cook and has an easy-going disposition would keep you happily at home and not roaming.

You can be a little self-centred and want what you want right now and might have trouble compromising or taking "no" for an answer, but you rarely let disappointments get you down for long. Your curiosity and joie de vivre keep you in the game of love for as long as a partner is willing to play.

Gifts that James brings Abby (north node in 9th house)

James is bringing you the gift of love by opening the way for you to expand your power through increasing your commitment to ethical behaviour. As you accept his gift and allow him to help you become more honest and direct with others, your example also motivates him to begin speaking more honestly.

You have the potential to build a relationship with this person based on communicating your deepest feelings and inner truth – one that can reach new depths of mutual understanding.

Abby:

Loyal and soft-hearted dear Capricorn of 1960, you don't take relationships lightly, nor do you want to share them with the rest of the world. The type of man who keeps you spellbound is a man of few words and a master of illusion.

He can make you think he is independent, proud and aloof, yet once you have him in a deliciously compromising position he is ready to please you and pleasure you. Your home is a warm, protective nest and at the end of the day you want to be with that special someone.

Gifts that Abby brings James (north node in 5th house)

Abby is bringing you the gift of healing your heart and rekindling the spark of happiness within you. Her influence reconnects you with the innocent joy of being alive on planet earth and inspires that part of you that seeks fun and adventure.

As you accept Abby's gift and allow them to encourage you to play, take risks, have adventures and generate more fun in life. Your demonstration motivates her to also become more playful and adventurous. In this way you empower each other to relax, be yourselves, and enjoy the ups and downs of life.

Composite Chart in 7th house (the house of partnerships) –

The key to maximising the potential in this partnership is to recognise and remain aware that it offers the opportunity to experience the joys and benefits of a successful relationship. To this end, learn what you can do to support each other through joining forces and functioning as a team.

Featured terminology

North Node – When the north node in one person's chart is united with a planet/house in another's chart, a soul contract has been made to come together in this lifetime for mutual benefit. The north node person brings the special gift of helping you realise one of your talents. They function like a good luck charm by energising the area of your life ruled by the planet/house involved. The north node person helps to expand you to a higher level, bolstering your confidence and ability to succeed in that area. This process brings healing energy to both parties. Through this connection the planetary person's personal growth and self-actualisation are nurtured and encouraged.

9th House – is Good Legal Karma. James teaches you about integrity, keeping your word, taking right action. He teaches you universal principles of higher truths, philosophy, spirituality and intuition so you can experience more peace of mind. On a lighter note, James adds a sense of freedom and adventure to your life that you haven't previously experienced.

5th House – is Good Romance Karma. Abby teaches you about playfulness, romance and creativity. She will teach you about taking time out from career and intellectual pursuits to spend time in play both personally through creative outlets and to play with children. James will have so much fun that at times he may have trouble keeping his mind on the more serious side of life. Abby will encourage the risk taker and adventurer in James and together you will both explore many new vistas.

Composite chart – The relationship is meant to provide something for both of you that you need and want. Your combined energy produces a third entity (the sum of both of you) James and Abby you have your composite chart in the 7th House which is the house of partnerships. How can you go wrong?



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L: Marcel Marceau | R: Princes Bridge by David B Simmonds



GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



I would like on behalf of the Docklands Community Association committee to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It has been a very busy year for the DCA. Our Christmas party is coming up on Tuesday, December 7 from 7.30pm at the Harbour Kitchen on Victoria Harbour and we invite you to come along. Given the success of the previous functions, it should be a great night. It can't be washed out like our recent barbecue was last month because it will be under cover in the glass pavilion by the water.

We continue to keep members regularly informed of activities and events such as Hub Happenings by various groups, fun runs and Christmas Carols on December 16. There also will be the Motorcycle Riders Association's annual Toy Run culminating with a show on Central Pier on Sunday, December 12.

We are currently pressing the City of Melbourne to notify and consult with us in advance with respect to proposed promotional and sporting events so that we can ensure that residential interests are catered for. Problems don't often arise but we need that involvement.

VicUrban is doing a good job in keeping us updated on the Harbour Esplanade works which we pass on to members.

We are also requesting that there be greater consultation and provision of information by VicUrban and developers to affected residents on specific building projects. This is so adjoining residents can know in advance things like size of the building, traffic effects, parking effects and time frame.

Until now residents "have been kept in the dark" on specifics "until the last minute" and then given minimal

information. Greater respect needs to be shown to the effect on residents who now form a significant sector in Docklands.

Another current issue is the question of the use of Western Park abutting the Bolte Bridge at the end of Docklands Drive. VicUrban has advertised three options on its website which we will be circulating to members for comment.

In summary they are: firstly a peaceful park, or secondly a recreation area including outdoor courts and playground, or thirdly a formal sports complex.

Under the third category, Melbourne Football Club, in conjunction with Netball Victoria, has proposed an oval, indoor courts and facilities. They propose community-shared use. The MFC is arranging to make a presentation to the DCA committee and we will keep members informed. With so little public open space available, it is important to ensure that community needs are provided for.

If any reader wishes to become a member of the DCA or has any suggestions they wish to put forward with respect to activities or issues to take up on their behalf you are welcome to do so by contacting us on docklands.community.association@gmail.com. If you would like to talk to me about any aspect, you are welcome to call me on 0412 097 706.

You can keep up with things on our website docklandscommunityassociation.com

Best wishes for 2011.

Sincerely

Roger Gardner, President DCA

DOCKLANDS NUMB3RS



For consultation please contact numerologist Sarang Dhawan on sarangdhawan@yahoo.com

Ashes predictions

Ashes predictions for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Ashes tests for 2010-11.

Let's start with the second Ashes test match which begins on December 3 and finishes on December 7, 2010. I feel it will be a close match and the chances of a draw appear likely. However, England's captain Andrew Strauss, is born on the 2nd and, according to numerology, is ruled by seven and two. With the match running through his lucky period, there is hope for an English victory.

The third test will unfold with good leadership and performance by Ricky Ponting as he is a number one in numerology and enters his lucky year on his birthday on December 19, 2010. I feel the match will be tough and good performances from Aussies can't be ruled out. There is also still a chance for the match to be drawn, or Australia might get an edge.

The test match which starts on December 26 on Boxing Day will bring unexpected turns

and hard work will be rewarded for every player of both teams. I feel Australia will win this match with good performances from Ricky Ponting and Michael Hussey.

The fifth and final match of Ashes from January 3 to 7 seems like a tough match. The numbers are pointing to a draw or England might get an edge.

Numerology predictions for good performances from the Australians:

- Ricky Ponting
- Michael Hussey
- Shane Watson
- Simon Katich
- Marcus North

Numerology predictions for good performances from the English:

- Andrew Strauss
- Jonathan Trott
- Ian Bell
- Matt Prior
- Steven Finn

In regard to predictions please note, rain might affect the result and the predictions are based on numerologist Sarang Dhawan's calculations. Naturally, we are not responsible if someone bets on matches.



Thanks to Docklands resident Amy McHugh for sending us some pics including this one from her new camera.

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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Louise Lee

LOCATION:

Stadium Concourse.

WEARS:

Black race-day hat, white pearls, black and white suit, black and white clutch and black square-toe high heels.

DESCRIPTION:

It's my race day outfit for oaks day, but would probably be great for Derby Day as well. I actually purchased it from Hobbs in London on a trip earlier this year.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I stayed the night here and now I'm heading off to the races.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Geelong.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT SUMMER?

The long nights and summer sunsets.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Something classic that has nice lines and is really nicely cut and tailored.

Nedim Rahmanovic

LOCATION:

Harbour Esplanade.

WEARS:

Cool-grey fitted shirt, Blue cotton-knit vest, blue cotton-trousers, brown leather boots.

DESCRIPTION:

It's a modern take on smart-casual.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Greensborough

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I am a famous designer with Mediation Communication.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT SUMMER?

The long days, which mean that you can do a lot more.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

It's subjective, but I think a combination of materials is really important, along with the cut and a simple palette with an accent colour.

Trish Aschoff

LOCATION:

Stadium Concourse

WEARS:

Dusty pink fascinator, cream jacket, silver love-heart necklace and pearl accessories champagne-coloured dress, dusty pink hand-bag and high heels.

DESCRIPTION:

I would say it is pretty feminine and girly and well suited for Oaks Day.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I'm here to meet up with a friend before we head off to the races for Oaks Day.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT SUMMER?

I love the beaches and being able to wear less clothing.

WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

I like a well co-ordinated outfit with matching pieces.

Fashion with a cause

As the days begin to get longer and hotter and it becomes time for you to reach into your wardrobe for that summer dress that's been shoved to the back all winter, spare a thought for your health.

Yes it may be very rare – weird in fact – to read a fashion column that says fashion isn't the most important thing, but having personally watched family members be diagnosed with melanoma I remind you that it isn't worth your health or your life.

And being sun-smart no longer means that you have to compromise on the look and style of your outfit with new stylish sun-protection wraps now hitting the market.

Designed by the director of Melbourne's Sample Room, Julia Van Der Sommen, the wraps known as Sha-de are made from merino wool and are designed to protect women from the sun, while leaving them feeling cool.

"I've been working with merino wool for a while and it's highly UV resistant and naturally SPF45+. I thought if I had a garment that I could fold up and carry with me when needed – like, driving or attending a summer wedding or barbecue – it would be so handy," Ms Van Der Sommen said.

The wraps, which transport sweat away from the skin to leave you feeling cooler, are available in a single sleeve version, which is perfect for driving, and a double sleeve Sha-de for full protection.

Endorsed by founder of the Emily Tapp Melanoma Foundation, Louise White, who lost her daughter Emily Tapp to a melanoma, aged 27, in 2006, the wraps are available via the foundation's website, www.emilysfoundation.org.au, as well as www.sha-de.com.

Ms White said: "It's imperative that others learn from these events. The consequences of non-detection can be disastrous."

The wraps are available in various colours and prices start from \$59.95 which, for the price of your health, is very reasonable and a hell of a lot cheaper than a trip to the doctors.

So if you're walking along the harbour this summer and that infamous Docklands breeze gives you the opinion that it's not hot and therefore you won't get burnt, think again and make sure you slip, slop, slap and perhaps purchase a wrap.

The Emily Tapp Melanoma Foundation's March for Melanoma will once again take place in Docklands in 2011 on Sunday, March 6.

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Modern Lovers
Princess Yasmin
Rosemin
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Meet Oscar Anderson

When long-term Docklands residents Colin and Michele Anderson shortly move back into their renovated apartment, they are bringing with them more than what they left with.

Meet Oscar Anderson, a Cavalier-cross poodle who is the newest addition to the Docklands family.

The gorgeous puppy, who belongs to their daughter Brooke, has spent the past six-and-a-half months living with the family at a house in Brighton and is just beginning to experience apartment life in Docklands.

"He's trained a bit, but I think it'll be interesting to see how he goes in the apartment, especially since it's just been renovated. We'll obviously have to walk him lots and train him a bit more," Brooke said.

Purchased in May by Brooke's friends as a present for her 20th birthday, Oscar came as a surprise to Colin and Michele.

"I went with my friends to choose him because my boyfriend told me that my friends were buying one for my birthday and then I called mum and dad from the pet

shop and let them know," Brooke said.

Described as more of an Oscar the Grouch rather than an Oscar Wilde, Brooke says the playful pooch can be very cheeky and naughty.

"He can be very naughty and likes to sit on you, but he knows when he's done something wrong," she said.

Oscar is looking forward to his first Christmas and might even get a few presents.

"I might get him a few new collars and he'll probably have some ham and turkey which I'm sure he'll love," Brooke said.

Nominate your pet to feature in our Pet's Corner column and win a \$25 voucher to spend at Petstock, South Melbourne, courtesy of our column sponsor. Just email your contact details and a photo of your pet to news@docklandsnews.com.au



Merry Christmas Docklands

Love it or hate it, Christmas is here!

For me Christmas is a very special time of the year. It's an opportunity to catch up with family and friends, play a bit of beach cricket, feast on barbecue prawns, sing a few carols and, of course, open presents (hopefully many expensive ones!).

Ultimately, the gifts of Christmas point to a much greater treasure, which came wrapped as the person of Jesus Christ. For me, God entering the stage of human history is a great reason for us all to celebrate. His life, his words, his power, his death, his resurrection have continued to make Jesus not only the most famous person to have ever lived, but also the most important.

G.K Chesterton once said:

"When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs?"

At City on a Hill we want to provide the community with an opportunity to explore and encounter the infinite joy of the Christ in Christmas.

We are teaming up with the City of Melbourne, Lend Lease, Melbourne City Sports and a host of special guests for the Docklands Community Christmas Concert. This year's event will be filled with fun and frivolity, held on Thursday, December 16 at the Docklands Hub on the corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade from 5.30-9pm, with music from Gospel Sunday, and carols sung by Dockland's own community choir, coffee, giveaways, face painting, a sausage sizzle, and much, much more. Who'd want to be anywhere else?

We will be also hosting two very special Christmas services on Sunday, December 19 at 10am (Hoyts, Melbourne Central) and 6pm (Waterfront Room, Docklands). Our services include music, a Christmas message, a time to meet others from our community, and lots more. It would be great to see you and your family there to celebrate this special time of the year. For more info you can visit www.cityonahill.com.au. Our services for 2011 will commence on Sunday, January 9.

Merry Christmas – and have a blessed New Year!



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WHAT'S ON AT WATERFRONT CITY IN DECEMBER

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Docklands in December comes alive in a panoply of activities. A month of merriness lies ahead of us with festivities covering the famous Santa's Christmas Spectacular, the Christmas Twilight Market and the traditional Christmas Carols at Docklands. Full of good-will, we also encourage you to donate your time generously by participating in the Variety Santa Fun Run. And finally join us in our annual New Year's Eve celebrations as we welcome 2011!

.....



Magical Christmas Wonderland

Wonderland Fun Park presents Santa's Christmas Spectacular - one big Christmas party. See the amazing antics of the acrobatic Christmas elves and visit Santa's stable. Unlimited Ride Passes \$29.50pp includes entry to Santa's Wonderland, a gift for each child and a family photo with Santa. To visit Santa's Wonderland only \$15.00 pp, inclusive of family photo and gift for each child. Check the website for more information.

Date: December 11th – 24th

Time: 11am to 6pm

Venue: Wonderland Fun Park Harbour Town



Christmas Twilight Market

The Docklands Sunday Market will hold their 'Christmas Twilight Market' on Tuesday 14th December 5pm to 9pm. Enjoy the specialities of the stallholders in the warm summer air. Bring along the family and have dinner after you peruse the stalls. A FREE Children's Art Competition will also be held. This exciting competition will offer kids (in two categories, boy & girl under 6 years and boy & girl under 12 years) an opportunity to make their very own Christmas card. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes to be won. All art supplies will be provided FREE of charge. Check the website for more information.

Date: December 14th

Time: 5pm to 9pm

Venue: Waterfront City Promenade



Carols at Docklands

Come and join us for Carols at Docklands this Christmas Eve starting at 6pm! Christmas Carols with guest artists, 50 piece Gospel Choir, Kids Carnival with Face Painting, Jumping Castles and Fairy Floss, as well as a Skate Comp, Games, Giveaways, Santa, and lots more! All ages welcome.

Date: December 24th

Time: From 6pm

Cost: FREE

Venue: Waterfront City Piazza



Variety Santa Fun Run

The 2010 Variety Santa Fun Run is gearing up to be bigger and better than ever with a new route at Docklands. The Variety Santa Fun Run is a family friendly fundraising event which is open to everyone, both young and old, and consists of either a 5km or 10km distance. Competitors receive an official 5 piece Variety Santa Suit which is included in their registration fee. The purpose of the Santa Fun Run is to celebrate Christmas, have fun and raise awareness and fundraise for Variety, the children's charity. Check the website for pricing information.

Date: December 5th

Time: Registrations starts at 7am, Warm up at 8.30am, Fun Run starts at 9am

Venue: Waterfront City Piazza



New Year's Eve Celebration

Celebrate New Year's Eve at Docklands this year. Watch Tricky Nick perform both his Magic and Comedy Con Show; Listen to DJ Anthony play your favourite music from '50s and '60s classics to top 40 and alternative; Join Shrek, Princess Fiona and the Funky Fairytale Fairy at an all-singing, all-dancing 'live show' adventure; Party away with Boutique Duo, stunning male and female vocalists performing an astonishing list of songs. A highly entertaining tribute will also be paid to the talented Miley Cyrus (Hannah Montana), performed by Australian Idol finalist Teresa Costin. Sit back and soak up the show or dance your way to midnight and beyond. Check the website for more information.

Date: December 31st

Time: From 6pm

Venue: Waterfront City Piazza

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Harbour Town Christmas on Ice

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Santa is coming to our town

Commencing Saturday 4 December Santa will be at the centre from 11am each day giving out special gifts and will be available for free photos!

There also will be roaming Christmas entertainment from 17 December to make your Christmas shopping even more enjoyable. For all these details visit our website.

FREE Santa's Christmas spectacular breakfast

Included in this FREE magical Christmas event is breakfast, a small gift, live entertainment and Santa's grand arrival where children can meet Santa himself.

- Saturday 11 December
 - Breakfast 1, 8.30am – 9.15am
 - Breakfast 2, 9.45am – 10.30am
- Wednesday 15 December
 - Breakfast 3, 9.30am – 10.15am
 - Breakfast 4, 10.30am – 11.15am

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Businesses in Docklands

DOCKLANDS-BASED BUSINESSES WISHING TO BE PROFILED IN THIS SECTION SHOULD EMAIL: ADVERTISING@DOCKLANDSNEWS.COM.AU

ANOTHER STRING TO JIN’S BUSINESS BOW

Having opened up Harbour Coffee House on Harbour Esplanade in September, Jin Guan and Noel Comley have now doubled their impact on Docklands by opening up a second business just a few doors down.

Melbourne Bay Restaurant, a Chinese-style eatery, is the latest venture for the husband and wife team and is quickly becoming popular with the working crowd.

Opening on October 23, Jin said the restaurant was all part of a plan to train her children and set them up for life.

“I have three children and the plan is to train the eldest so that she can then train her brother and he will train his little sister,” Jin said

With her three children aged 14, 16 and 18, Jin says it’s important to her that she teaches and trains her children, rather than handing them money.

“Starting a business and having them get involved from the beginning is about giving them the knowledge and training for life and helping them see the whole broad picture from beginning to success.”

Jin said she hoped the business would also give her peace of mind that her children had something to work with should she retire.

“I like knowing that they can go out and do their degrees and work in whatever field they choose, but at the end of the day this business will be here for them to come back to,” she said.

Specialising in quick, healthy and tasty Chinese food, Jin has made sure that only

the freshest of ingredients are used and she has someone very special watching over the kitchen.

“My younger brother is the chef and he is a very good cook who has work been working in restaurants and cafés for over 15 years,” Jin said.

With tasty noodle, rice and yum cha dishes, Jin hopes the restaurant will not only provide filling and tasty food, but will also be and oasis for Docklands workers.

“I wanted to provide somewhere peaceful to give the workers a break from their day, but also have quick and healthy food that’s fast enough to fit in with their busy schedule.”

Open five days a week for lunch and dinner, Jin hopes that the restaurant will also provide a cheaper dinner option for residents in Docklands.

“Sometimes people want a night off from cooking, or a chance to eat from a different cuisine and this restaurant allows them to have that without so much of the expense,” Jin said.

With tasty Chinese cuisine at very reasonable prices, Melbourne Bay Restaurant in Digital Harbour, is likely to soon become a haunt for residents and workers alike.



BUSINESSES SAMPLE THE BNI EXPERIENCE



Harbour Connections president Dave Fuller welcomes guests to his chapter’s visitors day on November 10.

About 50 businesses sampled a Business Network International chapter at a special visitors’ day in Docklands on November 10.

BNI Harbour Connections established itself in Docklands earlier this year and is seeking local businesses people interested in passing referrals between themselves to build more business.


Harbour Connections president Dave Fuller said the visitors’ day was quite successful and he expected to hold another event in the new year.

Mr Fuller said, although the morning departed from the regular structure, many

people got a taste of what BNI could do for their business.

Since the Harbour Connections’ event, another CBD-based chapter has relocated to Docklands. Docklands now has two BNI chapters – one meeting between 7am and 8.30am on Tuesdays and another at the same time every Wednesday at the Harbour Kitchen in Victoria Harbour.

For further information, contact Dave Fuller on david@essendonweb.com.au.



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Businesses in Docklands

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SARANG GIVES OFF GOOD VIBES

After living in Docklands for almost two-and-a-half years, Sarang Dhawan is now reaching out to the Docklands community and is offering his services as a numerologist.

Having studied over 32 books, researched widely on the internet and spoken to many different spiritual leaders, Sarang says he can help you improve your life and your success through the use of your name and birth date.

Using numerology, Sarang calculates a person's numbers and then guides them in their life decisions by showing them how they can use their numbers to make the most out of their life.

"There is a science in numbers. Every number has a vibration and if the vibration of your birth date vibrates well with the numbers of your name then you will be successful," Sarang said.

The wise-beyond-his-years 23-year-old says that if a person's name and birth date don't vibrate well he suggests to them that they change their name slightly by adding or subtracting a letter so that the number will change.

"Women have come to me who are having trouble getting pregnant and I do their numbers and find that they are not

vibrating well and after changing their name slightly they become pregnant," Sarang said.

The Indian-born Docklander said he could help people in all facets of their lives from choosing a business name, to picking a house with a good street number, to ensuring compatibility with a life partner or picking the date for their child to be born via Caesarian section.

"Numbers are very powerful and each number is beautiful. Often Bollywood and Hollywood film producers with consult a numerologist before picking the title of the film or when to launch it as it will have an impact on its success at the box-office," Sarang said.

Having completed a degree in commerce it's easy to see why Sarang is so comfortable with numbers.

"I was asked to predict the federal election and the upcoming Ashes tests and I also used numerology to pick Docklands as my suburb of residence," he said.

A gentle and kind-hearted man, Sarang says his main focus in numerology is helping people.

"I charge \$150 a consultation so that people realise the value of numerology because if I didn't, then people wouldn't realise its value. But the consultation has no time limit and they can ask me as many questions as they want," he said.

Sarang said he looked forward to helping the people of Docklands be successful in their lives.



TAKE TO THE WATER

How would you like to feel the warm breeze through your hair this summer as you cruise around on the glistening waters of Docklands steering your very own boat? Sounds perfect, doesn't it?

But there's just one problem I hear you say, and it's not the fact you don't have hair. It's the fact that you don't have a boating license. Well have no fear, for BOAT4hire is here.

Starting business two months ago, BOAT4hire widens the recreational boating options in Docklands by allowing people the chance to take out a boat without the need for a licence.

Operating as an extension of the Docklands-based Pleasure Cruising business, owner Gary Freeman said he started BOAT4hire when he realised that there was a huge need for this type of business in Melbourne.

"People wanted something that they could take out occasionally and have no commitment to and there was also a need for boats which people without a licence could take out," Gary said.

Offering a highly supervised boating service in Victoria Harbour, BOAT4hire allows non-licensed boat-lovers the chance to take out one of its 4.1metre, 9.9hp Polycraft Challengers.

"People that are licensed can take the boat out further or can tow it away to another location, but people who don't have a licence can still get out on the water," he said.

Looking to expand in the future, Gary says BOAT4hire currently offers five hire-boats and each boat is able to take a maximum of five people.

"I love running this business because I get to see people come in stressed and take out the boat and when they arrive back they're glowing because being out on a boat makes people happier," he said.

Having grown up in the eastern suburbs of Sydney, it is understandable that Gary has an immense love of water and boating and how he can see a lot of potential in Docklands.

"Docklands is still very much in its infancy and it has a huge potential to grow, particularly if the speed within the harbour is changed and a ferry service between Melbourne and Geelong is introduced," he said.

With Pleasure Cruising offering membership to luxury boats and BOAT4hire offering hire boats for one-off use, it seems Gary and his team will have you covered this boating season.



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FACES OF DOCKLANDS



MIKHIL KOTAK, 33
Owner - Tiffins

Mikhil likes the Docklands area. As well as being nice and flat (a benefit for food deliveries on bicycles) he also likes the modern new development. Having been in location near Flinders Wharf for three and a half years, he has seen dramatic change in his time in Docklands.



GINA MOSS, 28

Gina helps maintain the Melbourne Share Bikes. She is regularly in Docklands as there are so many bike stations here. The Docklands bike lanes and general accessibility on two wheels really impress Gina and she encourages more people to take a relaxing ride through the Docklands precinct.



ROGER STUMMVOLL, 40
Property manager, Century 21

Roger has lived in Docklands for four years and just loves the convenience of the suburb. "There's just nothing inconvenient about living here," he said. "It's so close to everything and there is so much to do."



JOHN DIMOS, 36
Owner, Groove Train, Harbour Town

John is a great fan of Docklands, describing it as "the place where everything will be happening". He likes the diversity of clients he meets - everyone from corporates to locals, and he looks forward to even greater patronage when the Southern Star Wheel reopens.



KATE WHITEHEAD, "40+"
Sales consultant, City Residential

In the last 10 years, the growth and strength of Docklands has turned Kate around from being a sceptic to a believer. "It's drawing people in like never before," she said. "People are starting to open their eyes about what Melbourne, as a city, has to offer."



SEAN ROGASCH, 22
Advertising Manager, Docklands News

Sean has just joined the Docklands News team as the advertising manager and he is very much enjoying working in Docklands. "I like the central location of Docklands. It's very easy to get to and the potential for growth in Docklands excites me," Sean said.



DOCKLANDS' BEST COFFEE

Coffee survey passes the 500 mark

The Docklands News online coffee survey passed the 500 respondent mark last month as the title for the suburb's best coffee changed again.

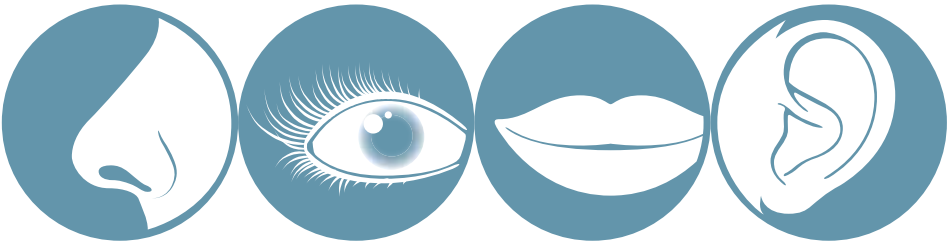
It's almost too close to call, but the survey software has Le Cirque in Harbour Town narrowly ahead of illy caffe at the ANZ Centre in Victoria Harbour.

It is perhaps not a fair comparison, as illy has polled some 300 votes, while only 72 respondents have rated Le Cirque. Le Cirque has a score of 3.78 (out of a possible 4), while illy has recorded 3.77.

Other favourite places for coffee in Docklands are Gate 10 (Stadium concourse), Espresso Alto (Stadium concourse) and Mad Duck Café (Yarra's Edge).

The survey remains open and we will each month publish the top five rankings. To vote for Docklands' best coffee, go to www.docklandsnews.com.au/coffee.

To view the current standings, go to <http://tinyurl.com/2d6vktj>



DOCKLANDS SECRETS

From Waverley to Docklands

One of the most noticeable features within Docklands Park is the terraced toilet block.

Prominent for its bright colour and the steps at the back which provide a potential sitting place to take in the park or monitor children at play.

The result of a design competition for tertiary students, this local landmark pays tribute to

the former headquarters of the VFL at Waverley.

During 2003, while features of Docklands Park were still being envisaged and designed, student submissions were sought for the design of key elements within the park. The theme or topic that students were to respond to was "remembering". They were charged with designing features which would call upon shared memories for Australian people.

The submitted entries, all creative and impressive, evoked everything from leaning haystacks to indigenous shelters and outback dunnies. However, the winning entry replicated the multi-coloured main ticket box at Waverley Park, a shared memory for the football-going public for more than two decades.

Doubtless the selection panel liked the synergy of drawing on memories from the VFL considering the AFL is now based in

Docklands. However, the attractive multi-coloured design also stood out as a positive approach to add colour and character in a new urban park.

So, the next time you walk or cycle past the Docklands Park amenity block, and wonder why it has a strange familiarity, perhaps you'll recall standing in a queue to buy tickets at VFL Park at Waverley some time in the 1980s.



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DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CALENDAR



| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL BOAT AND LIFESTYLE FESTIVAL February 4-6 <i>Waterfront City Piazza, Docklands</i> The 2011 Melbourne International Boat and Lifestyle Show is the largest outdoor lifestyle event in Victoria. Be entertained with free interactive activities such as boat rides, live music, stage activities & more. | AUDI VICTORIA WEEK January 20 - 26 <i>Waterfront City, Docklands</i> Audi Victoria Week is the largest sailing event in the southern hemisphere. It brings together competitive sailing with a free access onshore program and lots of entertainment. | CHRISTMAS CAROLS December 16, 5.30-9pm <i>Docklands Park opposite The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Bring along your friends and family, and enjoy a relaxing evening with fun 80s girl band, gospel Sunday and carols. So bring along your picnic rug and hamper. | CHECK YOUR HEARING Every 2nd Thursday of every month <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Free adult hearing checks at The Hub every second Thursday of the month. For more information contact The Hub on 8622 4822 . Appointments are necessary. |
| MAYORS FOR PEACE: TRANSFORMING THE HUMAN SPIRIT. January 13 until February 4 <i>Atrium, The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Transforming the Human Spirit was organized by the Soka Gakkai International, a worldwide lay Buddhist association that promotes peace and social contribution. | DOCKLANDS ROTARY Every Tuesday, 6.00pm <i>Waterfront Venues, Waterfront City</i> First Tuesday of the month is fellowship hour. Regular meetings on other Tuesdays. All welcome. RSVP to Susan Rogan by noon on meeting day for catering purposes: 0415 119 558 . | FINE LINE DRAWING AND BOTANICAL ART CLASSES. Monday and Thursday <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> The University of the 3rd Age offers two classes on Mondays and Thursdays. To make an enquiry regarding the classes, please ring U3A on 9639 5209 | DOCKLANDS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM JANUARY 2011 January 17-28 <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Docklands School Holiday Program is packed with exciting activities and fun-filled excursions for children aged 5 to 12 years of age. Ph 9320 4700 or email nmcc@ymca.org.au for more information. |
| KINDER BALLET Every Saturday <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> 9am - 9.45am - 3 to 5-year-olds. Cost \$13.00 10am - 10.30am - 2-year-olds. Cost \$10.00 1300 606 949 or info@kinderballet.com.au | DOCKLANDS BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU Tuesdays and Thursdays 5.15 - 6.15 Technique session 6.15 - 7.15 <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> BJJ is a style popularised by media such as the UFC and is proven as an extremely effective form of martial arts. Phone 9016 8471 , email info@docklandsbjj.com.au or visit www.docklandsbjj.com.au | DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS 2nd & 4th Monday of every month Refer to website for time. <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Boost your public speaking and leadership skills. For more information please email info@docklands.freetoasthost.org or visit www.docklands.freetoasthost.org | DRAGON MASTERS BOATING Wednesdays at 5.30pm & Saturdays at 8.30am <i>Shed 2 North Wharf Road Victoria Harbour Docklands (Melways map 2E B6)</i> Dragon Masters has something for anyone. Please contact Jeff Saunders 0417 219 888 email Jeff.saunders@digisurf.com.au or visit www.dragonmasters.com.au |
| FREE ADULT HEARING CHECKS Thursday December 9 1.30-4.00pm <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Last session for 2010, to return in 2011. Bookings essential contact Tanya at the Hub @ Docklands on 8622 4822 or email tanya.graham@melbourne.vic.gov.au | TRY SAILING DAY FOR THE COMMUNITY Second and fourth Sundays of the month, 11am to 3.30pm <i>Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2 North Wharf Rd</i> Suitable for all ages and abilities and no booking required. Contact Sonya 0400 932 477 or visit www.docklands.yachting.org.au | HUB CLUBS Monday - Table tennis Tuesday - Mind games (chess/board games) Wednesday - Walking, and table tennis Thursday - BYO craft sessions Friday - Language conversations <i>Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> For details 8622 4822 or docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au | KINDERBALLET Saturday mornings <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> A fun introduction to classical ballet for pre-schoolers! For more information call 1300 606 949 or visit www.kinderballet.com.au |
| CITY ON A HILL Sunday 10 am <i>Hoyts, Melbourne Central</i> Sunday 6pm <i>Waterfront Venues, Docklands</i> Church Services Contact cityonahill.com.au | “PROBUS” LAUNCH Thursday 2nd December 10.30am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Social club for active retirees in the Melbourne CBD. For more information contact Tony Thomas 0407 305 757 or Gillian Farrell 0409 853 745 or visit www.probus.com | MINI MAESTROS Tuesdays – various times <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> The Magic of Music for Every Child. For more information 93871500 or visit http://minimaestros.com.au | MUM’ WITH PRAMS WALKING GROUP (A HEART FOUNDATION WALKING GROUP) Thursdays at 9.30am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Contact Tanya at the Hub as it would be great to know how many of you there are. For more information contact 1300 36 27 87 or visit www.heartfoundation.org.au/walking |
| LINUX USERS OF VICTORIA Every 3rd Saturday of the month <i>Cinema Room, The Hub, 80 Harbour Esp.</i> Newcomers to Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) are invited to develop their skills and knowledge at an informal hands-on workshop. Must bring your own computer. See www.luv.asn.au . Call Donna on 0418 310 414 . | DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET Every Sunday, 10am to 4pm <i>Waterfront City Docklands Drive</i> Discover treasures from the hoardes of some of Melbourne’s finest antique and pre-loved specialists, including art, jewellery, retro clothing, vintage books and car boot sales. | PILATES FOR MUMS Wednesdays 7.30 - 8.30 <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Specially designed Pilates classes for all ages and stages. For more information contact 0432 252 278 or email jane@pilatesformums.com.au | COMMUNITY WALK Every Wed at 5.30pm and Fri 12.30pm <i>YMCA Docklands, Level 4, 100 Harbour Esplanade</i> In conjunction with the Heart Foundation, a great opportunity to meet new people, walk and talk. |
| THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) Every Sunday 10.30am-11.30am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands</i> Meet for worship and enjoy a tea or coffee afterwards. | VISIT SANTA Commencing December 4 <i>Harbour Town Shopping Centre</i> Santa will be at the centre from 11am each day giving out special gifts and will be available for FREE photos! There will also be roaming Christmas entertainment from 17 December to make your Christmas shopping even more enjoyable. | SANTA’S CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR BREAKFASTS Sat, 11 December at 8:30am & 9:30am & Wed, 15 December at 9:30am & 10:30am <i>Wonderland Fun Park, Harbour Town Shopping Centre, Docklands</i> To book, please call 9328 8600 or email info@harbourtownmelbourne.com.au or visit harbourtownmelbourne.com.au . | DOCKLANDS TOY RUN 12 December 11am - 4pm <i>Central Pier Docklands</i> The motorbikes will come into the city throughout the day to deliver toys and donations to Santa in Docklands. Phone 0425 771 370 email vicepres@docklandscscc.com.au or visit www.toyrun.org.au |

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Docklands Yacht Club sails on

Docklands Yacht Club continues to grow, especially since being appointed an official Yachting Australia training centre.

Several school students participated in DYC's "Get Into Small Boat Sailing" courses during November, with more classes scheduled for this month as well.

DYC Training School principal Ray Allen (pictured at work below) predicts a solid year



ahead for the club's new training centre.

"The sheltered waterways of Victoria Harbour are being recognised as an ideal location for beginners to learn to sail small boats," Mr Allen said.

Newly-appointed commodore David Ashburner heads the club committee team's development plans for the new year.

"These will include more mid-week training classes, special events and, most importantly, a new program offering sponsorship opportunities. This sponsorship program will enable DYC to continue to build up the home fleet," Mr Ashburner said. "The planned introduction of Pacer dinghies, plus Optis for the kids, will greatly boost our on-water presence."

DYC is now regularly visited by yachting enthusiasts. Yachts of all sizes are seen by the clubhouse dock at Shed 2, North Wharf Rd, Victoria Harbour.

Exciting new connections are also being made. The club has recently joined both the Docklands Community Association and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce.

The club's regular community sailing program is an excellent introduction to Docklands Yacht Club. The club encourages the Docklands community to try sailing on the second and fourth Sundays of the month throughout the year.

Visit www.docklands.org.au for a sailing calendar. Contact the club via docklandsyachtclub@gmail.com



Kon Kiryakudya and Sarah Miller using the buddy system to deliver the rock in their game.

Wheelchair curling arrives

For the past six months the Victorian Curling Association (VCA) has been training wheelchair athletes in the sport of curling at the Icehouse.

The outcome has been the formation of a wheelchair curling team – a first for Australian curling.

In another Australian first, the VCA has set up a summer curling competition. And the wheelchair curling team has a spot in this competition.

On November 15, the wheelchair curling team won its first game 7 - 5 against some very stiff competition. Its next game is December 6 in the 9pm-11pm slot.

This is the first wheelchair curling team to be formed and compete at club level. Its objective is to represent Australia in the 2011 World Wheelchair Curling Championships.

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