

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

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Docklands comes together to aid flood victims

Docklands has responded to the nation's flood disasters with the community coming together on February 24 for a massive fund-raising effort at Watermark Bar.

Organised by *Docklands News*, the event has already attracted more than \$20,000 worth of goods and services from local businesses for charity auction on the night. For a full list of donations to date, see our story online at www.docklandsnews.com.au.

Harbour Town Shopping Centre is sponsoring the fund-raiser to the tune of \$5000.

Entertainer Bobby Valentine is bringing his popular *Very Tall Show* to Docklands for the night and Switch Music is putting together a band to rock the night out. The *Very Tall Show* stars Wilbur Wilde, Tracy Bartram and Geoff (Coxy) Cox.

Watermark Bar on Victoria Harbour Promenade has called in favours from suppliers, and food, wine and security is being donated by Chef's Choice, Richmond Oysters, Hudson Pacific, Tyrrells Wines and TF Pro Security.

Funds raised through ticket sales, a silent auction and a public auction conducted by local real estate agent Cheryle Street will go directly to the Queensland Premier's Disaster Relief Appeal and the Red Cross Victorian Flood Appeal.

Tickets to the show are \$60 and can be purchased online at www.docklandsnews.com.au.

www.docklandsnews.com.au/floods where users will be taken to a booking site donated by Eventarc.

The cocktail-style evening starts at 7pm and, until 10pm, patrons have unlimited access to food and beverages. After 10pm the band will play on and drinks can be purchased at the bar.

"We're hoping that hundreds of Docklanders come together for a night of community spirit for this very worthy cause," *Docklands News* editor Shane Scanlan said.

Former Docklands residents Tanina and Neil Osborne have organised the entertainment and promise an extensive line-up of top musicians all wanting to do their bit.

In other Docklands efforts, Black Light Mini-Golf in Harbour Town raised nearly \$5000 on January 22 when all proceeds for the day went to the Queensland appeal.

Owner Julie Blyth said: "Our family finds it important to also help out others who are less fortunate than we are and we also get a great deal of satisfaction when we do fund-raising like this."

And NAB sent a group of volunteers to northern Victoria on January 20.

To donate to the fund-raiser, email news@docklandsnews.com.au or ring 8689 7979.



Ted gets his skates on

The Premier Ted Baillieu visited Docklands last month to promote a charity preview for 'Xanadu The Musical', which opens here next month.

Mr Baillieu teamed up with the star of the show Christie Whelan to promote a special preview on March 1 to raise money for the Queensland Premier's Flood Relief Appeal.

Speaking at the promotion on January 14,

Mr Baillieu encouraged Victorians to return the generosity of Queenslanders who had dug deep for Victorians affected by the Black Saturday fires two years ago.

"Please do for Queensland what Queensland did for us during the fires," Mr Baillieu said. "The rain may have passed, but the threat hasn't."

At the time of the announcement, erection of the Grand Xanadu Marquee was incomplete as some parts were trapped by floodwaters in Brisbane. Xanadu is due to start on March 3 in the vacant area opposite Docklands Studio in Docklands Drive.



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Changes afoot for Docklands

By Shane Scanlan

The election of a new State Government means some significant changes for Docklands - particularly in the area of planning.

Docklanders can expect to see VicUrban merged into a new urban renewal authority and they can expect to see the precinct rapidly expanded to the north, with the E-Gate project gaining increased significance.

And under the new Baillieu Government, the City of Melbourne will have more influence on the future of Docklands.

In an interview with *Docklands News*, Planning Minister Matthew Guy outlined broadly that inner urban renewal would be managed by the new authority. The specifics of the new authority are yet to be announced, but it is understood that a specific business unit would look after Docklands and the E-Gate area to its north.

"We believe that the original model for Docklands with its separate authority was a good one," Mr Guy said.

"Our policy is for the creation of a new urban renewal authority. But obviously we won't be creating an authority which will duplicate the role of VicUrban. We are still in the conceptual stage and the relationship with VicUrban is still being worked out," he said.

VicUrban assumed development responsibility for Docklands following the merger of the Docklands Authority and the Urban and Regional Land Corporation in 2003. VicUrban has been without a chairperson since former chairman Tony Darvall left the post last July. In December, its CEO Pru Sanderson resigned.

Mr Guy said: "I think Docklands requires an injection of stability and we intend to do that."



He said the Government also intended to give VicUrban employees and those with business relationships with VicUrban some certainty.

"I think what people want more than anything is certainty. They'll want to know what kind of authority they'll be dealing with and how it will go forward," he said.

Mr Guy said the railway yards to the north of Docklands, known as E-Gate, would become a priority for urban renewal under the new Government.

He said the 20 hectare site, bounded by Dudley St, Footscray Rd, Moonee Ponds Creek and the railway, could be the answer to Docklands' lack of community facilities.

"Some of the community infrastructure for Docklands could be fulfilled by land in E-Gate which is, so far, not committed," Mr Guy said.

"I think it has to become an extension of Docklands because there is no use creating a precinct all to itself. It will have

a community of interest with what already exists there in the Docklands."

"Clearly, in my view, it would be most sensible to have a common community of interest between the two and I think that community infrastructure can play a role in doing that."

Mr Guy also flagged more influence for the City of Melbourne in Docklands' future. Following the coalition victory late last year, the Lord Mayor Robert Doyle renewed his campaign for planning powers in the precinct.

"I have a good relationship with Robert - full stop. My view is that we will be able to work very well together," Mr Guy said.

"Again, I have a good personal relationship with Peter Clarke (chair of the council's planning committee). I know him very well and have done for a while."

"My view is that we will be able to have a very good relationship with Melbourne City Council in relation to Docklands."

Police seek 'banning' powers

The City of Melbourne is supporting a bid by Victoria Police to have Docklands declared a "designated area" from which police can effectively ban drunken and disruptive revellers.

On February 1, councillors voted to support a police application to Responsible Alcohol Victoria (RAV) to extend to Docklands the powers they already have to deal with drunks within 100 metres of CBD night-spots.

Since being granted temporary 24-hour "banning powers" in 2007, police have evicted more than 3000 people from the city, a move they say has been effective in combating anti-social behaviour.

In seeking the council's support, Victoria Police said public order category offences had increased 96 per cent in Docklands since 2007. At the same time, they say, there has been a 38 per cent increase in licensed premises in Docklands.

However, RAV is not convinced by these percentages and has asked for actual numbers and other evidence proving that the proximity of licensed premises contributed to the offences.

In a letter to police, RAV licensing and compliance manager Murray Smith said any support from the council should include "evidence of the resources they have had to commit to the area proposed because of alcohol-related violence or disorder".

The City of Melbourne does not record the specific costs associated with licensed premises or alcohol-related incidents. However, the council has commissioned this research and should have the results by July.

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Deadline for the March edition is
February 25.

Uber Bar off the agenda

The Director of Liquor Licensing has knocked back an application for a small wine bar in St Mangos Lane, New Quay.

Docklands' businessman Chris Ellis first applied for a licence for his proposed Uber Bar in November, 2009, but was opposed by local residents.

His application for a venue for 57 patrons went to a hearing last September and, on December 20 last year, the application was formally rejected. Reasons for the rejection have not been given.

Mr Ellis declined to comment.

In other Docklands liquor licensing news, the Woolshed Pub has successfully extended its licence which means it will be able to serve up to 311 patrons in its "back bar" area between 11pm and 1am on Fridays and Saturday nights.

The Woolshed had previously only had permission to use this area during these times for pre-booked functions.

And following objections from some Victoria Point residents, local businessman Dom Anthony has modified his application for a licence for his "Docked" tapas bar on the Stadium Concourse to a restaurant and café licence until 11pm.

If objectors don't withdraw their objections, this matter will be subject to a panel hearing.



Dance 101 director Cheryl Smith ... she's is trying to work with the council to keep the free lessons going.

Docklanders keep dancing

Docklanders have kept dancing through a row with the City of Melbourne which threatened to end four years of joy on Sunday afternoons at Yarra's Edge.

Things went pear-shaped before 5pm on January 23 when a council by-laws officer walked into Curves Bar and Restaurant and demanded that the regular free outdoor salsa lessons not proceed.

The council officer, who was not wearing a uniform, said he was acting on a complaint from a local resident and left his card. Staff say that, not long before, a resident had complained about the noise and threatened to have the show shut down, claiming to know someone on the council.

Dance 101 staff phoned the particular council officer and later decided to proceed with the dance class. The class uses a single outdoor speaker at less than 70 decibels.

They say more noise comes from traffic using the adjacent Charles Grimes Bridge.

During the following week, the daily press, talk-back radio and television news and current affairs went into a feeding frenzy in response to the council's actions.

Dance 101 director Cheryl Smith said she was appalled that the council had tried to shut down the free entertainment. She said the Lord Mayor personally intervened in the dispute to allow the classes to proceed as a one-off on January 30.

Ms Smith is currently in negotiations with the council over the future of the event.

Even though the council officer demanded the event not proceed on the basis of noise levels, the council later claimed the classes are unlawful because Dance 101 did not have an event permit.

This is despite official noise level checks conducted by uniformed council officers two years ago.

Ms Smith said she assumed that because

the classes were held on private property, an event permit was not necessary.

However, she said, she was happy to work with the council which had now adopted an official position of wanting to find a home for the classes in Docklands.

City of Melbourne CEO Kathy Alexander has said: "We will work with this group to help their application for an events permit and identify a suitable site in Docklands."

"We are committed to balancing the needs of the city's many users, and we'll work to achieve an outcome that will work for everybody."

Ms Smith met with council staff on January 31 and later reported a positive outcome.

"They certainly want us to continue," she said.

She said she appreciated that the council needed to balance the requirements of all stakeholders and she was considering a compromise position of starting the classes at 4pm and ending at 9pm.

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Determined to be different

Briefly

Docklands is the media hub

Work has started on the Wheel

As predicted in our last edition, work has now started on the reconstructed Southern Star Observation Wheel at Waterfront City.

Its owner ING Real Estate is still keeping tight-lipped about its expected completion, but the first piece was joined on January 20.

It's been two years now since the wheel failed and was dismantled. Harbour Town traders have mostly toughed out the downturn in visitor numbers and many have established themselves in their own right despite the wheel's woes.

Council parking fines bonanza

The City of Melbourne is cashing in on increasing competition for Docklands' car parking spaces.

The council did nearly twice as well as it expected in the first quarter of the 2010-11 financial years with its parking fee revenue up \$68,032 on its \$150,000 budgeted figure.

In its report to the Docklands Co-ordination Committee in December, the council said parking revenue was up "due to increased occupancy as a result of new developments".

Docklands again hosts the Splash

Docklands will once again play host to the Variety Splash this month when teams gather at Waterfront City to start their three-day boating event on Port Phillip Bay.

The annual sailing event will kick off with a welcome function at Central Pier on Thursday February 24, before the boats embark on their first leg to Queenscliff Harbour on Friday morning.



Sales executives Andrew Cann and Carly Astone move their work gear into 717 Bourke St on January 31.

The first Channel 9 staff started moving into their new Docklands headquarters at 717 Bourke St on January 28.

The media giant's move to Docklands cements the precinct's status as Victoria's media hub - joining pioneer Channel 7 and, more recently, The Age and 3AW.

Channel 9's parent organisation Nine Entertainment Co has been moving associated businesses, ACP Magazines, NineMSN and Ticketek, into Docklands since late last year. But the TV station staff have only started making the move from their original home in Richmond.

Station manager Brian Pedler said Docklands was a natural choice for Nine.

The company has 8000 sqm over four floors, including the double-storey level four which was originally designed to accommodate a lecture theatre for a design school.

Mr Pedler said the extra ceiling height meant Channel 9 could operate a fully-functioning

production studio from the office block.

He said news and current affairs would start broadcasting from the location by the end of this month.

Another advantage that Docklands offered was its proximity to public transport as well as the facilities available at Docklands Studios, where Channel 9 will broadcast its audience participation shows such as the popular *Footy Show*, *Hot Seat* and a new show to be called *Million Dollar Drop*.

Mr Pedler said these live shows would hopefully contribute patronage to other Docklands businesses.

He said while some staff were naturally reluctant to leave Richmond where the station had begun, others were excited and looking forward to embracing the new opportunities that Docklands has to offer.

He said it was obvious that activity was gravitating towards the Docklands side of the city.

Nine Entertainment Co will have between 450-500 employees in Docklands when the last workers leave Richmond on March 31.



All aboard for the next lunch

Docklands News Networking Lunch guests will be taking to the water on March 4 with the next lunch being held on the ex-Sydney ferry *Lady Cutler*.

Docklands' stakeholders are invited to jump on board the beautiful boat on from midday for a relaxing afternoon of networking and cruising around the harbour.

The lunch will follow the same format with three courses and drinks provided for \$60, but with the bonus of being on the water.

Attendees are encourage to arrive at Central Pier at 12pm with the boat departing at 12.30pm and arriving back at 2.45pm.

Currently there is no speaker booked, but if we choose to present one, the speech will go for no more than five minutes and will be of genuine interest to attendees - which leaves more valuable time for networking.

The networking lunch is organised quarterly to help develop and renew relationships within the Docklands business community.

This will be our seventh lunch with our numbers continuing to grow.

As numbers are limited, we encourage you to book early with Alison Kinkade on 8689 7979 or alison@docklandsnews.com.au

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Harbour Esplanade – the next stages

Planning has started on the next stages of the Harbour Esplanade redevelopment.

With stage 1 heading for completion, VicUrban and the City of Melbourne have started discussions about how the vast area between the roadway and the water is to be treated. The two bodies met to discuss the project on January 31.

Available finance will be crucial to the outcome, with VicUrban having limited funds set aside for the project.

VicUrban general manager for Docklands Simon Wilson won't say how much has been allocated to the project, but admits that other funding sources need to be found.

"That's not to say that we can't design to a budget," Mr Wilson said. "And, in any event, we will be speaking with the community before we do anything."

Next month, planting of up to 210 Norfolk Island Pines between Bourke St and Docklands Drive will start.

Mr Wilson said the trees had been ready since last year but it was decided to wait until the worst summer conditions had passed.

"And if we get another hot spell when we intend to plant, we will postpone again," he said.

The trees, which will be between five and seven metres tall when planted, are currently being cared for at a nursery in Newcastle and have been selected for their suitability to coastal conditions, hardiness and ability to provide year-round shade and shelter.

Mr Wilson pointed to similar plantings at Portsea, Warrnambool and at Gawler in South Australia as evidence of the species' suitability for Docklands.

Pits for the trees and irrigation lines have been installed in anticipation of the plantings.

Mr Wilson said within the coming months, residents, workers and visitors would be able to enjoy new street furniture, including



bench seats, drinking fountains and bike hoops, the first of which are now being installed between Bourke and LaTrobe streets.

"The Harbour Esplanade redevelopment will ultimately see this important public space transformed into a new harbour-side destination for Melbourne," Mr Wilson said.

Smoko break during the Harbour Esplanade redevelopment. Roadworks will soon be finished as the authorities plan the next two stages.



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

Great deals on their way for Docklanders

The Docklands' new business loyalty program faces a co-operative future, if the selection of its name is any indication.

The organisers ran a competition for *Docklands News* readers late last year and, after reviewing the 50 or so applications, they couldn't choose.

So they selected Docklander Deals, which is drawn from two entries – "Docklander Card" and "DockDeals".

The "Docklander" part of the name was contributed by Etihad Stadium business development manager Andrew Pirchan, while the "Deals" part came from a submission by Myer analysis and planning manager Louise Hughes.

Andrew and Louise have each won a dinner for two at Platform 28.

Destination Docklands spokesperson Michelle Kemp said her organisation and the Docklands Chamber of Commerce were delighted with the hybrid name.

"Docklander Deals encompasses the essence of what we are trying to achieve," she said.

The program is designed to give local businesses an opportunity to make offers to Docklands' 25,000 residents and workers.

Free for cardholders, Docklanders 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.

Mr Pirchan said he was delighted to win the competition. "When someone asks you something, you just like to help out," he said.

Ms Hughes was equally pleased to have contributed. She said she only started with Myer three months ago but loved Docklands.

"I wouldn't have taken the job if it was based in the inner city, but because it was here in Docklands it's great," she said.

Participating businesses will be able to make monthly offers, attract customers, maintain a solid customer base, improve customer loyalty and strengthen relationships.



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Farewell to Noel Raitt

Having spent almost six years managing residential buildings in Docklands' NewQuay precinct, Noel Raitt retired this January and said he and his wife Celia would miss the area immensely.

The popular manager, who spent nearly two years managing the Arkley building before being employed by the owners' corporation of the Nolan building for four years, said it was just time to retire.

"It's been wonderful for us to live here and I've really enjoyed working here, but we want to travel, do a few things before we get too old and I want to spend some more time with my mother who is 96-years-old," Noel said.

Noel, who already retired once before for five years, came out of retirement to fill in for his brother who was managing a building in the suburbs.

"I had never managed a building before, but my brother wanted to go on a five-month holiday and I filled in and through that I met the Arkley people and ended up coming out of retirement and moving to Docklands."

Noel, who has seen Docklands grow from strength to strength in his six years in the suburb, believes that in another five years Docklands will take off and the value of properties will go through the roof.

"I've seen Docklands grow so much already and I can't wait to see the final product," he said.

Moving back to his family home in the Grampians, the friendly manager said he would be sure to visit from time to time.

"All the restaurants are great, so we will definitely be back for the restaurants and there are people here that we want to keep in contact with," he said.

Though Noel and Celia have no travel plans yet, Noel said a trip around Australia, a trip to New York to visit his son and a trip to England to visit Celia's family were possible.



Popular building manager Noel Raitt is moving on after six years in Docklands.

Docklands traffic is improving – VicUrban

VicUrban is confident that Docklands' traffic will be vastly improved in coming weeks as the Harbour Esplanade roadworks come to an end.

General manager for Docklands Simon Wilson said extra turning lanes at intersections would make a huge difference to the congestion which has dogged Docklands recently.

"Once the temporary barriers come down, the traffic will flow a lot better," he said.

Mr Wilson said VicUrban had been working with the City of Melbourne and VicRoads since November to re-sequence Docklands' traffic signals which had resulted in smoother traffic flows.

"It might have only been a few seconds here and a few second there, but it has made a remarkable difference," he said.

Mr Wilson said consultants UrbanTrans had studied Docklands' traffic and had provided a plan for improvements.

However, Mr Wilson admitted that the Batman's Hill peak hour snarl had not been anticipated. He said planners failed to predict the numbers of drivers exiting the CBD via Collins St – attempting to connect with Wurundjeri Way via Batman's Hill Dr.

Mr Wilson said Harbour Esplanade was never intended to carry through-traffic. He said drivers needed to be educated to use Wurundjeri Way to skirt around Docklands.

He said the raised tramway was installed in Harbour Esplanade to improve tram timetable reliability and as a safety measure to prevent vehicles from crossing the tracks.

He said a dedicated U-turn facility at Bourke St, would assist vehicles approaching Central Pier from the north. Mr Wilson also said drop-off zones and taxi ranks would further assist Central Pier businesses.

Parking on the end of Central Pier is to cease in March, with Mr Wilson admitting it should not have been allowed in the first place.

He said Central Pier operators were being encouraged to direct their guests to park at Etihad Stadium. VicUrban provided parking at Etihad Stadium for Atlantic Group [v] guests during the LaTrobe and Bourke streets intersection occupation period.

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NYE fireworks a success

Docklands' New Year's Eve 9.15pm family fireworks were under threat last year but have again proven themselves with a blaze of colour and energy.

The City of Melbourne considered dumping the family show but more than 15,000 turned out this year to enjoy the spectacle in Victoria Harbour.

And those who were awake for the midnight fireworks were treated as the sky was lit-up with fireworks launched from both a barge and off the tops of 15 buildings throughout Docklands and the CBD.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle said the council was extremely happy with the crowd numbers, particularly in Docklands.

"More than 15,000 revellers watched the fireworks at 9.15pm and midnight. As a key vantage point to watch the fireworks from, Docklands is increasing in popularity and crowd numbers are growing substantially every year," Cr Doyle said.

However, although the night was a success, there is no guarantee that Docklands will be hosting the fireworks this year.


"As with all events, we will commence a full debrief of New Year's Eve over the next few weeks and all firing sites and vantage points will be reviewed as part of this," he said.




Photograph Will Belcher/Simmonds Photography for City of Melbourne.

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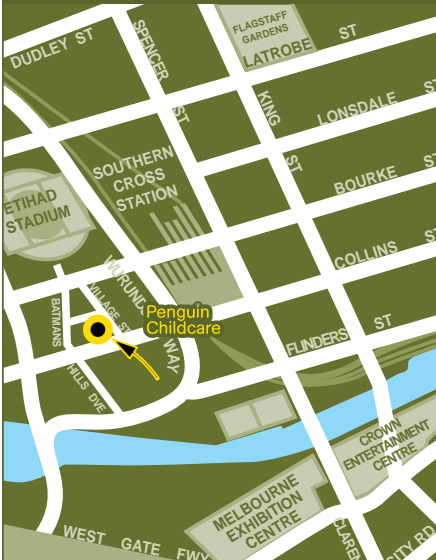
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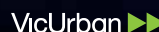



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How could you resist this stunning three bedroom apartment with a balcony facing north. The open style living area will suit the entertainer in you and if you love to cook, the gourmet kitchen includes a symphony of quality appliances including marble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

Docklands 1004 / 60 Siddeley Street

LARGE THREE BEDROOM

3 bed 2 bath 1 car

Private sale \$800,000

Inspect By appointment



This spectacular apartment includes Modern kitchen fittings, generous stainless steel appliances including cook-top, oven, range-hood and dishwasher. This near new apartment has two generous size bedrooms with BIR in master bedroom and second bedroom. Additional features include blinds to all windows, laundry facilities located in the bathroom, video intercom and resort style facilities.

Docklands 62 / 111 Merchant Street

PODIUM APARTMENT ON WATER

2 bed 2 bath 1 car

Private sale \$720,000

Inspect By appointment



With a large balcony During the day this wonderful apartment is bathed in natural sunlight and by night you will be mesmerized by the magnificent CBD backdrop. The 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 with stone bench tops. The main bedroom overlooks the CBD backdrop and offers built in robes and balcony access.

Docklands 1707 / 50 Lorimer Street

VIEWS TO WAKE UP TO

1 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$470,000

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 38 / 801 Bourke Street

MOSAIC IT'S HERE

2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Private sale \$680,000

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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 524 / 750 Bourke Street

FULLY FURNISHED INVESTMENT

1 Bed 1 Bath

Private Sale \$340,000

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'The Palladio' has it all. This north facing, 1st floor versatile designed apartment, features 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom, plus undercover security car parking and access to a heated outdoor pool, gymnasium, and common courtyard. This apartment within this sought after waterfront location consists of BIR's, contemporary styled bathroom with European style laundry. The kitchen comprises of a large island bench and the best in today's appliances. It adjoins the living room opening onto the balcony which is perfect for relaxing.

Docklands 101 / 15 Caravel Lane

THE PALLADIO

1 bed 1 bath 1 car

Private sale \$400,000

Inspect By appointment



Luxuriously appointed in the Condor, this enviable residence is a must see for those who expect the best. The gourmet kitchen is complemented with a large island stone bench top, Miele stainless steel appliances and generous storage space.

Docklands 1606 / 2 New Quay Promenade

SUITABLE FOR OWNER OCCUPIER OR INVESTOR

1 bed 1 bath 1 car

Private sale \$500,000

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.

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Bird's eye view of Docklands

Docklands News was treated to a bird's eye view of our suburb on January 20, thanks to the generosity of our colleagues at Channel 7 News.

News director Steve Carey made the offer of a helicopter ride about a year ago and, given the beautiful weather, *Docklands News* took him up on the offer last month.

Editor Shane Scanlan and journalist Alison Kinkade enjoyed several laps of Docklands.

And it wasn't a total indulgence, we got to

bring our readers these amazing images of our wonderful precinct.

"Docklands looks amazing from up there. And the striking thing is just how big it is. The CBD is tiny by comparison," Mr Scanlan said.

"It gives you a really good perspective on what a massive place it is going to be when all the gaps are filled in by 2020."



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What I did on my vacation ...

By Shane Scanlan

Did you do anything interesting over the holiday break?

Emily Ballantyne-Brodie did. She joined Sea Shepherd's hunt for illegal whalers in the Southern Ocean.

The director of Docklands-based Urban Reforestation was called upon at the last minute in mid-December to replace the regular vegetarian cook who suffered an accident and could not sail.

For the next 36 days Emily, her partner Nathan, and 10 other Sea Shepherd volunteers crammed aboard the tiny pursuit craft *Gorija* and patrolled the Antarctic.

During the period they "engaged" a refuelling vessel and a number of harpoon ships. Emily said she stuck to her duties in the galley while other crew members attempted to throw red paint over the whaling vessels.

"Although, on one occasion, I went to the front of the boats and made a 'peace' sign to the whalers. I was virtually asking them to please just leave the whales in peace," she said.

Emily said one of her roles was "peace ambassador" - a role which she will carry out more formally in July when she chaperones a



Emily Ballantyne-Brodie aboard the *Gorija* in the Southern Ocean. She is inviting Docklanders to a vegetarian barbecue in March if the vessel visits here.

group of children to Japan as part of the Asia Pacific Children's Convention.

As a primary school student aged 11 in 1995, Emily herself visited Japan as part of the same program. This was when her environmental concerns were first beginning to find voice.

"I have been invited back to help select this year's students and to accompany them as a peace ambassador," she said.

Emily said it was important to separate the whaling activities from the Japanese people. "It's the whaling that is the problem here, not the Japanese people," she said.

During her time at sea, Emily said whales had come right up to the boat and she remarked on how curious they were.

"The whales are very curious and innocent. They are being very easily killed by the whalers," she said.

Emily said anti-whaling went way beyond the whales themselves. "I see it as symbolic of how we connect with nature," she said.

"I think our long-term sustainability starts with food. That's what the Docklands garden is all about. It's about investing in growing food. To me, this is more fundamental than the issues of energy, waste and water."

She said living with 11 others in close proximity for more than five weeks at sea was remarkably tranquil despite extremely trying conditions.

"I think this was because everyone was concerned about issues which are so much bigger than themselves," she said.

"It's really a model of how our urban societies can work. We are all connected and each person has to be conscious of being a responsible member of the community."

"Social sustainability is integral to ecological sustainability. It starts with each person being aware."

Emily hopes the *Gorija* will visit Docklands next month.

"We'll have a vegetarian barbecue and everyone will be welcome to come along," she said.

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Meet Amalie Donnelly

Amalie Donnelly is a very Docklands baby.

She was born on December 7 to parents Lina D'Ambrosio and Glenn Donnelly of City Residential Real Estate.

And not only do mum and dad work in Docklands, they are long-standing Yarra's Edge residents.

Weighing in at 2.6 kilos and 50 cms in length, Amalie is the couple's first child and certainly the most important person in the young family.

"We're trying to have her fit in with our lifestyle," Glenn said. "She's been to Canberra by car and we've taken her out with us to see a band and we've been to many restaurants."

"She's a good baby and is normally very relaxed," Lina said when *Docklands News* called in for a visit.

Amalie was delivered by Caesarian at the Royal Women's Hospital as she had turned into an awkward position late in the pregnancy. However, the birth went without further complication.



Right: Glenn and Lina show off baby Amalie at their Docklands apartment.

'Vision' feedback closing soon

VicUrban and the City of Melbourne are this month closing off public submissions on their draft shared vision for Docklands.

They launched a document last October which has been available for comment online at www.docklandsseconddecade.com/draft-shared-vision.

However the opportunity to give feedback will be only stay open until 5pm on Monday, February 14.

VicUrban's general manager for Docklands Simon Wilson said he hoped draft directions would be released for community comment by Easter and that a final set of directions and priority actions would be known by the end of the financial year.

"By the end of the financial year we expect to be able to tell people what the tangible outcomes are and what we are going to do," Mr Wilson said.

VicUrban says more than 1500 unique visitors had visited the Second Decade of Docklands website and some 800 had looked at the shared vision page.



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Police Beat

Sublime evening for concert

Daylight assault

An 85-year old woman suffered serious facial injuries when she was sexually and physically assaulted at Southern Cross Station in the early afternoon of January 27.

Police allege a 64-year-old Bairnsdale man dragged the elderly woman into a disabled toilet at about 1.10pm. It is alleged he demanded cash, then bashed and sexually assaulted the victim before fleeing.

Tomahawk arrest

On December 29 police arrested a 45-year-old Croydon West man at South Wharf's Hilton Hotel after witnesses reported seeing a bloodied man carry a tomahawk.

A 3AW listener called the station describing an angry man who had jumped out of a silver car at an intersection and proceeded to attack it with a tomahawk.

Police wearing bulletproof vests and helmets entered the Hilton Hotel and made the arrest, but the man was released the following day without charge pending further investigations.

Silly driver

A 23-year-old Glenroy man who performed a fishtail in front of police in Docklands on New Year's Eve has had his car seized.

The man, who spun the rear wheels of his Holden Commodore at about 12.15am New Year's Day, had two passengers in his car including a four-year-old girl.

He has been interviewed for a number of driving offences.

No quick fix

More than four years after Aaron Dalli was viciously bashed outside Docklands' Fix nightclub, County Court Judge James Montgomery has passed judgement on six of the 10 men accused of assault.

Three of the accused admitted to assaulting Mr Dalli, while the other three admitted to assaulting three other victims.

Two of the men Sinan Cekuc, 20 and Orhan Bekar pleaded guilty to recklessly causing injury, assault and affray and were sentenced to 150 hours of unpaid community service, a \$1000 fine and serve a six-month wholly suspended jail term.

Okan Yorudan, 23, also pleaded guilty to assault and affray and was ordered to serve a 12-month community-based order with 150 hours of unpaid community work and a six-month suspended jail sentence.

Yusuf Kilic, 24, Emrah Aslan, 24, and John Yussef, 23, pleaded guilty to charges of affray and assault and were sentenced to serve a 12-month community-based order with 1150 hours of unpaid community work and a \$1000 fine.

Mr Dalli, who was 18 at the time of the attack, underwent brain surgery twice on the day following the attack.

Four more men are due to face a County Court trial this year in relation to the attack.



Several hundred Docklanders enjoyed a sublime summer's evening on December 16 for the Docklands Community Concert.

Hosted by Lend Lease, City on a Hill, Melbourne City Sports and the City of Melbourne, the evening featured live bands, great food and children's activities. The weather was kind and the audience relaxed on a perfect Docklands evening on the grass beside The Hub.



Bikers bring good cheer to Docklands

About 2000 motorcyclists descended on Docklands in December to deliver toys for needy families.



The Motorcycle Riders Association's annual Toy Run finished in Docklands for the first time on December 12 and, despite being hampered by rain, organisers have declared the event a success.

The event was organised by the Docklands Chamber of Commerce, and president Keith Rankin wants the event back again next year.

"We would have liked more people there but we don't have any control over the weather," Mr Rankin said.

"But the bikes were brilliant, the number of toys donated for the Salvos was astronomical and we achieved what we wanted, which was to put Docklands in the spotlight."

"We've learned a lot through the experience and we're keen to have it back this year," he said.

"We think it was quite an investment in Docklands' future," Mr Rankin said.

Corey's new home sweet home

By Alison Kinkade

He may be a long way from his native New York roots, but National Basketball League (NBL) player Corey "Homicide" Williams is now calling Docklands home.

Recruited by the Melbourne Tigers in November following its decision to drop import TJ Campbell, the point-guard decided to move straight into Docklands on his friend's advice.

"I called up my good friend who lives here in Docklands and said 'sort something out for me because I'm moving to Melbourne' and I got off the plane and came straight here," Corey said.

"Docklands is definitely the place to be and the area I need to be in to be close to all the action," Corey said.

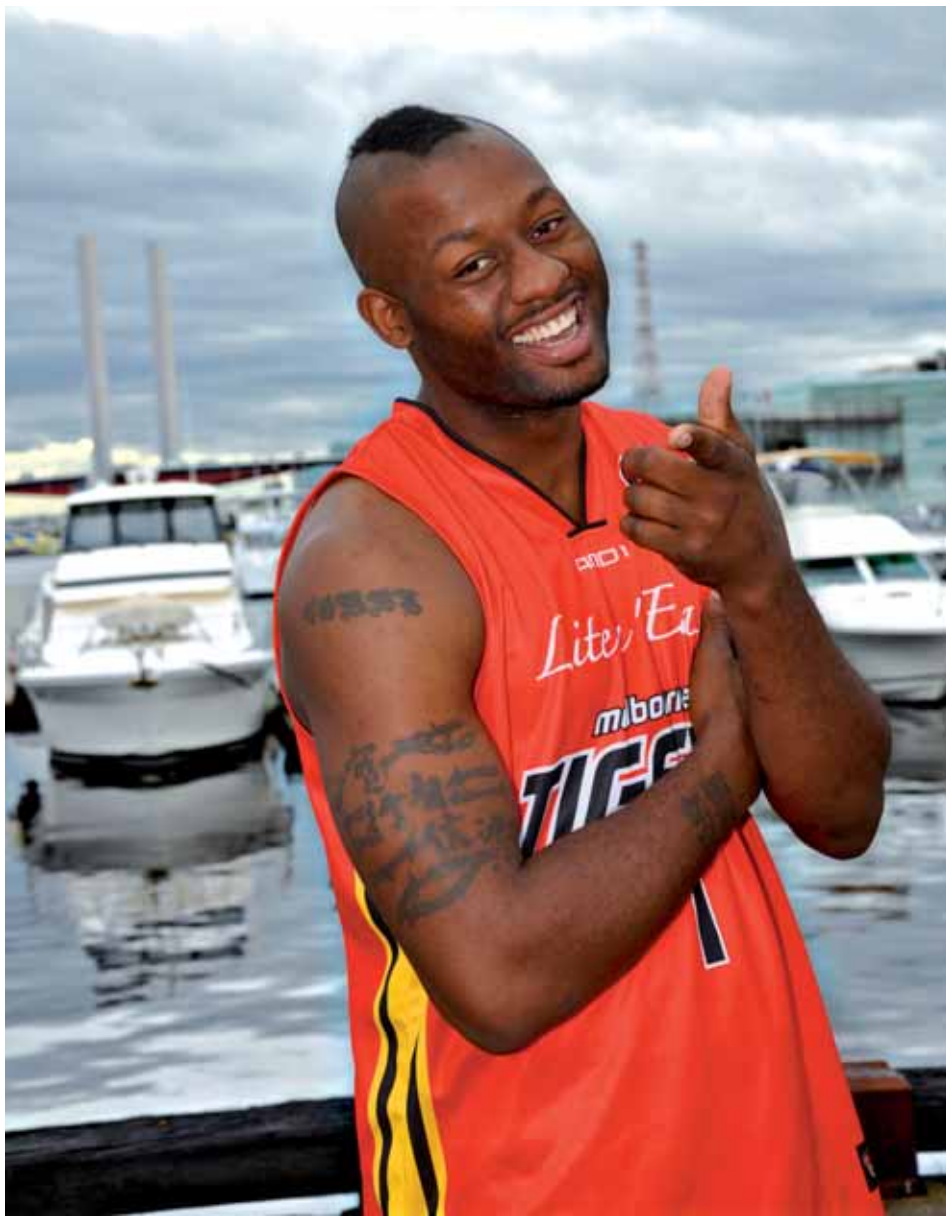
Having spent the last three seasons playing for the Townsville Crocodiles, Corey, who took out the Andrew Gaze Trophy for the NBL's Most Valuable Player (MVP) last season, left Australia at the end of the season after the club opted not to re-sign him.

"I decided to go play in Europe, but then had to return to the States when the team I was with in Athens couldn't pay me, but then the Tigers weren't performing well so they called me up," he said.

Signed to a one-year import contract, the 33-year-old said he could potentially end up playing out his basketball career in Melbourne.

"I probably have another four years in me, maybe more, and if the Tigers like having me and I like being here then I definitely could stay in Docklands a lot longer," he said.

With a larger than life personality, Corey, who gained the nickname "Homicide" for his reputation for annihilating competition on basketball courts of the streets of New York, says he really enjoys living in Australia.



Corey "Homicide" Williams at home in Docklands ... he's loving it!

"I'm loving it. The people are so friendly and laid-back and Melbourne is a great city. It's so different to Townsville," Corey said.

Already accustomed to the great food of St Kilda's Acland St, Williams is looking forward to testing out what the restaurants of Docklands have to offer.

"I don't really have to watch my diet too much because I work so hard and train so hard and have a high metabolism, so I am

definitely looking forward to checking out all the restaurants down here," he said.

Well and truly settled into his Village Docklands apartment, Corey believes that Platform 28 may end up being his local.

"That place goes off. I think you will definitely find me there on a Friday or Saturday night," he said.

With the season ending in April, we wonder how long the star calls Docklands home.

Probus Club launched at Docklands

Melbourne's Docklands-based Probus club has grown to about 45 members since its launch at Docklands Hub on December 2.

The Melbourne Sunrise Probus Club's membership target is 80. It is the first new Melbourne-based Probus club for 21 years.

Probus clubs are for professional/business retirees and other retirees of good character. The clubs run a monthly speaker program, and encourage networking and socialising among retirees.

The initial monthly meeting is at 10am on Thursday February 3.

The February 3 speaker will be Melbourne City Councillor Kevin Louey, who will speak on the council's Docklands programs.

The social program started with an MCG tour and lunch on January 12, and a movie morning and lunch on January 20 - *The King's Speech* at Kino, Collins St.

The club is the first Probus club in Australia - and possibly the world - to use the ClubRunner web system. The club's website is www.clubrunner.ca/mspc.

The club has gone further towards paperless operations by buying a net-book laptop to enter member data during events, which are then emailed to the ClubRunner system.

Members are drawn from the CBD, Docklands, Southbank, East Melbourne and other inner suburbs.

The interim president is Harold Fraser, of Docklands but office-bearers will be formally elected at the annual general meeting on March 3.

For more information, contact secretary Gaye Schneider on **9620 3793** or email axis1@optusnet.com.au.



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Lord Mayor Robert Doyle (left) shares a joke at Mecca Bah on Christmas morning. Photo: Courtesy of Hitchcock Productions.

Mecca Bah lends a hand

While we woke up to find presents under the Christmas tree, Mecca Bah opened its doors to some of Melbourne's most marginalised.

Mecca Bah held its sixth annual Salvation Army Christmas Day brunch and welcomed more than 100 of the Salvation Army's most frequent users to the event.

The award-winning restaurant put on a hearty feast for its guests, putting plenty of smiles on their faces.

Lord Mayor Robert Doyle got involved once again, acting as chauffeur. He personally transported guest to Mecca Bah from the Salvation Army's Bourke St headquarters and then transported them onto their lunch following the brunch at Mecca Bah.

Many Rooms creates many smiles

By Alison Kinkade

Docklands' church City on a Hill supported the less fortunate on Christmas Day through its charity organisation, Many Rooms.

About 15 volunteers from Many Rooms gave up their Christmas Day with family and friends to host a barbecue at a park in North Melbourne and hand out presents.

The recipients - some homeless and some from public housing - feasted on barbecued lamb, chicken and sausages, as well as salads, Christmas cake and custard and soft drinks.

Many Rooms director Jim Davison said around 50 gifts were generously donated by Docklands residents and given out at the Christmas barbecue and also at a similar event on New Year's Day.

"People were very appreciative of the gifts and grateful for the time volunteers gave to serve those who don't have as much," Mr Davison said.

Though this was not the first time that Many Rooms held a Christmas celebration, it was the first time it had held such an event on the actual day.

"We also ran a barbecue and gave out gifts



Local resident Jimmy (left) and volunteer James Veale share a meal on Christmas Day.

donated by Docklands residents last year on Boxing Day (a Saturday), which was well attended. This year we spread the celebration over two Saturdays - Christmas Day and New Year's Day since not all of our regular attendees were available on Christmas Day."

Many Rooms was launched in November 2009 as an initiative of City on a Hill. Each

Saturday since its launch about 11 volunteers prepare a cooked lunch for 30-40 people at the North Melbourne Community Centre.

To find out more about Many Rooms or to volunteer visit www.manyrooms.org.au/

City on a Hill meets in Docklands every Sunday night at 6pm and at Hoyts Cinema in Melbourne Central on Sunday mornings at 10am.

Men's Health - Androgen Deficiency in the Ageing Male (ADAM)

Ageing can't be halted but some of its effects are treatable. Research has identified a number of symptoms experienced by ageing men. Termed "andropause" or "male menopause", these symptoms relate to decreasing testosterone levels or increasing levels of oestrogen. Symptoms can be numerous: decreased libido, sexual dysfunction, decreased muscle mass and strength, osteoporosis, heart disease, decreased stamina, sleep disorders, mood changes (Grumpy Male Syndrome), depression and anxiety.

Treatment is necessary to restore strength, vitality and quality of life, rebalancing the system with supplemental testosterone. But compounding can offer andropausal men other options. Rapid Dissolve Tablets (RDT) is the latest technology in treating sexual dysfunction - easy to take and quick acting. Ask Compoundia how RDT can help you tackle this problem.

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Marathon man runs for the kids

Australia's favourite marathon runner Steve Moneghetti dropped into Docklands last month to check the route for this year's Run For The Kids.

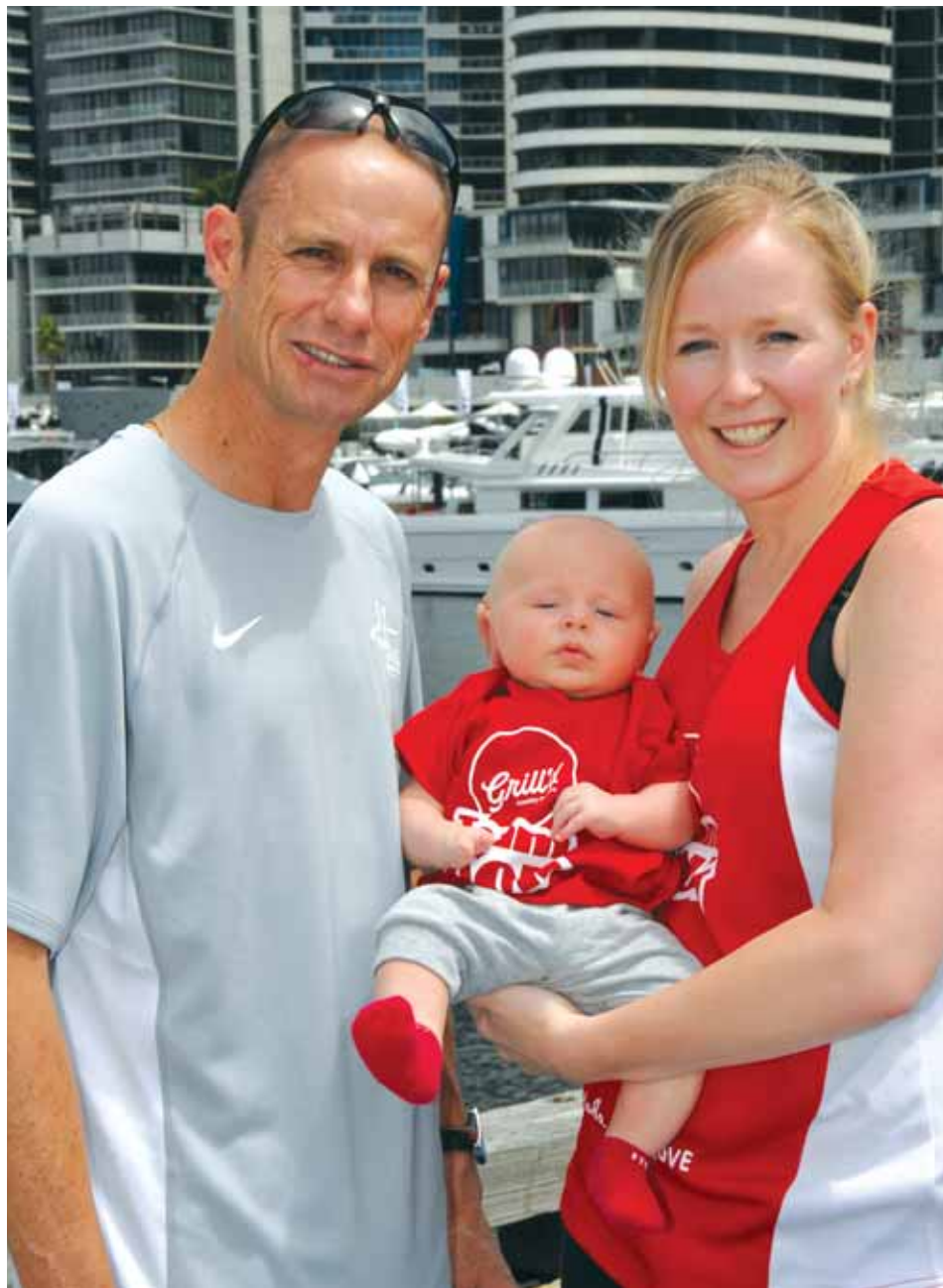
The Commonwealth Games gold medallist was in Docklands as race director for Victoria's biggest fun run which is on again this year on Sunday, April 17.

The event will swing through Docklands, bringing with it 33,000 competitors, as they head off the Bolte Bridge and back to the Botanical Gardens.

The Run For The Kids has raised \$3.7million for the Royal Children's Hospital Good Friday Appeal and organisers hope to again raise more than \$1million this year.

Joining Steve in Docklands was Team 100km, a team of enthusiasts who, collectively, are aiming at raising more than \$100,000 this year.

In our photo (right), Steve is with Cristy and Perry McCluskey of Coburg. Cristy's husband organises Team 100Km and, with the birth of Perry late last year, the family has even more reason to "run for the kids".



What do you love about Docklands?

There is still time to become eligible to win a trip for a family of four to visit the London Docklands for one week valued at \$13,000!

Local co-operative marketing group Destination Docklands is offering the prize for the best 50-word description of what you love about Melbourne Docklands.

All you have to do is dine at your favourite restaurant in NewQuay or Waterfront City, shop at Harbour Town or visit any one of the family attractions until February 11, spend \$10 or more, keep your receipt and enter this fantastic competition at www.docklands.com.

Second prize is a night's accommodation for a family of four at Grand Mecure, dinner for a family of four at James Squire Brewhouse and a family pass to Wonderland Fun Park.

Third prize is dinner for a family of four at James Squire Brewhouse and a family pass to Wonderland Fun Park.



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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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CUISINE UNDERCOVER

INDEPENDENT REVIEWS FROM DOCKLANDS' PHANTOM DINER

Berth

For some reason, I've never eaten at Berth.

I don't know why, it's been there forever and it is in one of Dockland's finest locations (the pod next to the one which houses Livebait and Mecca Bah) – so maybe that's it! Two of Docklands' most stand-out restaurants with clear themes and distinctive menus – or Berth, which has gone with a kind of bistro style and offers ... what a whole bunch of others down that way have.

Credit where it's due though. On a sunny summer's Monday afternoon, we were struggling to find somewhere we could graze on something light at around 3pm. I know it's not a traditional meal hour, but Docklands is supposed to be a tourist hot spot and we are in the midst of the holiday season.

Thankfully, we were warmly welcomed at Berth (where we could even have ordered breakfast until 5pm – an immediate bonus point!) and had full choice of the menu. The

wine list was succinct yet pleasing – only one glass per variety on offer – but I was happy with the Toolangi Chardonnay and my friend with the Katnook Estate Riesling.

We argued over starters – I was very keen to try the saffron prawns with chorizo and cherry tomatoes on herbed risotto cakes, but she convinced me the antipasto platter for two would be more substantial, and most likely would contain a sample of the majority of the starters. It didn't.

We each scored a single Italian rice ball (the size of a cherry tomato) and one piece of calamari – the rest was, not surprisingly, antipasto. A generous serve of fetta (with balsamic), some lovely mushrooms with spicy chilli (and vinegar), a pickled artichoke heart, slice of frittata, some smoked eggplant and a few sticks of focaccia all quite artistically dressed – with balsamic.

Yes, all a bit too "vinegary" for me – but an antipasto plate, no argument there. It was just that – well, I got the feeling the majority of the ingredients had come out of a jar or a box – they might not have but ... they might.

It was mid-afternoon so we skipped straight to another glass of wine and dessert, where we fared much better. I literally swooned after breaking the thin toffee top and biting into a delicious white chocolate brulee.

I almost left the accompanying berry compote alone, as I feared it would overpower the delicate dessert. I ended up eating it separately as it was good, but I didn't want it interfering with the leading lady.

My friend didn't have the same luxury – the very same berry compote came on top of her honey and cinnamon pannacotta, which we think was nice, but we weren't entirely sure if it was that or the berries. The textures were certainly all as they should be.

Look, Berth is stunning. Jutting out over the water, you are almost surrounded by NewQuay's marina and it's a nice feeling being at "ground level" with the boats. I've attended a function upstairs before and the night-time views are simply spectacular. And let's face it – not everybody can afford the same view at Livebait, and Meccah Bah's middle-eastern fare may not be to everyone's taste.

So it could be that Berth has gone with the everyday man's menu for a very good reason – to attract the everyday man. I just wonder if perhaps they might need to do a little something more into the future, or if location alone will keep them afloat?

Overall rating ★★☆☆☆

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