

The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

DOCKLANDS NEWS

■ Community garden to be uprooted

Page 2

■ Docklands continues to fund council

Page 3



■ Welcome to Invensys Rail

Page 4

■ Docklands property market is not THAT good

Page 5



Lady Chelmsford recovery underway

By Gabe Andrews

Work has finally begun to recover the 'Lady Chelmsford', which sank at its berth at Central Pier in February 2008.

A marine exclusion zone has been marked, a crane barge is in place and divers have started to cut the boat up.

Concerns over the structural integrity of the 33.5 metre vessel have meant that it will be recovered in pieces.

The Department of Transport's security and emergency management division is overseeing operations being conducted by insurer Nautilus Marine to raise the vessel.

A Department of Transport spokesperson said the salvage operation had been carefully planned using divers to assess the vessel's condition and to make sure all precautionary measures were in place.

The spokesperson said salvaging the *Lady Chelmsford* would "clear the way for other vessels to access the berth at Central Pier and remove a potential pollution and waterways safety hazard."

See youtube.com/watch?v=_ONTx_d16LQ

NewQuay traders in fees revolt

NewQuay's traders are in open revolt against MAB Corporation and are taking legal action against the giant developer over what they consider to be excessive precinct management fees.

The 30 or so traders say they have received little or no value from the millions of dollars that MAB has levied on them over the past seven years and they are taking action in the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

They want a refund if the money has been misspent and they want their contracts revoked.

MAB says it can account for every cent spent on the precinct and it welcomes the VCAT action as an opportunity to clear the air.

The traders took action last November and were before VCAT on April 13. At this hearing, VCAT gave them until June 1 to file their claim. The case has been adjourned until July 13.

Retail owners in NewQuay signed up for 10 years of precinct management fees and promotional levy when they bought their properties.

But, with a shrinking number of car parking spaces in the precinct and difficult trading conditions, they say they can't afford the levy and some have stopped paying.

They claim that MAB won't reveal details of where the almost \$1 million in annual fees is spent and they suspect that MAB is spending the money on its own administration and marketing of apartments.

The traders claim that MAB has refused to detail \$400,000 in annual administrative

costs, \$300,000 in marketing, \$100,000 in security, \$80,000 in cleaning as well as maintenance and repairs.

They say their contracts stipulate that they should have access to spending details but MAB has said they are not entitled to the information.

MAB denies it has not been fully transparent but says that, as it has now outsourced the precinct management function to Jones Lang LaSalle, technically it is no longer responsible.

A MAB spokesperson said the precinct spending was independently audited every year. He said once the VCAT action had been resolved, MAB was considering handing back the precinct management function.

"We are wondering what is the best way to deal with this," the spokesperson said. "Is it appropriate to hand it over to the retailers? Or would it be detrimental to the precinct?"

The traders say their contracts indicate that they should be charged \$34 per square metre annually, but that the charges are closer to \$90 per square metre.

This, they say, makes doing business at NewQuay more expensive than at Chadstone shopping centre – and they are not provided with anywhere near the same facilities to attract customers.



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Deadline for the July edition is June 27.



Esplanade man quits

The man responsible for the Harbour Esplanade redevelopment has quit.

VicUrban’s Docklands infrastructure director Nic Culnane resigned before Easter and worked his last day on May 6.

The first stage of the redevelopment is due to be completed this month, with a series of remedial works being the focus.

A second row of Norfolk Island Pines is being planted on the western side of the new dedicated bike path.

The easterly section of old tram tracks have been removed to make way for the new trees. VicUrban plans to “make safe” the remaining area, which will not be redeveloped until the next stages are determined.

And in other personnel news, former VicUrban CEO Pru Sanderson has been appointed to a senior position with international consulting giant GHD.



Photography Hilary Bradford.

Community garden to be uprooted

Urban Reforestation’s community garden is on the move next month a short distance to another temporary location at the Victoria Harbour end of Merchant St.

Lend Lease plans to install temporary seating and a barbecue area on the garden’s current location at Water Plaza.

The garden’s final destination is Geographe St to the north of the Myer Building, but planning for this site is still underway between VicUrban, the City of Melbourne and Lend Lease.

VicUrban says the new garden will be designed by the end of this month, will be consulted on in July, tendered in September and built by December.

Urban Reforestation continues to be recognised for its community work and is one of four finalists for the Peter Szentel Award for Sustainability Entrepreneurship.

The winner of this United Nations Association of Australia award will be announced on June 3.

Competing against Urban Reforestation for the award are: Coca-Cola South Pacific Pty – “Project Catalyst”; Envirobank Recycling (Australia) Ltd – “Recycle for Rewards”; and Westwyck Pty Ltd – “Westwyck Ecovillage”.

And the sustainability consultants have also been nominated for a Melbourne Award.

According to the City of Melbourne, the nomination is in “recognition of their dedication to develop urban green spaces, balcony gardens and community spaces that have a strong focus on sustainable design and community development”

Nominated in the “Contribution to Sustainability by a Community Organisation” category, the council says Urban Reforestation aims to “inspire and enable sustainable lifestyles through urban farming and enjoyment in growing, sourcing, preparing and sharing local food.”

Collision course on serviced apartments

The City of Melbourne is on a collision course with owners of serviced apartments at Watergate.

The council will demand they either comply with building regulations governing hotels or stop short-term renting.

In April the council’s building department wrote to owners and gave them 30 days to “show cause” why they should not be forced to comply with building regulations covering hotel accommodation (class 3).

The owners say renting as serviced apartments is a residential activity and they should not have to “show cause”.

But the council has met the owners and agents and is unimpressed with their claim that serviced apartment use fits within the building classification of a residential apartment, as defined by the Building Code of Australia.

A spokesperson said the council had granted an extension of time for additional information to be provided to demonstrate that the apartments “either comply or to otherwise justify why the apartments should not either be converted back to typical apartment use or a building permit (be) obtained to convert the apartments to short-term hotel-style accommodation.”

The council spokesperson said: “If the owners cannot prove that their apartments comply with the regulations, the City of Melbourne will issue a building order requiring a building permit be obtained to convert them to class 3 or the use be reverted back to traditional long-term apartment use.”

Other serviced apartment operators and opponents of short-term accommodation will be watching this case with interest.

In NewQuay where about a quarter of all apartments are being rented on the short-term market, operators are under attack from the owners corporations of the Nolan and Conder buildings.

The owners corporations are conducting ballots on a proposed rule change to ban the practice. The Nolan ballot closes on June 12 while the Conder ballot closes on June 17.



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Docklands continues to fund council

The City of Melbourne plans to return only 75 per cent of the revenue it earns from Docklands next financial year.

Like this year, Docklands will again contribute nearly \$6 million underlying surplus to the council in the 2011-12 year.

Docklanders will pay the council \$16.5 million in rates and a further \$2.6 million in fees and charges.

In return, the council will give back \$436,000 worth of maintenance, \$1.8 million worth of staff salaries and \$6.8 million in materials and services. Also charged against Docklands' income stream is \$3.7 million worth of depreciation and amortisation as well as \$739,275 worth of insurance and finance costs.

While claiming an overall rate increase of only 1.65 per cent, the council is actually budgeting to raise 4.56 per cent more rate revenue than last year – and will be issuing rates notices for almost \$200 million (up from \$190 million last year).

But the council's greatest revenue raising strategy is to raise the amount it collects in fees and charges – up by 7.64 per cent – resulting in a total of \$108 million.

The City of Melbourne spends 33 per cent of its money on staff wages. Next year, the staff wages bill is up 7 per cent to \$113 million.

In terms of specific Docklands' spending, the council's proposed budget reveals:

- \$1 million for Docklands' library;

- \$1.04 million (\$500,000 capital and \$540,000 operational) to implement activities coming out of the "Second Decade" consultation process, specifically:

- Commence the delivery of actions as identified in the D2 vision for Year 1;
- Document and commence construction of works as outlined in the D2 plan; and
- Participate in development of a transport and mobility plan for Docklands.

- \$160,00 for additional weekly pressure cleans in the NewQuay area;

- \$111,000 for repairs on The Hub community centre;

- \$70,000 to refurbish Docklands' Christmas decorations;

- \$75,000 to install and remove the Christmas decorations;

- \$250,000 to maintain public lighting; and

- \$100,000 for new signs in Docklands' waterways.

The proposed budget is open for consultation until June 10 and will be considered for endorsement by the council on June 28.

Grassroots footy

If the AFL is looking for grassroots footy, it need only look out the window.

Cut and Fill contractor Wayne Peacock last month took a big grab during a smoko break from the business of redeveloping Harbour Esplanade.

Wayne and mates gave new meaning to the term "grassroots footy" as they "drilled the pill" around the roadway.

They were the real deal, while the plastic grass outside AFL headquarters remains obviously fake.

Refreshingly

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Victoria Harbour

Merchant Street Retail Precinct, Victoria Harbour

Docklands is ‘designated’

Extra powers have been given to Victoria Police in an effort to curb an apparent increase in anti-social behaviour in the Docklands.

Consumer Affairs Minister Michel O’Brien said that the increase in licensed venues in Docklands had led to an increase in anti-social behaviour.

“These measures will deliver improved safety for the precinct’s growing number of residents, workers and visitors and help licensees better manage their venues,” Mr O’Brien said.

On May 12 police were given powers to ban troublemakers from the Docklands area for up to 72 hours after Director of Liquor Licensing Mark Brennan declared it a “designated area”.

As reported upon in the February edition of *Docklands News*, the City of Melbourne supported a bid by Victoria Police to extend these powers in the Docklands.

However Responsible Alcohol Victoria (RAV) showed some concern about percentages of offences presented to the City of Melbourne, and requested figures indicating a rise in public order offences in relation to licensed venues.

Mr Brennan said there had been instances of alcohol-related violence and disorder in the immediate vicinity of licensed premises.

He added that the extra powers given to police would be an effective means of preventing further instances of anti-social behaviour in the area.

The new powers enable police at the Docklands to ban individuals suspected of offences such as drunkenness, physical assault, destroying or damaging property and failure to leave licensed premises immediately.



Transport Minister Terry Mulder and Invensys chief operating officer Phil Ellingworth at the opening on May 11.

Welcome to Invensys Rail

Docklands welcomed a further 300 corporate workers last month with the official opening of Invensys Rail in NewQuay.

Transport Minister Terry Mulder opened the new Docklands Drive offices on May 11.

Invensys manufactures railway signalling and communications equipment and Docklands has become its Australia and New Zealand corporate head office.

In opening the office, Mr Mulder joked that with current rail-project-costing blowouts due to signalling costs, he felt he should officiate because the state was contributing significant funding to the company.

He remarked that with an 85 per cent increase in railway patronage in Melbourne in the past decade, Invensys was well positioned for growth.

Invensys chief operating officer Phil Ellingworth said the new Docklands office had given the company a significant edge to

retain and recruit the best staff available.

Invensys had outgrown its previous facility in South Melbourne, which also did not afford any opportunity to properly integrate the company’s operations.

He said the company was proud of the 5 Star Green Star working environment and had implemented a number of sustainability initiatives, including providing a 75 per cent subsidy for staff choosing to travel to work by public transport.

Invensys manufactures equipment in Australia and last year made \$50 million worth of gear at its South Melbourne plant. It is moving its manufacturing operation to Port Melbourne this year.

Invensys occupies two and a half floors of the CSC building at 380 Docklands Drive.

Transport study revs up

Some 18,000 Docklands workers were last month invited to respond online about their travelling habits as part of a precinct transport study.

The VicUrban study is designed to produce a transport model and sustainable transport strategy for Docklands and is being conducted by consultants UrbanTrans.

During June, UrbanTrans will conduct hundreds of on-the-ground surveys with residents, visitors and people attending events at Etihad Stadium, to understand their travelling habits to and from the area.

VicUrban says the transport model will provide traffic predictions, forecasts of public transport usage and an analysis of pedestrian and cycling patterns at key stages of Docklands’ future development.

The City of Melbourne has endorsed the study and has allocated \$100,000 towards its cost in its draft 2011/12 budget.

VicUrban says that traffic improvements continue to be made to the Docklands local road network.

In recent weeks, it says VicRoads and the City of Melbourne have made the following improvements:

- The signal time for the right-hand turning lane from Collins St into Batman’s Hill Drive has been lengthened to ensure cars can exit onto Wurundjeri Way as quickly as possible;
- Some traffic signals along Batman’s Hill Drive have been changed to ensure a greater number of cars can exit onto Wurundjeri Way during one traffic sequence; and
- The traffic lights between Bourke St and Wurundjeri Way have been synchronised to allow traffic to flow from Victoria Harbour through to Wurundjeri Way in one movement where possible.

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Public art is on the rise

Docklands has just experienced "Rising", a student public art exhibition which returned to Victoria Harbour for a fourth year last month.

The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) students again challenged Docklanders' perception of their precinct with some edgy works, including these guys (above) who spent May bobbing around in the harbour.

Rising: the Victoria Harbour Young Artist Initiative was an exhibition of public realm art installations from artists studying at the VCA's sculpture and spatial practice.

It offers artists at the start of their careers, an opportunity to experience the challenges and rewards of developing and exhibiting major works for public spaces.

Docklands property is good, but it's not THAT good

By Gabe Andrews

Housing price figures released last month claiming a 46.2 per cent annual rise in Docklands are not all that they seem.

Fairfax's Australian Property Monitors (APM) annual housing figures are just that – housing figures (as opposed to apartments) – and have presented a misleading picture of the local property market.

APM's figures show that the median house price a year ago was \$560,750 and has now jumped up to \$820,000.

But with only 34 "houses" sold in Docklands in the year to March, buyers, investors and owners are likely to be misled by the figures.

Local agents suggest that the high price growth could most likely be attributed to the Mirvac's Yarra's Edge precinct where town houses are being sold in excess of \$4 million.

JC Street Real Estate agent Cheryl Street said that Docklands didn't have any houses unless the report was referring to townhouses.

"The only townhouses that have been on-sold to our knowledge has been on the Mirvac side," Ms Street said.

Daniel Cole from Barry Plant agreed with Ms Street's assessment that Docklands does not have houses per se and that APM's figures present a misleading outlook on the local market.

Mr Cole said: "Due to the small number of dwellings in Docklands, when a new development is released it could create an irregularity in figures."

The APM report said Docklands' annual house price growth was the second highest in Melbourne behind Essendon North which had a growth of 52.6 per cent.

And while the APM report presents an inflated view of the current market in Docklands, local real estate agents indicate there is still a positive outlook for property in the area.

"The last 12 months has been strong and Docklands has remained a very active market", Lucas Real Estate's Glen Lucas said.

City Residential managing director Glenn Donnelly said: "There's no doubt we've seen an increase in apartment prices over the past 12 months. If we look at apartments sold in the re-sale market there certainly has been an increase. If you put an apartment on the market it does sell."

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Say all of it, says survey

It's a close call, but most respondents to last month's online survey believe we need to clearly pronounce the A when saying Docklands.

Some 22 people responded to the survey and 13 of them (59.1 per cent) opted for the more formal pronunciation.

A number of respondents left their reasoning too.

Among the majority group opting for the "Land" method of saying Docklands were:

- It is the land surrounding the dock.
- Proper pronunciation of the English language.
- They are two separate words joined together Dock-lands.
- Because it's the land of all docks.
- Because that's how it's spelt.
- Because it is built on old Dock Land, not something fancy. Where did the A go missing to people who are trying to sound flash? Go back and learn grammar. Since when do we call land "lnds"?
- Because we speak English, not slang.
- It's closest to the way I pronounce it: Docklunds ... (we think this person cast their vote on the wrong side).

Among those suggesting that the correct pronunciation was Docklnds (without the final A) were:

- There is no need to self-consciously pronounce every syllable of a word separately, as if just beginning to learn the language. Other irritating examples are, neck-lace, car-ton, hos-tel, li-lac, cere-moany, hurri-cane, and many more. Not "English as she is spoken".
- Try pronouncing EngLand!
- When it is clearly one word (such as Newlands/Moreland/Highlands etc) the "A" is missed in pronunciation. This simply follows the same rule.
- Previous examples such as England, Scotland drop the A when pronounced. It adds class.
- It is more sophisticated.



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Image Envac Group

Bottomless garbage bins

The City of Melbourne is interested in building a giant network of underground garbage vacuum chutes and thinks that Docklands might be the place to trial the concept.

Councillors voted last month to spend \$30,000 on a feasibility study into the concept which successfully operates overseas but has not yet been introduced into Australia.

The vacuum system would replace the need to empty rubbish bins, but the council admits that there would be difficulties disposing of cardboard and glass.

The system is only an alternative collection mechanism. The rubbish collected still needs to be disposed of.

The council estimates the cost of retrofitting the city with such a system at between \$10 million and \$51 million. And this figure does not include the required trenching.

Should a feasibility study prove successful, the council estimates that it could take seven years to install.

The world's first residential stationary vacuum waste system was introduced into the Swedish district of Ör-Hallonbergen in 1965.

The council spends more than \$10 million each year collecting and disposing of the city's waste.

The stationary vacuum idea is one of 14 planks of an integrated waste policy it is considering.

The City of Melbourne is the second-worst performing municipality in the state when it comes to residential recycling. With the

state average "diversion rate" running at 42 per cent, Melbourne has been achieving only 25 per cent.

And apartment buildings without dedicated recycling chutes have been identified as one of the reasons why the City of Melbourne has a poor recycling record.

With increasing costs of landfill and an associated poor carbon footprint associated with these poor practices, the council is searching for ways to dispose of the city's waste more efficiently.

The council is considering introducing crates and recycling bins on each floor of high rise buildings.

Other aspects of the new waste policy include:

- Collecting commercial and industrial organic waste and treating this in mini-biodigesters;
- An incentive program to encourage residents to recycle;
- Having a single contractor to collect commercial waste rather than the 40 or so which currently operate in the city; and
- Investigate participating in an "alternative waste technology facility" located in the western suburbs.

DOCKLANDS + NEWS NETWORKING LUNCH

Book by June 10

There are still places available for the June Docklands News Networking Lunch, to be held at the Hilton, South Wharf on Friday, June 17.

Our guest speaker will be NewQuay project director David Allt-Graham who has agreed to speak about MAB Corporation's future plans for Docklands.

The lunch starts at 12 noon with tapas in Sotano and will move into Nuevo at 12.30 for a sit-down meal of either flat iron steak, 250gm with chimichurri and thick chips or grilled chicken breast with seasonal herbs and red wine jus.

Dessert will consist of pan con chocolate (bread with chocolate) or churros – Spanish doughnuts served with hot chocolate dipping sauce. Standard and light beers, Willowglen red and white wines, soft drinks, tea and coffee will also be available.

The lunch costs \$60 and bookings can be made by emailing lunch@docklandsnews.com.au. Booking and payments for the June lunch need to be made by June 10. For further information, ring 8689 7979.

Two fun nights

There are two great nights out in Docklands in June.

On Thursday, June 9, the Rotary Club of Docklands is hosting a progressive dinner in NewQuay. It starts at 6pm for informal drinks at The Woolshed Pub before moving on to: Entrée – Bopha Devi; Main course – Renzos; and Desert and coffee – Medici.

Cost: \$55 per person plus drinks. To reserve your place email: adrianstanners@gmail.com or call 0434 071 990.

On Tuesday, June 21 the Docklands Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Docklands Trivia Night to mark the end of the financial year.

It is being held at Platform 28, Batman's Hill (82 Village St) from 6.30pm.

Further details at the chamber's website at www.docklandsc.com.au.



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Ward councillors are back on the agenda

Docklands could get its own councillor following a State Government decision to review the City of Melbourne's electoral arrangements.

The Minister for Local Government Jeanette Powell last month agreed to allow the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) to review some aspects of the way the council is elected.

The Coalition of Resident and Business Associations (CoRBA) has been agitating for the review and favours ward councillors rather than the current arrangement under which councillors are elected "at large" to represent the whole municipality.

CoRBA also wants an end to the exclusively postal voting electoral system which it says is open to fraud. But Mrs Powell's reference to the VEC does not extend to voting systems.

The Government says "governance processes and voting systems" are outside the VEC's review but "remain under consideration by the Minister".

The review will be completed by March 2012.

The president of the Docklands Community Association and CoRBA member Roger Gardner said: "The proposed electoral review is great news. Besides being supported by council itself, it is also fully supported by community

groups throughout the City of Melbourne."

"A possible outcome is the return of ward councillors which would be great. As a former Essendon/Moonee Valley councillor under the ward system I am well aware of the advantages of that system to residents," Mr Gardner said.

The City of Melbourne's electoral processes haven't been reviewed since 2001. The previous Labor government had consistently refused to review the arrangements.

"Following a request from the MCC and given that the Council's electoral arrangements have not been reviewed since 2001 it is appropriate that a review be conducted," Mrs Powell said.

"In the time since the last electoral review of the MCC was undertaken there have been substantial changes to the municipality with the incorporation of Docklands and parts of Kensington into the City."

"The Coalition Government is committed to the maintenance of the most appropriate democratic electoral arrangements for Victorian councils."

"The electoral review will assess whether the current number of councillors serves the democratic needs of the City of Melbourne and whether it should remain un-subdivided or be subdivided into wards."

"Ensuring the most appropriate democratic arrangements are in place requires the MCC be subject to the same scrutiny as other councils," Mrs Powell said.

Any changes to the City of Melbourne's electoral structure would require an amendment to the City of Melbourne Act by the Victorian Parliament.

The MCC requested that other matters including governance processes and voting systems be considered by the VEC.

Those matters are outside the scope of a VEC electoral structure review but remain under consideration by the Minister.



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Merchant St face lift

Victoria Harbour had some new landscaping last month, courtesy of Lend Lease and VicUrban.

Lend Lease has removed the elm trees that previously lined Merchant St, opting to replace them with evergreen fig trees.

A Lend Lease spokesperson said the improvements came partly at the request of Merchant St retailers.

"Shopkeepers have complained about the leaves falling off the (elm) trees, so we're replacing them with trees that will look fuller," the spokesperson said.

Areas along the street composed of granitic sand are in the process of being replaced by paving stones.

Nearby Victoria Green has been returfed and some of the trees in the park were replaced due to damage caused by the drought.



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Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 1st floor apartment which is spacious, light filled and has an extremely functional floor plan. Consisting of 2 bedrooms, a modern and stylish kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash back, granite bench tops and plenty of storage. The two bedrooms have built in robes, perfect for entertaining family.



Docklands 45/801 Bourke St
PERFECT PARK POSITION
 2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car
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Stylish in design, this two bedroom apartment offers City lifestyle at its best. Located centrally in the Victoria Harbour precinct and staged in front row to the beautiful Docklands Parkland. Features a spacious open plan living and dining area absorbing parkland, and CBD views, a modern kitchen with stone bench tops and stainless steel appliances. A large main bedroom with built in robes and en-suite and a large second bedroom with adjoining bathroom including deep relaxing bath and separate laundry are offered to the discerning buyer.



Docklands 1104/80 Lorimer St
EXCLUSIVE LOCATION & VIEWS
 3 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale \$1.15 m
Inspect By appointment

This luxuriously appointed Mirvac Yarra's Edge Tower 4 apartment is an enviable residence and a must see for those who only expect the best. Featuring a gourmet kitchen with large island stone bench top, stainless steel appliances and generous storage space, if you love to work in the kitchen while entertaining then this apartment is a must see. If you adore views of the water, then look no further. This apartment stunningly captures over 180 degree vistas of the CBD, Southwharf Marina, Yarra River and Port Philip bay



Docklands 1707 / 8 McCrae Street
VIEWS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE
 1 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car
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This 17th floor open plan apartment is modern, spacious and comfortable. With 2 generously sized bedrooms, a walk in wardrobe plus a study, 2 well sized bathrooms and an undercover car park, this apartment is sure to please. With uninterrupted panoramic views over the entire CBD skyline, this impressive residence provides sensational open plan entertaining spilling onto a fabulous city view enclosed balcony with glorious north eastern sun. Facilities include a large outdoor swimming pool and BBQ area



Docklands 3602 / 288 Spencer St
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Private Sale \$580,000
Inspect By appointment

This luxurious & spacious brand new two bedroom apartment located on the top floor in the newly completed Atlantis building comes fully furnished and presents the latest in inner city living. The unit features a modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances and ample cupboard space that opens to a dining/living area which leads to a balcony with spectacular bay and Dockland views. Coming fully furnished as part of the purchase price, this apartment is great for an investment or perfect for someone just starting out in Melbourne.



Docklands 210 / 53 Spencer Street
GRAND HERITAGE AT ITS FINEST
 2 Bed 1 Study 1 Bath 1 Car
Private Sale \$740,000
Inspect By appointment

Centrally located and dominating in presence this distinguished building offers majestic stair case, float about in the luxurious heated pool and spa and saunter about in the palatial gardens. Enjoy the grand life with an apartment that is approx 100-sqm in size with an open plan living, dining room boasting soaring windows and large separate kitchen. Located on level 2 you have this rare opportunity to purchase in this outstanding building and fully capitalize on both the opulence and investment on offer. This apartment is available to owner occupiers and investors.



Docklands 607 / 60 Siddeley Street
IDEAL FLINDERS WHARF ADDRESS
 3 bed 2 bath 2 car
Private sale \$1.1 m
Inspect By appointment

Perfectly located on the North bank of the Yarra is this impressive 6th floor, light filled apartment with a large terrace, sits directly in front of The Melbourne Exhibition Centre & Polly Woodside. Consisting of 3 bedrooms (the master with private ensuite), a modern and stylish Miele kitchen, which is perfect for entertaining family and friends, also with fully equipped gymnasium, steam and sauna rooms, spa and swimming pool. Close to public transport, along with the city, and all the exciting Docklands precinct has to offer. The property also comes with two secure car parks.



Docklands 1202/80 Lorimer Street
LOOK NO FURTHER
 2 bed 2 bath 2 car
Private sale \$900,000
Inspect By appointment

If you adore views of the water, then look no further. This apartment stunningly captures full length views of the CBD, Southwharf Marina and Yarra River as well as combining one generously sized bedroom with a master bedroom featuring walk-in-robes and en-suite with twin vanities. Other features include air-conditioning throughout, separate laundry, 2 secure car spaces and storage cage.



Docklands 1111/8 McCrae Street
No. 1 FOR LOCATION & PRICE
 1 bed 1 bath 1 car
Private sale \$400,000
Inspect By appointment

This fantastic 11th floor one bedroom, one bathroom apartment is now for sale in the perfectly located V1 Docklands complex. Within short walking distance to the Melbourne CBD, Southbank, Crown Casino and Etihad Stadium, this apartment is sure to please. Decked out with modern fittings and a contemporary design, this apartment features a large spacious open plan living room, generously sized bedroom and bathroom with a balcony allowing both bedroom and living room access.



Docklands 402 / 60 Siddeley Street
MASSIVE ENTERTAINERS TERRACE!
 2 bed 1 bath 1 car
Private sale \$620,000
Inspect By appointment

This amazing apartment with private and unique outdoor space set right the Rivers edge with sensational views will put everything else at second place! Spoil yourself in the middle of the city with a 'suburb size' back yard! Relax in the spacious living/dining area. Cook up a feast in the modern and functional kitchen with stainless steel appliances, glass splash backs and granite bench tops. Enjoy two good size bedrooms, both with BIR separated by a large and stylish bathroom. Combine an additional toilet and separate laundry facilities.



Docklands 426/53 Spencer Street
GRAND HERITAGE AT IT'S FINEST!
 1 bed 1 bath
Private sale \$420,000
Inspect By appointment

Here is your chance to own an apartment amidst the grandeur and sophistication of Melbourne's iconic Grand Hotel. Centrally located and dominating in presence this distinguished building has a one bedroom on offer to the discerning buyer. Sashay down the majestic stair case, float about in the luxurious heated pool and spa and saunter about in the palatial gardens.



Docklands 1507/18 Waterview St
WATERGATE SPECTACULAR
 2 bed 2 bath 1 CAR
Private sale \$680,000
Inspect By appointment

This spectacular and luxurious 2 bedroom apartment awaits the discerning buyer. Located on the 15th level, this apartment includes modern and stylish kitchen fittings, stainless steel appliances and stone bench tops. The living area is generous and boasts great views over the CBD, bay and Yarra. Two good size bedrooms with BIRs and two bathrooms complete the functional layout.

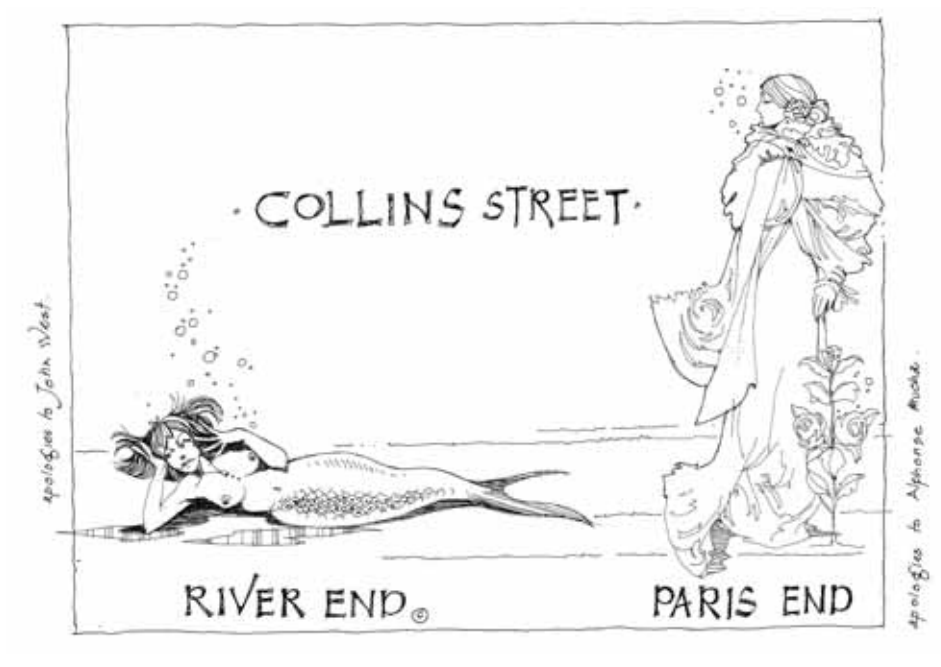


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Tourist train will boost retailers

Harbour Town retailers will receive a significant boost if a proposal to introduce people-moving tourist trains is successful.

The proposal is the brainchild of Wonderland Fun Park proprietors Melissa Head and Colin Lane and could ferry hundreds of people a day from Victoria Harbour to Waterfront City.

Mr Lane told the last meeting of the Docklands Chamber of Commerce that the trackless tourist trains would be the first of their kind in Melbourne, with similar operations running permanently in Sydney’s Darling Harbour, Homebush Bi-Centennial Park and Perth Wharves.

Two trains of three carriages of 10 passengers each would run in opposite directions and operate at a speed described as “a brisk walking pace”.

The proposed route for the trains would be from the main stage area at Waterfront City Piazza, travelling along NewQuay Promenade before turning right onto Harbour Esplanade. They would then run adjacent to the Esplanade before terminating at the NAB building on Bourke St.

The total travelling time of the trains is expected to be eight minutes in each direction.

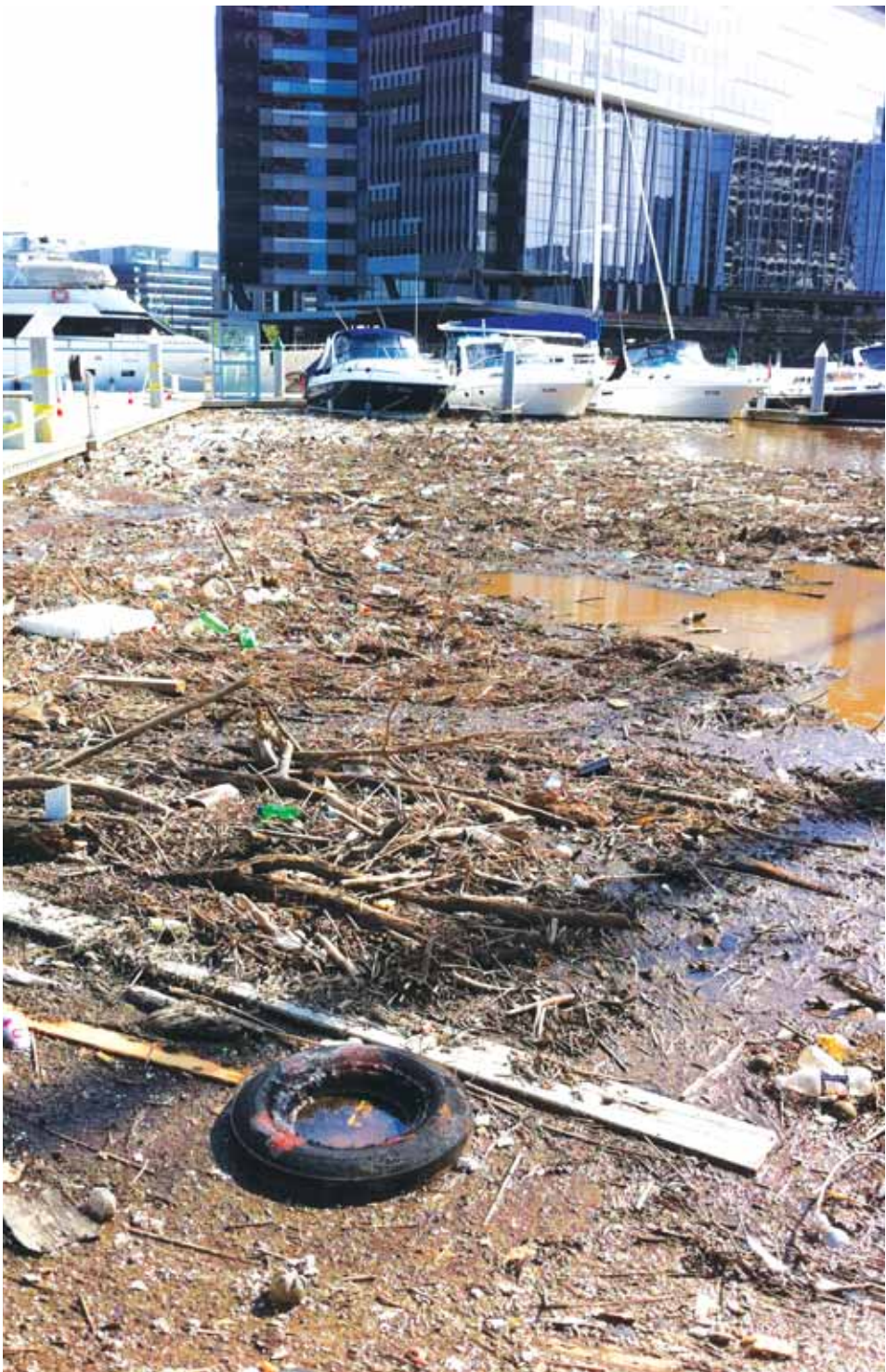
Such a route joins the main attractions of Docklands – Waterfront City, Harbour Town Shopping Centre and the Southern Star Observation Wheel.

Two funding options have been proposed for the trains. Under the first, the trains would be publicly funded and would be free to the public. The second option is for passengers to contribute a gold coin donation per trip.

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce voted on May 17 to support the proposal. Members have been urged to write letters of support to the City of Melbourne.

The meeting heard that City of Melbourne bylaws officers “derailed” a similar proposal when it was last put forward in 2007.

The trains will connect retailers and office workers in the Docklands precinct, giving the retailers a wider reach and increasing mobility for the workers.



What a load of rubbish!

This photo was sent to us last month by Jenni Hart from Adventure Sails who reports that the rubbish contamination was so bad at Marina YE during recent floods that she could not use her berth.

The City of Melbourne has put aside funds to clean up the mess and, at a recent “D2” consultation in Docklands, the council’s director of city design, Prof Rob Adams

pledged to change the structure of the area to prevent a repeat in the future.

Ms Hart wrote to *Docklands News*: “We could not even use it.”

“Diversions need to be put in place ASAP before it happens again. This is a regular occurrence not just when the floods happened.”

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Part 2: The art of communication

Too bad if you want to cross Harbour Esplanade.

But at least the oncoming traffic will be doing no more than 20kmh when you are hit!

If it wasn't so dangerous it would be funny.

If you've seen something equally noteworthy, send it in to us for publication via news@docklandsnews.com.au.

Art project to help shelter pedestrians

VicUrban is funding a public arts project which will have the added benefit of sheltering pedestrians crossing the Collins St bridge in Batman's Hill.

It is contributing \$25,000 towards the project which it hopes will calm a particularly windswept part of Docklands as well as making a cultural contribution.

Part of the motivation behind the project is to encourage more workers to walk from Southern Cross Station rather than overload an already challenged tram system.

"Design for an Active City" is being

conducted as part of the State of Design Festival from July 20-31. The winning concept will be announced on July 25.

It is expected that the winning entry will be constructed and temporarily installed on site from October to December.

Submissions close on July 6. To register email bianca@stateofdesign.com.au.

Work needed on Central Pier

VicUrban will soon begin structural reinforcement of Central Pier after a routine inspection in April found structural deterioration of the historic landmark.

VicUrban's Docklands acting general manager Simon Wilson said independent structural engineers had advised of deterioration in the condition of the western tip, the area under Shed 9, and the area under the roadway between Sheds 9 and 14.

In response, Mr Wilson said VicUrban had

immediately banned carparking on the western tip of the pier. Parking was due to cease on the western tip on June 30.

Mr Wilson said VicUrban had made other parking arrangements at Etihad Stadium for Central Pier patrons until the end of June.

"VicUrban is also in the process of implementing landscape and signage upgrades to improve the pedestrian experience between the stadium car park entrance and Central Pier," Mr Wilson said.

Accolades for local properties

The ANZ Centre won the Australian Development of the Year Award last month, cementing it as Australia's top property of the year.

The prize was announced at the 2011 Property Council of Australia / Rider Levett Bucknall Innovation and Excellence Awards.

The ANZ Centre was also awarded the Colliers International award for best office development.

The ANZ Centre has received continuing praise for innovation and sustainability.

Key design aspects of the building include "an underfloor air distribution system, wind turbines, a significant reduction in the number of car parking spaces provided and a blackwater system which significantly reduces water usage."

Another Docklands property was also part of the awards, with the Goods Shed North receiving an award for best office fit out.

Australian Property Council CEO Peter Verwer presented the awards saying: "The ANZ Centre is an outstanding showcase of the great outcomes our industry can produce. The building has not only achieved global benchmarks in environment and sustainability, but has reinvigorated the entire Melbourne Docklands precinct."

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Residents respond to consultation

By Chan Khai Ling

The Second Decade of Docklands draft initiatives were presented to local residents at the Hub last month by VicUrban and City of Melbourne representatives.

Some 20 Docklands residents were present for the 30-minute meeting, which was jointly led by VicUrban's acting director of project planning and innovation, Simon Wilson, and City of Melbourne's director city design, Professor Rob Adams.

The proposed initiatives encompassed three central themes – capturing the essence of Melbourne, embracing Melbourne's waterfront and creating a 21st century city.

Following the presentation, a question-and-answer session was held in which some residents raised concerns about the lack of green space in Docklands, problems with public transportation and the absence of schools.

Another point of contention was the state of the Yarra River, which retiree Phil Spender claimed was a "disgrace" as debris was continuously trapped in the marina.

"There's no point in developing the water park concept (for Docklands)," he said in reference to the river's condition.

Prof Adams said there were budget allocations to cover the clean-up and to fund a new design less likely to trap rubbish.

The lack of green space was the major concern for most attendees and received the lion's share of the orange "dots" that were used to visually rank priorities among proposed actions.

Citing the numerous parks in the central business district, Mr Spender said of Docklands: "There's just not enough green."

"This is the biggest development in Melbourne in over 100 years, and we're not re-creating some of the greatest things that they have done (in Melbourne)."

Also high on the list for resident Janine Standfield was the implementation of a primary school within or near Docklands.

"It almost seems like they don't want people with children here. There're no schools here, and there's one children's park for the whole of Docklands," she said.

Overall, however, residents were pleased with the presentation.

"At a high level, it's a great plan. They just have to listen to the people, make a few changes to improve things and make sure they don't repeat past mistakes," Mr Spender said.

VicUrban says feedback during consultation from all groups reinforced the importance of providing more community services and facilities and more intimate and comfortable public spaces and amenities.

"This feedback has been invaluable to both VicUrban and the City of Melbourne in refining the actions, outcomes and key projects that are to be delivered over the short and longer term," a spokesperson said.



Professor Adams is allowed to speak

By Shane Scanlan

Docklanders attending last month's "D2" consultations got a rare first-hand glimpse into the thinking of Professor Rob Adams who is possibly the person with the most influence over the future of Docklands.

Prof. Adams is the City of Melbourne's city design director and is internationally renowned and acknowledged for revitalising the CBD over the past couple of decades.

The council won't allow Prof. Adams to speak with *Docklands News* about his views on our suburb. But, with the City of Melbourne playing an increasingly significant role in the future urban design of Docklands, Prof Adams is already setting the agenda.

The state's development authority VicUrban is more comfortable these days to take a back-seat in many of the joint discussions about the future of Docklands, as it recognises that the council will ultimately inherit the area.

In introducing the consultation with the community at the Hub on May 11, Prof. Adams spoke freely on many aspects of the Docklands of the future.

Significantly, he sees his task as integrating Docklands with the rest of the city.

He posed the question: "How will we know when Docklands is truly a part of Melbourne?" And then went on the answer: "When you're not conscious about moving

from one part of the city to the next – when it's just another part of the city."

"That's when Docklands will have arrived," he said.

"That's not going to happen in the next decade. Cities don't change that quickly. But it will happen eventually and there will be a seamless transition from one part of the city to the next."

He then went through a series of topics that the council wanted to consult on.

"Not only will you have the new experience of the water and water-based activities, but there are other experiences that you will expect to find in Docklands."

"There will be some more intimate experiences and activities over and above the general 'eight-to-five' business and residential offerings. There will be recreation and leisure activities as well."

"Docklands is the place we want people to come and visit as an interesting and exciting place. Not because there is some event is on here, but because the actual life that occurs here is something they are attracted to."

In answer to a question about the lack of open space in Docklands, Prof. Adams replied that Docklands had more open space than most places.

He said most cities had 60 per cent buildings and 40 per cent public realm.

"Here it is almost the opposite," he said. "Our challenge here is to look at the spaces we've got and reconfigure them."

"There's too much of the same sort of space. There's too much 30 metre wide waterfront and not enough of some other sort of spaces, such as where you can kick a football."



MR SOLD SAYS...

MR SOLD SAYS

Seven out of ten tenants are looking to buy a home, but until that happens most wanted to stay in their present accommodation and are willing to pay more in rent to do so, unsurprisingly the dollars forked out in the rent is top of the seven most important things tenants consider with regard to rental accommodation.



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Associate Professor Louise Johnson.

What’s it like to live in Docklands?

Urban researcher Louise Johnson wants to talk to Docklanders about what it’s like to live here.

Associate Professor Johnson has researched and written extensively about Australian cities and wants to talk to people with some first-hand experiences.

“I am fascinated to find out whether it’s all about inner-city living or are we just recreating the suburban experience here – in a vertical fashion,” Prof. Johnson said.

“I want to talk to people about what they expected before they moved here, and what they have got.”

Prof. Johnson said inner-city apartment living represented a revolution in thinking for Australians.

“Up until very recently, the Australian dream has been to escape the city and establish life in the suburbs,” she said.

Prof. Johnson said it couldn’t be denied that Australians were discovering apartment living but she suspected that they were largely intent on re-creating much of their suburban lives in a very different physical environment.

“Is Docklands more than just a vertical suburb?” she asked. “I proposed that, rather than entering a world of cosmopolitanism and diversity, they are re-creating much of their suburban lives.”

“This research project seeks to detail just who is moving into the Docklands in Melbourne, from where and with what aspirations but also how they then live their lives there.”

She can be contacted at lcj@deakin.edu.au.

Seeking liveability and sustainability

Meg Holden, PhD, is Associate Professor of Urban Studies and Geography at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. She is currently in Melbourne as part of an international research project comparing sustainability plans and outcomes in urban waterfront redevelopment projects around the world. She prepared this report especially for Docklands News readers.

Since the origins of the redevelopment of Melbourne’s Docklands, this area has been treated as a place apart from the established city.

At first, it was to constitute Melbourne’s Millennium Mark on the world. Later it was green living and its buildings were to demonstrate to the market environmental leadership and commercial viability. Now, in its second decade, Docklands is to be about “people” and become a canvas for cultural prosperity.

It is worth asking why Docklands should be treated as a place apart from the rest of the City of Melbourne and, if it is someplace different, what kind of difference Docklands seeks to make. According to the Economist Intelligence Unit, Melbourne is the world’s second most liveable city. Being liveable is not the same as being sustainable, however.

For liveability to be sustainable long into the future, cities need to think about how they depend on other places and people to keep them afloat, and how prepared they are to cope with changes and challenges into the future. They need to take the long view as well as the wide view.

Currently outranking Melbourne as the world’s “most liveable city,” Vancouver, Canada is home to a waterfront redevelopment precinct facing a similar crisis of identity and disconnection from the city as Docklands.

The area is called Southeast False Creek, the first phase of which was completed to house the Olympic athletes visiting for the 2010 winter games. Docklands is almost six times larger in size than Southeast False Creek but, given that Docklands includes a much more substantial business development component (an anticipated 40-50 per cent mix with residential land uses), the projected residential capacity of the two sites is quite similar – upwards of 15,000 in the case of Docklands and up to 16,000 in the case of Southeast False Creek.

The built form of the residential component of both developments is similar, consisting primarily of medium and high-rise apartment buildings, closely interspersed with greenways, public transit, shops and services and featuring access to both a significant waterfront and a busy central city.

Southeast False Creek was held out as the last piece of inner city waterfront to be redeveloped in the post-industrial aesthetic,



Associate Professor Meg Holden.

with access to the seawall and those million dollar views.

Southeast False Creek established high green living goals and is only the second community in North America to meet the demanding LEED Platinum Neighbourhood standard for green precinct development.

It was also intended to provide for unparalleled luxury urban living in order to attract new investment from around the world when “the eyes of the world” were on Vancouver during the Olympic Games. Here, the development ran into problems: the global financial crisis hit, the developer declared bankruptcy, the complement of buyers did not materialise and those who bought from the plan are now suing the City of Vancouver to get their money back.

Within their respective cities, Docklands and Southeast False Creek suffer from similar crises of identity. It’s partially an image problem, partially a locational disadvantage, partially a historical problem, partially a problem of founder’s syndrome and the opportunity costs that come with taking a risk on a bold, new place. Together it is a bit of a mess.

Yet both neighbourhoods have significant opportunities. While Docklands may be the part of the city that Melburnians “love to hate,” many also grant that Docklands may well become the place to be in a decade’s time, once it has aged-in-place and has filled in its wind-swept plazas with interesting features and faces.

Big new pieces of city like these do not arrive, ready-made, as mirrors and extensions of liveable cities. But in time, with careful attention and consideration of the diversity of things we need to make our cities great, they can become integrated with their city and push it closer to sustainability, too.



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My primal Docklands

By Shane Scanlan



Soul? I'll give you soul. Primordial, tribal soul from the place that's not supposed to have any, Melbourne's Docklands. Here's a 48-hour snap shot from mid-last month.

It starts with an invitation to *Docklands News* from Channel Nine to be part of the studio audience at *The Footy Show*, now broadcasted live from Docklands Studios.

There's a four-year waiting list to be an actual contributor rather than a passive observer of this cultural experience. So we're very thankful.

But it doesn't start too well. A trench-coated goon with a metal detector demands we surrender our mobile phones before we join a lot of people in a very small room. Baa. This is how sheep in a holding pen must feel. The condensation on the windows runs earthwards in rivers.

As invited guests, it would be ungrateful to complain. And no one is complaining.

There's a common bond here, one which the warm-up man deftly exploits. Everyone here loves footy.

I get a bit too warmed up and the warm-up man enquiries whether I am pissed. And where are my colours anyway?

Fair cop. I haven't had a Saints jumper since I started barracking for them in 1967. And no joy either. And this guy wonders why I am not wearing their colours?

The show itself is surprisingly engrossing and entertaining. I really didn't think Sam Newman would be so quick-witted and funny.

During the ad breaks, the warm-up man unites us with his routine. It's school-yard and blokey and we shouldn't really be laughing. But it IS funny. And from within the tribe, we feel united and safe – so safe, in fact, that there's a question and answer session after the show when the cameras are turned off.

"Ask us anything," is the invitation. People

do. And the responses are honest and given freely on the understanding that they go no further than the four walls of the studio. Sam is quizzed extensively about his sex life.

Everyone walks away bonded. That's soul.

The next night is Shakespeare. Cultural? Of course, but so's football. Primal? Absolutely. So much more than footy. This Macbeth fellow was the real deal. Football's bad boys are just pretenders in comparison.

And Dockland's Shed 4 at this time of year has enough Scottish-castle-like refrigeration to generate the required volume of soul to make this experience extremely memorable. The actors are wearing leather, pagan tattoos and bare flesh.

Director Glenn Elston gets the audience up close and personal by dispensing with seats and having the audience move between sets. "To

the heath!" "To the castle!" is the command.

No one exposes and celebrates the base instincts and behaviours of humans like Shakespeare and all these centuries later, it's hard to imagine any better production than Australian Shakespeare Company's version in Docklands last month.

Sex. Desire. Passion. Why does every generation think they are the first to discover it? Macbeth is clearly a naive victim of his humanity.

That's soul.

And outside Shed 4 on the wharf there's another show underway – a show on a boat called Barkoona.

The boat is moored at the wharf. It's carrying a tribe of men. And a naked woman who is allowing herself to be degraded for their entertainment.

"Don't look. It's private," says the captain who claims that an unusually high-tide has resulted in the private bucks party becoming very public.

He takes to the harbour and by the time he returns to dock, inside the shed Banquo's ghost is arising from the witches cauldron.

I wander up the wharf with the bucks party. They're noisy and primal. They are surprised and stimulated by their surroundings. They accuse a fisherman of being a statue. Everyone thinks that's funny.

This is Docklands. These things don't happen in the 'burbs.

We've got soul.



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For the love of Alma

By Chan Khai Ling

Watercolour artist Maggie Chiara Cowling is an unusual regular at Docklands' Shed 2, where the heritage sailing ship Alma Doepel is undergoing restoration.

Instead of hammers and nails, however, Maggie's hands are kept busy with paint brushes and palettes as she captures the many facets of the ship's transformation on canvas.

Bubbly and outgoing, the artist says she fell in love with the ship when she was taking a stroll around Docklands for the first time last year.

"There was no one in sight, and then I saw the Alma Doepel. It was such a beautiful ship, like a sculpture in itself," she said.

She decided to come back to Docklands a few times to paint the ship in watercolour, which is her preferred medium, though not always the most successful choice.

"I have to work very quickly because watercolour dries very fast, especially with the wind, and it's a very unforgiving medium. I have a love-hate relationship with it," she said.

The more time Maggie spent at Shed 2, the more her interest in the restoration efforts of the Alma Doepel grew, leading her to do further research on the ship.

"She has such an extraordinary history. Did you know

that she was stripped down in World War 2 to carry 400 troops for Australia? It's just a fabulous story ... such amazing service," Maggie said.

Maggie has also had some interesting experiences while painting the ship, including having dogs drink from her palette and people applauding and bowing to her.

When the Alma Doepel restoration committee noticed her regular presence at the docks, they asked her to become their regular artist, which she happily accepted.

She has given a number of her completed sketches and paintings to the committee for exhibitions and an auction, and tentatively hopes to launch an exhibition next year.

Maggie believes that the Alma Doepel is a wonderful project for Docklands and contributes significantly to community-building.

"It's a ship, and that's what Docklands is about. You couldn't have a more appropriate project that uses Docklands in its traditional form," she said.



Webb Bridge, Easter Saturday 2010, by Bill Bachman

MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE – Its Art and Soul

An exhibition of images at South Wharf this month goes some way to defining what makes Melbourne marvellous.

Titled, *MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE – Its Art and Soul*, the show features 20 artists who capture the city's uniqueness in paintings, drawings, prints, photos and 3-D works.

Artists include, painters: Ivan Durrant, Geoff La Gerche, Anne Marie Graham, Daniel Moynihan, John Spooner, Tom Alberts, James Pasakos, Jim van Geet, Christine Wrest-Smith and Fay Plamka; photographers: Bill Bachman, Peter Garnick, Roger Gould, Thomas Conger and Tony

Summers; along with textile artist: Robina Summers; mosaic artist: Pamela Irving and street artists: "Adnate" and "Slicer"

MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE is on display until June 30 at the Hilton Melbourne, South Wharf.



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CUISINE UNDERCOVER

INDEPENDENT REVIEWS FROM DOCKLANDS' PHANTOM DINER

Bob's Steak & Chop House

I've got to admit, when I was told Docklands' newest restaurant was called Bob's Steak & Chop House, my first thought was I'd be reviewing some sort of sub-standard Chinese take-away. I'm sorry – is that racist?

My second thought, after being told it was actually a “premium” American steakhouse, was “Does Docklands really need another American steakhouse?”

The answer, I'm pleased to say, is yes. Because Docklands really doesn't have anything quite like Bob's, which manages to fuse steak and fine-dining in a surprisingly effective and distinctly “un-American” way.

The latest addition to Village Street sits beneath the National Foods building, next to The Goods Shed and opposite Etihad

Stadium. It is perfectly positioned to capture the latest influx of corporate and “developer” types. On the day I dined, there were indeed lots of big men in dark suits engaging in hard-core power lunches, sinking some very nice drops of red.

I'd purposely gone without breakfast, anticipating one of those over-sized Yankee-doodle kind of lunches with meat hanging off the plate, lashings of crazy rich sauces and enough wedges to feed Kansas.

Time for surprise number one. While the concept for Bob's may hail from the States, the menu revealed there was quite a focus on Australian produce, with steaks from the Hopkins River lining up alongside Milawa chicken and Tasmanian salmon.

Surprise number two was the meals themselves. Constraint, not largesse, is the word that comes to mind.

A \$19 crab cake initially had us raising an eyebrow, questioning our decision to share. But the rich, intense claw meat tightly packed within the cake was generous, while the honey mustard sauce was rightly

drizzled with caution. Half each did us just fine – and had us issuing a respectful nod to each and every cent.

My companion's 350g striploin was certainly not lacking but, rather than fighting for space with an unnecessarily large serving of carbs, was instead coupled politely with a respectful serving of “skillet” potatoes – doused, not drowning – in a peppercorn gravy.

My own Gourmet Black Angus Burger was equally impressive. With cheese, onion and all the usual condiments, it also featured a subtle chipotle mayonnaise and a fried egg. It was all there, but rather than spilling out all over my hands and plate, it sat neatly on the plate with an equally concise serving of “Bad Boy” steak fries – that looked as though they'd never misbehaved a day in their lives.

And while every mouthful of the broiled, medium rare burger was moist and bursting with flavour, the ingredients married together perfectly, refusing to stray from the wedlock of their bun. Which was lucky – cause Bob's is not the kind of place where you lick yolk from between your fingers.

A lemon and lime tart provided the perfect finish to a meal that should have left me feeling heavy – but did not. Maybe the choice of a Tasmanian Pinot over the Heathcote Shiraz had something to do with that. The wine list is expansive and well-travelled – taking you from New Zealand, to Italy, France, Spain and of course, Australia and the States.

The interior matched the sophistication of both the wine and food and what the staff lacked in experience they made up for in eagerness (but note: no need to ask me if I'm enjoying my meal Sweetheart).

Honestly? It was hard to find fault with Bob's. I have no doubt it will make a name for itself – if patrons are willing to look past its um ... name.

Overall rating ★★★★★

View all our Docklands restaurant reviews and rankings online at www.docklandsnews.com.au/review

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GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Hello again to everybody. Trust you are well.

Firstly on the social front, it has been decided to hold the social night on Thursday July 28 at the Mission to Seafarers on Flinders St West. All welcome. Non-members will be charged \$15 per person which is extremely reasonable. Invitations and promotional material will be issued in early July.

Regarding the Harbour Esplanade development, VicUrban is planting the second row of trees along the west side following digging up the bitumen. They say, however, they still don't know what will be done with the large concrete area down to the waterfront.

At a formal meeting in May we obtained a commitment from City of Melbourne's director of city design that no buildings would be erected along the foreshore by any developer.

It was indicated that further development of that area is a few years away with no commencement date in sight. The DCA continues to push for open space along the foreshore with provision of parkland not only for the local community but also for visitors.

In May, I joined with other members of CoRBA, the coalition of resident groups, in a meeting with council's CEO arranged by the Lord Mayor to discuss issues.

The main concern raised by the group was the lack of public consultation particularly on planning. In relation to Docklands, I stated that we know that discussions take place on planning and development between council and VicUrban but without any community participation or consultation. The CEO undertook to introduce improved communication with the community.

Western Park development continues to languish in limbo. Apparently there is no agreement on the Melbourne Football Club's proposal which could also be jeopardised by lack of funding. Meanwhile, we have asked VicUrban to at least clean up the area to enable people to use it.

The DCA committee has decided to request a meeting with the Planning Minister Matthew Guy to present Docklands issues on which we will try and get his assistance.

In order to strengthen liaison within Docklands we plan to suggest the formation of a coalition of chairs of owners corporations. This could work in with the DCA on common issues and would enable a pooling of knowledge and ideas.

Currently there is a lack of communication amongst chairs of the buildings in various locations. The DCA has two chairs on our committee.

Whilst the OC chairs are primarily responsible for the management of their respective buildings, external issues such as parking, provision of open space and traffic management overlap and affect everybody. Combined action can only assist.

We continue to email members a list of forthcoming events provided by the council at my request. This enables us to request action to protect resident amenity where necessary.

Regarding a developer's proposal to provide a primary school, library and community centre we are very concerned that it would not be crammed in like other developments in our area. Key requirements are provision of adequate access, off street parking and adequate playing area.

If any reader would like to become a member of the DCA or has any suggestions they wish to put forward regarding activities or issues, they are welcome to contact us on **docklandscommunityassociation@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 also keep up with things on our website **www.docklandscommunityassociation.com**

Sincerely
Roger Gardner
President DCA



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The NAB Academy: on the frontier of learning

By Sarah Murray

NAB has embraced a learning culture with the recent opening of its Academy flagship site at Docklands.

With cutting edge programs and facilities, Docklands may be NAB's education headquarters, but employees right across the country are participating.

NAB general manager strategy and innovation, Maria Tassone, said: "The Academy was established to help our people learn, build their capability and connect with one another. It was created to challenge employees to think differently, realise their ambitions and fulfil their potential."

And to achieve this, they certainly have done things differently. As well as the Academy's flagship site at Docklands, there are another four physical sites located in Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide, and they are by no means run-of-mill classroom or meeting room spaces.

According to Ms Tassone, NAB has designed the sites to be conducive to learning.

"The physical sites were designed to be a place of discovery. All spaces offer different types of experiences founded on the underlying principle of transformation," she said.

For the Docklands site, not only is there a prevalence of natural materials such as

lots of timber, there is also a dial-a-mood soundscape system that provides pre-recorded music to create different levels of energy and moods for facilitators to use throughout the day.

Other features include a "virtual" Australian landscape projected onto the walls and floor in the lobby and main atrium area. As you move through the space, further virtual worlds alter slightly to reveal different views, such as looking through a window, or birds and butterflies will fly up and gather around.

"Careful thought has been put into how the design of the site can transform minds and open them up to discover different possibilities," Ms Tassone said.

But, while the Docklands site demonstrates NAB's commitment to learning and development, the Academy encompasses a whole learning philosophy of which the physical sites are only one part of delivering its learning culture.

In addition to the physical sites, NAB uses a mix of online learning sites and virtual learning and collaboration technologies, such as Quick Learn. It has integrated



a range of "market leading" learning programs, courses, tools and technologies so staff can learn, share knowledge, network and work.

The online component, known as The Academy Online, is essential to the success of the Academy as it allows employees in even the most far-flung regions of Australia to participate.

"In an organisation like NAB, where we have 25,000 people based all over Australia, we felt it was important that our learning and development offering did not exclude our people based in regional or even rural areas," Ms Tassone said.

At this stage the Academy is only accessible to NAB employees, but there are plans to engage the community and NAB customers. So far, the Docklands facilities have been opened up for NAB community partners. These visits have included:

- Disadvantaged kids visited to gain an understanding of work life as part of the Foundation for Young Australians program;
- A pilot school holiday program was run over Christmas for employees; and
- An international book launch for *Scores on the Board* by Bill Lang, which was attended by The Harvard Business Club.

Ms Tassone said that investing in their people, culture and reputation was a strategic priority for the NAB.

She said: "The Academy is setting our business up for the future by giving our employees the opportunity to build their capabilities within NAB rather than having to externally or in other organisations."



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TRAVELLING TO AND FROM DOCKLANDS THE INSIDE SCOOP



VicUrban

Docklands is now home to 22,000 workers, 6,500 residents and millions of visitors annually. Having just entered its second decade of development, Docklands is experiencing more construction activity than any other time in its 10 year history. It's an exciting place to be!

With so many people entering the CBD's newest area on a daily basis, what's the best way to get in and around Docklands?

There are three key ways to travel in and out of the CBD's newest area:

1. Public Transport

The best and quickest way to access Docklands, particularly during peak hours, is via Melbourne's extensive public transport network.

Docklands is conveniently located next to Southern Cross station and serviced by six trams, as well as the free City Circle Tram, and four buses.

All existing dwellings and businesses are located within 400 metres of either a tram or bus stop, and within an 800 metre radius of Southern Cross Station.

To find out more about your best public transport option visit www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

2. Bike Network

There is more than 15kms of on-road, dedicated off-road and shared bicycle paths in Docklands, with several bike trails providing links to Docklands including the Yarra Trail, the Bayside Ride, the Capital City Trail and the Maribyrnong Trail.

For more information about travelling to the CBD by bike visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au

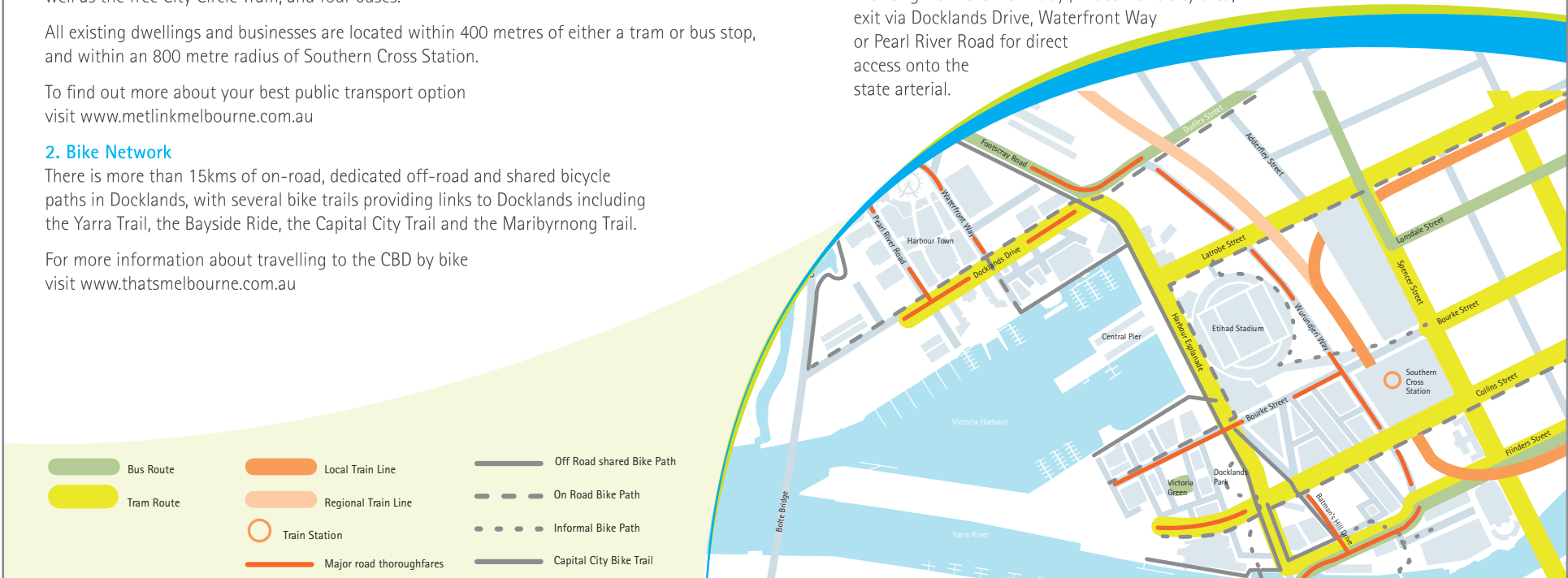
3. Driving

If travelling to and from Docklands by car, the best way to travel is via the state arterial, Wurundjeri Way, which travels from the east to west side of the CBD.

VicRoads and the City of Melbourne have recently implemented a number of traffic signalisation changes to ensure vehicles can flow more efficiently along Docklands' main thoroughfares onto Wurundjeri Way.

Best travel tips by car:

- If travelling from Victoria Harbour or the stadium precinct, exit via Bourke Street to Wurundjeri Way.
- If travelling from the ANZ area, travel east along Collins Street, turn right into Batman's Hill Drive and exit onto Wurundjeri Way.
- If exiting from the NewQuay / Waterfront City area, exit via Docklands Drive, Waterfront Way or Pearl River Road for direct access onto the state arterial.



Breaking up the band

If you're old enough to remember how you felt when The Beatles went their separate ways, you will relate to this story of Paul O'Halloran leaving Docklands.

Paul was one of NewQuay's "Fab Four" as the founding owners corporation chair of the Boyd, Palladio and Sant Elia apartment blocks.

His OC was the biggest and for the last nine years, Paul has been synonymous with NewQuay. In fact, he probably was "Mr NewQuay", representing the precinct on police and liquor licensing advisory boards and having a say in just about everything.

But the time has come, and Paul and Lea O'Halloran have sold up and moved to Mt Eliza.

Paul recalls the camaraderie of the early days in NewQuay fondly. There was nothing there and the pioneering couples thrived on the isolation and challenges that it brought.

Together, they were building a new community and they would gather every Friday night for drinks and fellowship. These were their salad days – the time when the "band" made their best music.

"When we came down here I thought we would never leave," he said.

Paul said there were seven couples who were particularly bonded by their shared experience but all but one of these had now left Docklands.

Sometimes people just moved on and sometime friendships were ruined by highly charged local issues such as serviced apartments.

And while no longer the owners corporation chairman, Paul is very vocal about the rights of owners of serviced apartments to be represented and have their voices heard.

"With serviced apartments now making up 25 to 30 per cent of all owners, it stands to reason that they should be represented on owners corporations," he said.

He said in his experience, owner occupiers were to blame for more disruptive behaviour than visitors staying in serviced apartments.

"There has been surprisingly few incidents involving serviced apartments," he said.

He said he would miss Docklands as it had been a large part of this life.

"But it's just time to try a new chapter in our lives," he said.

"We have three grand-daughters and now we have a back yard for them to run around in."



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Former owners corporation chair Paul O'Halloran will miss Docklands.

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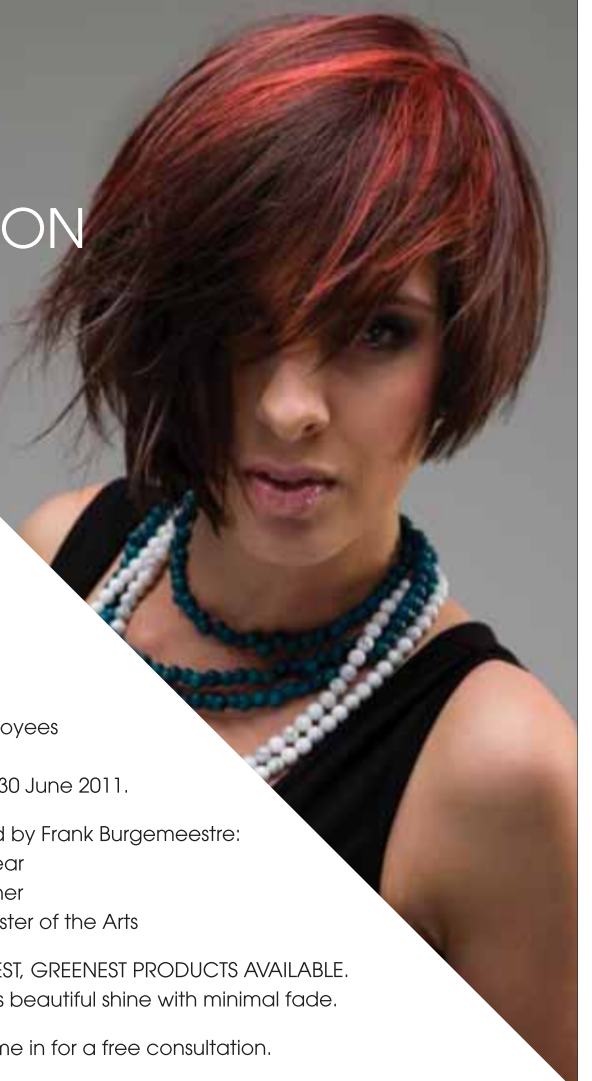
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HE SAID
WHAT?

By **Guy Mason**
City on a Hill Pastor



**CITY
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Many Rooms fundraising dinner

On Wednesday June 15, Many Rooms is hosting a special fundraising dinner at the William Angliss Restaurant to raise funds for The Kitchen - a drop-in centre aimed at those in need in the community, particularly the homeless.

The Kitchen operates on a Saturday afternoon at the North Melbourne Community Centre, and offers a two-course cooked lunch, and a safe place where people can hang out and catch up with friends.

It is also a means by which friendships are made between those in need and the volunteers and so it helps to break down the barriers between people from different backgrounds.

While the lunch is the main focus, the centre also facilitates a range of social and recreational activities, such as pool, table tennis, board games and outings such as going 10-pin bowling.

The Kitchen is one of only a handful of out-of-business hours drop in centres in the city and the only one operating on Saturday afternoons in the north-western part of

town. It provides a safe and welcoming place, a nutritious and filling meal and opportunities to socialise.

The Kitchen attracts a range of people – some from the local public housing estate, others who are homeless, including those who are “rough sleeping” on the streets.

The Kitchen receives funding from the City of Melbourne and City on a Hill church, but also needs additional funds from fundraising to pay for a kitchen manager, pay for rent, equipment, food and other expenses.

Many Rooms would like to be able to run a range of other structured social activities such as art groups. There are also plans to expand to open up a second room elsewhere. The fundraiser is a way to raise awareness of the work of Many Rooms, for funds to be raised, and people to enjoy a great night out around a dinner.

People can find out more by going to **www.manyrooms.org.au**, or calling 9614 8998. They can book tickets at: **www.trybooking.com/NUC**.



DOCKLANDS
NUMB3RS



For consultation contact numerologist Sarang Dhawan on **sarangdhawun@yahoo.com**

AFL predictions for : June 2011

June 3, 2011

Collingwood V St Kilda

Well this is a very interesting match. Let’s see what numbers have in store for both the teams. I don’t feel there will be a big-margin win from either team so I will be a struggle for both teams. I feel Collingwood will just make it in the end.

June 5, 2011

Hawthorn V Fremantle

This match shall be very interesting with lots of ups and downs for both teams. The captain of Hawthorn Luke shall play well but the numbers are more in favour of Fremantle. It will be win for Fremantle.

Port Adelaide V Carlton

I feel Port Adelaide will never perform well unless they change there jersey colour, so the

luck is in favour of Carlton. It will be good win for Carlton by a good margin.

June 12, 2011

Carlton V Brisbane

According to numbers the luck is very much in favour of Brisbane to win the match. But hold on, it’s a lucky day for the captain of the Carlton team so it shall not be an easy match. I predict the winner of this match will be Carlton but it will be a narrow margin win.

Fremantle V Essendon

It’s anyone’s guess in this match. The numbers are much in favour of the captain of the Essendon team so get ready for a awesome game of footy. Essendon to win.

June 18, 2011

St Kilda V Geelong

This is a tough match to predict. The numbers say it will be a well-fought match

by both teams. I feel Geelong will shine in this match as the Cats add up to a very strong number and the captain is a number three. Because it is the 18th, it will be Geelong victory but a St Kilda will give a tough fight and it will be an awesome match to watch.

June 18, 2011

Hawthorn V Gold Coast

This match will be interesting too and you will see lots of enthusiasm from the Gold Coast team. They will be aggressive but the captain of Hawthorn will perform excellently with the match going to Hawthorn.

June 24, 2011

Hawthorn V Essendon

Essendon will face lots of ups and downs in this match but Hawthorn will be stable in their approach. It is hard to predict who will win but the numbers suggest it will be a Hawthorn victory.

June 25, 2011

Gold Coast V Western Bulldogs

This match easily goes to the Western Bulldogs.

June 25, 2011

Sydney v Collingwood

This is a lucky day for both teams and I feel that, in the end, you will see Collingwood will feel most lucky and will win the match.

June 26, 2011

Carlton V West coast

This match will go though lots of struggle and West Coast will perform well and have an edge in this match. It will be a victory for the West Coast Eagles.



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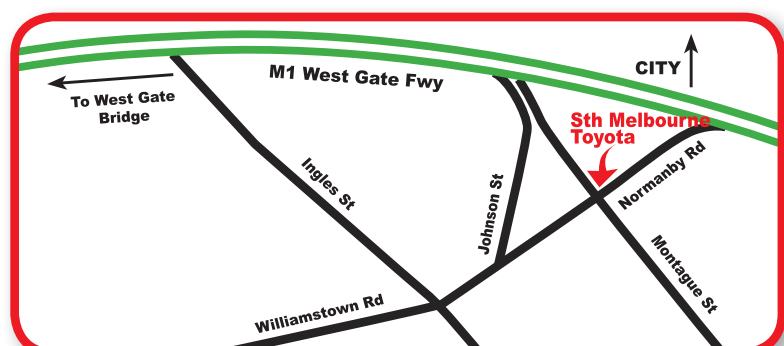


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WHAT'S ON AT WATERFRONT CITY IN JUNE

The magic of winter arrives at Docklands and brings with it an array of activities and events for the entire family. What can you look forward to? More action packed matches from the 2011 Australian Ice Hockey League, an inspiring performance by the Abbotsleigh Girls School Symphonic Winds Ensemble, half price ice skating to celebrate the Winter Solstice and the chance to party at Medibank Icehouse's Skate N Glow Nights. Don't forget, our popular Docklands Sunday Market is also on throughout June. See you there!

.....



Abbotsleigh Girls School Symphonic Winds Performance

Abbotsleigh is reputed as being one of the leading Music Schools in Australia, heralding a 60-piece Orchestra, a Jazz Ensemble, two string ensembles, two concert bands, three choirs and various chamber groups. Come down to Waterfront City Piazza to enjoy a free performance by Abbotsleigh's newly created Symphonic Winds Ensemble. Check the website for further details.

When: June 12th 2011
Venue: Waterfront City Piazza
Cost: FREE



Half Price Skating

To celebrate the Winter Solstice, Medibank Icehouse is offering half price public skating between 9am and 5pm on Wednesday June 22. Enjoy hot food and steamy drinks at the Igloo Café and skate all day for half price! If you can't make it, don't forget you can come Ice Skating all day, 7 days a week, 364 days a year. For more information, please visit www.icehouse.com.au.

When: June 22nd 2011
Times: 9am – 5pm
Venue: Medibank Icehouse



Australian Ice Hockey League

This year will see history made at Medibank Icehouse when local newcomers, Mustangs, take on seven other teams from around Australia including last year's champions, Melbourne Ice in the 2011 AIHL season. Will the new kids on the block take it up to their cross-town rivals or will the Ice stamp their authority as the number one Melbourne team? This promises to be one enthralling winter... let the rivalry begin! For the schedule and tickets, visit www.icehouse.com.au.

When: April 14th – August 28th 2011
Venue: Medibank Icehouse



Can't wait to skate at Skate N Glow Nights

Come Ice Skating all day, 7 days a week, 364 days a year. Retro Glow and Glow Top 40 liven up Friday and Saturday nights at Medibank Icehouse! Get in to the fun of Glow Nights with the all new Retro Friday and Top 40 Saturday from 7pm – late each weekend at Medibank Icehouse. The fun includes DJ's, on ice dancing and loads of giveaways. On Friday get back to the best of the 70's, 80's and 90's while the DJ's play the best of the retro era, and on Saturday join in the Countdown of the weeks Top 40.

When: Every Friday & Saturday
Venue: Medibank Icehouse



Docklands Sunday Market – New Undercover Location

The Docklands Sunday Market offers a range of arts and crafts. You'll find paintings, jewellery and much more from the talented craftspeople of Melbourne. Throughout winter, the market is held in the sheltered Waterfront City Pavillion so you don't have to worry about the weather. You can be sure we'll be there to welcome you rain or shine!

When: Every Sunday 10am – 5pm
Venue: Waterfront City Pavillion
Cost: FREE

.....

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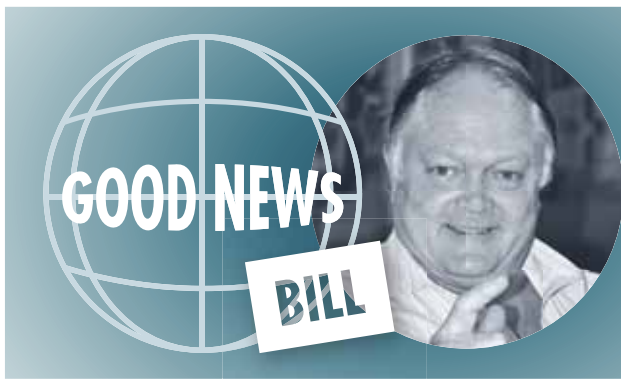


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Spreading the word about the ‘Docklander Deals’ loyalty program brings me into contact with many retailers throughout Docklands and I get to see and hear plenty.

It is no secret that the many Docklands retailers are relying on foot traffic to come through their doors. In many cases, they are looking to the sky for the great wheel to bring them that traffic.

But wait, there may be other ways. Some retailers in Docklands tell me their customers actively look for them. Customers come from far away places to visit Docklands because these businesses are here. Brand loyalty in action.

Libby Moore at the the LEGO Education Centre runs school holiday programs, birthday parties and excursions for school students. These are proving very popular. Customers come from all over to find them. This has to be great news for Docklands.

Gwendoline, the owner of Just Lashes, says her customers look for her salons that are nearest to them. They make appointments and come. If the nearest outlet is fully booked

they will go to the next nearest available salon. Just Lashes reports good business in its Harbour Esplanade location through this customer brand loyalty. Another example of good news for Docklands.

I am hearing more exciting news. Right now the owners at Wonderland Fun Park are putting up a proposal for a Docklands Town People Mover to the City of Melbourne to consider. They own a trackless train and carriage and they want to operate a tourist train, much like one in Sydney’s Darling Harbour.

This idea is reported elsewhere in this edition of *Docklands News* and is great news for Docklands as it has the potential to transport people between Victoria Harbour, Batman Hill, Central Pier, NewQuay, Waterfront City and Harbour Town. Speak to Colin or Melissa at the Fun Park if you want to add your support to this great idea.

If you are in the vicinity of ANZ Wharf near Victoria Harbour or Yarra’s Edge on a Thursday or Friday between 12.30pm and 3pm, you could jump on a river taxi now being operated by the businesses in the area.

The taxi will ferry you between ANZ Wharf and the World Trade Centre Wharf. This is an experiment at the moment and if it proves to be a popular mode of transport, this could increase the scale of the operation. Give it a go!

NewQuay Promenade has some great restaurants offering some great lunch-time deals. Watch out for Bobby Valentine performing live at the Lounge – go down to NewQuay Promenade and see what is happening. Get to know Docklands!

Watch out for more great news in the *Docklands News* – the good news stories are here.

Bill Reid

Fair Trade Break

Docklands’ Harbour Esplanade hosted the Big Fair-Trade Morning Break on May 13 encouraging people to “show off your swap” and drink fair trade tea and coffee.

Organiser Bobby Vosinthaovong from Moral Fairground said: “The aim of the Big Fair-Trade Morning Break is to promote fair trade around workplaces and encourage people to swap their regular coffee for fair trade coffee.”

“It is our first event in Docklands and we are using the NAB forecourt as they are a fair trade workplace,” Ms Vosinthaovong said.

The NAB forecourt presented workers and Docklands locals the opportunity to talk with volunteers about the fair trade movement while enjoying their tea, coffee, morning snack and some entertainment.

Other fair trade items being sold included water, chocolates and cupcakes.

The event also featured musical performances by Melbourne band *The Vertical Smiles* as well as a Guatemalan dance performance.

The Fair Trade Fortnight culminated on May 22 with the Victorian Fair Trade Festival held at the Queen Victoria Market featuring a fair trade exhibition and other entertainment.

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

Sometimes, you’ve just got to take a deep breath, hold it, slowly exhale and let the blood make it’s way from the very tips of your ears and head back into your body, wiggle your fingers and toes, and try to be rational.

Then, wait a further 24 hours before you respond to the situation that had your blood boiling in the first place.

It’s something that I’ve been trying to do for many years (to various levels of success), but it’s just so easy to get fuelled up on your own emotions and just start shooting from the hip.

Exhilarating, liberating, you let little “facts” fly out of your mouth like bullets seeking their target, with the sole intention of destruction. You feel so empowered to say exactly what you think – it’s only the truth, right? – and leave the person or business in question in no doubt of their shortcomings. Or failings.

In your opinion, of course. Which, at that particular moment, is the only one that counts.

Whereas, if you can restrain yourself long enough to calm down, one of two things usually happen:

1. You realise you had it completely wrong and overreacted to something that you now see was not nearly as bad as it first appeared (thank god you didn’t press send on THAT email!); or
2. You still feel exactly the same way and start work on a Machiavellian plan to wipe the person or business completely out of the game (that by the way, is not a physical threat to my former accountant. Just in case we need to use this in evidence).

Now seriously, there are certain things that get my blood boiling and really do make me want to start a “don’t go near these businesses/people” website, a Name and

Shame where you can feel vitriolic in venting this important information that “so and so” is not to be trusted.

There’s nothing that gets me more worked up than situations whereby someone is taking advantage, manipulating, deceitful or just flat out being a bully. I like people and businesses to do as they say they will, to care about the other party with whom they are developing a professional or personal relationship, and to just do the right thing.

Unfortunately, there are businesses out there that operate in the exact same way as schoolyard bullies, believing they can simply push and overpower at will, charge like wounded bulls without delivering a single report (ahem, that was very generic) and are not required to be accountable, they seem to believe you are just too small to give them any fight over it.

Well guess what? This woman has a voice, and every woman has a voice. Every individual has a voice, every child too. Our voice becomes strong when we are not afraid to stand up for our opinions, when we make a stand against what we believe is not right.

And we have the power (with the assistance of the ACCC!) to make a difference, to show that we are stronger than just one voice.

And, like a child who stands up to a bully, it’s amazing how much support you can gather when the truth starts to be revealed (although I’m still waiting for Justin Beiber to turn up).

Don’t let people push you, take advantage of you, hurt you or bully you. We must, as a culture, not let anyone think this is acceptable.

So take a deep breath, calm down and let things settle ... then if you find you are still of the belief that things are not right, let calmness be your shield, truth your weapon, and launch a battle that brings victory knowing you can draw on the support of others who will believe in the right thing as much as you do.

What a Woman Wants is to have equality and fairness for all, but what she needs to know is she doesn’t have to stand on her own.

Till next month,

Abby x



I LOVE THE NIGHT LIFE

Rocking at The Lounge

By Gabe Andrews

Melbourne has a thriving live music scene, arguably the best in the country.

Docklands might not be the first thought for people looking for live music, however Two Tone Family Sedan, a duo of Bobby Valentine and daughter Laura Gillard have

put Docklands firmly on the list of places to visit for live music.

Two Tone Family Sedan has started playing Thursday nights at The Lounge on NewQuay Promenade. The Lounge is a great setting to either enjoy the music while sitting down for dinner or viewing from the bar with a cold drink.

The beauty behind this duo is the simplicity.

The instrumentation is two vocals and acoustic guitar, which means the arrangements are simple and the focus is on melody.

You would think that playing covers of Bob Marley, The Beatles, Bruce Springsteen and plenty more would prove difficult for a duo. It’s simply not the case here with two extremely strong voices providing a unique stripped back feel to these popular classics.

Valentine’s guitar playing is also something that can’t be ignored. It provides the perfect platform for the vocals to be priority, while also throwing in the occasional solo.

The thing that really stands out about

Valentine and Gillard is how well their voices work in unison. The most enjoyable moments are when their voices come together and harmonise. It is an aspect of live music that is always appreciated and this duo nail their harmonies every time.

Seeing Two Tone Family Sedan at The Lounge is part of that long-standing Melbourne tradition of going down to the local pub to see live music while enjoying the company of your friends.

So be sure to head down after work on a Thursday to The Lounge to grab a drink and enjoy a fantastic gig from Two Tone Family Sedan.



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Letters to the Editor



Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au

Serviced apartments – a blight on Docklands

We bought our Docklands apartment from MAB and are owner residents at NewQuay. It is our home. We did not buy into a hotel with constant cleaning trolleys causing damage, visitors who have no regard for the building or its contents and the constant trouble caused by people who come in for a couple or often one night, for a holiday or a good time. We all pay for the additional wear and tear on our buildings. As the number of serviced apartments has increased so have the problems.

Contrary to claims by serviced apartment operators in your article in the *Docklands News* (May 2011) the value of buildings where serviced apartments have not been allowed is higher and increasing, with ownership more desirable.

False claims of lower values are part of a scare campaign by apartment operators. By allowing short-term rentals we are lowering the long-term value of homes/investments.

Some additional serviced apartments coming up for sale if a ban was imposed would be a short-term issue as ultimately the buildings would become more desirable and the values would increase. As published in Domain in *The Age*, short-term rentals result in lower property values. Increased rents in the Docklands are obviously part of a Melbourne-wide property rental shortage and not due to serviced apartments.

We know everyone is entitled to their opinion but some people seem to be selfishly looking after their own short-term commercial interests and ignoring the long-term financial and social interests of others. Short-term visitors should be accommodated in purpose-built apartments or hotels.

In our experience, long-term tenants and owners look after their building and take some interest in their neighbours. Cities like New York have discovered this and have stopped short-term rentals. A sense of community does not develop with a transient population.

Time for serviced apartments to stop.

Name withheld

Support for school

I'm writing in reference to your May edition and Mr Napier's announcement about his future development at Digital Harbour. The opportunity to secure two floors for the purposes of conducting a school for the Docklands precinct is an exciting possibility.

Melbourne City School currently operates at 121 King St, in the heart of the CBD, and welcomes families from many different parts of Melbourne, including several from the Docklands area, to share the learning journey with their sons and daughters.

As an initiative of ELTHAM College, a truly independent coeducational school, Melbourne City School would welcome the opportunity to participate further in the transformation and modernisation of Melbourne by providing a genuine 21st century approach to learning.

While traditional schools remain locked into having all resources kept firmly behind the school fence, Melbourne City School clearly demonstrates its desire to work with a community focus by accessing the libraries, museums and other facilities available on its doorstep. The developer's vision of including multi-functional rooms and a public library sits comfortably with our desire to develop life-long learners who are equipped to operate independently and self-manage their living, learning and working.

With the anticipated rise in the Docklands population, and with other inner suburban schooling options under great stress, it is imperative a viable schooling option is provided. Melbourne City School has recognised this need and is committed to working with all community stakeholders to offer a genuine alternative to outmoded approaches to schooling. Melbourne City School is committed to providing a school that is built upon personalised attention, creativity and the pursuit of developing an individual's unique talents.

Dr David Warner
Principal/CEO, ELTHAM College

Sectarian bile

I picked up your paper a few weeks ago and simply couldn't believe what I was reading by Guy Mason. A religious pastor publicly venting about "institutional religion". If this is what he says in public, I shudder to think what he would be saying to those who turn up on his doorstep.

Apparently he his happy to try and gain adherents to his church by slamming what he apparently regards as opposition to his (quote) "true church". A Christian!??

Yet in the same article as he damns institutional religion for substituting "a man centred-system of control, self-preservation, self-righteousness and social-disconnection" (wow!), he seeks to excuse his own "by no means perfect" church because it is still a work in progress.

But more fundamentally, how can *Docklands News* publish such sectarian bile? If not straight out libelous it is at best, uncharitable. As a Catholic I find it deeply offensive and inaccurate.

David Moloney

Parking issue

Has the paper looked at parking in Docklands of late? Ventured down to Bourke St today to find street parking (including Merchant St) all most non-existent.

The areas that were previously meter parks are mostly construction sites, taxi stands or loading zones.

Gave up the idea of a manicure and a coffee, so it can't be good for traders.

Outraged of Docklands



DOCKLANDS SECRETS

Before it was Docklands, the area in the west of the city was once so rich in wildlife that it has been compared with Kakadu.

In his introduction to his *Birth of Melbourne* book, Tim Flannery quotes from Melbourne pioneer George Gordon McCrae's childhood memories of the famed "Blue Lake" which occupied the area in the 1830s. It was:

"intensely blue, nearly oval and full of the clearest salt water; but this by no means deep. Fringed gaily all around mesembryanthemum ('pig-face') in full bloom, it seemed in the broad sunshine as though girdled about with a belt of

magenta fire. The ground gradually sloping down toward the lake was empurpled, but patchily, in the same manner, though perhaps not quite so brilliantly, while the whole air was heavy with the mingled odours of the golden myrrnong flowers and purple fringed lilies, or ratafias. Curlews, ibises and 'blue cranes' were there in numbers ... black swans occasionally visited it, as also flocks of wild ducks."





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DOCKLANDS FASHION



Fashion on the streets of Docklands

Luca Foroni

LOCATION

Harbour Town

WEARS

Long black trenchcoat, red and black beret and Versace t-shirt.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

Smart casual, sort of buff – nothing under that. Like I would wear a coat sometimes even for normal days.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I'm just here visiting my cousin.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Greenvale.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

I'd say my leather jacket, from Industrie. I like the leather feel, and it's good quality, never gets wrecked. Plus it goes with most of my other clothes.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

It's a good outfit when everything goes together, like the clothes all have to match somehow. It also depends on the type of day and the seasons, and even your mood sometimes.

Jamie Woon

LOCATION

Harbour Town

WEARS

Green coat, floral print top, Bossini jeans and BASS boots.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

I think I'm classic. I go for timeless stuff that will not go out of fashion so easily. I like solid and cheerful colours, sometimes with prints, but mostly simple things.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I'm a tourist, I saw Harbour Town brochures at the tourist stands that talked about the factory outlets here.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Singapore.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

I like v-neck shirts and jeans, usually from Old Navy.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Whatever that makes you look nice – basically whatever shouts YOU.

Bianca Amato

LOCATION

Harbour Town

WEARS

Lili leopard-print cape, Botika cable-knit scarf and Supre leggings.

DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?

My style is quirky cross funky, I think.

WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DOCKLANDS?

I work here as a sales assistant in Botika. And I just love Docklands.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Craigieburn.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF CLOTHING?

Not quite clothing, but I love my owl bag just for the technique and design. I love how it's different to other bags.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Accessories. To have a good outfit, you need to accessorise it with good accessories.



You can leave your hat on

By Nicola St John

Forget about Kate Middleton's dress and sparkly tiara.

The prize for the most memorable fashion item from the Royal Wedding went to Princess Beatrice's hat. Dubbed the "toilet seat" or "giant pretzel" it went on to sell at a charity auction for more than \$123,000.

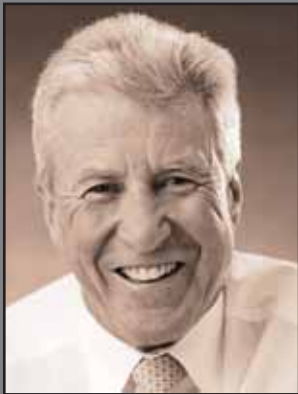
But there is more to head-pieces than royals and racing this season. The runways' recent profusion of porkpies and fedoras, for both men and women is a little Humphrey Bogart, a little Dick Tracy and a little Shane Scanlan. A fedora instantly adds a touch of sophistication and androgynous fun to work-wear and plain old jeans and T-shirts.

Australia's own iconic Akubra has teamed up with leading designers Bec and Bridge, matching classic tailoring with a contemporary twist. The 2011 collection is much less bushman – rather creating new silhouettes with a feminine edge.

The traditionalist Akubra brings a new appreciation for hand craftsmanship to contemporary fashion design, with the collaboration fusing a hint of the past with pure modernity.

"They epitomise sensuality, success and nonchalant sex appeal that is the key to our brand," say designers Bridget Yorston and Becky Cooper.

The *Bianca Adventurer* available in beautiful pastels and is perfect for both the harsh conditions of the Australian climate, the VIP room or a royal occasion.



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WORDPLAY

FROM DOCKLANDS WRITERS

FEATURING THE TALENTS OF THE DOCKLANDS' WRITERS GROUP

Under the Tucson Sun

By Renée Purdie

Part magic realism, part homesickness, part memoir, this story explores the native folklore of the American southwest.

So much went through my mind as I saw a tumbleweed outside my window and smelled the scent of gardenias. In a land that was more sky and earth than water and people, I always felt as if my life was on pause, waiting for the tide to come in under

a relentless sun that often made it hard to think or breathe.

But there was something that always called me back to the wild beauty of blue sky, mountains and saguaros that towered up to the heavens.

Most people who visit never see the subtle shades of brown on the sun-baked earth, the small specks of red that are our “sand rubies” or the bustling life that can be found under mesquite trees, rocks and cactus. They see thorns and desolation where I see innovation and life.

Letting my eyes wander across the desert, I see my little brother hunting and pecking underneath a bush for a tender morsel, while Mexican poppies create a sea of gold. I look up at Uncle Saguario seeing his spines and the hole burrowed by mad Auntie Ness.

Sharply, I turn. Something is out of place. A hint of movement has disturbed the repose of the desert.

Overhead, I see it – drawing closer: it’s the

king of the skies, Eagle Eyes. I cannot help but exult as he wheels overhead, moving closer to the ground, closer and closer, with wings outstretched.

I scan the desert looking for his target.

She doesn’t have a chance. Her glossy brown eyes dart around and her nose twitches, as if trying to scent for an escape that doesn’t exist. The hard-baked earth will never allow her blunt claws to rend it in time to make her way back into the cool, safe confines of Mahati Earth.

I look away – unwilling to see the inevitable.

If you’re a budding scribbler, come and join Docklands Writers. For more info contact rose@grahammercer.com.au

FACES OF DOCKLANDS



NICK BRADY, 26
Retail assistant Esprit

Working in an open-air shopping centre is part of the appeal of working in Docklands for Nick, especially when the sun is out. Nick feels the open-air working environment in Harbour Town contributes to not having the feeling of being cooped up inside. He also enjoys the advantage of being able to be down by the water to enjoy his lunch.



LAUREN BEAUCAIRE, 23
Store manager Hype

It’s the different types of people and meeting international tourists that Lauren enjoys about working in Docklands. Lauren also appreciates being close to the city and says being outside here is great when the weather is warm. She also enjoys the good restaurants in the area.



HOLLI KELLOCK, 23
Sales assistant Okaidi

Holli particularly likes working in Docklands during the summer. Holli says it’s a good family destination over the weekend as well as during school holidays as there are plenty of activities for children. She also says there are lots of good restaurants and that it’s a good tourist destination.



MATT MURPHY, 20
Sales assistant Globalize

Matt says the best part about working in Docklands is being part of a new vibrant part of town. It also gives him the chance to meet plenty of interesting people and tourists from overseas. Another important advantage for Matt is that Docklands is easy to get to and says it’s easy to make friends with people from other stores.



IMOGEN MOORE, 24
Manager LEGO Education Centre

The LEGO education centre opened at Docklands during the last school holidays. Imogen said it was great to have so many families visit and enjoy the workshops they ran. She also thinks Waterfront City is the perfect place for school groups and families to bring children for a fun day out. Imogen also said she was enjoying the shopping at Harbour Town.



ALEX SANDERS, 30
Sales supervisor Helly Hansen

Alex really enjoys the waterfront especially in summer and says it’s a really nice area to go for lunch breaks. The diversity of visitors to Docklands is also part of what Alex enjoys about working here and being able to talk with international guests. She also enjoys having friends working in surrounding stores.



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DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DOCKLANDS TOASTMASTERS Every 2nd & 4th Monday of the month <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Boost your public speaking and leadership skills. Contact: email docklandstoastmasters@yahoo.com.au or visit www.docklands.freetoasthost.org	MANY ROOMS FUNDRAISING DINNER Wednesday, June 15, 6.30pm – 9.30pm <i>Angliss Restaurant, 550 Little Lonsdale St</i> Cost: \$150 per person or \$1350 for table An evening of fine dining to help support Many Rooms in caring for Melbourne's homeless. For info visit www.manyrooms.org.au	STUDY BY MONASH UNIVERSITY Exploring stories of coping with environmental change. Monash University researchers are looking for people willing to be interviewed on their experience of their local environment. Contact: Jana Paschen on 0413 623 615 or email jana.paschen@monash.edu	INDIAN CLASSICAL DANCING FOR CHILDREN 3+ (KATHAK DANCE) Tuesday and Thursday 4.00pm (classes will run 30- 45 minutes) <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Currently seeking expressions of interest. Contact: Sonali on 0435 004 591 or email neharijhwani67@gmail.com Cost: \$20.00 pw includes both classes.
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 ROTARY Every Tuesday, 6.00pm <i>Bob's Steak and Chop House</i> First Tuesday of the month is fellowship hour. Regular meetings on other Tuesdays. All welcome.	U3A JUNE FORUM: AGE-CARE FOR MELBOURNE'S ARCHITECTUAL ICONS June 16, 1pm – 2pm <i>Melbourne Multicultural Hub, 506 Elizabeth St</i> Lovell Chen Architects talk about their work restoring some icons of Melbourne's glory years including the Goods Shed in Docklands.	DOCKLANDS ECO-MARKET Friday June 3, 12pm – 2pm <i>North Wharf, Victoria Harbour</i> Celebrate World Environment Day at the first Ever Docklands Eco-Market. There will be beautiful food, interesting stalls, live music, performances, celebrity chef cooking demonstrations and much more.
GOOD FOOD AND WINE SHOW June 3-5 The Good Food & Wine Show is back again and to celebrate, selected Docklands restaurants have a special offer for you. For more info visit www.goodfoodshow.com.au	DOCKLANDS BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU <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	MARVELLOUS MELBOURNE – ITS ART AND SOUL Until June 30 <i>Hilton Melbourne South Wharf</i> 20 prominent Victorian artists capture the city's uniqueness in a delightful array of paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and 3-D artworks.	DRAGON MASTERS BOATING Wednesdays at 5.30pm & Saturdays at 8.30am <i>Shed 2 North Wharf Road Victoria Harbour (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
BELLACIZE BOOTY HIPS (CULTURAL DANCE 4 FITNESS) Fridays, 5.30pm - 6.30pm Zumba, 6.30pm - 7.30pm Bellacize booty hips <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Contact: Christine@bellacize.com	LEARN TO SAIL Every Sunday, by appointment <i>Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2 North Wharf Rd</i> Docklands Yacht Club is an accredited Yachting Australia Training Centre and offers Get Into Small Boat Sailing courses. Contact Ray Allen 0429 868 304	HUB CLUBS Monday, Wednesday and Friday <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Cost: No charge. Table tennis continues to grow in popularity and The Hub is also open to other suggestions. BYO lunch. For details 8622 4822 or docklandshub@melbourne.vic.gov.au	DOCKLANDS TRIVIA NIGHT June 21, 6.30pm <i>Platform 28, Batman's Hill</i> The Dockland's Chamber of Commerce is hosting a Docklands Trivia Night to mark the end of the financial year. For more information www.docklandsgcc.com.au
YOGA IN THE DOCKLANDS <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Cost: \$20 per class or \$165 for a ten-class pass. Hatha Yoga suitable for all ages and levels of experience. Ph Nadine 0404 025 041 or visit nadinefawell.net	ROTARY CLUB PROGRESSIVE DINNER Thursday June 9, 6.00pm <i>NewQuay</i> Cost \$55 per person plus drinks. To reserve your place email adrianstanners@gmail.com or call 0434 071 990	PILATES FOR MUMS Wednesday 7.30-8.30pm <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> \$15 casual class, discount for mutiple. Specially designed Pilates classes for all ages and stages. Call 0432 252 278 or email jane@pilatesformums.com.au	CITY ON A HILL Church Services Sunday 10am <i>Hoyts, Melbourne Central</i> Sunday evening 6pm <i>Arrow on Swanston (488 SwanstonSt)</i> Contact cityonahill.com.au
MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY ABBOTSLEIGH GIRLS SCHOOL June 12 <i>Waterfront City Piazza</i> Musical performance by the reputable symphonic winds ensemble from NSW. For more info visit www.abbotsleigh.nsw.edu.au	ALMA DOEPEL SUPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE Third Saturday of every month 5pm - 7pm <i>Alma Doepel Restoration Site Shed 2, North Wharf Road, Victoria Harbour, Docklands.</i> Learn about our restoration project and see if you would like to get involved.	DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET Every Sunday, 10am to 4pm <i>Waterfront City Docklands Drive</i> Discover treasures from the hoards of some of Melbourne's finest antique and pre-loved specialists, including art, jewellery, retro-clothing, vintage books and car-boot sales.	SCRAPBOOKING@DOCKLANDS <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Traditional, Digital and Hybrid Scrappers join us for a weekly fun night at The Hub. Classes and workshops are accepting bookings now. Expressions of interest for lunch hour classes also being accepted. Call 0403 200 106 or email subscribersall@gmail.com
THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS) Every Sunday 11am-12pm <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands</i> Meet for worship and enjoy a tea or coffee afterwards. Ph: 9827 3595 or visit www.victoria.quakers.org.au	FREE ADULT HEARING CHECKS Every 2nd Thursday of the month 2pm - 4pm. <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Service provided free of charge by Vicdeaf. Bookings essential, contact Tanya on 86224822 or email tanya.graham@melbourne.vic.gov.au	MELBOURNE LIBRARY SERVICE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME Mondays at 11am <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Pre-school Storytime has returned to the Hub. Come along to meet other local parents and kids. Enjoy some books, songs, and a craft activity.	MINI MAESTROS Tuesdays and Thursdays <i>The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade</i> Introduce your child to the magic of music with Mini Maestros. Music programs for babies and children aged 6 months to 5 years. Contact Karen Dunlop on 9503 0056 or visit minimaestros.com.au

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DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

Sporting ambitions put on ice

By Chan Khai Ling

It's not your usual school sport, but a group of Roxburgh College students visit Docklands' Icehouse every fortnight to practise curling.

And, apart from the sheer fun of it, they have a good chance to represent Australia next year.

Teacher Frederic Legrand, who has coached junior men and women curling teams at worldwide junior curling championships, first introduced the sport to students at his former school in Frankston.

He received such a good response that he decided to do the same with his students at Roxburgh College in Melbourne's north, putting together a curling program with the support of the principal.

"I wanted to give students an opportunity to try a new sport. They've just taken to the sport like fish to water," he said.

Curling is a winter sport thought to have originated from medieval Scotland, in which two teams of four compete by sliding rocks across ice as close as possible towards the centre of a target area.

"The easiest way to think of it is like lawn bowls on ice," Mr Legrand said.

He said curling was a sport that was much more difficult than it looked, requiring players to develop practical skills such as balancing and learning to "read the ice", but also encouraged teamwork and dedication.



Classmates gather around 15-year-old Nada Saad as she lets go another curling rock at the Icehouse.

Every two weeks, Mr Legrand brings a group of 20-30 students down to the Medibank Icehouse to hone their skills and compete against each other.

He said that the enthusiasm of the students built every time they visited Docklands, and they were spreading interest amongst their

peers by word of mouth.

Many of his students have developed a genuine passion for curling, and aim to represent Australia at the Pacific Junior Curling Championships next January.

"Some have come every single time we go, which shows real dedication. For them the

ultimate goal would be to get picked for the nationals," Mr Legrand said.

Mr Legrand encouraged those who were interested to also train on Monday nights.



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