The voice of Docklands | 道克蘭之音

Docklands is beautiful

# JUCKLANDS

**■** Local workers snub Docklands

See page 3

■ Soundwalk starts talking

See page 5



Serviced apartment issue magnifies

See page 6

■ It's back to the future for Claire

See page 10



# Royal Docklands

Docklands was blessed last month with royal visits by world cycling prince, Cadel Evans and a real royal, Crown Princess Mary of Denmark.

Princess Mary liked it here so much, she dropped by on two consecutive days - on Wednesday, November 23 for a business dinner at Central Pier and the next day to launch a tug boat at Victoria Harbour.

Cadel Evans spent Friday, November 25 at NewQuay raising money for youth mental health with the Suit Up and Ride event. See pages 14-15 for our story and more pictures.

Princess Mary was greeted by a small group of locals when she came to dinner at Peninsula on the Wednesday evening.

Less than 24 hours later she was back - this time to launch a new tug named Marysville in honour of the Black Saturday bushfire ravaged town and in recognition of her own name.

Children from the Harbour Family and Children's Centre and workers from nearby businesses lined Merchant St to greet Princess Mary and Prince Frederik and they didn't disappoint with generous waves for all.

Danish company Svitzer operates all around the world and has a presence in the Port of Melbourne. Princess Mary doused the new Vietnamese-built, 250-tonne vessel with champagne in front of a select crowd, which included Marysville residents.

She and her husband inspected the tug before waving her way back to the motorcade and being whisked away to her

Nearby, out in the harbour another Svitzer tug spewed torrents of water in celebration of the occasion.

Dock 5 residents got a first-class view of the ceremony and many lined the balconies to soak up the atmosphere.

Svitzer Australia managing director Mark Malone said: "In choosing this name, it is our pleasure and privilege to pay tribute to Marysville the town, and its people."

"We've learned a great deal from Marysville and its people. About suffering and surviving. Bonding and rebuilding. About what makes a community a community, in the true sense of the word."

"As maritime tradition usually dictates, all good vessels should take the name of a good lady, or location. When it came to this tug before us, we thought why not both?"











Beauty, Health

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## **DOCKLANDS** NEWS

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Reader contributions are welcome. Please send articles and images to news@docklandsnews.com.au

Deadline for the February edition is January 25, 2012.



"Mr Sold" shows us the money during an advertising shoot last year

## How are you travelling?

Docklands residents are again going to be asked their travel habits.

Places Victoria (formerly VicUrban) surveyed residents in July and August but only 5 per cent responded.

In contrast, more than 25 per cent of the 18,000 Docklands workers consulted filled in their forms and returned it to the study.

Findings from the survey are feeding information into the Docklands Transport Plan which is due for release early next year.

Places Victoria's Docklands general manager Simon Wilson said the study's consultants already had a rich pool of information from one of Melbourne's largest traffic surveys.

He said the findings would be used to prioritise transport infrastructure investments and initiatives required in Docklands over the next decade and beyond.

"We will soon be issuing another survey request to residents, and encourage everyone to get involved to help inform this important work," Mr Wilson said.

## 'Mr Sold' moves on

Docklands real estate agent Ali Abbas has "moved on" following a Consumer Affairs investigation into his business practices.

It is understood the former Century 21 agent received bonds in cash from a number of tenants but did not lodge the money with the Residential Tenancies Bond Authority.

It is also alleged that rents were paid in cash and were not passed on to landlords.

Century 21 has torn up its franchise agreement with Mr Abbas and has removed signage from his Bourke St office.

Century 21 state manager Chris McKearney said he referred Mr Abbas to Consumer Affairs after a growing number of complaints.

He said he tried to work with Mr Abbas when the complaints first started, but it became obvious that he was only dealing with the tip of an iceberg.

"When there were more and more complaints the alarm bells started ringing," he said.

He said he had fiduciary duty to the public to report Mr Abbas.

Mr McKearney said Century 21 had excellent screening procedures when selecting franchisees and that what had happened

with Mr Abbas had unfortunately happened recently with a number of other real estate franchise brands as well.

He said he gave Mr Abbas 14 days to remove Century 21 signage but, when that didn't happen, Century 21 removed them.

A Consumer Affairs Victoria spokesperson said: "Consumer Affairs Victoria understands Worldwide Scope Pty Ltd is currently not operating."

"Consumer Affairs Victoria is making enquiries into the matter, and it is not appropriate to comment further at this stage."

"Any clients of the agency should contact Consumer Affairs Victoria and speak with the Estate Agents Resolution Service (EARS), by calling 1300 737 030."

Mr Abbas operated with the self-appointed nickname "Mr Sold" from his 831 Bourke St office for more than two years.

Mr Abbas told Docklands News he was considering opening a new real estate agency elsewhere.

## **ACE** on display

Docklands' brand new extended Automative Centre of Excellence is all but completed and will be ready for students in the new year.

Stage two of the Kangan Institute of TAFE's facility will be open to the public this month and there is plenty on display.

The \$84 million extension has been awarded a 5-Star Green Star rating for its environmental credentials and the Kangan Institute is keen to show off the new building to its Docklands neighbours.

There is a series of pre-launch guided tours to show off the building's unique design and state-of-the-art equipment. Leaving every 15 minutes from reception, tours will be conducted on:

- Wednesday December 7, 7pm to 9.30pm
- Saturday December 10, 9am to 1pm
- Monday December 12, 7pm to 9.30pm

The campus includes the latest autotechnology including a dynamometer and emissions testing centre for trucks, cars and motorcycles with "real world" testing capabilities, the latest diagnosis systems and learning technology, unique spaces available for event hire and product training purposes and a distinct convergence of industry and learning environments.

The institute is particularly proud of its dynamometer centre and auto electrical laboratory.

Located on the ground floor, the brand-new \$6.5m Active Dynamometer Centre houses four leading-edge dynamometers designed to test all-wheel drive vehicles, motorbikes, trucks and buses and engines with realworld simulation.

Available for hire by industry partners, this testing facility will attract the very latest and  $newest\ automotive\ technology\ in\ the\ industry.$ 

MERRY CHRIST $_{MAS}$ 



Docklands News extends seasons greetings to all its readers and thanks its advertisers for their support during 2011



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## **Local workers snub Docklands**

Docklands workers are "homing pigeons" returning to the CBD in preference to other parts of Docklands during their working days.

This "heat map" compiled by consultants UrbanTrans shows their destinations nominated for lunch, shopping or meetings during their working days.

Victoria Harbour and South Wharf show as a faint glow as the most popular Docklands destinations, but the hot-spot for Docklands' workers is clearly the CBD quadrant bounded by Swanston, Little Bourke, Queen and Collins streets.

The survey was conducted by consultants UrbanTrans between July and August this year to inform the Docklands Transport Plan, which is expected to be released in the first quarter of next year.

The transport plan was commissioned by Places Victoria (formerly VicUrban) and the City of Melbourne in partnership with the Department of Transport, the Department of Planning and Community Development and VicRoads.

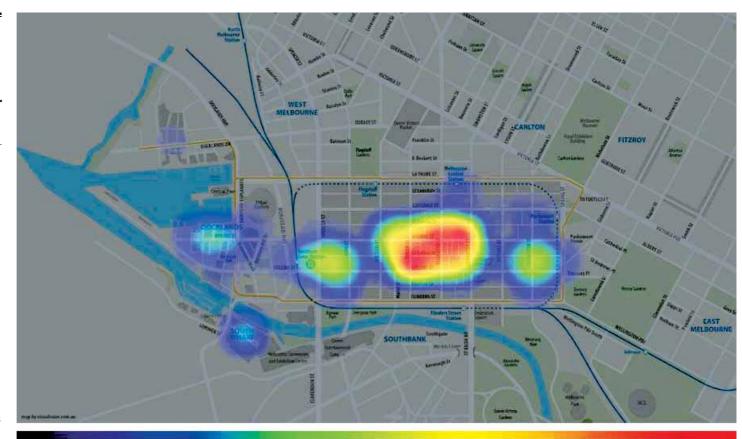
More than 25 per cent of the 18,000 Docklands workers contacted responded to the survey.

UrbanTrans describes the "heat map" as "the locations visited most frequently by Docklands workers during the workday in a typical week".

The map presents a challenge to NewQuay's hospitality outlets and the 160 retailers at Harbour Town, who are about one third the distance from the workers' favourite sites but which failed to register any change of colour.

The results have given extra urgency to supporters of a ferry service running from Victoria Harbour to Waterfront City.

But Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Keith Rankin says there may not be a problem.



This "heat map" from transport consultants Urban-Trans shows where Docklands workers typically visit during their working days.

"It's not a marketing study. It's a traffic study," he said. "I don't believe it is indicating a problem because of the specific nature of the study."

"It is a fabulous opportunity to find out why these people are travelling to these areas of the city from Docklands."

"Is the purpose for their journey able to be fulfilled within the Docklands?"

"And the study doesn't point out how many people are travelling from the city into Docklands at the same time," he said.

"Therefore, the study asks more questions than it answers."



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

## **Try sailing on Victoria Harbour**

The Rotary Club of Docklands and Docklands Yacht Club are inviting residents and visitors to get on the water with a "Try Sailing Day" on December 11.

The events will be held from Shed 2, North Wharf Rd – near the old harbour master's tower (Bolte Bridge end of Victoria Harbour) – from 11am and costs \$10 per person registration fee (\$20 per family), which includes supply of life jackets and boats.

Docklands Rotary's Mark Nutter said sailing offered enjoyment, thrills and relaxation.

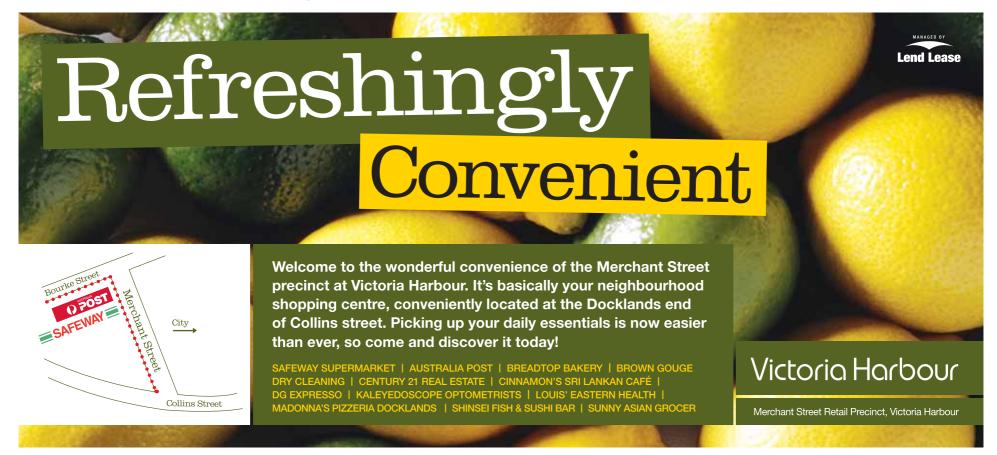
"And it's a great way to meet other Docklands residents and families," Mr Nutter said.

He said Docklands Rotary supported the local yacht club's work – particularly its work in community development and support for disabled and disadvantaged children.

The Docklands Yacht Club says sailing is not an expensive sport and the small yachts being provided can be sailed with minimal or no experience. No special clothing is required but flat shoes are advisable.

Safety boats will be operating and a sausage sizzle and drinks will also be available.

For more information, call Ray **0429 868 304** or Mark **0418 322 299**.





## Watch this space

A contractor is about to be appointed to build Docklands' new community garden on this site in Victoria Harbour.

Places Victoria says the garden will include more than 20 communal planting areas, productive plants and trees, a fire pit, barbecue and seating facilities, compost bays, a children's garden area and, by mid-2012, will see the addition of a community pavilion which will be available for public use.

The site is on the corner of Geographe St and Keera Way in Victoria Harbour.

The design and management of the garden has been informed by six rounds of community consultation – three rounds on design and three rounds on governance and management.

This site on the corner of Geographe St and Keera Way is being used for carparking now but is set to be transformed into Docklands' community garden.

## Fillip for Docklands' film industry

November was a good month for Docklands' film industry with the announcement of a new major project for Docklands Studios and a government grant for Open Channel.

Docklands Studios gets to host the production of *I, Frankenstein* – said to be worth \$37 million into the Victorian economy and 500 new jobs.

And Victoria Harbour-based Open Channel has secured \$50,000 for new equipment, courtesy of the State Government.

On November 9, Innovation, Services and Small Business Minister Louise Asher announced that Victoria had beaten strong competition from other states to secure *I, Frankenstein*, a gothic thriller written and directed by Stuart Beattie.

Ms Asher said exact locations were yet to be determined, but the production would be based at Docklands.

The rampant Australian dollar has meant that State Government-owned Docklands Studios has been doing it tough lately – last year reportedly losing \$1.6 million and failing to attract any international productions.

Docklands Studios chief executive Rod Allan said the announcement was great news for the local economy with an influx of visitors requiring local services and accommodation.

He said the studio would be operating at full capacity from January until May, with the new production utilising the studios' two larger stages. Mr Allan said Channel Nine would continue to use one of the studios' smaller stages and the television show Winners and Losers would continue to be made in another. He said the other smaller stage was being upgraded.

*I, Frankenstein* and will be produced by Hopscotch Features in partnership with

Lakeshore Entertainment. Tom Rosenberg, Gary Lucchesi, Andrew Mason (who produced Beattie's *Tomorrow, When the War Began*) and Richard Wright of Lakeshore are producing the film, with Hopscotch's Troy Lum and Kevin Grevioux as executive producers. The film stars Aaron Eckhart (*The Dark Knight, Thank You for Smoking*) in the title role

*I, Frankenstein* is adapted from the graphic novel of the same name by Kevin Grevioux, co-creator of the Underworld film franchise. Described as a modern-day gothic thriller, the film tells the tale of Dr Frankenstein's creature Adam, who centuries after his birth finds himself in a gothic city, caught in a war between two immortal clans.

On November 10 Ms Asher presented a \$50,000 grant for Docklands-based screen resource centre Open Channel, to help upgrade production equipment and support its training efforts.

Open Channel provides training, up-skilling and support to post-tertiary students wishing to start a career in film and television.

Its executive director Jennie Hughes said Open Channel had been supporting the screen industry for close to 40 years by providing training, professional development and production support.

"This year we've taken our programs into regional Victoria, developed new programs for emerging filmmakers, young people and mental health clients, and we've been recognised by the screen industry for the quality of our work," Ms Hughes said.

"This grant will go a long way to making sure we can continue to deliver quality service to Victoria's screen industry and the community at large."

"I'd like to thank Minister Asher and the Government for their continued support of Open Channel, and I feel this grant further demonstrates the Coalition Government's strong commitment to the creative sector."

The grant is in response to a need for equipment upgrades, and is in addition to operational and program-specific funding provided through Film Victoria.



Nerry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Let's twist the year away!

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## Where is Docklands?

Docklands businesses say the suburb needs to be known as Docklands North and Docklands South because visitors often cannot find what they are looking for.

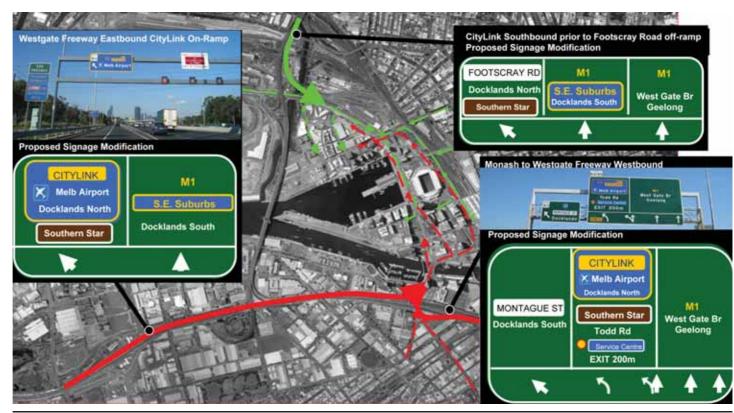
They say signage simply directing visitors to "Docklands" is not specific enough and results in confusion, frustration and often anger as drivers enter Docklands via the wrong end and struggle through our congested minor roads.

Docklands Chamber of Commerce president Keith Rankin said visitors approaching Docklands via the Westgate Freeway needed to be advised that the best way to get to destinations in the north of the suburb was via CityLink.

"Getting off the freeway at Lorimer St and trying to navigate to Harbour Town, for instance, can be a nightmare at the wrong time of the day," Mr Rankin said.

"But if drivers were directed to stay on the freeway and come around to Footscray Rd via City Link, they'd be there in a few short minutes."

Support for the Docklands North and South concept was unanimous amongst major stakeholders who met in July. Minutes of the summit meeting show that Places Victoria (then VicUrban) committed to working with VicRoads to achieve the necessary change in freeway signage. The City of Melbourne also undertook to lobby VicRoads on the issue.



Local businesses are seeking these changes to freeway signage from VicRoads. They say visitors need not have a bad experience trying to find what they are looking for in Docklands.

But Places Victoria's Docklands general manager Simon Wilson told Docklands News that VicRoads had rejected the notion because it was policy bound not to direct motorists onto toll-roads when non-tolled alternatives existed.

VicRoads says this is not the case and it is happy to meet Docklands' stakeholders to discuss the suburb's requirements.

VicRoads' north west metropolitan regional manager Nial Finegan said: "VicRoads'

policy on directional signage for freeways and arterial roads is to highlight key destinations, regardless of whether the route is tolled or not."

"VicRoads will organise a meeting with relevant stakeholders to further discuss any concerns in relation to this issue," Mr Finegan said.

Mr Finegan said VicRoads and CityLink had already modified freeway signage to point to "Docklands", rather than merely "City" following extension consultation with Docklands stakeholders.

The current thinking among Docklands businesses is to drop references to precincts and, instead, highlight specific "assets" such as the Southern Star Observation Wheel and the stadium.

Docklands South would contain the precincts Yarra's Edge, Batman's Hill and Victoria Harbour. Docklands North would be Digital Harbour, NewQuay and Waterfront City.

## Soundwalk starts talking

The Docklands Soundwalk got underway last month, with 10 stations where visitors can have a "sound art" experience.

Artist Gerald Mair (pictured right) has created a series of sound snippets which interweave narrative and soundscape inspired by the Docklands experience.

Participation is via smart phone (both Apple and Android-based) and users scan

a QR (quick response) code prominently displayed at each station. The smart phone will not only play the sound clip, it will then direct the user to the next stop on a map.

Users need a QR scanning app on their phone before they can participate.





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## Serviced apartment issue magnifies

**By Shane Scanlan** 

The magnitude of the issues surrounding the use of residential apartments for short-term stays took a quantum leap last month with serviced apartment operators calling for their industry to be regulated.

Sparked into rapid action by the City of Melbourne's test case attempt to cease the practice in Docklands, a number of worried operators have formed the Victorian Holiday and Short Stay Industry Group (VicShortStay).

They say that the eyes of the industry in the rest of Australia are firmly focussed on Docklands and what happens here will have potentially enough significance to affect the national economy.

The City of Melbourne's building department is attempting to stop owners in the Watergate tower from renting their apartments for less than 30 days at a time. The issue has been ongoing since April when the council first served "show cause" notices on owners.

In October the council issued building orders against 26 owners and reports that all of the owners have since appealed the orders to the Building Appeal Board.

The council is using the building code as the basis of its actions and, if successful, it could mean to end to the practice in Australia.

Serviced apartment operators say they have beaten similar attempts to stop them under planning law, but this is the first time they have been threatened by the building regulations.

They say they are confident of their legal position and that they always intended to form an association and development a code of practice for the industry. But the action against Watergate owners has brought forward the formation of an industry group.

The founding members of VicShortStay are in an interesting position in that, while they want to advocate for their position, they mostly wish to remain anonymous because they fear reprisals from municipal councils.

They claim that the hotel industry is behind



the moves to shut them down because they offer a more attractive and mostly less expensive product to visitors.

But they also acknowledge and don't condone the attitude of some rogue operators who do little to stop apartments in residential buildings being used for parties by groups of revellers.

The issue was in the national media spotlight on the Gold Coast late last month when mobs of "schoolies" managed to rent residential apartments and caused mayhem.

And it is widely acknowledged that the actions of a rogue operator in Watergate led the City of Melbourne to take the action it is currently pursuing.

But the operators insist that the actions of an irresponsible few should not result in the entire industry being shut down.

"VicShortStay believes that rather than shutting down the industry, which would greatly impact on tourism and the number of beds provided, the industry should promote responsible self-regulation. Responsible self-regulation will ensure that short stay accommodation is provided in accordance with acceptable community standards," a spokesperson said.

"VicShortStay believes that when property managers do not manage guests properly, for example, by allowing their guests to

hold parties in their apartments, guests' lack of respect for building common areas and excessive noise that local councils have nowhere to refer complaints and in frustration, are turning to legal channels to try and shut down the entire industry."

VicShortStay says it is advocating a code of practice (currently before the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission) for adoption through a self-regulating regime. But it says it is ultimately looking for strict government regulation and licensing.

It says it wants to become the Victorian chapter of a national industry group governed by national standards.

"In all this debate, people have lost sight of the cause of the problem," one operator told Docklands News. "The cause of the problem is the behaviour of some guests but nothing is being done about addressing this."

"And there is no public policy debate going on to look at the wider implications of what is going on and the repercussions that would flow from shutting us down."

"And remember that no one has done anything illegal. We are all operating within the law," he said.

The operators warn that the economic fall out could destabilise the national economy.

But the opponents of serviced apartments

have also been busy organising themselves, with Docklands resident and Arkley Owners Corporation chair Roger Gardner heading up a group he calls an "intra-city committee on serviced apartments".

The group was initiated by the Southbank Residents Group but Mr Gardner says he expects people to join from all areas across the City of Melbourne. He was at pains to point out that he was not representing the Docklands Community Association, of which he is president.

Like VicShortStays, Mr Gardner agrees that the industry is operating without any clear legislative direction from government. He said in Victoria there were multiple government departmental players and relates how a letter he sent to the Minister for Planning was "handballed" to numerous departments before being returned with an irrelevant and ignorant response.

"It's a dog's breakfast," he said. "Clearly something's got to be done about it because, in the meantime, people are hurting because of the type of people who are being taken in," he said.

Mr Gardner said he was sceptical about the industry's desire or capacity to regulate itself.

"It's pie in the sky," he said. "It's just not realistic. The operators down here promised to do something, but nothing improved."

"These buildings simply weren't built as hotels."

He said the intra-city committee on serviced apartments would firstly undertake all the necessary research around the issue and would then attempt to have the practice

"It would be very difficult to bring it to zero," he said. "Advocating zero would be an extreme position."

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# Spinning out in Docklands

#### Englishman Neal Holmes likes to come to Docklands every week to spin out.

The busking acrobat comes to Docklands every week to practise his new "party trick" – spinning around inside a giant hula hoop known as a roué cyr (simple wheel).

Unlike most circus acts, mastering the roué cyr is a 21<sup>st</sup> century phenomenon. Neal says there is evidence that people where doing it in the 1940s but it has only become popular this century.

Neal's own discovery of the device was only a year ago via YouTube when he was in China working inside a dinosaur as part of the amazingly successful Melbourne-based production *Walking with Dinosaurs*.

He was dumbstruck at what he was seeing and realised that he had an opportunity to create a signature act – something he could virtually call his own in Australia.

So he bought the equipment off the internet via Montreal, Canada and when it arrived in February he put his heart, soul and many, many waking hours into mastering the device.

As much as he likes a soft landing, the roué cyr doesn't work on soft surfaces, which is one of reasons the waterfront at Docklands is such a great place to train.

The beautiful ambiance is another reason, but the main reason is the relative isolation that Docklands offers. Neal's been "moved on" from a number of seemingly-public spaces but no one bothers him under the *Cow up a Tree* at Victoria Harbour.

Neal is a self-taught acrobat which is one the reasons he has been able to master the roué cyr. YouTube has been his only reference so it's fair to say that he's learned the hard way.

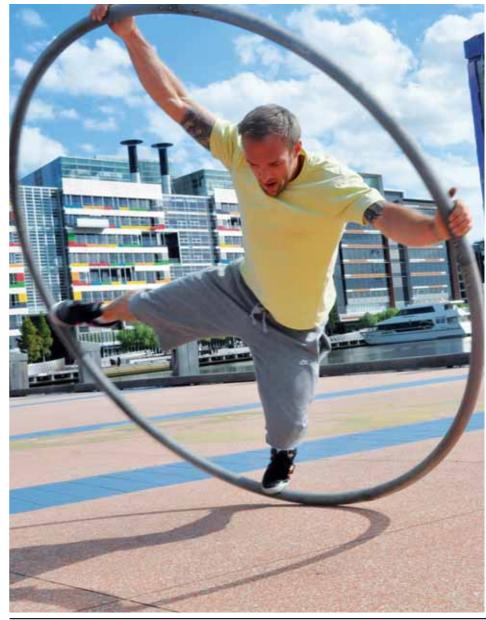
Remembering to take your fingers out of the way as the wheel traverses the concrete is one of the first things to learn.

It was a steep learning curve but Neal is now sufficiently confident to have recently obtained a busker's licence and is now regularly performing at Southbank.

He hopes to earn a living from his newlymastered skill and intends to develop a honed five-minute routine which will have conference audiences gasping in disbelief.

For a better understanding of the medium, see our short video at

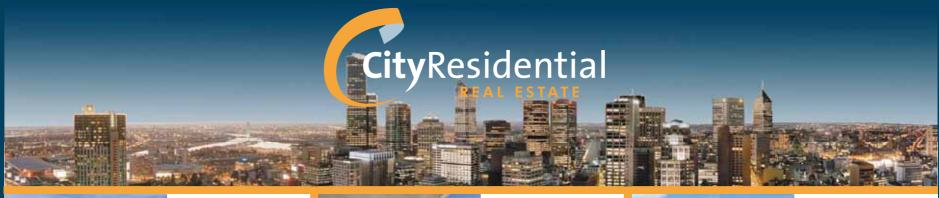
www.docklandstv.com.au



Englishman Neal Holmes can be found spinning around Docklands on Monday afternoons.









Docklands 1301/8 McCrae St STUNNING VIEWS & LOCATION

Inspect

Private Sale \$650.000 By appointment

This spectacular 13th floor corner apartment is located in the V<sub>1</sub> Docklands complex which is situated within walking distance to the Melbourne CBD, Southern Cross Station; Melbourne's famous Crown Casino & Entertainment Centre and for those sports lovers, Etihad Stadium is within sight. Combining modern fittings, this apartment has a large spacious open plan living room, two generously sized bedrooms and bathrooms, a conveniently designed kitchen with two sizeable balconies and winter garden that boast views over the Yarra River.



Docklands 405 / 84 River Esplanade **EXCLUSIVE ON THE WATER** 2 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car

Private Sale \$780,000 Inspect

By appointment

This apartment is situated in the podium level of the Mirvac Yarra's Edge development. With a large open plan living room boasting views of the Yarra's Edge marina, a gourmet kitchen with large island stone bench top and stainless steel appliances, you would be hard pressed to find anything as good in a two bedroom apartment. For those of you who like to entertain, the apartment has a large balcony spanning its whole length with plenty of room for afternoon drinks or BBO.



Docklands 801 / 50 Lorimer Street CONSIDERED THE BEST 3 BEDROOM 3 Bed 2 Bath 2 Car + Storage

**Private Sale** \$1,280,000 Inspect By appointment

Presentation perfect with unrivalled 300 degree panoramic views of the Docklands precinct and across the bridges to the city skyline, this impressive three bedroom apartment with two bathrooms on the 8th floor is the epitome of inner city living. Capturing glorious sun, this immaculate home enjoys open plan entertaining with full wrap around balcony terrace, designer Miele kitchen/meals and main bedroom with (BIRs & ensuite)



Docklands 1201 / 100 Harbour Esp POSITIONED, IN CENTRAL DOCKLANDS 2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Inspect

Private Sale \$695,000 By appointment If you are looking to live the relaxed Docklands marina lifestyle, which includes modern living, convenient access to top restaurants and shopping, with facilities such as gym and 25m lap pool, great views of the harbour and transport on your door step – your search ends here. This superb modern kitchen with stainless steel appliances and stone finishes adjoins the large dining and living areas. Taking advantage of the tranquil vistas is the balcony perfect for entertaining or just sitting back and relaxing.



<mark>cklands</mark> 3602 / 288 Spencer St NO.1 FOR VIEWS & LOCATION

2 Bed 1 Bath 1 Car

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 1211 / 60 Siddeley Street MASSIVE ENTERTAINERS TERRACE

2 Bed 2 Bath 1 Car

Private Sale \$720,000 Inspect By appointment

This rivers edge apartment with huge garden terrace boasting sensational views will position all other apartments in second place! Spoil yourself in the middle of the city with a 'suburb size' back yard! Relax in the spacious living/dining area. Modern and functional kitchen with s/s app, glass splash backs and granite bench tops. Two good size bedrooms, both with BIR separated by a large and stylish bathroom, additional bathroom and separate laundry facilities. Indulge in the quality in-house facilities, including pool and gym.



Docklands 607 / 60 Siddeley Street **IDEAL FLINDERS WHARF ADDRESS** 

3 bed 2 bath 2 car

Inspect

Private sale \$880,000 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, WHAT A LIFESTYLE steam and sauna rooms, spa and swimming pool.



Docklands 1106 / 15 Caravell lane

2 bed 2 bath 1 car

Inspect

Private sale \$600,000 By appointment

Situated in New Quay's prized and much sought after "Palladio" residential complex is this 11th floor versatile designed apartment which is perfect for either the owner occupier to reside or lease out. The "Palladio" offers the residents an incredible life-style where you have a waterfront location, surrounded by superb restaurants, specialty shopping and 15 minutes from the city centre. What a lifestyle!! The apartment itself consists of 2 spacious bedrooms with BIR's, contemporary styled bathrooms with laundry.



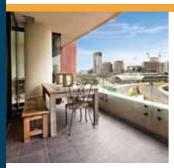
Docklands 1108 / 15 Caravell Lane WATER VIEWS, HARBOR LIFESTYLE

2 bed 1 bath 1 car

Private sale \$570,000 Inspect

By appointment

Situated in New Quay's prized and much sought after "Palladio" residential complex is this 11th floor versatile designed apartment which is perfect for either the owner occupier to reside or lease out. The "Palladio" offers the residents an incredible life-style where vou have a waterfront location, surrounded by superb restaurants, specialty shopping and 15 minutes from the city centre. The apartment itself consists of 2 spacious bedrooms with BIR's, contemporary styled bathroom with European type laundry.



Docklands 802 / 50 Lorimer St QUINTESSENTIAL SOPHISTICATION Features include air con /

3 bed 2 bath 2 car

Private sale \$870,000 Inspect By appointment

This stylish beauty boasts breath taking city views from every angle of the spacious open plan living areas. Comprising of a gourmet kitchen including the combination of both stainless steel and stone finishes, 3 sensational bedrooms with BIRs, main with ensuite. A massive entertaining balcony stretches along the entire length of the apartment. heating, storage cage, 2 side by side carparks.

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precinct has to offer.



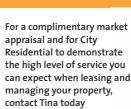
**Docklands 18 Waterview Walk** WATERGATE LIVING

2 bed 1 bath 1 car

Private sale \$449,000

By appointment

This 2 bedroom unit offers everything from space to style including a large outdoor terrace. At approx 100 sam with the terrace included with a very spacious master bedroom comprising a study nook and access to the terrace. The apartment has a large second bedroom, well appointed kitchen (with large breakfast island) and a lounge room that surrounds you in glass and offers a terrific outlook. Also included is access to a well maintained fully equipped gymnasium, sauna, outdoor pool and spa.



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## New vibe blowing on waterways

By Shane Scanlan

Docklands waterways are going through a policy renaissance and the optimism in boating circles is palpable.

Government departments and instrumentalities have been mouthing platitudes for years about how important the waterways were to Docklands' future. They even agreed that the water underpinned the very essence of the place.

But due to a multi-jurisdictional web of bureaucratic control and indifferent and obstructionist officers, the reality was vastly different for the private operators who have been attempting to make a living while "activating" the water.

Some have left Melbourne and most would have loved to be a position where they could sell out and do something else.

The operators have still massive problems upstream where Parks Victoria sees them as cash cows to be milked to extinction and beyond, but in Docklands the mood is becoming buoyant and upbeat.

The fresh new vibe that is filling their sails and putting pep into their step is the new City of Melbourne waterways chief Doug Jarvis.

"Have you met Doug Jarvis yet," one crusty salt said a couple of months ago. "You've got to go and talk to him. He's the best thing that's happened around here in years."

You see, unlike anyone who has preceded him, Mr Jarvis is one of them. He's an old sea dog who's done just about everything there is to do with boats. And he's also a business man with an impressive and expansive CV filled with sales, marketing and business development roles.

He has sailed two-handed to Osaka and is a coxswain with qualifications to navigate Port Phillip Heads.

And, mostly importantly, he has a track record of actually achieving outcomes – having run for years Australia's largest sailing event, the Geelong Week yachting regatta (which was mostly known as Skandia and later Audi Week).

So what's he doing in this job?

"I'm guided by the best and I'm very



fortunate to work in City Design – Rob Adams' team. He's a visionary," Mr Jarvis said.

"He's the sort of guy who just wants to get things done and I think he would be the first person to say strategy is fine, but let's get things happening."

Mr Jarvis likens his role to that of a navigator. He said you simply can't make good decisions unless you have the best information. "I'm not the decision maker, my job is to gather the intelligence," he said.

He is passionate about implementing a commuter ferry services between Federation Square and Waterfront City. And unlike many others, he doesn't see the current 5-knot speed limit on the river as an impediment.

He thinks the speed limit needs to stay -

primarily to ensure passenger safety when passing under the many low bridges.

"The river is such a beautiful place, why would you want to go that fast?" he asked. "Certainly beyond the Charles Grimes Bridge, that's a different situation."

In an ideal world, Mr Jarvis sees a fleet of purpose-built vessels, owned by a publicprivate partnership, operating year-round to a timetable running frequently enough so that passengers could see a ferry arriving.

He said the ferry would form a major part of a tourism loop which would deliver passengers from the city via tram and return them via the water.

He said the last time such a project was attempted was five to seven years ago, but Docklands was at a more developed stage now and could host a viable service.

"Development curve has now got to a point where this is sustainable," he said.

But Mr Jarvis said the day-to-day operational aspects of his job were just as important for him to concentrate on.

"The best thing we can do is to put forward ideas that can benefit the community. That's our role – things like ferries and having good strategies for recreational fishing, for waterbased events or heritage restorations like the Alma Doepel. They all form part of the complete picture."

"One of the aspects of my job is to make sure we do all the things that we need to do so we can attract more vessels – both recreational and commercial," he said.

"We need to nourish the industry and find out why we haven't used the river as well as we could. If you look at busier cities in the world and traffic density, there's no question that we can't manage the issues."

"Whatever we do it's all aimed at the same thing – sustainability and prosperity."

"We need to make best use of that finite resource (the water). We might as well concrete it over if we are not going to use it. It's a very valuable piece of real estate and it's a part of Melbourne that people are yet to discover."



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## It's back to the future for Claire

New Victoria Harbour project director Claire Johnston has been here before, having cut her property development teeth as a junior manager on Docklands' NAB building in 2001.

And she's done some interesting and relevant things with Lend Lease during the intervening eight years which have qualified her superbly to oversee the precinct's final development.

In particular, Ms Johnston's experience and interest in sustainability and community building will be welcomed by the new and emerging Docklands community.

She was a human resources manager in a previous life. She also had qualifications in commerce and industrial relations before coming to work in Docklands when she also juggled an MBA in property development.

Her early work in Docklands included negotiating the original commercial leasing of the Harbour Kitchen and Watermark. So she knows the business from the ground up.

"When I left we were just half way through Dock 5," she said. "When I first got here we used to play touch football in the park and all the kids would be coming from the raves after Sunday night on Monday morning, dragging themselves up the street. It was a very barren place to be."

"But now it's truly an extension of the CBD. It's really quite astounding to see that in such a short period of time that such an extension of the city has started."

After completing the NAB project in 2003, Ms Johnston trekked Nepal for a brief moment of reflection about her career and the industry she was in before plunging into the Hornery Institute for the next three years.

The not-for-profit institute was established by former Lend Lease CEO Stuart Hornery and is dedicated to delivering sustainable property solutions. At the time, its Melbourne base was at The Hub in Docklands and part of Ms Johnston's work was with Docklands Skilling and Employment – an ambitious project which successfully placed 16 youths into local jobs.



"We were involved very early on in developing community frameworks with VicUrban," Ms Johnston said.

In 2006, Ms Johnson took on a role in the USA, developing a massive community for the US Army in Hawaii. The Lend Lease project was to not only finance, design and build 5300 new homes, it also involved ongoing community management for 50 years.

"I wanted an opportunity to apply the thinking I had learned from the Hornery

Institute," she said.

After five years on the project and having a baby, Ms Johnston wanted to come home and was offered the Victoria Harbour job.

"I had a range of options with Lend Lease around Australia and America, and Victoria Harbour seemed most aligned with what I wanted to do and where we wanted to take this business in terms of community and delivering community outcomes," she said.

"The opportunity to come home and

continue on with Victoria Harbour through its last phase is really exciting for me because I have been here before."

Ms Johnston said her focus was to instil a sense of community and place at a local neighbourhood level.

She said Lend Lease had been very successful at delivering residential and commercial buildings in Docklands.

"But now we are about 50 per cent through but we really have to now start to pay attention to what happens at a street level. The buildings are great but what happens at a street level is as important for fostering a sense of place and sustainable community," Ms Johnston said.

"And that's really important because the next part of our project has about 2000 residential dwellings to be delivered in the next 10 years and people want a place where they can feel comfortable, where they can feel safe and they can be engaged with their community."

"In the five years that I've been gone, there's been an enormous evolution at a really grass roots level in terms of community groups and that's what you need to start building a critical mass of culture in a place. And, to the extent that we participate in that, we'll respond to the community."

Ms Johnston said it was relatively easy to pick up and direct the project despite not being involved in the most recent Victoria Harbour master planning.

"One of the reasons is that the master plan has been so well done, it is very clear to see what its objectives are and what it is going to be delivering," she said. "It's very clear to see what the ambition is so it hasn't been difficult for me to come in at this point. The vision is there and it's a matter of executing it in a manner that has integrity for the community."

"Getting down into the fine grain is what I like to do."

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## You beauty!

Tom Seymour has won a luxury cruise for himself and nine mates on the fabulous Quest III, courtesy of Atlantic Group Catering promotion.

Tom, who works for Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum's global breeding operation Darley, booked an event with Altantic between May and July and was announced the winner last month.

The collaboration between Atlantic and Quest III is a good example of how local Docklands businesses can work together. Both businesses are based at Central Pier.

According to Quest III owners Bill McDonnell and Sally Hewitt, the collaboration brings potential benefits to all parties.

"With Atlantic's proven marketing ability, we just have to concentrate on running the boat," Ms Hewitt said.

Bill McDonnell has been building Quest III for about 20 years. Docklanders would have seen the 25-metre vessel coming together for the past two years outside Shed 2 in Victoria Harbour.

Quest III is very close to achieving a certificate of survey, but doesn't need this to take to Victoria Harbour with Tom and his mates.

"I just great," Mr Seymour said. "I can't wait to get out there with my best mates."



the water after receiving his prize from Atlantic's Cathryn Bock (centre) and Zowie Minchin (right).



Illeagles Sam Muscat and George Lopez quiz MP David Southwick and Franchise Council boss Steve Wright.

## **Tuning in to Docklands**

Community radio listeners in Melbourne's leafy eastern suburbs were treated to a live radio show from Docklands last month.

Radio 3WBC 94.1 FM broadcast its weekly Illeagles small business program from Bob's Steak and Chop House, on November 17.

The "Illeagles" are business-specialist lawyers George Lopez and Sam Muscat and they were in Docklands to do a special two-hour show on franchising business.

The idea to broadcast from Bob's Steak and Chop House came from Franchise Council of Australia executive director Steve Wright, who appears in a fortnightly Illeagles segment called *Franchise Fever*.

"It was an idea borne out of a Halloween reception for the US Ambassador held at Bob's a few weeks earlier, which Sam and I attended," Mr Wright told *Docklands News*.

"It is a great location and a great venue. And it is also a franchise – the first Bob's in Australia – so it seemed a no-brainer to me that the Illeagles should do a franchising show there.

"Thankfully, Sam and George agreed, because it was great fun and went really well. Lots of passers by stopped to check out what we were doing – or, then again, maybe they just stopped to have a beer in the outdoor bar area! It did look pretty inviting!"

The restaurant in Bourke St is the first Bob's Steak and Chop House outside of the USA and owner Sanjay Chimnani holds the rights for Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

"When people think about franchises, they often think small, quick-service businesses," Mr Wright said. "What Bob's shows is that there are other more sophisticated options as well."

The December Docklands News Networking Lunch is being held at Bob's on December 9.

## Praise for Yarra Trams

Destination Docklands has paid tribute to Yarra Trams for the vital service it provides to the traders and residents of our evolving precinct.

The co-operative marketing organisation's executive officer Michelle Kemp said: "Yarra Trams has been extremely supportive of tourism businesses in Docklands by promoting them inside the City Circle Tram."

Ms Kemp said she was excited that Docklands would have its very own specially-designed City Circle tram early next year.

"Destination Docklands and Yarra Trams have been working for some time on a specially designed City Circle tram promoting Docklands to be launched early in 2012. The tram will raise awareness of what Docklands has to offer and educate the public on how easy it is to get here," Ms Kemp said.

As the operator of the world's biggest tram network, Yarra Trams brings more than 2000 tram services each week to Docklands across seven different routes.

The popular City Circle Tram offers a free and convenient way to bring tourists to Harbour Town and other Docklands attractions. It carries more than 250,000 passengers per month, and brings around two million tourists to Docklands every year.

Around 35 per cent of people who hop on the City Circle Tram get off at Docklands and 67 per cent plan to visit Docklands during their time in Melbourne. Amazingly, 10 City Circle trams stop at Harbour Town every hour!

Ms Kemp said: "Destination Docklands looks forward to working with Yarra Trams into the future to help our community. Cities succeed on the strength of their public transport services and without Yarra Trams, where would Docklands be?"

To find out more about Destination Docklands visit

www.destinationdocklands.com.au

For more information about Yarra Trams visit www.yarratrams.com.au

## **Twilight market**

Docklands' usual Sunday Market is reinventing itself as a special Christmas twilight event on Wednesday, December 14.

Starting at 4pm, the market will run until 9pm and will feature carol singers and Santa will be there too handing out free lollipops.

The market is held every Sunday on the

Waterfront City/NewQuay Promenade and is a great place to find a special and unusual gift. Among the offerings are arts and craft, clothing, jewelry, hand-made soaps and natural body products, cards and wrapping, bonsai plants, second-hand books, collectable model cars and personalized-hand painted footwear.

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REVIEW



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Yarra's Edge is located just across the Yarra from the ANZ building. Take a walk across award winning Webb Bridge to this truly undiscovered gem. This pristine neighbourhood, developed by Mirvac, boasts stunning apartments as well as luxury homes. Delightful dining opportunities and a beauty salon also make it well worth a visit on a beautiful day. Take advantage of the sunny north facing bank of the Yarra – it is there for you.

Apartments now selling: yarrapoint.com
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#### YARRA'S EDGE



## **Desert kids** hits the ice

Students from Yiramalay, a community at Fitzroy Crossing 400km north-east of Broome in WA, had their first experience of ice skating in Docklands on November 12.

The students and their Wesley College colleagues also visited Harbour Town Shopping Centre and the Waterfront City Marina as part of an "urban experience" tour.

Yiramalay and Melbourne's Wesley College formed a partnership in 2004 to give their students a unique view of each other's very different lifestyles. The tour was hosted by Daryl Scott from ING Real Estate.

"This will be a first-time experience for Yiramalay Year 10 students who have never seen ice before," Mr Scott said.

"It's a chance for this successful partnership of students to see one of the city's leading precincts at close quarters."

Mr Scott said students brought their own spending money but lunch at Harbour Town and entry to the Icehouse was offered.

#### **Bus stop returning**

The City of Melbourne says it will be reinstating the Melbourne Tourist Shuttle bus stop on the corner of Bourke St and Harbour Esplanade.

The stop was removed during Harbour Esplanade road works, but the council says it will be reinstated this month.

"Outside of the tourist bus operating hours, the stop will be used as a car parking spot and parking signs will be erected to indicated parking restrictions," a council spokesperson said.



Andrew Pirchan, Jason Sorrenti, Georgina Hood and Alexandra McKnight.



Tony Bailo, Helen Gibney and Jinny Coyne

## **Final chamber** function afloat

The Docklands Chamber of Commerce held its final function for 2011 on board the spectacular Quest III on Tuesday, November 22.

A small mechanical problem kept the craft wharf-bound, but the 30 or so attendees had a great night of networking regardless.

Owners Bill McDonnell and Sally Hewitt have promised a harbour cruise for another time.

Ms Hewitt is on the chamber's executive committee and generously hosted the event.

Quest III is the newest addition to Docklands' charter fleet and can be contacted on **0430 448 977**.



David Wood and James Wagner.



Angela Hodda, Greg Hackett and Zowie Minchin.



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## Docklands suits Cadel just fine





Tour de France cycling hero Cadel Evans spent the day in Docklands on Friday, November 25 helping raise funds for youth mental health.

By the end of the day, nearly \$200,000 had been raised for Orygen Youth Health – nearly four times the amount raised at last year's inaugural Suit Up and Ride event along NewQuay Promenade.

Cadel's extra profile since winning the Tour de France in July helped sell out the event to some 56 corporate teams entering riders in the quirky event.

Docklands-based Bike Force won the event, and then promptly donated back the first



prize which it had itself donated. Bike Force was assisted in the final by former cycling world champion Matt Goss (above), while Cadel assisted runner-up team Grocon (left).

It was the second loss of the day for Cadel. Earlier he had been beaten in a 2km handicap event by Fox FM presenter Matt Tilley (above right), in what had been dubbed the "Champ versus Chump" race.

Cadel gave Matt a 300 metre head start but failed to catch him on the potentiallydangerous course. "Does that make me the Chump?" he asked after the ride.

Fox listeners donated nearly \$120,000 to the event and, according to organiser Lisa Bird, Suit Up and Ride itself raised \$70,000.

"It was an amazing day with a carnival atmosphere in such a picturesque location here at Docklands," Ms Bird said.







Former Australian of the Year and Orygen director Professor Pat McGorry said the day produced a wonderful outcome and had been fantastic for the organisation's coffers.

About 500 people came down to Docklands to witness the "Champ versus Chump" race just after 8am as part of Fox FM's live broadcast from the Waterfront City Piazza.

Cadel was mobbed by excited cycling fans after the race. Later in the afternoon he signed autographed copies of his book for a long line of loyal fans (above far right).

A crowd of about 5000 witnessed Suit Up and Ride, with local traders experiencing a welcomed increase in trade.









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## CUISINE UNDERCOVER INDEPENDENT REVIEWS FROM DOCKLANDS' PHANTOM DINER

## **Groove Train**

## Banking on a no-frills, solid performance

There's no missing Docklands' ANZ headquarters, that's for sure.

There's no missing the ANZ employees either, spilling into Collins St during morning and afternoon peaks, snaking their way between Southern Cross and their purpose-built building on the water's edge – those distinctive lanyards swinging around their necks.

And if you happen to know any of them – there's no missing their complaints – most still feeling as though they've been shipped to the middle of nowhere in a deliberate ploy by the banking giant to improve productivity by denying them access to the CBD. I mean – come ON!

You've had one of Melbourne's signature streets extended to your doorstep, you've had your own tram line extended to the building's front door – and you've got your very own slice of prime Melbourne riverfront, on which a growing number of eateries are beginning to appear.

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It might surprise even Docklands' locals to know just how much has sprung up around Gotham City's base (you don't have to wear a lanyard to get into the retail area), and if you trek around the back to the river, it really does feel as though you've stumbled across a little Melbourne secret. It's here you'll find the bustling Groove Train – a chain many will be familiar with, having established itself as a reliable, cheapish and accessible venue at Southbank over many years.

Serving a bit of everything including staples such as chicken parma and fish 'n' chips, it's mainly known for its pizzas and pasta. On the day we visited, I simply had to try the chicken parma pizza special (\$18.90) – that's right people, parma on a pizza. Why on earth hasn't this been done before?

Featuring thin-ish slices of crumbed chicken and a smattering of dried herbs tossed across a basic margherita base (with a few slices of capsicum thrown in), it was satisfying, but could have been done better. Where was the ham for example? The chicken itself was a touch dry, perhaps having been cooked

twice – but the Napoli sauce was excellent – sweet and juicy on a thin, fresh base with just the right amount of fluff. Overall – a touch bland, but helped considerably by the addition of a generous smattering of dried chilli flakes.

My friend had the chicken and cous cous salad (also \$18.90). A generous serving of fat tenderloins sat on a mescalin salad with the cous cous, tzatziki and flaked almonds buried beneath.

Her only complaint was it took her awhile to uncover the tzatziki, which was the key kick in the flavour department – it seemed an odd choice not to put it on top.

I tensed, as I tend to do, when taking my first sip of a white wine by the glass in a restaurant like this – waiting for the taint that comes with a cheapish drop left in an unfinished bottle for too long.

But we were both pleasantly surprised, with both the Margaret River chardonnay and sauvignon blanc proving to be fresh and well balanced (and worth their 8-ish bucks a glass). Size matters here and you won't leave hungry. It's nothing special, but it's not trying to be.

It's big, easy, with solid food and a good selection of drinks to choose from. Probably a perfect venue for a team Christmas lunch – if you're prepared to travel "all" that way.

**Location:** Address is 833 Collins Street – just head for ANZ then walk around its base to the water.

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#### November saw the launch of our campaign to tell the world that Docklands IS Beautiful.

What we have in Docklands is the utilisation of the water for the benefit of Melbourne urbanites. Melbourne CBD has historically had its back to its greatest asset - the water. With the development of Southbank, the demolition of the Gas and Fuel building and the arrival of Federation Square, Melbourne began to turn and face the water. If you go to these places now you will see the transformation is complete. The Docklands is Beautiful campaign recognises that Docklands is just beginning her major transformation.

The Melbourne waterfront journey starts at Federation Square and Southbank. Follow the course of the Yarra as it sweeps on down past the casino, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and Polly Woodside. Here the Melbourne Waterfront transformation is largely complete.

The Yarra continues its age-old journey to the sea as it passes by South Wharf, the

World Trade Centre and Yarra's Edge. Whilst the transformation here is still in progress you can already enjoy the facilities, the tranquillity and the beauty of the waterfront. If you were on a boat, the next stop would be ANZ Wharf (Collins Landing). Melbourne's waterways really get exciting here as Docklands opens up to reveal Victoria Harbour, Central Pier and Waterfront City. If you look really closely you will find the Moonee Ponds Creek tributary nestled neatly under the Bolte Bridge. Incidentally, this is the site where there are plans to develop more gardens and open space.

The opportunity to open up the waterways is just crying out to happen. It will happen as Docklands emerges from its "work in progress" status to "transformation complete". Melbourne will finally turn her head and see her greatest asset, the waterways.

#### **Docklands in November**

November was a month when we had a number of famous faces visiting Docklands.

Prince Frederik and Princess Mary came to Melbourne and visited Docklands to enjoy some fine dining, followed by a second

## **Docklands is Beautiful**

visit to launch a boat. Once again the weather came to the party and showed that Docklands is Beautiful!

Cadel Evans, Matt Goss and Matt Tilley came to raise money for Orygen Youth Health. The day was another beautiful day in Docklands. The Fox FM Matt and Jo Show came to Docklands in the morning and we watched the Cadel Evans versus Matt Tilley challenge that raised in excess of \$115,000 for Orygen. Matt Tilley came out the winner! Later that day the Suit Up and Ride Challenge got under way with Bike Force eventual winners against a determined Grocon. The day was hugely successful with a good mix of over 5000 visitors and Docklanders turning out.

There followed a day of torrential rain when everywhere was pretty well under water! Just as it looked like the run of sunny days was over, the good weather returned on Sunday to welcome a multitude of people dressed in red suits and white beards who showed up for the Santa Fun Run, turning Docklands into a sea of Santas. It was like Christmas Island during crab season! (Is that why they call it Christmas Island I wonder?)

All in all a very successful series of events in Docklands for November!

#### **Docklands in December**

Last month I issued a challenge to you all to identify five venues that cater for kids. I had a number of responses and each will receive a family fun pass worth \$100 for the Wonderland Fun Park.

The respondents identified Medibank Icehouse, Black Light Mini Golf and the Lego Educational Centre. Also mentioned were Monkey Mania, and Tunzafun. I had already mentioned the Wonderland Fun Park and the Docklands Snow Park.

There will be plenty more activities for all the family over the school holidays. Wonderland Fun Park will have its Santa's Christmas Spectacular. Harbour Town will be abuzz with festive entertainment, giveaways and bargains galore.

And that leads me to my next challenge for you. I discovered a secret in Harbour Town and if you can tell me more about this secret and where it can be found, you will receive a voucher that you can redeem in Harbour Town. The clue is elephants, lots of them. You will find elephants galore somewhere in Harbour Town. Email me your answers at bill@docklandsnews.com.au

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## **Ghostly post boxes**

Australia Post is very proud of its facilities - even those that it has removed from the Docklands community.

Docklands used to have yellow and red postage boxes in front of the AFL building in Harbour Esplanade (pictured below). These boxes were removed earlier this year, with Australia Post citing safety concerns.

However, it has no intention of reinstating the service despite the roadworks now being

Perhaps it should also remove this proud photo it has on its website as a downloadable resource for media.

It can be found at http://auspost.com.au/ about-us/images-and-news-reel.html under the title "Our facilities".

Docklands business would dearly love to have the postage boxes back so they could be our facilities too.

Speaking candidly to Docklands News last

month, local business owner Susan Rogan made us blush with the colourful language she used to describe the decision not to reinstate the boxes.

An Australia Post spokesperson said: "As advised in February, the Harbour Esplanade street posting boxes were removed due to construction works and safety concerns for our customers and staff accessing the boxes."

"To continue to maintain services to the area, we installed an additional Express Post box at the Docklands Post Office as well as a two street posting boxes at the corner of Docklands Drive and Wharf Street."

"We believe that customers are well serviced with these additional street posting boxes and at this stage we are not planning to install more boxes at Harbour Esplanade."





## etters to the Editor

#### **Venting on barking**

I would like to vent my spleen a bit and I am hoping that you will publish this.

I work in Harbour Town Shopping Centre and around where I work there are quite a few residential buildings.

Some of the owners think it's great to have dogs as pets and I agree - if you are going to be a responsible pet owner and not an owner that leaves their dogs on small pokie balconies all day long barking at everyone

A few of the shoppers think it is great fun teasing the dogs and getting them to bark more whilst we retailers that work directly opposite these residential apartments have to suffer this constant, incessant noise all day long.

The dog owners do not seem to understand the fact that just because they have gone out and left their dog all alone all day or a few hours on the balcony, that the dog is happy.

Well I am telling you they are not happy and that they are as distressed just as much as some of us retailers are.

If you are a owner of a dog, please, please, please do not leave it out on the balcony part of the day or even all day and have some thought of other people around you.

It can't be good for the dog with summer coming up and temperatures exceeding 30 degrees and I am sure that as pet owners you are breaking council bylaws and that the RSPCA also would not take too kindly to your animal cruelty.

Michael Blyth

Send your letters to news@docklandsnews.com.au



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# GREETINGS FROM THE DOCKLANDS COMMUNITY



#### Greetings everybody

Don't forget our DCA Christmas party to be held again at the Harbour Kitchen venue on Wednesday, December 7. The night is rapidly approaching! We expect a great crowd and a great night like we had last year. It is a central location on Victoria Harbour. If you haven't already, please enter it in your diaries now. It starts at 7.30pm. Flyer reminders will be dropped in mailboxes in the next week. Remember it is free for members and only \$15 for nonmembers! Includes refreshments.

Further to my earlier plea, I am pleased to say that we have co-opted four new committee members. This has been necessary because of a couple of members relocating from the area, plus the increased workload of the DCA.

Members are kept informed of coming

events in the area which will no doubt be of interest, particularly the New Year's Eve celebrations, including the fireworks.

A letter has been sent to the Planning Minister Matthew Guy supporting the public protest against the proposal by MAB Corporation to destroy the Waterfront City Piazza in order to erect a hotel on the site. Other issues include overshadowing and lack of traffic planning. As previously reported, the council itself has written to the department highly critical of elements of the developer's plans. Our concern is that he personally sees this important correspondence.

I am a member of a delegation on state planning matters meeting with the Minister on November 29 at which the issues will be pushed strongly. Of course the Docklands area will continue to be developed, but MAB's plans need to be modified in recognition of the need to protect public and community amenity.

The Victorian Electoral Commission is conducting a review of the City of Melbourne's electoral systems including whether to have wards and the number of councillors. The DCA has responded supporting the adoption of the ward system for a number of reasons. We believe it preferable to have a councillor resident in an area who has a close knowledge of the local issues and who has a requirement and an interest to represent those issues at council and to follow-up and keep the community informed.

Docklands, in particular, being a newlydeveloping area and having significant waterways, requires special individual attention.

The current system where councillors "run into one another" trying to deal with issues city-wide means individual attention is lost. In terms of the number of councillors, for want of better knowledge, we are going along with suggestions from other areas of the city that it be raised

from a total of nine to 11.

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.

Lastly on behalf of the DCA committee and myself I would like to wish all of you a merry and safe Christmas and a Happy New Year and I look forward to talking with you again in the New Year. Also thanks to editor Shane and his staff for their great work and cooperation.

docklandscommunityassociation.com

Sincerely Roger Gardner President DCA



with Sandra Vernuccio

from Active Melbourne City Sports

#### **Come and Try Sports Days**

Last month saw the spring 2011 Corporate Challenge finals. Some 117 teams from more than 100 companies from the Melbourne CBD and Docklands corporate community participated in netball, basketball, lawn bowls and soccer throughout the spring

Active Melbourne City Sports will be hosting "Come and Try" Sports Day on January 30 and 31. Workplaces will have the opportunity to participate in a mini-Corporate Challenge competition over 30 minutes and experience the enjoyment of team sports.

Participating in team sports is an enjoyable way to get active. It's motivational, interactive and an opportunity to build team camaraderie and enhance relationships with your colleagues and others in the community.

Workplaces are able to register a team for this complimentary "Come and Try" lunchtime competition by visiting www. melbournecitysports.ymca.org.au. Places are limited, so get in fast!

#### **Ditch the Desk**

With demanding work schedules and the challenges of juggling family life, it's also often impossible to find the time to stick to exercise regimes, which is why Active Melbourne City Sports has developed the Ditch the Desk program with corporate workers in mind.

The Ditch the Desk walking and fitness program offers city workers a great activity to incorporate into their work schedule.

Since the launch in 2010, the program has seen great transformations of its participants.

Unlike most fitness programs, Ditch the Desk provides a non-threatening and enjoyable workout experience, showing participants that being active can be very simple.

Taking place in Docklands, customised group sessions are designed to suit groups of all levels. There is strong emphasis on those that have little or no experience in fitness, while still providing a challenge for those wanting to take their fitness further. Group fitness also proves an effective tool in motivating each other to "Ditch the Desk".

Visit www.melbournecitysports.ymca. org.au or contact Melbourne City Sports at mcs@ymca.org.au.

#### 12 days of Christmas

Do something each day over 12 days that will make a difference to your health:

- Try sticking to your workout routine and eat mindfully.
- Plan your exercise a month in advance.
- Start everyday with a 30-minute walk.
- Incorporate movement into your Christmas shopping.
- Host your Christmas get-together at the beach or a park.
- Make the most of the sunshine and take your exercise outdoors. ■ Pace yourself at the office Christmas
- Avoid party nibbles and save your
- appetite for the main meal. ■ Colour your family feasts with five
- servings of veggies. ■ Bring along a fruit platter when asked to
- bring something. ■ Chose the foods you love and eat small
- portions. ■ Make a conscious effort to drink more

water.





## THE NIGHTLIFE with DJJ



#### **Get Docked**

Hola ¿Cómo estás? There's officially no place in Melbourne where you can't run into some culture and Docklands is no exception!

If you're a fan of running with the bulls, fancy a quick trip to Madrid, or you just want to pop a bottle and let your body wobble to some salsa dancing, you might want to get your culo down to Docked the Spanish bar and restaurant near Etihad Stadium.

Better yet, if you haven't already made New Years Eve plans, Docklandia is the perfect background to your night with sparklers in the sky at 9pm and again at midnight when we kick into 2012.

Docked has put together a tasty NYE package that includes two live shows, music, bevies and Spanish food dished up by Docked's new chef Giuseppe Lioce all served up on a bull ... OK, they use plates but you get the idea. Olé!

WHAT: Docked NYE Event

WEB: www.docked.com.au

WHERE: Concourse level outside Gate 9 Etihad Stadium

WHEN: Saturday, December 31

Howzaaat!

Kicking off the inaugural KFC T20 Big Bash League is Victoria's own, Melbourne Renegades. The pitch will be laid and the stumps will go in and Etihad Stadium will be transformed into The Red Den.

Cricket fans will be treated to all-star teams from around Oz in the new harder, faster league. Apparently the fastest growing sport in the world, I thought it was beer pong, but cricket is coming hard with the Big Bash League.

With a new fast-paced, colourful image which includes talented, home-grown players, imported stars and celebrities - I mean Shane Warne. Warnie is actually batting for the other team ... and by that I mean he's signed with cross-town rivals, the Melbourne Stars which will make the Renegades even hungrier to make their mark in the new league.

WHAT: Melbourne Renegades v Perth Scorchers

WHERE: Etihad Stadium

WHEN: Thursday, December 22

WEB: www.melbournerenegades.com.au

#### Stay'in Alive With DJJ

What happens in Vegas ... can be seen all over my Facebook pictures. The Australian Bee Gees Show feels the same way about sharing their experiences with others.

The Jive Talkin' boys have been playing at The Excalibur Casino in Las Vegas since February 2011 and are bringing their multimedia concert back to Australia for a select amount of shows to help you find a place to wear your bell bottoms and platform heels.

After 2000 shows and 15 years of world stages, the lads have perfected the whole Brothers Gibb personality and they bring giant video screens, graphics and a light display to add to the original 1970s musical flavour. So basically, you should be dancing, yeaaa so scoot that booty downtown and catch some Night Fever!

WHAT: The Australian Bee Gees Show

WHERE: The Palms, Crown Casino

WHEN: Saturday, December 17

WEB: www.abgshow.com



## What's not to love?

## You won't hear a bad word about Docklands from Joh Maxwell.

After moving to the area with her husband Alan almost six years ago, Joh simply can't get enough of all that it has to offer.

The pair initially decided to move to Docklands because they both worked in the CBD and the daily commute from the Peninsula meant their quality of life was disappearing.

After eight months of living in the Docklands during the week and travelling back to the Peninsula each weekend Alan and Joh decided to settle in Docklands full-time.

"We'd get to Friday night and there would be things going on and we'd be going home. We were missing out on too much," Joh said.

Their two adult children said they would never last living in Docklands. "The kids only gave us six months," Joh said.

Having proved their kids wrong, the pair is now deeply involved in the Docklands community.

They opened Tours on Trikes in Bourke Street last year and Joh is an executive on the Docklands Chamber of Commerce.

"I joined the Chamber of Commerce because we were opening a business down here and because I have a big belief that you only get out of a community what you put in," she said.

For Joh the community is one of the best parts about living in Docklands. She can't understand people who describe Docklands as cold and isolated.

According to Joh, these are two things it definitely isn't and she thinks those who say it is can't really have experienced Docklands.

"It's a real community," she said. "I know more people in Docklands than I knew when I lived on the Peninsula."



Joh thinks that the reason Docklands is such a friendly community is because it's a developing area. "Everybody that moves to Docklands is new so everyone is prepared to say hello and have a chat. There are not many locals you see out and about who don't smile or nod their heads as they walk by," Joh said.

Joh also loves the vitality of Docklands. "There's always something to see and do," she said.

In between sporting events, social events,

different precincts of Docklands, Joh keeps herself very busy.

"We have the best of both worlds in Docklands," Joh said. "We have the city on one side, the water on the other and everything in between."



#### By Bethany Williams

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Recognition of prior skills, experience or learning is also available.

We're holding an Information Sessions at Docklands in December. Register your place on our website kangan.edu.au.

For more information call 13 TAFE (13 8233) or email enquiries@kangan.edu.au.



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## WHAT'S ON AT WATERFRONT CITY IN DECEMBER/JANUARY

The festive season is here and you can count on some incredible events and offers from Harbour Town Shopping Centre and Medibank Icehouse. Expect great gift ideas and specials, Santa visits, Summer Chills n Thrills, FREE ice skating lessons, and a New Year's Eve event with spectacular fireworks! There is no excuse not to visit. Merry Christmas and see you soon!



#### Santa at Harbour Town

Come down to Harbour Town and say hello to Santa as he makes his daily visits to meet all the kids! Have your photo taken in between shopping for your loved ones. Don't miss out!

When: 11am – 4pm, 1 – 24 December 2011 Venue: Harbour Town Shopping Centre



#### Summer Chills n Thrills

Medibank Icehouse is the place to be this summer with exciting Summer Chills n Thrills events including FREE ice skating lessons, ice tubing for kids, Santa visits and more!

When: 19 December 2011 - 31 January 2012

Venue: Medibank Icehouse



#### New Year's Eve Party

Ring in the New Year at the coolest party – the Crazy Hat Party at Medibank Icehouse! The completely alcohol free event will include a DJ, dancing, ice competitions, giveaways and two spectacular fireworks displays!

When: 31 December 2011 Venue: Medibank Icehouse



#### Gift Wrapping by the Starlight Foundation

The Starlight Children's Foundation is offering a fantastic gift wrapping service in exchange for a gold coin donation. Come and have your Christmas gifts wrapped for a good cause!

**When:** 11am – 4pm, 10 – 24 December 2011 **Venue:** Harbour Town Shopping Centre



#### Online gift guide now live!

Harbour Town has just made gift giving so much easier with the launch of the new online gift guide! The handy guide suggests gift ideas based on price and who it's for – it's that simple!

Venue: Available online at www.harbourtownmelbourne.com.au

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- Great brands at great prices
- Christmas gift wrapping by the Starlight Foundation (gold coin donation)
- Visit our online gift guide at harbourtownmelbourne.com.au
- Breakfast with Santa Thursday, December 15 and Sunday, December 18
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harbourtownmelbourne.com.au Entry off Footscray Road or Docklands Drive,



#### Do you feel it?

There is *magic* in the air ... Sometimes, you catch the scent of it caressing the evergreen needles of the freshly-Scout-cut Christmas trees. Other times you think you over hear its echo interwoven in the excited whispers of the children gathering for their Santa photo and occasionally you can catch the shadow of it on the expressions exchanged between the less fortunate, and the charities that work tirelessly to help them.

It's as though the magic envelopes us, yet we catch only glimpses of its presence like flashes of a long-forgotten dream - and even then we're not quite sure we believe it's there.

Magic is elusive - something that you can't get a tangible hold on. It hovers through your heart and teases your mind with the possibility that it does exist. Like the children themselves who hover exquisitely in the fence-sitting world of not being quite sure they believe in the magic of Christmas anymore, but not quite sure they want to give it up either - there exists a precarious and fragile place where anything is possible. It's where a formerly-bullied reindeer gets chosen by Santa to lead the sleigh around the world ... Where three wise men followed

le desîré

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a star ... Where peace on earth is dreamed of by all ... Where love and equality abound ...

It hovers around the doors of churches, where people find they are drawn around Christmas time to pray for forgiveness, to hope for a miracle, to give their thanks ... or to please granny. It is palpable in the energy of a population simultaneously sending text messages of good wishes.

It is in the faces of small children who giggle in rapture at the nibbled cookies and sipped beer left out on Christmas Eve. And it is in the hearts of old souls and bodies, who have seen a lifetime on earth and start to long to see their friends who have already passed. The longing for magic can touch us all.

As families come together, and gifts are garishly wrapped, as parents lift small children to clumsily spike a star on top of a tree, as wishes for good health and joy abound, as we sit happily with family and friends with the sole purpose of spending time together, we don't need to search for the magic - we can see it everywhere.

The magic is love. It keeps us warm, it gives us hope, it keeps us strong. And it can change the world. Have a safe, and very, very magical Christmas.

With much love, Abby x







Kaka receives a \$25 gift voucher from PETstock South Melbourne

### **Confused canine**

#### Kaka the King Charles Cavalier is one very confused canine.

Owner Kira Shen, 21, said that Kaka thinks flies make a perfect snack. According to Kira, her eleven-monthold puppy loves to chase flies around her apartment. "He loves to chase them and bark at them and one time he even swallowed one," Kira said.

And Kira can forget about buying expensive puppy toys. Kaka thinks that empty coke bottles are the best chewing toy. Give him an empty bottle to play with and he'll be entertained for hours, Kira said.

Kira has lived in Docklands for a year and loves how dog-friendly the area is. Kaka has even made friends with some other dogs at nearby Docklands Park. Living in Bourke St means that the park is only a minute away and Kira and Kaka are always out and about.

"I take Kaka for a walk to Docklands Park twice a day, it's such a lovely place for him to run and play," Kira said.







#### **Frankie Leonard**

#### **LOCATION?**

Harbour Town.

#### **WEARS?**

Typo shirt, Cotton On skirt and shirt, Black Milk leggings and army boots from eBay.

#### **DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?**

I'm a mixed bag and I just wear whatever takes my fancy on the day.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **DOCKLANDS?**

I work here at Typo.

#### WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

Watsonia.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

My Jeffery Campbell shoes. I wear them everywhere!

#### WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

If you can put a bit of yourself into it, then you're always going to look a bit more interesting than everyone else. I think your own personality goes a long way when it comes to what you wear.

#### **WEARS?**

Portmans suit, Jane Dempster shoes and Longchamp bag.

#### **DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?**

I like to try to make corporate dressing a bit more fun. It's important to look both professional but have a bit of a youthedge as well.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **DOCKLANDS?**

I work here at ANZ.

#### **WHERE ARE YOU FROM?**

Glen Waverley.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

I love wearing a nice dress.

#### WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Definitely accessories. You can dress up something plain and make it unique and it's amazing if you know how to mix and match with stylish accessories.

#### Jennie Su

#### **LOCATION?**

Harbour Town.

#### **WEARS?**

Mink Pink jacket and Sportsgirl shorts.

#### **DESCRIBE YOUR STYLE?**

I like to try and keep things really classy and to wear things that suit me. Also colour blocking and keeping up with the seasons.

#### WHAT BRINGS YOU TO **DOCKLANDS?**

I'm having a day here shopping with a friend.

#### **WHERE ARE YOU FROM?**

Narre Warren.

#### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE PIECE OF **CLOTHING?**

My bright blue dress from Glue.

#### WHAT MAKES A GOOD OUTFIT?

Anything that stands out. I love colour!

#### **Summer Sorbet**

As warm afternoons are slowly turning into balmy nights, summer is almost upon us and nothing is more exciting about summer than the cool relief of sitting poolside, beach holidays and a cleansing dip in the ocean. We all know with swimming comes swimwear.

Some may dread this time of year and everyone is a little sick of cossies that ride up in all the wrong places. But if this season's collection of togs is anything to go by, lycra is looking rather chic, giving the illusion of shape in all the right places.

Never mind the glare from your winter white legs, just breathe in and jump right on in to a sea of colour, bold prints, nautical stripes and florals. Retro styles featured by Anna and Boy, Gorman and Seventh Wonderland signalled a return to bombshell beauty. Think Grace Kelly, Marilyn Monroe and Jayne Mansfield.

Gorman features playful tropical prints while Seventh Wonderland's collection with modern twists of mesh panels and latticed strips of lycra create flattering silhouettes and offer ample coverage with high waisted bottoms and a more grown up touch with classic bikini tops.

Zimmermann's High Summer 2012 swimwear collection features ultra-modern update on vintage swimwear, a floral onepiece, equally appropriate for diving under waves or as a bodysuit layered under a maxiskirt or denim shorts. And then there's the floral bikini inset with delicate sheer panels - both detailed and yet understated.

Sweet details such as bows and fills remind us of building sandcastles as kids, while contemporary cut outs, contrasting colour panels and graphic prints give more structure and sophistication.

If you're out to get noticed, look no further than the digital prints from We are Handsome. Their bold and beautiful swimwear is emblazoned with outlandish landscape prints, combining new technologies in printing with sports-asfashion streetwear.

And don't forget your sunscreen!

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## **Encounter at the counter**

#### by Cliff Stinson

An early morning bicycle ride had left me infused with a warm glow, and now the crisp Sunday morning was mellowing into a warm spring day. Shopping list in hand, I strolled past the street side tables, watching the latte set as they watched the world drift by.

Entering the fruit shop I understood why the ancients imagined paradise to be a garden. Display boxes proffered their wares, the bounty of the earth, glorious, fragrant, delicious and wholesome. Colours and textures clamoured for my attention, each crying out "eat me." As if to complete this modern day Eden, standing by the cash

register was Eve. Her luxurious hair and smooth skin spoke of her health and youth; her narrow waist and firm breasts gave a silent promise of yet another sort of bounty.

She turned in my direction and I hurriedly looked down at my shopping list, fearful lest my wistful gaze betray my longings; longing that could never be realised. She was, after all, no older than my daughter.

As I passed the counter she called out something indecipherable. Was she talking

"Pardon?" I enquired.

"Oh sorry, nothing. It's alright." Her timid smile conveyed embarrassment.

Unreasonable hope flared in my heart. Unseasonable youth quickened my pulse.

"Did you mistake me for someone else?"

She smiled again, this time warmly. Returning her smile, I approached the counter, conscious of my appearance. Would she see my four-day stubble as reminiscent of Clint Eastwood in his early movies? No, these movies were made before she was born.

"My grandfather died recently and I really

miss him." She looked at me, then away blinking quickly.

Her openness caught me by surprise. I didn't pause to wonder why she felt the need to share her loss; all I could think of was how to take this opening and keep the conversation rolling. But there was no need; she was not finished.

"Your white whiskers remind me of him. You look like everybody's favourite grandfather." With a cheeky smile she added, "With Christmas approaching you could grow your beard and be a real-life Santa."



#### What are the working dynamics of your relationship?

Check the astrological charts by emailing yours and your colleagues' birth date and time to discover how to best maximise these relationships in your life.

heaven@docklandsnews.com.au

What do you bring to the relationship and what gifts does your partner bring to the work environment. I thought it appropriate to discuss the recently-formed affection of the Prime Minister of Australia and US President Barack Obama.

#### **Barack** Julia Gillard Obama September 29 1961

August 4 1961 Moon in Gemini

MC in Virgo

Sun in Leo Moon in Gemini MC in Scorpio

#### **Julia Gillard**

Julia has her north node in Leo which means that, in this lifetime, she is to be a leader. Julia, you prefer to innovate rather than to follow the trend and to create rather than limit your activities to repetitive tasks. Thus, your life may be a process of spectacular twists and turns, all the more so because the more you progress, the more your indecisiveness fades away. But your ever-strengthening decisiveness is a double-edged sword as you are reluctant to seek any kind of guidance, support or advice from your entourage and to be too authoritarian and not conciliatory. You can be so inflexible and your choices, so final, that your intransigence may bring about a few setbacks. Therefore, it is important that you develop the tolerance, flexibility and empathy that you are naturally lacking.

You may come across as wicked, cruel or too authoritarian, but actually you only follow your instinct. You sound people out and you like to exert your domination simply because your vital energy is too powerful to remain inside. You are inclined to be passionate, with hidden motivations. You are sometimes misunderstood but one of your great assets is to go successfully through each life ordeal with ever-growing strength.

You are excellent at making your own decisions and you cope with the consequences of your actions with courage and without regrets

#### Barack Obama

Barack Obama also has his north node in Leo. You have a strong, demanding and uncompromising destiny. You feel that you are entrusted with a mission. And pursue a set direction, in quest of an extraordinary destiny.

Unlike Julia Gillard, you do not like to be at the centre of decisions but rather seek guidance, information and opinions of others. This attitude will allow you to combine flexibility and action, adaptability and absence of hesitation.

Barack you symbolise will, magnetism, sense of honour and dignity. You are a unique being and you often display charismatic and leadership qualities. Your warmth and your persuasive power lead you far away from pettiness. You enjoy thinking big and, consequently, you move forward according to what you decide. You connect with the masses because when you communicate, the crowd appreciates your truth and sincerity.

You are particularly sensitive to the values of friendship - in the sense that you see yourself as a link within a chain, certainly a different and original one, but with no will to flatter your ego or to individually assert yourself. On the contrary, your aim is to immerge yourself in your friendly relations and to participate in projects and ideals of the whole human community.

#### What you both learn from each other:

Interestingly both the President of the United States of America and the Prime Minister of Australia have the capacity to influence and lead their respective countries. Julia leads with an iron fist and Barack with a much softer approach. Each has to learn the others' skills. In other words, Barack will enjoy watching the ruthlessness and tenacity of the decisions that Julia makes and Julia will come to admire and respect the support and loyalty Barack enjoys not only by his legion of followers but more importantly by his family and friends. Barack will teach (or attempt to teach) Julia that there is much joy and love to be found outside politics.

#### Outcome of relationship:

Together each of them feels stronger. Both have incredible power and determination. My concern when looking at their combined chart is that each can magnify the other and together they can be a great source of power both for good or evil. Neither has the intention of anything but the best for their countries and both share a genuine heartfelt drive to improve the lives of those they serve, however it remains to be seen whether all this power becomes destructive or benevolent.

#### Featured terminology:

MC Julia = Life purpose (in Virgo it signifies clean pure healthy service.)

**MC Barack** = Life purpose (in Scorpio it signifies destruction followed by transformation.)

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## WHICH CHINESE DO YOU FEEL LIKE?

#### Do you feel like eating Chinese tonight?

But the choice isn't really that simple. After all, China is a huge country and its cuisine varies greatly between regions.

"It's more a case of which type of Chinese cuisine do you feel like eating," said Derek Pang, the manager at Regency Chinese Cuisine, next to Docklands in King Street, in the city.

"The concept of 'Chinese food' is like thinking 'European food', because it varies so much, just like French dishes are different to Italian, and Greek and so on," Mr Pang said.

"For example, northern China has completely different types of dumplings and noodles to other regions. It's similar to the variations in types of pasta."

"Even the term 'dim sim' is more of a category than a single type of food because there are so many different types of dim sim, varying between regions."

"At Regency Chinese Cuisine we offer dishes from all regions of China but specialise in southern dishes - also known as Cantonese."

The chef's signature dish is wasabi prawns, lightly battered prawns with a subtle wasabi sauce. But it's a must to try the "OJ range" - pork ribs, duck or chicken with an orange Cointreau sauce that you won't forget.

"We are just over the railway line from Docklands," said Mr Pang.

"There is plenty of car parking at night and on weekends."

"We would like all of those residents in Docklands to come and try us, and to tell us what they think of our cuisine."

"We are open on Sundays, which is perfect for a family dinner or lunch, especially our yum cha. It's a good time to get the whole family together."

"Yum cha is also perfect summertime dining for a group of friends. It is good value and good daytime food, when you are hungry but don't want a heavy meal."



Regency Chinese Cuisine has a special on daily yum cha - just mention Docklands News when you order to receive one free serve of dim sim. Starting at just \$4 for a serve of three pieces, there are 24 dishes to choose from on the yum cha menu, including "football dumplings"!

"We have three private dining rooms, which would suit business lunches for all of those people working in the Docklands offices,"

"Banquets start at \$29 per person. We provide good quality without being expensive."

"Often people see the restaurant's exterior and think we are expensive, but our prices are affordable."

Regency Chinese Cuisine is at 232 King St, in the city, call 9600 3620 or go to www.regencycc.com.au

### **PUFFER FISH DANGER TO DOGS**

#### Dog owners in Southbank and Docklands have been warned to watch out for discarded puffer fish.

Dr Theo Lynch, of the Port Phillip Animal Hospital, in neighbouring Albert Park, said puffer fish were an irresistible but deadly attraction to dogs

"People who are fishing in bayside suburbs such as Southbank and Docklands will often leave unwanted puffer fish on the banks, which of course a dog will go for," Dr Lynch said.

"A puffer fish can kill a dog in eight minutes."

With the arrival of summer weather, Dr Lynch and his three fulltime colleagues doctors Craig Goode, Scott McCann, and Emma Prideaux - want all dogs and cats to have their vaccinations and parasite prevention up to date.

That includes using the latest flea and worm treatments," Dr Lynch said.

"Heartworm can be particularly prevalent in a wet summer."

"It is also allergy season for your pet, so owners need to look out for skin irritations."

Dr Prideaux said apartment residents visited the clinic with dogs of all sizes.

"We have one which is a golden retriever-German shepherd cross," she said.

"Pets are great companions for inner city living."

Dr Lynch said most of the apartment towers were animal friendly and that having a pet dog was "good from a human health perspective".

"Taking the dog for a walk encourages people to get out and enjoy the outdoors and foreshore areas," he said.

"I know many people in Docklands and Southbank apartments with pets - they are welcome to bring them here."

"We have a cat patient who lives on the 66th level in the Eureka Tower in Southbank."

"His owner came to us, worried that pussy's ears couldn't pop - that is, equalise - in the elevator, and that he would be suffering."

"I researched it but couldn't find any evidence that it would be the case."

Dr Prideaux said the clinic offered cat boarding and grooming and had introduced a dog hydrobath.

"You can come in and wash your dog, or our



Port Phillip Animal Hospital also has a surgery theatre and diagnostic equipment.

Dr Prideaux is accredited by AQIS (Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service), which qualifies her to prepare pets

The Port Phillip Animal Hospital is open seven days a week, at 46-48 Mills St,

Call 9686 8838 or visit www.ppah.com.au



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MAXINE JOHNSON, 53
Apprentice florist, Flowers by the Dock

Maxine has been an apprentice florist at her daughter's store in Bourke St for the past five years. Maxine enjoys the sense of community in Docklands. She said her customers, including many residents, were very friendly which had made it easier to make lots of friends. Maxine has always loved being by the water, which makes working in Docklands all the more enjoyable.



JENNIFER SILVERII, 27

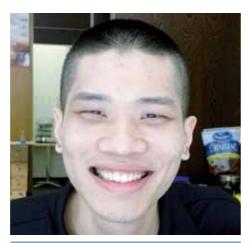
Retail assistant Imper Furniture

Jennifer has only been working in Docklands for a few weeks and has already found that there is plenty to like about the area. "I love it, it's really modern," she said. Jennifer said she had already enjoyed dinner at some of the wonderful restaurants in Docklands. She said it was a really friendly area full of people from all around the world. "It's so multicultural, just like the rest of Melbourne," Jennifer said.



MARINA STAVRAKIS, 18
Retail assistant, Modern Lovers

Working in Docklands means Marina is able to enjoy waterfront views on a daily basis. Marina likes spending time with friends in Docklands and said she enjoyed going out for lunch by the water. Marina thinks that Docklands is a really friendly area and said she always saw lots of families out and about.



ZHI TIAN, 23
Sandwich all-rounder, Fancy Fillings Sandwich Chef

Zhi thinks Docklands is a very convenient location because it is not in the middle of the city, yet you can still find anything and everything. He enjoys working in Docklands because he has many regular customers including locals and office workers. Zhi thinks Docklands is the perfect place to find a bargain. He enjoys shopping at Harbour Town and thinks the recent renovations are a great addition.



SARAH SWENSER, 29

Sarah spends a lot of time in Docklands and said it was a lovely area, even more so now that the weather was getting warmer. Sarah's favourite things to do in Docklands include shopping, spending time by the waterfront and catching up with friends for drinks. "I've gotten to know a lot of people who work around here and everyone's really friendly," Sarah said.



CHONA MEMAN, 37

Montano Collections, Owner operator

Chona opened her own business in Docklands earlier this year. She decided to bring her range of handbags to Docklands because she thought it was a nice area with a strong tourist trade. "I like the ambience of the place," Chona said.



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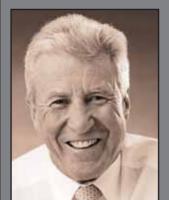
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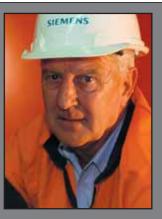












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leadership skills.

Contact: email docklandstoastmasters@yahoo.com.au or visit www.docklands.freetoasthost.org

#### **DOCKLANDS WRITERS**

#### Tuesdays fortnightly 5.30-7.30pm

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

"Writerly" issues, workshopping, author talks and fun.

Enquiries to: **rose@grahammercer.com. au** or at The Hub.

#### **HUB CLUBS**

#### Monday, Wednesday and Friday

 ${\it The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade}$ 

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

#### **CAROLS AT DOCKLANDS**

#### Friday 23 December 2011 6:30pm

Waterfront City Piazza

Get into the Christmas spirit with Docklands! Bring the whole family along with face painting, rides and Santa, followed by Christmas Carols with special guest artists Evermore, a 50 piece gospel choir and fireworks display!



#### CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

#### 8-24 December 2011

Wonderland Fun Park

Bring the family to a magical Christmas Wonderland you will never forget. Visit Santa's stable, post a letter to the North Pole and meet the hilarious Santa's Elves

wonderlandfunpark.com.au

#### JEWISH MYSTICISM... A WEEKLY INSIGHT Every Thursday, 7.30pm

Chabad Jewish Community Centre, 198 Clark St, Port Melbourne

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Please contact Rabbi Shlomo Nathanson **0433 810 313** or **rabbi@cjcc.com.au** 

#### CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE

#### 16 & 18 December 2011

Medibank Icehouse

You're invited to the exciting Christmas Showcase at Medibank Icehouse where some of Victoria's top figure skaters and upcoming stars will perform!

www.icehouse.com.au

#### **KARATE CLASS**

#### **Monday and Thursday**

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade
Run by 'Sara Karate Academy' contact
Sara on **0431 526 270** or email **sara. sohrabi82@gmail.com.** 

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#### AUSTRALIA DAY CHALK STYLING 26th January 2012

Harbour Esplanade

See some amazing chalk art. With plenty of space to participate, this is a perfect outing for art enthusiasts or anyone looking for a day of family fun.

www.australiaday.vic.gov.au

#### **DOCKLANDS ROTARY**

#### Every Tuesday, 6.00pm

Watermark

First Tuesday of the month is fellowship hour.

Regular meetings on other Tuesdays. All welcome.

#### LEARN TO SAIL

#### Every Sunday, by appointment

Docklands Yacht Club, Shed No. 2 North Wharf Rd

Docklands Yacht Club is an accredited Yachting Australia Training Centre and offers Get Into Small Boat Sailing courses. Contact Ray Allen **0429 868 304 dyctraining.yatc@gmail.com** 

# As we

#### YOGA IN THE DOCKLANDS

 ${\it The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade}$ 

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** 

#### **BONZA CHRISTMAS CRUISE**

#### Friday and Saturdays from November 26

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The cruise includes the live four-piece
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#### PILATES FOR MUMS

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Contact cityonahill.com.au

#### THE DOCKLANDS SOUNDWALK

25th November - 13th March 2012

Take the Docklands SoundWalk and discover the area's fascinating past. Armed with a smartphone and headphones, follow a walking route and encounter audio episodes.

www.dock sound walk.org

#### ALMA DOEPEL SUPPORTERS MONTHLY SAUSAGE SIZZLE

#### Third Saturday of every month 5pm - 7pm

Alma Doepel Restoration Site Shed 2, North Wharf Road, Victoria Harbour, Docklands. Learn about our restoration project and see if you would like to get involved.

#### **DOCKLANDS SUNDAY MARKET**

#### Every Sunday, 10am to 4pm

Waterfront City Docklands Drive

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.

#### SUMMER SALSA

#### 8th January 2012 - 25th March 2012

Waterfront City Piazza

Enjoy salsa and Latin dancing every Sunday from January to March, 2012. These free dance classes feature Latin DJ Mick Williams from 3PBS Latin Connection. www.dance101.com.au

#### THE RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Every Sunday 11am-12pm

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade, Docklands 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.

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade
Service provided free of charge by Vicdeaf.
Bookings essential, contact Tanya
on 8622 4822 or email
tanya.graham@melbourne.vic.gov.au

#### MELBOURNE LIBRARY SERVICE PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

#### Mondays at 11am

The Hub, 80 Harbour Esplanade

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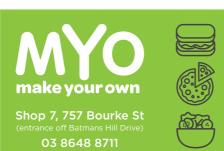
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## DOCKLANDS SPORTS PAGE

## **NBN Co launched**

NBN Co's \$32.5 million national operations centre in Digital Harbour was officially launched last month.

The facility is the National Broadband Network's central hub, housing the facilities that will manage the day-to-day operations of the Australia-wide broadband service and enable telcos and ISPs to test the products and equipment they will make available as the NBN rolls out.

The company also unveiled two hands-on interactive resources - an experience centre at Docklands and a mobile demonstration vehicle - that will enable Australians to see for themselves how the NBN will work, what it involves and how communities stand to benefit as high speed broadband is delivered to every home and business.

The new facilities launched were:

- Network Service and Operations Centre;
- National Test Facility;
- Discovery Centre, a hands-on interactive

educational experience at Docklands;

■ NBN Co Demonstration Truck, a 23-tonne mobile interactive discovery

NBN Co CEO Mike Quigley said: "The facilities at Docklands are the nerve centre of the National Broadband Network and a hub for future innovation as we bring broadband to life across Australia."

The facilities are the result of more than a year's work and NBN Co will have created more than 900 jobs in Victoria by 2013.

It is estimated that up to 100,000 people a year will pass through the NBN Co truck and the Docklands Discovery Centre.

Individuals and groups interested in visiting these facilities can book online at www.nbnco.com.au





Break dancers Wickid Force help the Renegades launch their season last month.

## Renegades are up and running

Docklanders, pad up! Our own Big Bash League cricket team, the Melbourne Renegades, needs you.

Docklands' Etihad Stadium is the Renegades' home ground - and they want a big home ground advantage this summer, with your support.

Here's a sweetener: Purchase your membership before midnight on Friday, December 9 and you'll be in the running to win a trip to Sydney for New Year's Eve, and tickets to watch the Renegades take on the Sydney Thunder at ANZ Stadium.

And talk about bowling a leg break ...

renowned break dancers Wickid Force helped kick off the Renegades' official launch in November at Queensbridge Square, in Southbank.

The Renegades' first big bash is against the Adelaide Strikers, in Adelaide, on December 18.

Then they take on the Perth Scorchers at Etihad Stadium, on December 22.

Sign up at www.melbournerenegades.com.au



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